



PULSE

SEPTEMBER 2011

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We are an Open and Affirming Congregation within the United Church of Christ, welcoming people of every race, spiritual tradition, and sexual orientation to join us in loving God and neighbor.

Deepening our Relationships this Fall

Much of what we anticipate this fall has to do with deepening our relationships. Through careful planning, various leadership circles of our congregation are inviting you into a deepening of relationships. This is really about giving and receiving hospitality, creating a space not only to welcome new people, but to welcome ourselves in a renewed way into a journey of faith, to welcome this interesting mix of people currently engaged in the changing and sustaining community called Parkway UCC. Even more, it is about allowing ourselves to be more fully welcomed by grace and into the loving, challenging space of Holy Presence.



Some of us have been spending a good bit of time with a new UCC curriculum that our elementary age students will experience in church school this year. It is entitled ***Faith Practices: Giving and Receiving Hospitality***. One of the modules we have access to for adult learners begins the exploration of future visioning with this description:

“Pursuing hospitality invites self-examination and even criticism. Where are we as individuals and where is the community in the complexity of protecting, tending, and making space for self, God, others, and all creation? Where are the points of giving and receiving hospitality? How do we discover the courage to reach beyond the familiar? What growth is required as individuals and as a community? What practices, events, and experiences are worthy of celebration? What sustains a continuing journey? Living into God’s future calls forth a dance of individual and communal points of view, commitments, passions, and understandings. God welcome all into this future.”

All good questions. Many of which I hope we will find opportunity to engage this fall as we deepen our relationships. One of the opportunities will be held after worship on **Sunday, September 11**. During our first potluck of the fall (note the different Sunday from the normal rhythm of potlucks) each committee of the church will be prepared to engage your questions. If you do not currently serve on a committee, you are invited to find a committee to sit with and eat with. You can find out what they’ve been doing and what they plan on doing in the coming months. You can offer suggestions and ask questions.

The following **Sunday, September 18** we will commission trained persons of the congregation to begin reaching out to have 40-minute conversations with each participant at Parkway UCC. These relational meetings are meant to get to know you and what connects you to the life of Parkway. It’s not to be nosy, but to really read the pulse of what gives us energy as a people of faith, what direction the Spirit may be leading us. These meetings might be after church, over a glass of iced tea, in the home, or at a comfortable meeting spot. We hope you will take up the invitation to tell us what matters to you.

Then in **October** we will invite you to a **cottage meeting** with those who are part of your neighborhood nurture group, to reflect on the meaning of giving – Biblically, personally, and in the context of the ministries of Parkway. There will be something to snack on, some informal time, some illuminating discussion, and then an opportunity to ask questions about the visions represented in the proposed draft church budget for 2012. There will be opportunity to offer your feedback and talk about what you think is important. Stewardship commitment cards will also be distributed at this time. If you are not sure what your neighborhood nurture group is, please let the church office know and we will help you figure that out.

Joyfully,

Craig



Divinity Student Intern

Parkway UCC member **Terry Parrish, Jr.** is in his second year at Wake Forest Divinity School. As part of his requirement for The Art of Ministry II, Terry will be engaged in a full academic year of internship. He will split his time between the Greensboro Urban Ministry and Parkway UCC. Terry's primary role with us will be on Sunday mornings, working with our youth church school class and helping lead worship. We look forward to this time with Terry. Pictured here with Terry is his son, Adam.

Worship this Fall: God Grants Radical Hospitality

The thread connecting us through our autumn Sundays will be giving and receiving hospitality. In September we will focus on the hospitality God offers each one of us through preparation and liberation (9/4), through the ways we each are uniquely made (9/11), through the way the Spirit moves in creation (9/18), and through provision of everyday needs (9/25).



This theme continues in October with emphasis on the particular gifts we are given to be hosts and guests in the community: gifts of the law, gifts of feasting, and gifts of leadership. In November we will focus on the particular hospitality at table and food justice.

Sundays in September

September 4: Labor Sunday We will explore the story of the Passover (Exodus 12:1-14) in connection with a call to economic justice. Jon Sundell will share from the repertoire of labor songs. There is a neighborhood nurture meeting following worship.

September 11: There will be a parents meeting for church school students at 10:15 a.m. this Sunday to become familiar with new church school practices and curriculum. Before worship on this Sunday our sanctuary will also be open for silent reflection and prayer on this anniversary of 9/11. Our worship will be an **Intergenerational Celebration**. We will gather at tables in the fellowship hall for worship for this celebration of Psalm 139 and the theme "Fearfully and wonderfully made". The choir will return to sing. Directly following worship, we will process to the garden to dedicate a newly planted peace tree – a redbud planted adjacent to the driveway. We will offer up prayers for peace in solidarity not only with communities of faith across Winston-Salem, but across the globe who are dedicating peace trees or peace poles on their property on this weekend. Then we will return to the fellowship hall for our potluck with committees.

September 18: This Sunday will be the start to fall church school. This will be our first Sunday back in the sanctuary. We will explore the theme "Hospitality in and through creation" with the words of Romans 8:18-27. We will covenant with one another in support of educational ministries. We will also receive new members. Following worship, we will gather those interested in the fellowship hall to read through the Christmas pageant

script which will be performed in worship on Sunday, December 18. We need people of all ages to participate in this drama written by Gayle Moore.

September 25: Divinity student intern Terry Parrish will lead worship. There will be a celebration of Holy Communion.

Johns River Valley Camp Retreat

It is almost time to go to Johns River Valley Camp September 23-25, and we wanted to give those who have never been a taste of some of the fun we have there. Please consider this great event even if you are concerned about paying for it. Nurture has budgeted support for those who simply cannot pay the fees. Please talk with Craig if you could use some support in being able to attend. This year's event is being planned by Billy Muncy and all registrations will go through him. Be sure to check out the video outside of the fellowship hall of some of the great times we had last year. For more info please contact Billy, 571-241-3405. Applications are available on the table outside of the Fellowship Hall. **Last day for registration is Sunday, September 11.**

Sanctuary Choir News

The Sanctuary Choir resumed their Wednesday night rehearsals on August 24. We rehearse Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. Rehearsals will be in the fellowship hall through September 14 and then move back into the sanctuary. We sing 2 Sunday's per month (1st and 3rd) with some adjustments depending on worship planning. If you have ever thought about, but hesitated singing with the choir, now is the time to check us out. This is a great group of people who just happen to enjoy singing together. Come join us. Janice Huesman

Sunday School News

- > Please be sure to come for the Parent Meeting on Sunday, September 11 at 10:15 a.m. to discuss the year.
- > Don't forget that Elementary and Youth Sunday school starts on September 18! Youth begins at 10:00 a.m. and Middle School and Elementary begin at 11:00 a.m.
- > Be sure to look at the Education bulletin board to see you can be a part of this exciting new year!

September Birthdays

September 3 Sean Nelligan, David Scruggs, Ana Tampanna
September 7 Jan Sawyer, Ana Maria Sundell
September 9 Diahann Tabor
September 12 Kristin Woody
September 16 Shirley Nystrom
September 18 Al Bryant, Carol Whitney
September 19 Amy Callahan
September 21 Elise Schaub
September 30 Nita Callahan

Member and Participant Biographies for the Online Pictorial Directory

In order for each of us to know members of our church community better, we would like to include short biographies (less than 300 words) with our pictorial directory. Send your *biography* by email to your Neighborhood Leader. (Those without email can give a printed copy to their leader.) Thanks to the North Neighborhood for initiating this great idea! See samples of their bios in the Narthex.

The pictorial directory is available by email and through a password-protected page on the church website. Contact pat.eisenach@gmail.com if you don't have the log in information. We'd like to have everyone's *picture* in the directory also, so if you're not in the current pictorial directory, contact Pat!

Winston-Salem Vigil for Equality - September 12, 7 - 8:30 p.m., Grace Court Park, 931 West 4th Street. A candlelight vigil will be held to draw attention to the North Carolina legislature's proposed anti-LGBT constitutional amendment. Find out more on the Vigil's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=189904037745817.

Immigration Inequity and the LGBT Community

You may have recently heard news of the Obama administration's changes in deportation proceedings that can affect families of same-gender-loving couples. Come and learn more at the third in the Interfaith Voice "Community Conversations" specifically about immigration and the LGBT community at Green Street Church, **Thursday, September 22, 7:00 p.m.** (Note date change from originally posted date of 9/15.)

Medicine Drop-Off

Do you have unused, out-of-date medications that you need to dispose of? Mark your calendar for this upcoming opportunity to safely dispose of them: September 22, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., First Christian Church, 2320 Country Club Road (near Arbor Road).

CROP Walk

Mark your calendars now for **Sunday October 16!** The Winston Salem/Forsyth County **CROP Walk for Hunger** is scheduled and you can be a part of it!

There has never been a time when your time, energy and financial support are more needed. The economic crisis has had the greatest effect on the poor and those who are struggling to survive. In the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Metropolitan Statistical Data area, almost 25% of residents have experienced food insecurity at some time over the past year. The need for food assistance at both Crisis Control and Sunnyside Ministry has increased. Globally, earthquakes, floods and other disasters have taken thousands of lives, leaving children orphaned and families homeless.

Money raised supports the work of Church World Service, nationally and globally, to eradicate hunger and poverty, and to promote peace and justice around the world. Twenty five percent of funds remain in Forsyth County to support hunger alleviation programs of Crisis Control Ministry and Sunnyside Ministry. Please join the Parkway Team to help end hunger. For more information contact Ann McLain.

Other Upcoming Events

Tuesday, October 4: Parkway will co-host the Interfaith Voice Community conversation on anti-bullying at Wait Chapel beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 15: The Buddy Walk and Winston-Salem Pride Festival and Parade. Pride Festival is from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and the parade begins at 4 p.m.

Friday, November 5: Parkway hosts a musical night with our own musicians for the wider community. Admission will be 10 non-perishable food items for local food distribution as we highlight a fight against hunger.

Thank You Parkway UCC for the use of your beautiful facility and your delightful hospitality.
Sincerely, Mary Lou Leonard – Griffith School Leadership Team

~ September 2011 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			31 Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall	1 Worship Committee, 6:30 p.m.	2	3 Earth Scouts outing to the zoo
4 Neighborhood Leaders Mtg after worship (tentative)	5 LABOR DAY HOLIDAY	6 Nurture Committee, 7:00 p.m.	7 Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall	8	9	10
11 Parent Mtg for SS – 10:15 a.m. Potluck after worship	12	13 Training for Relational Mtgs 6:00 p.m.	14 Council, 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall	15	16 Fellowship Hall in use 6:00-9:00 p.m.	17 Fellowship Hall in use 1:00-5:30 p.m.
18 -Children's SS begins 10:00 -Worship returns to Sanctuary -Christmas play script reading after worship --Welcome visitors meet	19	20 Training for Stewardship Cottage meetings	21 Missions Committee, 6:00 p.m. Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	22 Interfaith Voice/Immigration Equality, 7:00 p.m. Green Street UMC	23 PUCC RETREAT at JOHNS RIVER VALLEY CAMP	24 RETREAT
25 RETREAT Holy Communion/ Terry Parrish will lead worship.	26	27	28 Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	29	30 Wedding Rehearsal and set-up 6:00- 9:30 p.m. Earth Scouts at Kristen Woody's (tentative)	Notes: Choir meets every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Quilters meet every Thursday at 10:00 a.m.