

Community Church News ❖ Sep 2014

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Sunday Services – 9:00am & 10:45am (NOTE: New Times)

Sep 7 “The Compassion Deficit” Rev. Thom Belote

Perusing the headlines (or the comment section, god-forbid) of the news, one cannot help but be struck by the lack of compassion that exists in the world. This morning we’ll examine the art of compassion as a virtue and a spiritual practice. How do we keep our hearts attuned to compassion and how do we rededicate ourselves to the compassionate life?

Sep 14 “The Kids Are Alright” Rev. Thom Belote

In recent years we’ve seen many studies about the decline of religious participation in our country, especially among the younger generation of “millennials.” There is a lively and anxious discussion underway about why this is and what it means for the future of religious institutions. This morning Rev. Thom will talk about the opportunities and challenges this poses for Unitarian Universalism and for our church.

Sep 21 “I Love You As You Are, Now Change” Rev. Thom Belote

The third of our seven principles announces our “acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth.” Does anyone else see this as somewhat of a tension? Are we forced to choose? What does this mean for us as a community and what does it mean in our lives?

Sep 28 “Who Invented Christianity” Keith Sawyer, Ph.D., guest speaker

Keith Sawyer is a professor at UNC and an expert in the field of creativity research. In this sermon, he draws on what we know about human innovation, and what historians have discovered about the early Christian church, to explore how Christianity came to be.



On My Mind....

Why does someone come to a Unitarian Universalist church for the first time? I believe that few people decide to attend a UU church for light and frivolous reasons. Most people, I’d have to think, don’t show up at church by accident.

The reasons are heavier. The person who comes has recently moved to a new place and is seeking to connect. She is lonely. He is grieving the loss of a loved one or is facing a difficult diagnosis. They have a child on the way or are looking to adopt and need a community to support them on their path. The children have begun to ask questions about God. Her son or daughter needs a place to be accepted for who they are. He’s wrestling with spiritual questions. She’s recently retired and wants to figure out the next chapter. They are looking for a way to make a difference in the larger world. And so on. And so forth.

If this is true – if something is at stake each time someone walks through the doors of our church – what does this mean for us? What does it mean for the welcome we give? For the hospitality we show? For the community we incarnate? For the ministries we create?

Whether you are, like me, new to The Community Church of Chapel Hill, UU, or whether you have been here a long time, I’m interested in hearing what inspired you to walk through our doors the first time you did. It’s a question I may ask you when I meet you.

See you in church!

- Rev. Thom

WORSHIP SCHEDULE CHANGE:

REMEMBER SERVICE TIMES CHANGE ON SEPT 7:

We go back to two Services on 9/7. The new service times will be at 9:00 and 10:45. In recent years the two services have become increasingly unbalanced. Last spring after surveys and consultation, the Board affirmed the Interim Minister's recommendation that we try these service times in order to balance attendance. This will greatly relieve crowding for children and youth as well as balance service attendance. Attendance will be closely monitored and reviewed this year to see if service time changes help to balance service attendance.

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY

FALL PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH BEGIN ON SEPTEMBER 6

If you have not registered your child yet, you can register on-line or after services. Here is a link to register for our exciting Fall Program:

<http://www.c3huu.org/registration.html>



MUSICAL NOTES by Glenn

It's a new church year, and a great opportunity for you to explore your creative side and come join one of the choirs or musical groups at the Community Church. Here's what we have to offer:

- Community Church Choir, which meet every Wednesday evening to rehearse, and sings at services twice a month.
- Community Church Singers, which meets every other Sunday after the 2nd service and sings at service once a month.
- Children's Choir, which meet every other Saturday morning and sings at all Multi-Generational services.
- Youth Music Ensemble, which meets at a yet unspecified time, and aims to involve Middle and High Schoolers not just as singers, but as instrumentalists, arrangers and composers, too.
- Ukuleles, which meets every other Monday and performs for special events.

There are no auditions for any of our music groups. For more information contact me at <music@c3huu.org> or catch me after a service.

WELCOMING MINISTRIES

Welcome back from your summer! There are many new faces among us and we welcome you all: folks who recently joined as members these past several months, people from the community who were "always planning to stop in" and finally have, and students arriving in town looking for new spiritual community or, as one person wrote on a Sunday Connection Card, "A real sense of

community." And of course, a very notable new face, Rev. Thom, our new minister! So, visitors and new members alike, take heart! As you hope to connect and be welcomed into our community, be assured that you are not alone. We invite you to participate with us in the activities below:

New Visitor Area in the Jones Building: the area near the fireplace in the Jones Building is now the place where visitors and anyone "feeling new" can meet friendly faces, find out more about The Community Church, and grab a cup of coffee, tea and a refreshment or two while sitting comfortably on one of the sofas.

Connection Cards: Visitors, if you'd like to find out more about activities here, fill out a Connection Card to indicate your interest in activities ranging from Spiritual Exploration for Adults, Children & Youth Ministry, choir, social justice activities, and community volunteer work, among others. Pick up a Connection Card at the visitor tables in the Commons area or during coffee hour in the Jones Building. If you'd like to connect, we'd love to connect with you!

Newcomer Orientation – Sunday, September 7, at 12 noon:

If you're new or simply feel like you're new, join Rev. Thom Belote, Jacqueline Brett - Director of Welcoming Ministries, and several Community Church members for light refreshments and a brief orientation that'll include important facts about UU values, the history and mission of this church, and how to connect here. Attendance at a Newcomer Orientation is a first step on the Path to Membership if you've been thinking about joining the fellowship here. Join us in the Commons area right outside the Sanctuary after the second service. Childcare is available. Please RSVP at c3hmembership@gmail.com or call: 919-942-2050.

New Member Service and Reception – Sunday, September 28, 2-4pm:

New members, join us for a recognition ceremony during either service, then attend a reception in your honor from 2 to 4pm at the home of Joan and Peter Witt, 112 Cardiff Place, Chapel Hill. This will be a great opportunity for you to socialize with our minister, staff, and meet some of the church leaders. As always, this is child-friendly event. Please RSVP at c3hmembership@gmail.com or call: [919-942-2050](tel:919-942-2050).

If you have questions about anything mentioned above, the Path to Membership, or how to get involved at Community Church please contact me anytime.

Jacqueline Brett, Dir. of Welcoming Ministries
c3hmembership@gmail.com or [919-942-2050](tel:919-942-2050)



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, please contact Ivy Brezina, Caring Ministry Coordinator at caring@c3huu.org or (415)663-8703. You can also let us know about a caring concern by filling out a Joys, Sorrows and Concerns card in the Commons. Cards are on the right side on a table as you enter the sanctuary.

Caring Need: Member, Nancy Reichle, who has metastatic breast cancer, is asking for help in sharing frequent flyer miles so she can pursue treatment at the Block Center near Chicago. If you are willing to share miles you can contact Ivy Brezina, Caring Ministry Coordinator.

Spiritual Explorations (SEA)

SEA hopes you come on board for the new church year! We will be offering a wide-variety of Thursday evening destinations this fall, starting with our kick-off event on September 11 which will be a 6pm dinner followed by a 7pm lecture "Approaching Religious Experience: Emerson, Seances, and More" by our new minister, Thom Belote. This talk will provide a framework for approaching religious experience by weaving together UU sources and academics who have studied religious experiences. The cost of the soup and salad dinner is \$5. Our Fall destinations include Rev. Belote's "What We Talk About When We Talk About God" and "Designing Your Own Memorial Service," Karen Jessee's "Rejoice Always: The Christian Path of Peace," A Dreams Workshop, "UU101", Tai Chi, "Demonstrating Our Values Through Eating," and "Build Your Own Theology." Please consult the SEA table after the services in the Jones Building for course dates and to register. We hope to see you at SEA!



SHARE THE PLATE

SHARE THE PLATE DEADLINE SUNDAY, OCT 26 FOR REQUESTS JANUARY-JUNE, 2015.

Please send nominations to stp@c3huu.org or to Barb Chapman, barbchapman@bellsouth.net, member of the Share the Plate Steering Committee, and put STP in the subject line of your email.

For more information please go <http://www.c3huu.org> and look for Share the Plate under the Justice and Service button. Please contact any member of the STP Steering Committee if you have any questions. Thank your for your participation, your support and your generosity. We look forward to working with you!

STP – SEP 14: HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Many of our cost-burdened neighbors live in substandard and/or overcrowded housing. Our church has a proud history of partnering with Habitat for

Humanity of Orange County and other churches to provide homes for our community family. Church partners pay half the construction costs; Habitat pays the other half. Families repay the Habitat share in mortgage payments that are used to fund other houses. Church members help the family with construction.

Our church hopes to start our 19th Habitat home this fall, in Habitat's new 24-home community, Tinnin Woods in Efland, near Hillsborough. Your donation in the Sept. 14 Share the Plate will help fund our \$4,000 share of this Habitat home. (Not here Sept. 14? Please send your contribution to the church office. Make checks payable to Community Church of Chapel Hill UU. Put "Habitat for Humanity STP" in the memo line.) Thank you.

STP – SEP 28: ORANGE COUNTY JUSTICE UNITED

Justice United provides an effective way to make change on social justice issues affecting the lives of low- and middle-income residents in Orange County. We are a coalition of local churches, non-profits and neighborhood organizations.

- We build relationships within and between institutions.
- We identify and research issues of mutual self-interest based upon shared values.
- We offer institution-based leadership development.
- We plan disciplined, organized action to implement solutions.

The Community Church is a founding member of Justice United. We depend upon the Share the Plate collection to pay most of our annual dues. Our goal each year is to average \$10/pledging unit. In January we only partially met this goal for 2014. On Sept 28, we hope to complete the goal and get a head start on 2015. Please be generous!

For more information email: c3h.justiceunited@bellsouth.net Website: <http://ocjusticeunited.org/>

WITHIN THESE WALLS

SANCTUARY ART ~ SEPT 14 - OCT 26:

The art in the sanctuary from September 14 through October 26 (with a reception on October 12) is a collaboration by Barbara Tyroler and Sandy Milroy.



Barbara Tyroler is a fine art image-maker using photography in collaborative multi-media art projects that address social and cultural issues. She has an M.F.A. in digital art and an M.Ed. in education. She currently teaches an independent masters level photography class and offers workshops with Duke's Center for Documentary Studies. She administers the FRANK gallery's non-profit programs through the Community Outreach Gallery and is founder of the Triangle Photography Consortium.



Sandy Milroy currently works in the mediums of collage and acrylic painting. She uses handmade papers, paint, and micro-pens to achieve intricate compositions, abstract or derived from nature. Sandy has a B.A degree in art history. After moving to North Carolina, she began weaving and studied at the Penland, Arrowmont, and Haystack craft schools. In the

1970s she lived in Zambia, Scotland, and England. After returning to Chapel Hill in 1981, she completed graduate studies in the textile design program at NC State University and produced fine scale tapestry pins and wall pieces. She is a member of the Orange County Artist Guild. She is also a member artist at the FRANK Gallery in Chapel Hill.

The Collaboration: Initially photographed by Barbara during a nine-day visit to Beijing, these portraits present a glimpse into the internal landscape of the subjects, seen from a foreigner's perspective, within the backdrop of Beijing's rapidly changing external landscape.

Beijing Impressions, a 2 Person Multi-media Collaboration, pushes the work a step further into abstraction. Using Barbara's original work from her Beijing Impressions portrait series, the artists then selected complementary work from Sandy's collections as source material to create new work that reinterpreted and recombined original imagery of both artists. With attention to modifications of composition, light, tonality, mood shift, and layering, Sandy expanded Barbara's photographs with handmade, hand-painted papers to create more complex collages; while Barbara re-photographed and reused some of Sandy's collages to provide more intricate photo composites.

***** POTLUCK PICNIC *****

Please join us for an evening of fun and fellowship!
New Hope Camp & Conference Center
4805 NC 86 Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Saturday, September 6th, 2014

5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

For more information and to sign up, please visit www.c3hhuu.org

EL CENTRO HISPANO, Inc. will be the recipient of the October 5, 2014, Share the Plate.

El Centro Hispano (ECH) founded in 1992, is a grassroots community-based organization dedicated to strengthening the Latino community and improving the quality of life for Latino residents in Durham, Carrboro, Chapel Hill, and the surrounding areas.

From 2000 to 2010, the North Carolina Latino population grew by 111%. Similarly, the Orange County Latino population grew by 108.9%.

In July 2010, ECH opened its first satellite office in Carrboro at the request of Orange County leaders. ECH has replicated and adapted many of the programs that

have been most successful and needed in Durham County for the Orange County Latino population.

ECH has also begun to work with local partners and town officials in the development of a workers' center for day laborers and domestic workers.

SAVE THIS DATE! - SEPT 13TH, 6-9:00PM:

The Community Service Committee of The Community Church, in collaboration with El Centro Hispano, will be hosting a Latino Fiesta to support the development of a Workers Center at the Carrboro location. This center will facilitate the development of a relationship between members of the Latino community seeking employment and potential employers in a safe environment. There will be an amazing, authentic Mexican buffet and music for listening and dancing provided by Saludos Compay, under the direction of Erich Lieth. Tickets @ \$20 each will include two glasses of wine and may be purchased at the table in the Jones Building after the services beginning August 17th.

CHANGES AT CHARLES HOUSE:

Charles House opened in 1990 with a clear philosophy of how to care for elderly people in a day care setting. That philosophy remains today, but 3 years ago they opened a small residential unit in Heritage Hills. They are now almost ready to open the second small residential unit in Winmore. These houses provide 24-hour care, but still follow the basic Charles House way of doing things.

It has now been announced that by the summer of 2015 Charles House will relocate to the campus of Carol Woods and use the building that was built as a day care center. Much planning and hard work will be involved in this transition, but the leaders feel it is the right time to expand the day care operation. As more details become available, you will be informed, since Charlie Jones, for whom the day care was begun, was our first minister.

ANNUAL ALL-CHURCH CAMPING TRIP:

October 17th-19th at Falls Lake. Everyone welcome. Join us for fun, fellowship, worship, and a campfire! Register by **September 21st**. For more info: <http://tinyurl.com/C3H-camping>.

NEW WELLSPRING GROUP FORMING:

The Wellspring program, an integrated and unique Unitarian Universalist program for deepening one's spiritual journey in a group setting, is open to new participants this fall. Participants are invited to deepen their individual spiritual callings through an intentional program of daily spiritual practice, spiritual mentoring, focused study, reflection, and small group meetings using deep listening.

Wellspring participants commit to a nine-month program of bi-weekly meetings in order to develop their daily spiritual practice. Also available are monthly meetings with a spiritual director or guide to deepen the experience. Meetings are often structured around reading and writing assignments along a particular

theme or Unitarian Universalist source. Groups are limited to eight people to ensure that all participants have an opportunity to share their journey as they are called. If you are interested in the upcoming Wellspring program starting this fall, please contact Karen Rossie at kmrossie@yahoo.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK

The Tony and Pulitzer Prize winning play adapted from the book will be performed at church Nov 14-16. The play is directed by Marni Goldshlag and includes a cast and crew of church people of all ages working together to share this poignant story of adolescence and resilient humanity.

ANNE FRANK MULTIGENERATIONAL BOOK DISCUSSION

We will be discussing the beloved book, *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl* edited by Otto Frank, after the 2nd service on October 26th. Lunch will be provided and childcare for younger children. If you don't have the book, we can sell you one for \$8. Check with a member of the Faith in Action Team after services.

COMMUNITY DINNERS

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on the first Fridays of the month for fun and fellowship. We meet in the Jones Building at 6:00 to share a meal. \$2/person covers the main dish and dessert. Please also bring a side dish (salad, vegetable, bread, fruit, etc.) All are welcome!

- October 3rd
- November 7th
- December 5th
- January 2nd
- February 6th
- March 6th
- April 3rd
- May 1st

COVENANT GROUPS

Covenant Groups will start in October. Sign ups are taking place now after services at the Covenant Group tables. Check the church website for more details about Covenant Groups and times available.

<http://www.c3huu.org/covenant-groups.html>.



JUSTICE UNITED: Upcoming Fall Plans

Justice United is kicking off a two month cycle of training and action this fall to address issues around affordable housing and other important community concerns.

To get involved: join a diverse group of secular and religious leaders from northern and southern Orange County in the evening of September 22 to learn how your congregation can support action in your community. Registration is required. Contact Justice United organizer Devin Ross to learn more: 919 358 5828.

Timeline

September 22: Core Team Training, New Hope Presbyterian Church, 7:00 - 9:00 pm
September 22 - November 13: Local Actions
November 13: Countywide Leaders Meeting to report on actions taken, next steps
November 21, 22: Advanced Leaders Training, Eno River Unitarian Universalist, Day One: 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Day Two: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm.
Church Contact: Joan Garnett: 919 942-0621.

INTERESTED IN MEDITATION?

The meditation interest group will resume meeting regularly on Tuesday evenings for the purpose of meditation practice. Please join us in the sanctuary, 7:15pm - 7:50pm, beginning Tuesday, September 2nd. For more information contact Delia Keefe, deliakeefe@gmail.com, or Joan Meade, jwmstudioj@earthlink.net.

UPDATE FROM OKAY:

Thanks to the June STP offering, OKAY's significant impact this summer included: list of affordable programs (we need more!); major financial support for Rogers Road's all-day program June-July, El Centro Hispano's one-week program, and ECHHS's Refugee Outreach Club's monthly one-week all-day program. Emma Friedman, Sarah Insch Associate, greatly helped by visiting programs, writing to the Chapel Hill News' Editor (June 29, <http://goo.gl/aKd8BB>), and was a WCHL "Commentator" (Aug.7, <http://goo.gl/O6rSnQ>). OKAY contact: Connie Gates, conniegates@juno.com.



SOLAR PANEL NEWS

By now the inconvenience of the construction phase is over and you can see the panels on the roof of the Jones Building, a sight long in coming. They represent multiple efforts to obtain panels for the church and even some unexpected challenges in the model finally used to provide them.

The panels still await various inspections and approvals as well as a meter installation by Duke Energy before they can be connected to the grid and produce electricity. We don't know exactly when that will be other than before year's end. We'll have a "solarbration" once they are working and share how their production can be viewed.

Thank you, one and all, for all the support along the way - moral, spiritual, and financial! (SUN@c3huu.org)



Environmental CORner:

Growing Greener, As a Church, As Individuals

For 2014-15, we will focus on more sustainable practices. You'll receive a "leaf" insert Aug. 31 (also available at church picnic and Sept. 7 ECO table) to write an action you can take as well as one the Church can take to grow greener. We will display these on a

tree, so help make it leafy! (View an amazing list of the Church's past green actions at ECO's table Sept. 7.)

Change of Co-chair

Laura Gilliom is now co-chair along with Hank Rodenburg, who continues in that role. Cecilia Warshaw resigned as co-chair after seven years and continues as an ECO member.

First Sunday Recyclables

• **Sept. 7: Gently used books**, suitable for children, grades K-5, for Book Harvest; **batteries** (AAA - D, button, rechargeable); **natural corks; plastic pencils, pens, and markers.**

We welcome new members anytime; contact us for further information:

Info: <http://c3hUU.org/eco>

Contact: ECO@c3hUU.org



NC Pridefest September 27, on the Duke campus in Durham. Festival tents open at 10 a.m. Parade line-up at 12:30, Parade starts at 1:00 p.m. The Standing on the Side of Love Ministry Team is pleased to announce that the NC Unitarian

Universalists will enter a float again in the Pride Parade, thanks to Susan McDaniel, Bruce Paden, Gary Giles, Joe Swain and the ERUUF RE program. For more information, and to get yourself a "Love" T-shirt (if you want one), visit our table after services this month. Whether you march in the parade, work on the

float, or watch and cheer from the side, we hope you will stop by the Unitarian Universalist booth, to meet and greet other UU's from the area, enjoy some family-friendly activities, and sign our guest book.

OFFICE NEWS

OFFICE CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY:

The Office will be closed in celebration of Labor Day on Sept. 1st.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Oct Newsletter Submissions need to be in by Sept 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, Jacqueline Brett by calling the office (919) 942-2050, emailing [c3hmembership @ gmail.com](mailto: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