

Community Church News ~ Jun 2015

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Sunday Services – 10:30am

June 7 “In Praise of Leaders” Rev. Thom Belote, preaching

Join us for a worship service before the annual meeting in which we express gratitude for our church’s volunteers and leaders. Rev. Thom will deliver a “State of the Church” sermon.

June 14 “Other People Matter: Why the Scientific Search for Meaning is Ultimately about Connectedness” Bryan Sexton, preaching

Members of our global village have never been more connected (e.g., Facebook) than they are right now, and at the same time, these members have never felt more depressed and more alone. It turns out that our needs for meaning and purpose have a lot to do with this, and these paths lead us to the powerful role of authentic relationships.

June 21 “The News from East Pokeberry” Rev. Thom Belote, preaching

East Pokeberry is a small town, omitted by most maps, that Thom discovered while exploring North Carolina. The happenings in this small town where nothing ever happens can teach us something about the human condition and the growth of our souls. Join us for a sermon that’s a little bit different.

June 28 “Who Are The We & Who Are The They?” Susan McDaniel, preaching

Diversity is no longer black / white; we live in what NC State professor Rupert Nacoste calls a “neo-diverse world” where daily we meet and interact with people of different ethnicities, races, religious traditions, genders, gender orientations, body conditions, mental health, and other differences. How can we move easily in this world with respect for all? How can we confront derogatory language and behavior? Is it ever acceptable to use racial or other group slurs?



On My Mind & In My Heart...

Back in March, five brave members of the church signed up to take my Preaching Practicum class. Offered through Spiritual Education for Adults (SEA), the Preaching Practicum is a class for lay people on how to write and preach a sermon in the liberal religious tradition. Together we read selections from books about preaching, studied homiletics, and workshopped our respective ideas for sermons. In May we gathered for a preaching retreat where the class members delivered to each other and offered each other constructive feedback and critique.

The members of the class were: Bryan Sexton, Susan McDaniel, Bill Rote, Barbara Chapman, and Sue Zelt. During the months of June and July, all five of the Preaching Practicum graduates will deliver their sermons during a Sunday worship service. They’ll speak about topics they are passionate about, share spiritual insights they’ve discovered, and speak in a vulnerable way about experiences that have helped to shape them.

I hope that you will plan to attend as many of these worship services led by your peers as you can. And, next spring, I hope you’ll consider the possibility of signing up for the Preaching Practicum. There’s an old saying that I believe is true: Every single person has at least one sermon inside them.

Note: I will be attending the UU Minister’s Association Ministry Days and the General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association in Portland, Oregon, from June 22-28. I be on vacation and study leave from June 29 to July 29. During my vacation and study leave I will not be keeping office hours or participating in routine church business. Emails I receive during this time will be answered after July 29. Please contact me by cell phone in case of pastoral emergencies that cannot wait.

See you in church! - Rev. Thom

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY

ALL CHURCH COMMUNITY DINNER FRI, JUNE 5th

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for our monthly Community Dinner on June 5th for fun and fellowship. There will also be an Open Mic Night in the Sanctuary. We meet in the Jones Building at 6:00 to share a meal. \$3/person covers the main dish and dessert. Please also bring a side dish (salad, vegetable, bread, fruit, etc.). All are welcome! [RSVP for Dinner here](#).

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Immediately following the All-Church Community Supper, the Music Team is sponsoring an Open Mic Night on Friday, June 5th from 7-8pm in the Sanctuary. Here's your chance to share your talent, whether it is poetry, drama, music, magic, or dance. Everyone, young or old, is welcome to perform. Or just come and watch. Questions or to sign up please contact Linda Thompson at lindajt2006@gmail.com

THANKSGIVING ECO TOUR 2015

A cultural immersion eco-tour is planned for middle and high schoolers and their parents for November 21-28, Thanksgiving week. This trip will offer a life changing opportunity for all participants and will include playing sports with kids in San Ramon, visiting schools, service learning, stay in award winning eco-lodge, hiking in the rainforest, and staying with local guest house families. Contact trip organizer, Maggie Underberg for more information. <maggie.underberg@sas.com>.



CARING MINISTRY

Our ministry provides visits and emotional support to members who are hospitalized or homebound, lends out Caring Quilts to members to provide comfort and symbolize the support of our community, and assists members in finding resources and support services in times of critical need. If you have any caring needs you can reach the Caring Ministry Coordinator, Ivy Brezina, at caring@c3huu.org, (415)663-8703 or by filling out a Joys and Sorrows card in the Commons. Cards are on a table on the right side as you enter the sanctuary.



SHARE THE PLATE

STP FOR TREES, WATER & PEOPLE

The ECO Committee expresses gratitude to the congregation for donating \$1,353 to this year's Earth Day Share the Plate recipient, Trees, Water & People. TWP staff member, Megan Maiolo-Heath, sent the message, "Thank you all so much for your generosity and support of TWP's mission."

The organization's mission is to improve people's lives by helping communities protect, conserve and manage their natural resources. TWP works in most of Central America, Haiti, and U.S. Tribal Lands. The STP donation will be used where most needed. If you would like to continue to support the organization, or to find out more about them, visit their website at <http://www.treeswaterpeople.org>.

IFC THANKS YOU for your generous donation of \$2,115.00. This will help so many who are in need as well as keeping IFC viable. We are so proud to be a part of this congregation that recognizes the need to have programs available to those less fortunate.

BOUNTIFUL BAGS can be returned anytime within the next month and thank you for accepting one to fill. The Bag Ladies appreciate your effort.

STP – JUN 7: MINISTER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND / BENEVOLENCE FUND

The annual Share the Plate for the Benevolence Fund is June 7, 2015. This fund provides money for unforeseen expenses that the church wants to support but are not funded through the Share the Plate Sundays. In the past this fund has helped in a variety of ways; from money to help a group of people flooded out in Carrboro to church members with medical needs, unforeseen bills and other expenses. The fund helps the church respond to one-time financial requests in a timely way. Please be generous.

SHARE THE PLATE DEADLINE SUNDAY, OCT 25th FOR REQUESTS JAN-JUN, 2016

The Share the Plate Steering Committee accepts nominations for non-profit causes that are consistent with the mission of The Community Church twice a year. The deadline for the next submission is Oct. 25th.

E-mail applications to either Barb Chapman at barbchapman@bellsouth.net or stp@c3huu.org. Current nomination forms can be found on the church website at <http://www.c3huu.org/share-the-plate.html>. Committee members are Jill Baker, Barb Chapman, Jena Kaizen, John Leopold, Jane Provan, Bill Rote, and Susan Spalt.

WITHIN THESE WALLS

SPACE EXPLORATION: What do YOU think about church space needs?

Two years ago, the Board asked a team to determine if our church had any space needs that would help advance our church's mission. Yes! (*report at website below*)

The Board then asked the Space Exploration Team to identify potential solutions to those needs. Several times, the Team has asked you more about space needs. Its work to find solutions for those meeting, classroom and storage needs is well underway.

Now, your input is needed to identify how useful you believe some other improvements would be in advancing our ministries and mission. The Team will seek solutions for the most pressing needs identified.

Please complete the brief survey by June 30, either via a link on the space exploration webpage <http://www.c3huu.org/space-exploration.html> or by paper during tabling May 31 and June 14. Your input is important to the success of this effort!

LIFE AT SEA: SPIRITUAL EXPLORATIONS FOR ADULTS NEWS

It's been a banner year at SEA and we're not docked yet! We thank all of you who voyaged with us to destinations like Build Your own Theology, a Conversation about Mystical Experiences, Demonstrating Our Values Through Eating, a Tai Chi practice, a discussion of the book "Reading the Koran" and film showing on Islam, and a discussion on the book "Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth."

We plan one more exploration in June involving a book discussion on Buddhism. Please stop by our table in the Jones Building after service for more information on this and to find out exciting destinations when SEA launches anew in September!



ART IN THE SANCTUARY

May 3 - June 28, a show by Shelly Hehenberger: "Psyche Unveiled."

Shelly Hehenberger works in oil paint, cold wax, sand, chalk and resin to create layered surfaces on wood, which replicate the diverse striations of the earth and the multi-faceted, vertical landscape of the psyche. She has been a working and teaching artist since 1994 when she completed an MFA in painting at the University of Cincinnati, and she has been exhibiting in NC since 2000 when she moved here. She lives in Carrboro with her husband and teenage daughter, and her work can be seen at Frank Gallery on Franklin Street. More information available on the church website, <http://www.c3huu.org/upcoming-art-exhibits.html>

MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS

The church's caring ministry is working to reduce stigma by providing information about mental illness and support when possible to those church members affected by mental illness. We have church members who have experience in dealing with mental illness in their own families and can provide: information on local mental health resources, and confidential emotional support, transportation and meals during times of crisis

Seven Members of the church's mental health ministry attended a recent conference in April sponsored by Faith Connections on Mental Illness whose mission is to work with all faith communities to welcome, include, support, educate, and advocate for individuals and families who are living with mental illness.

To find out more about the church's mental health ministry, please see the Mental Health Ministry on the church's website. Interesting in joining the ministry: contact Lisa Lackmann at Llackmann@nc.rr.com or [919-607-4122](tel:919-607-4122)



COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

SERMON REPLAYS ARE NOW ON YOUTUBE

Thank you for so many comments and feedback on the Sermon Replay web pages since we began posting in 2008. In 2015, Sermon Replays have moved to YouTube, which is accessible from this Sermon Replay page, c3huu.org/sermon-media-catalog.

Please let us know what we can do to create an even better experience for Sermon Replays. More details on individual Sermon Replays are available by selecting the sermon title from the YouTube Player on the web page. Thank you for giving us feedback on Facebook or Twitter using the icons near the top of the right of our Sermon Replay page. Please use the hashtag #C3HUU in your comments! We also appreciate the "Likes" and comments on our [Facebook page](#) (public) or Facebook group (private), too!

C3HUU FACEBOOK PAGE AND C3HUU FACEBOOK GROUP, WHY BOTH?

- 1) **Public Facebook Page** ([facebook.com/c3huu](https://www.facebook.com/c3huu)), which Facebook creates for any organization. The Communications Committee has managed the Facebook Page since 2014 for Ads and Boosts for special events. You can't "join" or "friend" the public Facebook Page; anyone can access it directly. It is used for outreach and announcements.
- 2) **Private C3HUU Facebook Group** ([facebook.com/groups/c3huu](https://www.facebook.com/groups/c3huu)) was started in 2010 for members interested in communicating via social media. Any adult member or associate may join by clicking the "Join" link on the C3HUU Facebook Group Page and share experiences or events that may be of interest to group members. This remains private and we filter out "Facebook Trolls."



ECO's Environmental CORner

First Sunday Recyclables – June 7: Greeting cards (includes thank you cards). Cards will be remade into new cards by children at St. Jude's Ranch. Also, as every month, batteries (AAA - D, button, rechargeable. For safety reasons, please don't bring any leaking batteries.), corks (natural and synthetic), plastic pencils, pens, and markers.

Magic Power Saver Button! Church volunteers who press this button when finished using the church copier save internal wear on the machine itself and energy in multiple ways. THANK YOU! As individuals, many of us can do the same thing at our work places and our homes. <http://www.c3huu.org/eco.html>

The ECO Committee came together for its annual retreat on May 30. Look for lots of new environmentally friendly ideas in the upcoming church year!

UU CONNECTIONS

FLAMING CHALICES SOFTBALL

Come join us, to play, or just watch and cheer, as the Flaming Chalices softball team plays in the Chapel Hill summer softball church league.

All games are played at Homestead Park in Chapel Hill (Homestead Rd. off MLK Boulevard).

Schedule for June:

6/7 4:30 pm Field #2 Union Grove/Hillsborough Meth.

6/21 4:30 pm Field #2 St. Paul AME/Christ United

6/28 1:20 pm Field #1 University Baptist

UU NON-FICTION READERS

UU Non-Fiction Readers will continue to meet over the summer, on the third Saturday of each month at 10:30 in the Kirby Room. If one or more of our books interests you, please join us!

- On June 20, Steve McNeary is leading our discussion of Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea, by Barbara Demick. A National Book Award finalist, Demick's book takes us inside the lives of six North Koreans.
- On July 18, Lila Berry will lead our discussion of The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness.
- On Aug 15, our book is the best-selling Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters at the End of Life. Sally Freeman will lead our discussion.

Contact Carolyn Holt with any questions: carolynholt@mac.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

July/August Newsletter

Submissions need to be in by June 21st!!!

*** Submit articles to c3hoffice@gmail.com. Please remember the new **150-word limit** for submissions.

If you would like to learn more about joining the Community Church of Chapel Hill, please contact our Director of Welcoming Ministries, Rachel Rose, by calling the office (919) 942-2050, emailing c3hmembership@gmail.com, or find her at one of our Sunday services. Whether you are brand new or a long time attendee, and whatever your beliefs or background, we welcome you to our community of friendship and ideals.



The Community Church of Chapel Hill
Unitarian Universalist

106 Purefoy Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514