



"Portrait of a Lady Serving a Meal" Haley Hasler

First Congregational United Church of Christ
July 17, 2016
10:30 am

Jesus Justice Prayer Peace

** Indicates to rise in body or spirit*

Prelude

Anastasia Yarbrough

As the Prelude is played, please prepare to worship God in a spirit of prayerful meditation.

Welcome

Yolanda Adams

Please pass the red friendship pads to sign in at this time. If this is your first time visiting, please legibly write your name and address so we may send you a letter of welcome and more information about our church.

If you have a prayer concern, you may fill out a prayer card located in the pew pads and place it in the prayer box in the Narthex or in the offering plate when it is passed later in the service.

Call to Worship

Leader: Christ is in our midst! How will you bid him welcome?

People: We will throw open the doors to our hearts. We will delight in his presence.

Leader: When God shows up, surprising things can happen.

People: We will make ourselves ready. We will lay down our burdens and set aside our distractions.

Leader: Here we receive good news: Nothing is too wonderful for God!

People: So let us laugh and sing, rest and listen, dance and praise—

All: Let us worship God!

*Hymn #4

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You"

Invocation (prayed in unison)

**Wonderful, surprising God,
you bring us hope when we are discouraged,
peace when we are anxious,
and joy when we are least expecting it.
Help us, now, to rest in your presence.
Be our welcome Guest not only here but
everywhere we go this week.
Show us how to receive all that you have to offer us.
May we remain open even to what seems**

too incredible to be true,
for with you, so much more is possible than we even imagine.
We pray this in the name of your most Glorious Impossible,
Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Sung Response #793 "Holy, Holy, Holy" (*Santo, Santo, Santo*)

Reading of Scripture Genesis 18: 1-15

Anthem "Jehovah to my Words Give Ear" – Handel Maximillian Koger, soloist

Time with Children Taleese Morrill

After a time with Children, children K-5 may go to the Children's Church room with JP Morrill. Teens may go to the Tower Room for Teen Church with Taleese Morrill. Parents and guardians will need to pick them up after worship.

***The Passing of the Peace**

Reading of Scripture Luke 10:38-42

Sermon "Who's Going to Set the Table?" Margot Pickett

***Hymn #503** "O Savior, Let Me Walk with You" (verses 1, 3, 4)

Ministry Updates Yolanda Adams

Sharing Concerns and Celebrations Yolanda Adams

Pastoral Prayer Margot Pickett

The Lord's Prayer (Maori Version)

**Earth Maker, Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer,
Source of all that is and all that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**May the hallowing of your name
echo through the universe!
May your heavenly will be done
by all creatures great and small!**

**And may your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth!**

**With the bread we need this day, feed us.
For the hurt we inflict on one another, forgive us.
Through times of temptation, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is Love. Amen.**

Sharing our Gifts

Invitation to Share

Offertory

Anastasia Yarbrough

Prayer of Dedication

**Generous God, we share what we have
because we wish to serve you with the best we have to offer.
Bless our tithes and offerings that they may become a bountiful feast
for all who need to be filled with good things.
Open our eyes to see the strangers you call us to welcome.
Empower us to receive them as you do,
with radically inclusive hospitality.
May we recognize and delight in the gifts they share with us.
Amen.**

***Hymn #77**

"Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"

Benediction

Please join us in the Friendship Hall for some light refreshments and conversation.

Welcome!

We are a progressive, risk-taking Christian faith community.

We follow the way of Jesus as the Christ and are welcome, open, and affirming to all.

We believe God is vibrant, alive, and still speaking to us!

We believe that God encourages us to engage the world through acts of mercy, peace, and justice.

For Today's Service

Greeter/Usher: Betty Dillashaw
Liturgist: Judy Slater
Childcare: Kerby Wyatt
Security Floater: Randall Bowman
Deacon of the Month: Judy Slater
(jbugslater@gmail.com)
Phone: 734-679-3497
Alternate Deacon of the Month: Mary Ann
Brackett - (Accessibility
Door)(mochasmoms2@charter.net)
Phone: (828) 777-6384

Our Staff

Rev. Margot Pickett, Interim Senior Minister
(margot.pickett@uccasheville.org)
Gary Mitchell, Assistant Minister
(cantorucc@aol.com)
Yolanda Adams, Ministry Coordinator
(ministry@uccasheville.org)
Harper Leich, Administrative Assistant
(admin@uccasheville.org)
Andrea Blankinship, Contract Accountant
Taleese Morrill, Youth Ministry Coordinator
(taleesemorrill@gmail.com)
Viviana Altamirano, Custodian

Nursery

Our nursery is open during worship for babies and children pre-school age and younger. Children and babies may be dropped off by a parent or guardian before worship or after a Time with Children. (You will be asked to sign in and leave a cell phone number). They must be picked up as soon worship ends. They are also welcome to remain with you in the sanctuary.

Faith Formation for Children and Teens

We celebrate the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of every month and encourage your children and youth to be part of that sacrament. Therefore, we do not offer Faith Formation classes on first Sundays. On all other Sundays of the month, we invite our children to go to a multi-age class in room E 205 following the Time with Children. Our teen youth meet with Taleese Morrill or volunteer parents in the Youth Tower on those Sundays.

Events and Opportunities to Connect *More information: www.uccasheville.org*

All Church Retreat August 12-14 at Lake Logan Episcopal Center

The theme of this year's retreat is "Re-Imagine the Gifts of God: Sowing Seeds of Hope and Wholeness". Retreat Leaders are David LaMotte, Rev. Karen Richardson Dunn and Katie

Warren, M. of Ed. The Transition Team will also facilitate a session on our church heritage immediately after lunch on Saturday. Registration forms are available in the Narthex (pink sheets) or in the plastic pocket outside Yolanda's office.

Sacred Pause: Come and use artmaking/coloring as a way to find some meditative quiet and self-reflection in your life. Mondays July 18 and August 22 at 5:45-8PM Room 103 in the education wing of FCUCC.

Stir the Soul Café: Meets Wednesdays in the library from 2-4 pm. Join Loraine Tuenge for a time of discussion and fellowship.

Lunch Bunch: Most Sundays after church, a varying group of us leave from the church around noon and head to a local eatery close by and just have a good time getting to know each other. All are welcome! Ask a greeter or usher for help finding Beaver or the lunch bunch!

Baseball with Beaver: Each year our church has a date or two with the Asheville Tourists and of course, Beaver. The remaining dates are July 21 (Thirsty Thursday) August 19 (\$1.00 Hot Dogs and Fireworks.) Beaver will only take reservations for the upcoming month. Please let her know if you want to attend (231-3113).

The Church and Mental Illness: A 3-Part Adult Forum Summer Series 9:30 am in E-101 August 7th – Maintaining Hope and Resilience While Living with Mental Illness

All of us need supportive resources and practices to help us sustain faith, hope, and resilience as we journey through our days. Persons living with mental illness often face even more challenges in holding on to hope as they navigate a life impacted by their illnesses. How can we as a faith community provide encouragement, nurture, and support along their journey? What kind of ministries might we develop to meet the needs of persons in our community living with mental illness?

Facilitator: Rev. Jerene Broadway, staff chaplain at Mission Hospital, where she serves primarily in the Copestone psychiatric units. Jerene is also a member of the board of National Alliance on Mental Illness Western Carolina.

Summer Meals for Children Program Needs:

Thankfully, we have all the volunteers we need for the Summer Meals Program run by the Asheville City Schools. If you still want to be involved, we are in need of the following donations which may be delivered to Yolanda's office during office hours (Monday-Thursday 9-2): books, children's toothbrushes, travel size toothpaste, mild soaps and shampoos, puzzles, coloring books, and crayons.

The Transition Team will be hosting small group discussion sessions in E-101 at 9:15 am and noon on Sundays **July 17, 24, and 31** to discuss whatever questions and issues arise for you as you reflect on our timeline which is on display in our Art Gallery. These are "drop in" sessions if you want to reflect with others on your response to reviewing FCUCC's history. We also encourage you to attend the All Church Retreat, August 12-14, or at least come on

Saturday for lunch and a 90-minute session immediately after lunch where we will talk more in depth about what we have learned from our collective history and bring this phase of our process to a close. In September we will start focusing on the Vision and Mission of this church and the kind of Leadership needed to fulfill our mission.

All are invited! David Turner & Dennis McLain would like to invite the congregation to their wedding on Saturday July 23rd at 3pm, a reception will follow in Friendship Hall.

Randall Bowman, Deacon and Security Floater, is looking for Security

Helpers! The task includes helping any members and visitors up the steps, directing visitors to sign the guest book, locking all the doors and sitting by the main doors during the service to greet any late comers or walk-ins. The security person also makes a round to check on the nursery, children's time and youth. He is looking for 3-4 volunteers; please contact him at 828-242-9536 or rwb0165@gmail.com.

Hood Tours: We have a special opportunity this fall! We invite you to join 5-9 other FCUCC friends for an interactive Hood Tour focusing on African American resilient history and future in the arts, environment and entrepreneurship. Visit neighborhoods with active green spaces, art, and grassroots initiatives. Our church has reserved a van for this 2 hour experience on two different days: 1) Thursday, September 29 at 1 PM and 2) Saturday, October 1st at 3 PM. Sign-up and pay the \$25 charge before September 6th by calling or emailing Yolanda or Bev Reddick (bpeacenow@yahoo.com or 828-285-8735). Tours depart from the Stephens-Lee Recreation Center, 30 George Washington Carver Ave.

Sunday Friendship Time Clean-up Ministry

The Deacons are developing a Ministry to engage congregants in supporting "our essential hospitality" Friendship Time. This will significantly assist the me, Yolanda, Ministry Coordinator. Teams will rotate about 4 times annually to clean-up after Sunday Friendship Time beginning September 5. Team Leaders and 3-4 Team Members will be identified either through volunteering or recruitment. If you want to be a Team Leader or Team Member, please contact Beaver Wyatt at 828-231-3113; beaverwyatt@bellsouth.net or Judy Slater at 734-679-3497; jbugslater@gmail.com.

Ron Vinson: We are so very saddened by the news that Ron Vinson passed away at home with Mary early in the morning of Monday, July 11th. It was unexpected. Funeral and memorial arrangements have not been finalized and we will share that information as soon as we know the details (which might not be for several weeks). Please keep Mary and their family in your prayers.



“Mary and Martha” mural by Mikhail Nesterov

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