



"Baptism of Holy Spirit"- Ron Dicianni

Pentecost

May 15, 2016

10:30 am

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

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: We are given water

Many: To renew our arid paths.

One: We are given fire

Many: to ignite our dreams.

One: We are given winds

Many: To move us towards our visions.

One: We are given the earth

Many: In which we plant seeds of hope.

All: Through the pieces of Creation, we see the steadfast presence of God; through the stirring of the Spirit, we no longer stand still.

***Hymn** “God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind” (Printed at end of liturgy)

Opening Prayer

One: The Spirit calls each of us

All: But we are often reluctant to heed the call. The wind of the Spirit blows, at times fiercely, and draws us onward. Yet we cling to the fragile familiarities, to securities, and to safety. Help us to risk letting go, to stand free as your servant people. Help us to capture visions of the future, so that we can truly be the church. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Response "Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ" - choir

First Scripture Reading Genesis 11:1-9

Anthem "The Fruits of the Spirit" - Sleeth

Time with Children

After a time with Children, children K-5 may go to the Children's Church room with Gary. They will return before the last hymn. Teens may go to the Tower Room. Parents and guardians will need to pick them up after worship.

***Passing the Peace**

Second Scripture Reading Acts 2:1-21

Sermon "What the Holy Spirit Envisions"

***Hymn #286** "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

Ministry Updates & Celebrations and Concerns Yolanda Adams

Pastoral Prayer

Litany for Pentecost

One: How will we know that God is with us?

All: We will know because we will be led to places we never intended to go.

One: This was the challenge laid before the disciples on the day of Pentecost. Jesus said to them, "Wait in the city until the Holy Spirit has come upon you. You will be filled with power, and you will be my witnesses."

All: They went. They waited. They were filled with the Spirit. And they were led to places they never intended to go.

One: This was the challenge laid before Rev. and Mrs. Brainerd Thrall in 1914 when they heard a call to move from Massachusetts to start a church in Asheville, committed to Congregationalist ideals of social justice.

All: With 31 other brave and determined believers they founded First Congregational Church of Asheville. All because they were willing to go places they never intended to go.

One: This was the challenge laid before us 20 years ago today, when Reverend Joe Hoffman accepted the call to become pastor of our congregation. We did not know then where we would be led, but we trusted that God would be with us. And the congregation grew, and thrived, and became a force for equality and justice in this community, and in the world.

All: We were led to places we never intended to go. Sometimes we were afraid and uncertain, but God was surely with us.

One: And now we stand on the threshold of a new era. We are still being called to choose life, to be filled with the Spirit, to be witnesses of truth to the world around us.

All: How will we know that God is with us? We will know because we will be led to places we never intended to go. And together we will go forth—in faith, in power, and in love.

All: May it ever be so. Amen and amen.

Sharing Our Gifts

Call for the Offering

Offertory

Prayer of Dedication

***Hymn #164**

“Arise, Your Light is Come”

Benediction

Postlude

Please join us in the Friendship Hall after worship for Friendship Time and some fundraising opportunities to support the youth group.

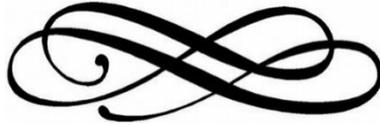
God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind

1 God of tem - pest, God of whirl-wind, as on Pen - te -
 2 God of blaz - ing, God of burn - ing, all that blocks your
 3 God of earth - quake, God of thun - der, shake us loose from
 4 God of pas - sion, God un - sleep - ing, stir in us love's

cost de - scend! Drive us out from shel - tered com - fort;
 pur - pose, purge! Through your church, Christ's liv - ing Bod - y,
 leth - ar - gy! Break the chains of sin a - sun - der,
 rest - less - ness! Where the peo - ple cry in an - guish,

past these walls your peo - ple send! Sweep us in - to cost - ly ser - vice,
 let your flam - ing Spir - it surge! Where de - ceit con - ceals in - jus - tice,
 for earth's heal - ing set us free! Crum - ble walls that still di - vide us;
 may we share your heart's dis - tress. Rouse us from con - tent with e - vil;

there with Christ to love and work there with Christ to love and work !
 kin - dle us to speak your truth, kin - dle us to speak your truth!
 make us one in Christ we pray, make us one in Christ we pray !
 claim us for your heal - ing work, claim us for your heal - ing work!



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.

****Today's Litany for Pentecost was written by Margot Pickett and longtime FCUCC member Penny Stokes (currently living in Ecuador) to recognize former pastor, Rev. Joe Hoffman's tenure at FCUCC.***

Deacon of the Month: Terry Kaeser 618.889.9082

Alternate Deacon of the Month: Carol Duin 828.254.4068 scduin@gmail.com

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

For Today's Service

Greeter/Usher: Al Mojonier

Liturgist: Ellenor Frelick

Security/Floater: Randall Bowman

Nursery/Childcare: Denise Potts

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

Camping Trip: We have found a location for our all church campout September 23-25th. **We need your \$20 deposit immediately to reserve our spots!** Make checks out to FCUCC with "camping" in the memo line and put in the offering plate or give to Mary Ann Brackett today. Please see our website for full info: www.uccasheville.org/all-church-camping-trip. Mary Ann Brackett is organizing and can answer questions.

Baseball with Beaver: Our first outing to a Tourists game is Friday, May 20th. Please let Beaver know if you want to attend: 828-231-3113

Hiking Trips with Randall: Everyone is invited to join Randall Bowman and other hikers on Saturday, May 21st for a meditation hike at Catawba Falls. Contact Randall for more information: bwr0165@aol.com. Future excursions and dates are listed on our website.

Sacred Pause on Monday Nights: Starting in June, Sacred Pause will meet monthly from 5:45 to 8pm on the following dates: June 20 (Yolanda Adams leads), July 18 (Loraine Tuenge leads), August 22 (Jacque Wuelling leads).

Bringing Hope to the Climate Crisis through Faith and Action: June 3 at 10 am at First Congregational in the Friendship Hall. First Congregational UCC and Crenation Care Alliance will be welcoming Rev. Dr. Jim Antal, Minister and President of the UCC's Massachusetts Conference, and nationally recognized environmental activist, as he presents a workshop "Bringing Hope to the Climate Crisis through Faith and Action," followed by a Q & A session. Please RSVP to Rev. Karen Richardson Dunn by May 27th so that there will be an accurate count: krichdunn@gmail.com.

Deacon Meeting: There will be a brief meeting for the Deacons today at 12:15 in E-107.

Margot will be out of the office for Continuing Education May 16-20th.

Church Calendar

Sunday, May 15th

9:15 am Children's Chime Choir, sanctuary

10:30 am Worship, Pentecost

11:30 am Friendship Time in Fellowship Hall

12:00 pm Earth Team Meeting, library

12:15 pm Deacon Meeting (E-107)

Monday, May 16

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

Tuesday, May 17

10:30 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, May 18

2:00 pm Stir The Soul Cafe - Library

5:30 pm Handbell choir - choir loft

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Sunday, May 22

9:15 am Children's Chime Choir sanctuary

10:30 am Worship, guest preacher Mark Pickett

11:30 am Friendship Time in Fellowship Hall

12:00ish pm Lunch Bunch (off campus)

Monday, May 23

5:15 pm Governing Board Meeting

5:45 pm Sacred Pause class w/Mandy

Tuesday, May 24

10:30 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, May 25

2:00 pm Stir The Soul Cafe - Library

5:30 pm Handbell choir - choir loft

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Sunday, May 29

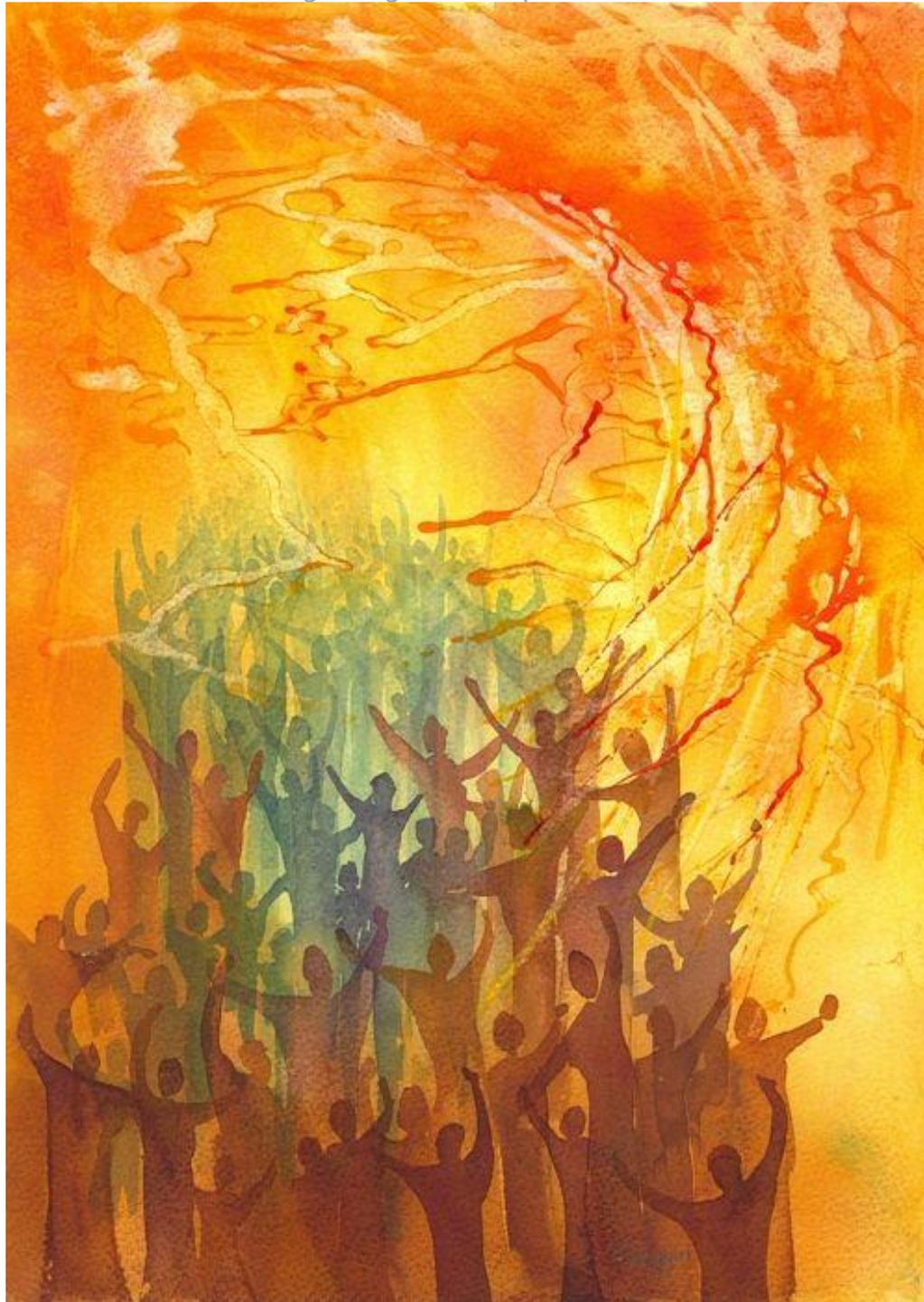
9:15 am Children's Chime Choir sanctuary

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Friendship Time in Fellowship Hall

12:00ish pm Lunch Bunch (off campus)

12:00 pm Laundry Love (off campus)



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