



The Lord's Prayer in Arabic

First Congregational United Church of Christ

July 24, 2016

10:30 am

Jesus Justice Prayer Peace

** Indicates to rise in body or spirit*

Prelude

Gary Mitchell

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

One: It is in this place of holiness that we can come with our fears,
our doubts, all the questions of our hearts.

**All: We come to this place, to hear the words of peace,
of hope, of joy God speaks to us.**

One: It is in this place of discovery
that we can come searching.

**All: We come to this place, to find
the One who has been looking for us.**

One: It is in this place of openness
that we can come knocking.

**All: We come to this place, to be embraced
by the One whose heart is never locked.**

***Hymn #11**

“Bring Many Names”

Call to Reconciliation

We are invited to pray - all who have hurt someone else, and all who have been hurt by another. We are called to pray: for hope, for healing, for mercy. We pray to the One who seeks to make us whole; whose will it is to restore us to new life. Join me as we pray, saying,

Unison Prayer of Confession

We do not find it easy to speak of how we do not live as your people, but you invite us to share our weaknesses and failures with you, Inviting God. Tempted to think your salvation is for a select few,

we put up barriers for others. Clinging to all you give to us, we are reluctant to share with those in need. Surrounded by evil and violence, we find it easier to close ranks with those just like us, rather than seeking peace and reconciliation for our world.

Forgive us, O God. Open our eyes to our sisters and brothers all around us. Open our ears to the word of hope you speak to us. Open our spirits to the presence of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who flings wide the open doors of your kingdom, that all might find life with you.

Silence is kept

Assurance of Pardon

One: Here is the good news, my friends: Christ came searching for us, calling us by name, leading us into God's kingdom.

**All: In Christ, we become new people:
broken, we are made whole;
lost, we are found;
forsaken, we are restored to new life.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Sung Response #765

“Alleluia”

Reading of Scripture

Psalm 25

Anthem

Carol and Jenny Shoaf

Time with Children

Gary Mitchell

*After a time with Children, children K-5 may go to the Children's Church room with Gary Mitchell.
Teenagers may go with Linda Burke to the Youth Room in the Tower.*

***The Passing of the Peace**

Reading of Scripture

Luke 11:1-13

Sermon

“Teach Us to Pray”

Margot Pickett

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.

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.

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!

The Church and Mental Illness: A 3-Part Adult Forum Summer Series 9:15 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.

The Transition Team will be hosting small group discussion sessions in E-101 at 9:15 am and noon on Sundays **July 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.

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 Yolanda, our 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 a Team Member, please contact Beaver Wyatt at 828-231-3113; beaverwyatt@bellsouth.net or Bev Reddick at bpeacenow@yahoo.com or 828-285-8735.

Earth Team Event: You are invited to join the Earth Team on a trip to Cherokee on July 30th to visit the Cultural Village and attend an evening performance of the historical

drama “**Unto These Hills.**” The group should gather in the Church parking lot to carpool by 1 p.m. The village is open in the daytime and there is an admission fee. The play begins at 7:30 and the tickets are \$20 and can be purchased there. It's an outdoor performance, so bring rain gear if it's in the forecast. If interested, please speak to Julie Everett or Ron Martin-Atkins before the weekend. Their emails are zowiemom@yahoo.com and ron.martinadkins@gmail.com

New Innkeepers Found: Please give a hug and congratulations to our new Innkeepers for Room in the Inn, Richard and Ruth Howe and in the role of backup and consultant Beaver Wyatt. We are still in need of a Food Coordinator and Overnight Coordinator. If you feel called to help, please contact the Howes (rmhowe@gmail.com, 413-533-4437), Beaver (231-3113) or Yolanda (ministry@uccasheville.org).

Building Bridges: Tuesdays September 13th – November 8th 7:00-9:00 pm at Rainbow Community School in West Asheville. This seminar is an introduction to the dynamics of racism and is an opportunity to explore how race has impacted our relationships, communities, and institutions. Please sign up at: www.buildingbridges-ashevillenc.org

Memorial Service for Ron Vinson: Ron’s family welcomes you to share in their grief, love, and appreciation for a bright spirit and wonderful man at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Asheville on Sunday August 7th at 3pm. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy. You can reach Mary at her daughter’s house, 101 Washington Road Asheville, NC 2880, or at rmvinson@gmail.com.

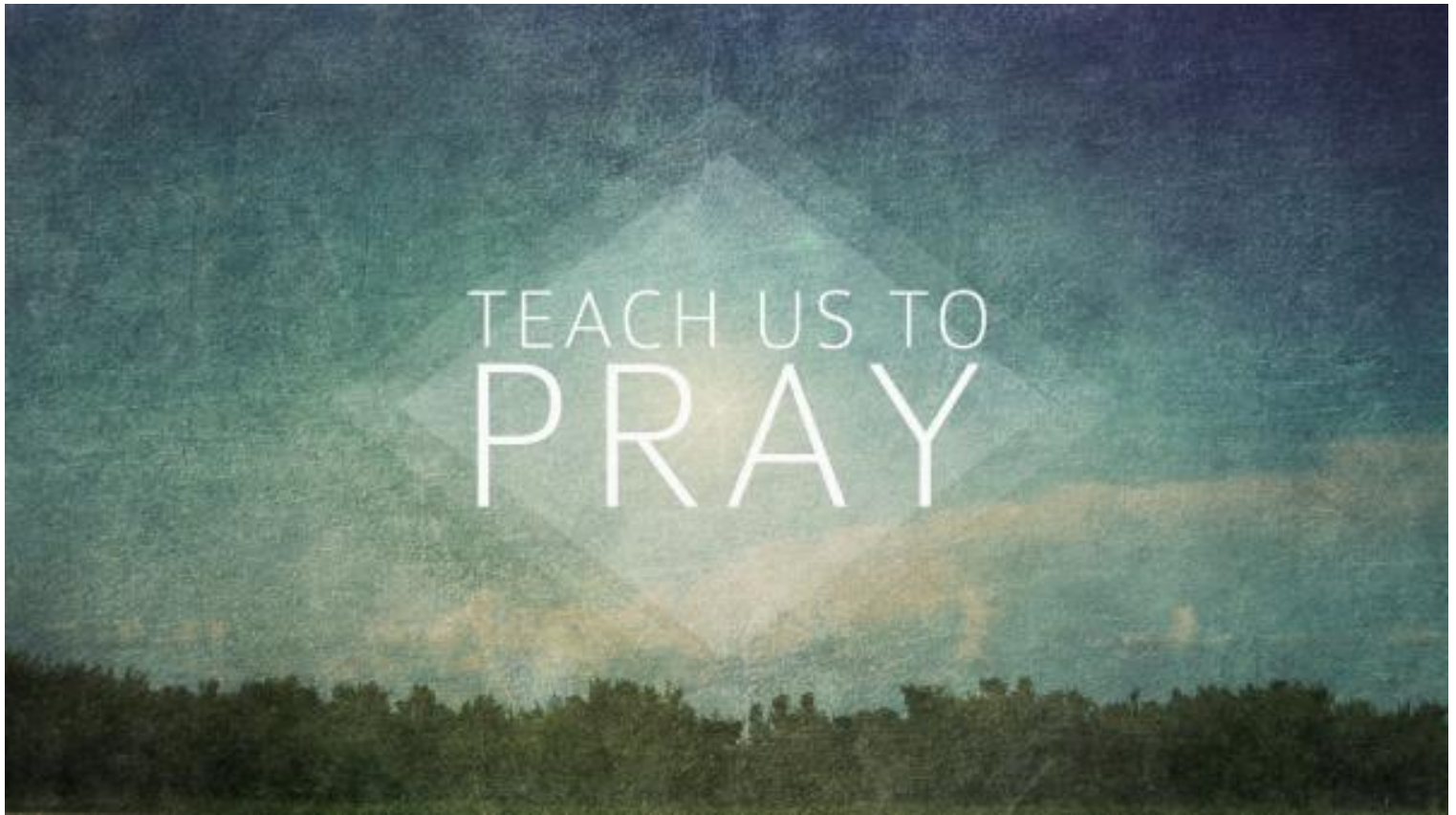
Mark your Calendars for these Future Events!

(more details coming soon)

Baseball with Beaver: Join Beaver and other FCUCC folks for an Asheville Tourists game on August 19th. Contact her to buy your tickets: 231-3113.

Heels on Hills Hike: Next hike is Saturday, August 20th. Meet at the church at 9:00 AM to carpool to Rock Drop.

Habitat for Humanity: Volunteers needed for First Congregational UCC’s work days September 6th (2 volunteers needed) and October 29 (2 volunteers needed).



First Congregational UCC

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Please send all mail to PO Box 3211 Asheville, NC 28802.

www.uccasheville.org 828-252-8729

www.facebook.com/FCUCC