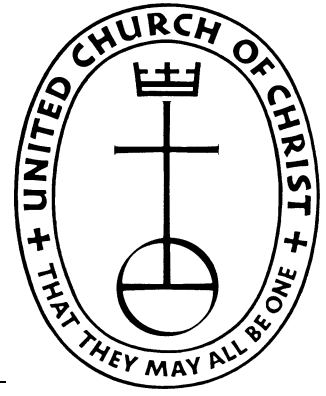


First Christian United Church of Christ Newsletter August 2017



Mark your calendar and join us for our Annual Ice Cream Social on August 9th and plan on some scrumptious goodies!

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PASTOR’S COLUMN

Friends, we are at the halfway point for my time with you. I have so very much enjoyed reconnecting with you and I appreciate the many ways that we are able to interact and care for each other. On July 2nd, you had a joyful time of worship involving and led by many members of the congregation. I am sorry that I could not be here with you, and I have loved seeing what is happening since then. You come together on Sunday morning as a community and at the close of worship the sanctuary is “abuzz” with energy and connection. That sense of community and the connections that you share are, also, worship. It is very exciting to experience the energy and enthusiasm that you share.

First Christian UCC family, being with you is good for me! I love being a part of the community where I live and seeing you and working with you provides me an outlet to be more at home in Burlington, when other work calls me away from Burlington. Also, it is refreshing to walk with you as you seek how God is calling you to be and to work in our community of Burlington. I look forward to how your journey continues to unfold.

I have had some correspondence with Mark, he and Margot are travelling in the western part of the US and have enjoyed seeing beautiful places (in Europe and the USA) and visiting with family. Continue to hold Mark and Margot in prayer as they are seeking rest and relaxation as well as a time of renewal and connection with family and friends.

I am looking forward to the second half of my time with you!

During August, we will continue to have “Tuesday/Pastor” lunch, meet by noon (except where otherwise noted) at the following:

- 8/1—NO LUNCH.....JOIN the Supper Club!
- 8/8—Zack’s Hot dogs
- 8/14--(**Monday, meet for Breakfast**), 8 am at Danny’s Café
- 8/22—Company Shops Market
- 8/29—Valerio’s

Peace,

Beth

SUPPER CLUB AUGUST 1ST

Every time that the Supper Club meets, it’s a great time of fun and fellowship! Many have participated in the gatherings and all have had a wonderful time. The next event will be held at Aleko’s Delight, 3281 S Church St. in Elon on August 1st, 2016 at 6:00 pm

In order to reserve a space, please call Eleanor Lovgren at 336-226-2671 by Thursday, July 27th at 8:00 pm. And invite a friend.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES

On August 6th our Sunday School program will resume at First Christian. After taking July off for vacation we hope all will join us as we study our new commentary. This study year will start off September 3 with the fall quarter, "Covenant with God". The winter quarter, "Faith in Action". Followed by the Spring quarter "Acknowledging God, and summer quarter "Justice in the New Testament". It looks to be an exciting and informative year as we study God's Word together.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP JOINT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 7TH, 2017

The Margaret Lightbourne and Centennial Circles will meet Monday, August 7th, 2017 at 6:00pm in the Bray Fellowship Hall for a salad supper. This will be their annual meeting. The members are asked to bring something for a salad. The Margaret Lightbourne members are responsible for the set up and the Centennial members for the cleanup.

HYMN SING SUNDAY PLANNED FOR AUGUST 27TH

First Christian United Church of Christ's worship service on Sunday, August 27 will be a Hymn Sing. Members are encouraged to suggest favorite hymns in advance for the service. Jamie Fonville will coordinate the service and provide historical material about the hymns he selects for use in the service. Members may pick hymns they like from either the New Century Hymnal and/or the Pilgrim Hymnal. It is assumed that there will be more hymns suggested for use than can be used in one service. Hymns suggested for the service need to be turned in through the offering plate or to Jamie Fonville by Sunday, August 13 so that preparation may be made for this special service.

You may list hymns you would like in the space below. Please indicate which hymnal you are suggesting we use for your selection(s).

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HOMEcoming IS COMING!

Looking down the road, we will once more celebrate Homecoming at First Christian on September 10th. As we did last year, we once again will recognize church members who died 5, 10 and 15 years ago.

This year we will be recognizing those who passed away in 2012, 2007 and 2002. Letters to surviving family members will be sent out in the next few weeks to notify them of this event. But in the meantime, mark your calendar now. It should be a very special day!

AUGUST IN THE ART GALLERY

The hallway between our Education Building and the sanctuary, now known as our art gallery, has been a successful venture at First Christian. During the month of August Ken Little will be our featured artist. We have been blessed with many beautiful works of art from our church family! Stop by and enjoy the talent of our members!

CHRISTIAN WOMEN UNITED EVENT...

An event jointly sponsored by the Alamance Gilford County and Burlington Alamance County CWU Unites will be held Saturday, August 12, 2017 at 10:00 am. A human rights celebration entitles "Kindling New Fires of Hope" will be held in the Fellowship Hall of the Alamance Lutheran Church, 4008 South NC Highway 62. They will be honoring some exceptional people. Join them to hear about their lives and contributions to society. An in-kind offering of canned foods for local food banks will be collected. Spread the word and invite your friends and neighbors. No reservations are necessary. Light refreshments will be served.

THANK YOU NOTES RECEIVED...

The following thank you notes were received in the past months.

From Family Abuse Services of Alamance County:

Thank you for your generous gift of \$500.00 to Family Abuse Services. With your gift, we are able to continue offering help and support to the families of Alamance County as they face the difficulties of domestic violence. We are so grateful to have such thoughtful members of our community. Thank you again!

Sincerely,
Skye Sullivan

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From the American Cancer Society:

Dear First Christian United Church of Christ,

Thank you for helping make the Relay For Life event a success. Together, we honored all cancer survivors and remembered loved ones lost. Because of your support, we're able to take action against this terrible disease.

You are helping boost our efforts to provide patient programs and services, emotional support, and trusted information for those facing a cancer diagnosis – and their families. And you're helping lead the fight to end cancer for our loved ones by supporting vital research.

We're so grateful for your support.

Your gift is helping us save lives. In fact, thanks in part to medical advances supported by American Cancer Society donors like you, cancer death rates are the lowest they've been in decades.

Together, we've come so far. Your gift makes all the difference.

First Christian United Church of Christ, with your help, we're making breakthroughs against cancer. And now we hope to double our research investment to discover better treatments, find cures, and save more lives.

Thank you for helping save lives and lead the fight to end cancer.

We deeply appreciate all you do.

With sincere thanks,

Brant Woodward, Executive Vice President, Southeast Region

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Year to Date through 06-30-17

	Actual	Budget
Income:	\$ 96,582.48	\$100,149.50
<u>Expense</u>	<u>\$ 98,380.99</u>	<u>\$100,149.82</u>
Net Balance:	<\$ 1,798.57>	<\$.32>
Balance in Checking 06-30-17	\$12,077.71	

As you can see, everyone's continued support is still greatly needed to carry on the ministry of the church. Please send in your giving today.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ken Little and Connie Collins

Treasurer and Accounting Manager