

Jesus Justice Prayer Peace

** Indicates to rise in body or spirit*

Prelude

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

Welcome and Ministry Updates

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: God calls us to this place, a haven for healing and hope.

All: We come, with the pain of our burdens, to hear God's Word of hope for us.

One: Together, we will sing songs of joy;

All: and listen for God's voice calling us by name.

One: We join our voices in prayer and praise;

All: we sing of our longing for forgiveness and renewal.

One: We gather as sisters and brothers, children of God,

All: Learning to love one another in good times and bad.

Hymn #70

“God is Here! As We Your People Meet”

Unison Prayer

Gracious God, you encourage us with your love, bringing new life out of death. We give you thanks and confess our need for life-giving power in our lives and our relationships. We have hurt others and been hurt by them. We are often angry or afraid. We are not sure when to assert our needs and when to care for others' needs. We continue to live in ways which do not lead to peace and justice. Forgive us, O God. Pour your Spirit of wisdom and healing upon us, that by our living and our loving, we may glorify you, through Jesus Christ the Risen One. Amen.

Sung Response #238

“Spirit of the Living God”

Psalm 148 (Read responsively, page 721 of the hymnal)

Time with Our Children

We invite the children to meet Betty Dillashaw at the back of the sanctuary to go to the garden and plant their potatoes. They will return before the end of the service.

***Passing the Peace**

Anthem “Break Forth in Joy” - Smith

Scripture Reading

Acts 11: 1-18

Sermon

Rev. Margot Pickett

***Hymn #278**

“Creator God”

We Offer Our Gifts

Call for the Offering

Offertory

Prayer of Dedication

Communion

The Invitation

God in Christ breaks down the walls that make us strangers to ourselves and divide us from one another. We are the body of Christ. Around this table, we enact our faith. The body broken is restored to wholeness; lifeblood poured out brings healing to our world.

The Communion Prayer

One: We dream, O God, of community, but in our waking hours we forget such hopes. Our dreams we call “alien”; our sister and brother we call “stranger”.

All: You call us by name. With arms outstretched as on a cross,

you call us to yourself, and you name us your own people.

One: So with arms outstretched, we now embrace new friends and forgotten dreams. The body broken and lifeblood poured transform our fears, revive our visions.

All: **Renew us, O God, with your Spirit, that we may receive this mystery of your body, embracing its manifold gifts and needs, shouting an “Amen!” that resounds through our world.**

The Words of Institution (I Corinthians 11:23-26)

Sharing the Bread and Wine

All are welcome at this table. Please come down the center aisle, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup, and return by one of the side aisles. Each station has a gluten free option. The liquid in the tall cup is wine, the liquid in the short cup is juice.

Communion Anthem “Alleluia” – Scott



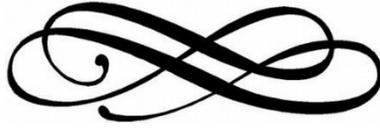
Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

All praise is yours, O God. You bring us to this table as sisters and brothers. Lead us now, through each of our moments, to that glorious day when all your children will gather as family. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen

***Hymn #43**

“Love Divine”

Blessing



Congregational Conversation: TODAY after worship in the Friendship Hall. As one of its first efforts, the Transition Team is asking members of the congregation to join us for this Congregational Conversation to help us get an idea of “Where We Are Now” as a congregation. After losing our pastor of almost 20 years, many of us have been working through the various stages of grief over the last nine months. We’d like to share with you some of the stages of grief we learned about as a Team, and hear some of your feelings as to where you are in your own stages of grieving. From this conversation, the Team will begin formulating plans for future meetings as, together, we explore where we’ve come from, who we are now, and who we feel God is calling us to be.

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.

Deacon of the Month: Terry Kaeser 618.889.9082

Alternate Deacon of the Month: Carol Duin 828.254.4068

scduin@gmail.com

For Today’s Service

Greeter/Usher: Beaver Wyatt

Liturgist: Colin Covell

Deacon of the Month: Terry Kaeser

Alternate Deacon of the Month: Carol Duin (Handicap Door)

Communion Prep: Carol Duin

Communion Servers: Richard and Ruth Howe, Larry Horne, Ron Phillips.

Security/Floater: Randall Bowman

Nursery/Childcare: Marcella Gonzalez.

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

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

Monthly Game Night May 10th at 7:00 pm. Join us playing cards and games such as dominoes, Rummikub, etc. Will play for fun and friendship, so no experience necessary! Second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 in E-105. Contact Dennis Vanator & Mary Hawkins if questions: denmary14@gmail.com.

Final Faith & Flicks of the Season: Sunday, May 8th at 5:45 pm in the Library. *Saving Mr. Banks*; 2013; Rated PG-13; 125 minutes; Directed by John Lee Hancock. Author P.L. Travers reflects on stories from her childhood during her meetings with Walt Disney while negotiating the adaptation of her Mary Poppins books for the big screen.

First Congregational Annual Picnic: On Saturday, May 14th at 2pm Sharon Stepp and Linda Sanders will host the annual summer picnic at their lovely home in Hendersonville. If your last name begins with an A through M, please bring a side dish to go with both vegetarian and regular hot dogs and hamburgers. If your last name begins with N through Z, please bring all kinds of yummy desserts. There is a stream for kids to do a creek walk but please bring shoes to wear. You are also invited to bring your drums and all kinds of musical instruments for a yard jam!!! The address for the picnic is 307 S. Washington Street Hendersonville, NC 28739. GPS and Google maps can get you there. For more information, contact Sharon Stepp at s_stepp@bellsouth.net

Baseball with Beaver: The first Tourists game we will be attending is May 20th- which is FREE Duffle Bag night. The first 1000 people get a free duffel. The next dates are June 24 (\$1.00 Hot Dogs and Fireworks), July 21 (Thirsty Thursday) August 19 (\$1.00 Hot Dogs and Fireworks.) Beaver will only take reservations for the upcoming month and no further ahead. Please let her know if you want to attend. Come on out and have a great time! Beaver: 828-231-3113

Hiking Trips with Randall: 05/21/2016 Mediation Hike Catawba Falls: A scripture will be shared at the beginning, we will hike to the base of the falls in silence, reflecting on the verses. Before turning around and heading back, everyone will share their thoughts. Talk all you want on the way back. Randall: bwr0165@aol.com

Supporting Refugees: Some weeks ago a group of concerned people in our church met and thought about what we can do for the refugees that are in the news every day. The government uses Catholic Charities for placement. Carol Duin took the steps required and has been assigned a refugee family from the Ukraine. If you are interested in working with refugees (becoming a friend and helping them with learning English - most refugees go to AB Tech for language) please call Paul Gillespie 828-681-0428 or email tellpablo11@gmail.com or Carol Duin 828-254-4068 or email scduin@gmail.com.

Book Discussion Group: You are welcome to join a book discussion group that meets each week on Tuesdays at 10 am at 48 Dover Street, Asheville. We would very much like to have YOU!!! Please call Spence or Carol Duin 828-254-4068 or Doug or Carol Groben 828-712-4417 for details. The book that is being discussed is "What's So Amazing About Grace" by Philip Yancey.

Faith Formation Classes *For more information: www.uccasheville.org*

No Sacred Pause class on May 2nd as they will be on retreat that week.

Joy of Sects: There's one last meeting for this class! Join us next Sunday morning at 9:15 in E-101.

Book Group with Margot: Please read chapter 8 for our next meeting on Wednesday.

Church Calendar

Sunday, May 1, 2016

9:15 am Children's Chime Choir E-107
9:15 am Joy of Sects Faith Formation E-101
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Congregational Conversation with
The Transition Team, Friendship Hall
5:30 pm Youth Group, Tower Room

Monday, May 2, 2016

Yolanda out of the office
No Sacred Pause Group

Tuesday, May 3, 2016

Yolanda out of office
10:30 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, May 4, 2016

Yolanda out of the office
2:00 pm Stir The Soul Café
5:30 pm hand bell choir - choir loft
5:30 pm Margot's Book Study E-107
6:30 pm Church Choir Rehearsal in loft

Thursday, May 5, 2016

Yolanda out of the office

Sunday, May 8th, 2016

9:15 am Children's Chime Choir E-107
9:15 am Joy of Sects Faith Formation E-101
(final class)
10:30 am Worship
5:45 pm Faith & Flicks Screening in Library

Monday, May 9, 2016

5:45 A Sacred Pause class w/Mandy E-105

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

10:30 am Staff meeting Library
7:00 pm FCUCC Game Night E-105

Wednesday, May 11, 2016

Yolanda out of the office

2:00 Stir The Soul Cafe - Library

5:30 pm Handbell choir - choir loft

5:30 pm Margot's Book Study - E-107

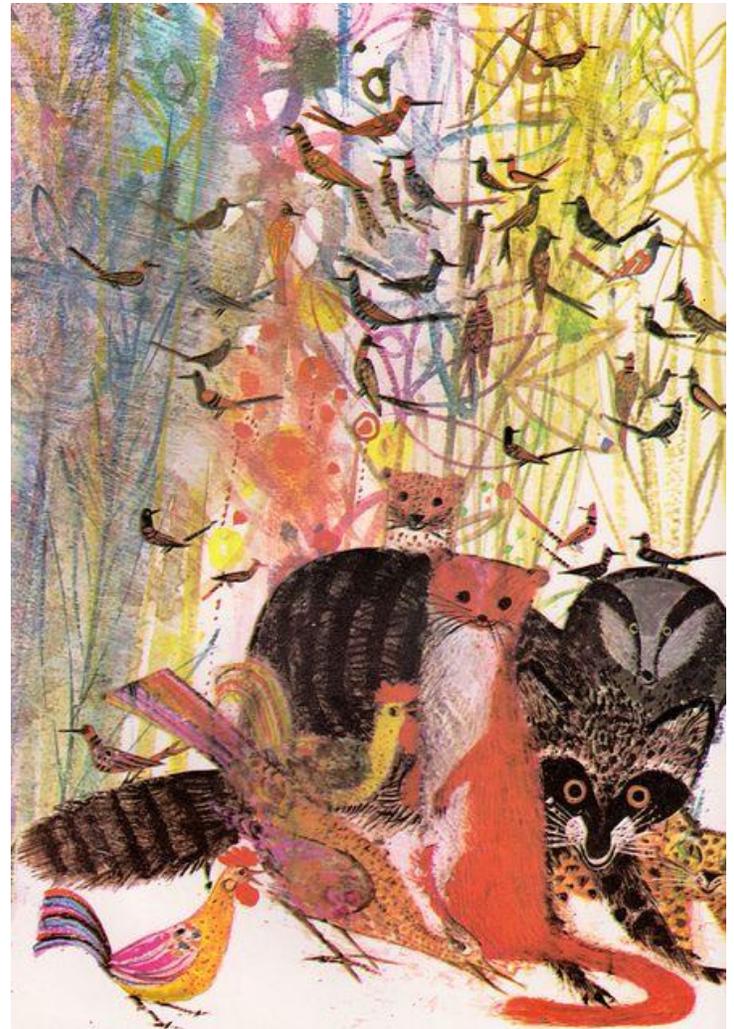
6:30 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, May 12, 2016

Yolanda out of the office

Saturday, May 14, 2016

2:00 pm All Church Picnic - Hendersonville



A note about the artwork: All the images this week are by Brian Wildsmith, a very talented children's book illustrator and artist. They were chosen based on the imagery in Peter's vision- they capture the animals and the dreamy surreal nature of a vision. -Harper Leich, Administrative Assistant



First Congregational UCC

20 Oak Street Asheville, NC 28801

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

www.uccasheville.org 828-252-8729

