
The Congregational Connection

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April 5th, 1895



*The Rev. Michael C. Dubbs,
Minister*

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

I hope by now you have all had the opportunity to introduce yourself and get to know our new Choir Director, Rebekah Shamberger. If not, you will be challenged to do so. Rebekah joined us in February, and has been a blessing!

Following in the footsteps of someone who was here as long as Anne was is not an easy thing to do. As the Pastor here, I do want to thank all of you for making Rebekah feel welcome. Rebekah's family is from Aberdeen, so she is a local girl, she was educated in music at East Carolina University. Rebekah's name was given to me by Sharon Shirer as a possible candidate, but we did not have any contact information. A little bit of investigation on the Moore County Schools website, and I found an email address which I then introduced myself and told her of our Choir Director vacancy. She replied, and told me that she was interested, and we met at the church to show her around. Thankfully, she agreed to give it a try, and is now on board. Rebekah, we welcome you, and wish you a wonderful music ministry with us. Now, back to my challenge! If you have not yet had the chance to meet Rebekah, please do yourself a favor and introduce yourself at your next opportunity.

Pastor Mike

I AM GROWING OLDER ...

Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking that I must say something on every subject.

Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs.

Make me thoughtful but not moody, helpful but not bossy. Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details; give me wings to get to the point.

Seal my lips on my aches and pains -- love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not qualify to be a Saint ... some of them are so hard to live with ... but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places and talents in unexpected people. And give me grace, O Lord, to tell them so! Amen.

*Printed in the Land O'Lakes Mirror-
January, 1987*

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Connor Black, Lillian Richardson, and Clarissa Angeloff. 2018

Joan Smith

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

On June 17th at the 11 AM service six scholarships were presented to local young people.

The Church has been awarding scholarships since 1992. As stated in the Church Constitution “The purpose of establishing a Scholarship Program is to recognize individual effort,

achievement and need, by providing financial assistance to individuals to attend an accredited institution of higher learning, as part of the Church’s Outreach Program of Ministry to the Community.”

Scholarships are funded from segments of the Endowment Fund designated for this purpose. The goal is to award \$4,000 annually and is divided between new and continuing recipients.

The following were each awarded \$1,000 for 2018.

Clarissa Angeloff is a Community Congregational Church member who will be entering her sophomore year at East Carolina University. She was a 2017 graduate of Pinecrest High School. Clarissa’s goal is to be accepted into the ECU College of Nursing and to receive her BS in Nursing.

Lillian Richardson graduated from Union Pines High School in 2016 and is also a Church member. Lily completed her freshman year at Appalachian State but will be transferring to Sandhills Community College this fall and plans to major in Business Management.

Connor Black graduated from Sandhills Classical Christian School and was second in his class. In the fall he will be attending Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia. Connor’s home church is Christ Community Church. He was sponsored by Steve and Danielle Dana. Connor’s academic interests include government, foreign affairs, national security and

history.

Ali Wadsworth is a 2016 graduate of Union Pines High School. She is entering her junior year at the University of North Carolina Greensboro where her major is Business Administration and Healthcare Administration. She is a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Carthage. Ali was sponsored by Lois Womack.

The Church has an Elon University Scholarship Fund which was established by a member of the Church and is designated for students who have attended high school in Moore County. There were two Elon scholarship recipients this year who each received \$900.

Devon Rosenberger will be a junior at Elon University and has majors in Art History and French with a minor in Italian studies. Her goal is to eventually work as a curator in an art museum. Devon is studying in Italy this summer. This is her third scholarship award from the Elon Fund.

Lydia Culp attends Elon University and lives in West End. In high school she was a member of the National Honor Society and also captain of the varsity lacrosse team. She is pursuing a degree in Business and Marketing.

The 2018 Scholarship Committee is made up of Bob Coates, Chairman and members Terry Nanney and Dick Strine.

Bob Coates

THE COTTAGE

As reported in the last newsletter, last summer the Trustees determined that the best use of the cottage was to continue to rent the downstairs as commercial/office space and the upstairs as an apartment. To make the downstairs attractive to a prospective tenant, to get the best return on investment, and to avoid future problems where possible, we have done some long needed repairs and updating to the building including:

Total replacement of all water and sewer lines, both inside and outside to the street. This was badly needed as the old cast iron waste pipes upstairs were leaking onto the downstairs ceiling and the old terracotta line to the street had been obstructed by roots. This also included new water heaters for up and down to complete separate electrical service for each. Cold water will continue on one meter as the cost to add a separate meter is prohibitive. This work also allowed for removal of the exterior waste and vent pipes which were unsightly.

Upgrading of the downstairs electrical wiring wherever possible to replace almost all of the old knob and tube wiring which is nearing 100 years old. While doing this, we discovered that much of the upstairs electrical was fed from the downstairs panel so this was corrected.

Repairs have been made to the upstairs heat pump and to the downstairs HVAC and duct work.

Insulating where possible, including above the back room, break room and bath and the former kitchen where all the old deteriorated dry-wall was removed, and the ceiling raised.

Adding a break room with small sink and space for an under-counter refrigerator.

All interior walls, trim and ceilings have been painted, new flooring installed in one room and the remaining floors cleaned and refurbished and 5 new LED light fixtures have been installed on ceilings.

Outside, in addition to removing all the exposed pipes, the foundation has been repaired and stuccoed where needed, the side and back steps repaired and refaced with brick and the badly deteriorated chimney in back has been removed.

The siding in back has been replaced, other siding repaired, the entire outside washed and the front and south side painted (the siding on the north side did not need paint) and new shutters installed on the windows in front.

There are a few small items left to address together with some landscaping and the cottage will be ready for a prospective tenant.

Richard Dana

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Although some tasks were performed by contractors, the bulk of the work was done by Richard Dana with help from Sandy Dana and Bob Coates. Our Church family owes*

these folks a huge debt of gratitude for their time and effort.

LIVE YOUR DREAMS ...

Out of the blue, along with a nudge from God, I took a part-time job at a local hotel in the housekeeping department. It's quite a struggle for this fifty-six year old body to be making 20 beds and cleaning 10 bathrooms a day. And I can't believe it; I'm the oldest of the housekeeping staff. (Where does the time go?) I have heard so many stories of the struggles each of my co-workers are going through. There are health problems, family issues, housing or lack of housing; the situations are beyond belief. And most, if not all, leave the housekeeping job and go right to another job. They work from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. But how amazed I am when after I listen to each situation, it is followed with hopes and dreams. God is awesome, how He has embraced each of these hard workers and let them know He is there for them. I pray for each and every one that our dear Lord will keep their dreams alive and hold them in His loving arms. These co-workers don't know it, but each and every one of them is an inspiration to me. We work together, laugh together, and cry together. We are never alone, we have each other and even more, we have God, giving us hopes and dreams.

If you have a dream that you have not acted on, do it, and live your dreams, because our Lord wants only good things for us.

Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Barb Hall

A GOOD READ ...

Quite some time ago, my grandson asked me, "Gram, are we living in a dream?" His question took me aback. I have to admit I have often wondered the same thing. Much by accident I happened upon a Little Free Library box at the Southern Pines Pool Playground. The book I picked up from the Little Free Library box had a cool cover. Since I am not a reader, I usually pick my reads by the cool cover! The title of the book is "The Four Agreements". But that never registered with my brain. I liked the cool cover and the fact that it was a tiny book with only 138 pages!!

Once again, God was in the works. I started reading my new book right away. That never happens. I couldn't put it down! It only took me one day to finish!! And when the author offers the closing prayer, I am sobbing uncontrollably. What it comes down to, is that not only are we all living a communal dream, which has been created over the centuries, but within this societal dream, we are all creating our individual dreams. And you can live heaven on earth by following "The Four Agreements".

Agreement #1: Be impeccable

(flawless) with your word. (Your words can kill, or encourage!)

Agreement #2: Don't take anything personally. (You know you are good; live it.)

Agreement #3: Don't make assumptions. (Ask questions, never assume.)

Agreement #4: Always do your best. (Do and be your best in everything, always.)

If you are interested in a good, short read that may change your life, I have extra copies of "The Four Agreements" and would love to share. If not, maybe you would like the cool cover just like me!

Barb Hall

FOOD BANK

Thank you so much for your generous donations to the Moore County Coalition and the Backpack Program of our local area foodbank. Every bite and nibble makes a difference!

Moore County has a population of 91,743. While our county is smaller than some cities, we have 4,500 children under the age of 18 who are food insecure. School is a wonderful safety net for our local children. 5,704 children receive free or reduced school meals. Summer should be a fun time filled with pool parties and ice cream. However, for some families who already have finances stretched too thin it may mean those children will miss the two meals they were receiving at school for little or no cost.

Please continue with your wonderful donations and we will be sure to get all items in the proper hands for distribution.

Terry Nanney

YOUR DEACONS AT WORK

January started out with the Deacons Board saying goodbye to three of our outstanding Deacons. Lynn Hammond, Sally Raynor and Bill Shockley, completed their commitment to the Board. We will look forward to their assistance in the future, because as we say, "Once a Deacon always a Deacon." They have served the Church well and will continue to do so in other positions. Thank you to each of you.

As we said goodbye to the three, we welcomed aboard two new Deacons, Dotty Garman and Donna Myrick. The position of Deacon is new for both Dotty and Donna. Each will bring a new perspective which will be welcomed.

Another new employee of the Church was welcomed, our new Choir Director. Kudos to Pastor Mike, who made contact with Rebekah Shamberger, then met with her and convinced her to give us a chance. We are so grateful because she is truly a blessing to our church. The Choir sounds beautiful and adds special meaning to each service. Thank you Choir!

The Deacons decided that we will be responsible for the items in each of our new member baskets that we present to each new member family. We feel honored to be able to present these baskets and hope they express our appreciation for each new member.

The current officers for the Board of Deacons are as follows: Lois Womack, Chairperson; Mike Harris, Vice Chairperson; Donna Myrick,

Secretary. Should you have any concerns please reach out to the persons listed or any of the Deacons for assistance.

The "One Great Hour of Sharing" mission moment was presented and a collection was accepted and forwarded to that organization. Thank you to all the members that donated to that worthy cause. In March we welcomed the Wayne State Golf Team for a dinner that was well attended and we got a chance to meet some really special young men and their coaches. The golfers were here to compete in a Collegiate Golf Tournament, and after our great dinner, four of our member families housed them for the remainder of the week. We were pleased to know that they won their Tournament!

April was a busy month. On the 8th we hosted the Church Homecoming Reception; on the 15th we sponsored a refreshment table for the Southern Pines Crop Walk and on the 22nd we were excited to have Scott Chase and his family provide the music for the 9:00 am service.

As we hope you noticed, the stained glass windows were refurbished and reinstalled in time for the Easter Service. Many thanks to Richard and Sandy Dana for their hard work in helping accomplish this undertaking.

One project that we are working on is to obtain handicapped placards to place on the side of the building in the alley to provide parking for some of our members.

We will return to our meetings in September; however, if you should need any assistance from your Board of Deacons, please let us know.

Lois Womack

FAMILY PROMISE

A big shout out and thanks to Tim, Kelly and Ryan Curran and Ginger Rolfe for helping out with Family Promise. YOU can also make a real difference in our community by supplying dinner a couple nights a week three or four times a year for up to at least 15 family members who are temporarily residing at the Family Promise house in Aberdeen. Community Congregational Church has been one of the support congregations that helps Family Promise by providing supper. The normal routine is to arrive at the house around 5:30 with the dinner that has been prepared. You are welcome to join the families and hosts for the evening for supper which gives you the opportunity to visit with the residents and their children. This can be a very rewarding experience and is great to do as a family. If you are interested in helping with this great cause you may contact Becky Cameron at 690-4309 or Sally Raynor at 690-9054.



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Lavinia Fontana (1552-1614)

Women's Fellowship will meet again in September. We look forward to a good gathering. If any woman in the church wishes to express some ideas for more exciting meetings or some speakers, please let us know.

Lynn Hammond

P.S. Have a wonderful summer and stay well!

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Since the last newsletter the Men's Fellowship has been involved with the following activities within our Church:

Christmas Dinner
Soup/Chili Cook Off
Pancake Breakfast
Hot Dog Sale at Springfest
Spring Golf Outing

Through these activities we have been able to raise enough money to contribute \$300 each to the Boys and Girls Club and the Ellie Jean Project. We are very proud of our donations to these charities and want to thank everyone for your contribution that allowed us to reach these goals.

I personally want to thank Allan Nanney, Pastor Mike, Dick Strine, Richard Dana, Bill Shockley, Jack Barron, Bob Coates, Shelton Raynor and Eli Jaksic for their attendance at our meetings as well as their help in supporting our activities.

For those who would like to join us, we will be starting up again in September. We meet at noon on

PHOTOGRAPHS

the second Tuesday of each month where we discuss our business as well as enjoy a lunch prepared for us by



Easter Egg Hunt—2018

Mark your calendars! We are looking at early December for the Madonna Program. Judy Osborne will be directing it again this

year.

Congratulations and best wishes to Jack Dauner and Natalie West Kharkongor, who were married on January 4th, 2018.

Anne Ryder, Moderator

Terry Nanney.

Wade Vollmer



SpringFest 2018



Men's Fellowship Golf Luncheon 2018

Jokes from Joan:

It's nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice.

As we grow up, we realize it is less important to have lots of friends and more important to have real ones.

Last year I joined a support group for procrastinators. We haven't met yet.

MADONNA PROGRAM

Recipe

From the Sandhills Women's Exchange :

Famous Marinated Vegetables

One Large Can Hanover Blue Lake Cut Green Beans
 One Large Can Le Sueur Baby Peas
 One Large Can Shoepeg Corn
 One White Onion, Small Dice
 1/3 Cup Cider Vinegar
 1/3 Cup Canola Oil
 2/3 Cup Sugar

Drain the Green Beans, Peas and Corn.

Add remaining ingredients, mix and marinate for four hours.

Operating Income and Expense

July 1st, 2018:

Total operating income:

YTD \$92,474

Total operating expense:

YTD \$85,770

Membership total:

The church needs your help with the operating budget. If possible, please include a little extra.

CONGRATULATIONS TO.....

Robert Harris and Rebecca Gomes who were married on June 25th, 2018. Our best wishes

Birthdays in July

Claire Fields	07/01
John Martin	07/02
Karina Cameron	07/06
Susan Angeloff	07/07
Donna Myrick	07/09
Steffi Hobson	07/15
Carolyn Camarena	07/23
Nancy Hilmer	07/24
Robert Ryder	07/27
Carolyn Buchan	07/29

Birthdays in August

Jack Carter	08/03
Lois Womack	08/16
William Dietrichson	08/21
Sue Aceves	08/28
Pam Hinds	08/28
Willing McSwain	08/30
Nancy Cameron	08/31

Birthdays in September

Barbara Oelschlager	09/02
Robert Angeloff	09/04
Larry Snider	09/05
Patricia Duprey	09/08
Frances Monroe	09/13

Jokes from Joan:

Worrying won't stop the bad stuff from happening—it just stops you from enjoying the good.

When I was a child I thought 'nap time' was a punishment. Now, as a grown-up, it feels like a small vacation.

CARING AND SHARING

The Deacons ask you to remember the following in your thoughts and prayers:

The men and women of the armed forces, all emergency, humanitarian and environmental rescue efforts, especially the volcanic eruptions, floods in Japan, wildfires in the U.S., the desperation of immigrants and peace in the world.

Joan Bouchard, Norris Camarena, Pat Covington (Linda Thompson), Clifford Dawson (326 Bowman Road, Candor), Rosemary Dietrichson, Carol Dowd (Cynthia Blue), Mike Gipson (Jane Newton), Rebecca Gomes Harris, Bill Hogan (Sharon Hogan), John Martin, Betty Monroe (St. Joseph's), Donna Myrick, Michael Randolph (Anne Dorsey and Barron Maness), Brenda Richardson (Jack Barron), Eddy Rook (Elmcroft), Kevin Schaefer, Bob Schaefer (Jack Schaefer, Cal.), Patricia Shockley, Glenda and Larry Snider, Gert Strine (NY), David Terrill (NH), Bobby Tew, Ceil Trimm.

Remember the joy that can be shared in a telephone call, card or visit!

If you know of anyone who wishes to receive communion, please contact Lois Womack, Chairman of the Deacons (295-5296) or the Church of-fice (692-8468).

Due to the implementation of the Health-care Information Privacy Protection Act (HIPPA) several years ago, we wish to remind everyone that it is the patient and/or immediate family members and/or person

IN MEMORIAM

The sympathy and prayers of the congregation go to the family and friends of:

**Mrs. Cherie Shoulberg
Myers
12.26.2017
(former member)**

**Mrs. Geraldine 'Gerry'
Pote Tobias
01.07.2018**

**Mrs. Patricia McGowan
01.10.2018
(former member)**

**Mrs. Joyce Morrill Baker
02.09.2018**

**Mrs. Kathryn 'Kit' Scott
Carson Stagaard
03.01.2018**

**Mrs. Shirley I. Cole
03.10.2018**

**Mr. John Mallalieu Harrop
04.01.2018**

**Mrs. Doris O. Stemler
04.27.2018
(former member)**

**Mr. Carl Leonard Klabbatz
05.08.2018
(Son of Louise and Harry
Klabbatz)**

**Mrs. Margaret 'Peggy' Baran
06.28.2018
Morehead City, NC**

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace, Amen

"That it will never come again is what



**The Community Congregational Church
United Church of Christ, Inc.
“The Church of Wide Fellowship”
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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**The mission of this newsletter is
“To write about the happenings and the
membership of the congregation”**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
9:00 A.M. AND 11:00 A.M.
ADULT BIBLE STUDY
10:00 A.M.**

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*The Community Congregational Church, UCC
1895-2017*

Photo by Renee Shawn Clement

May you always have in your arms the one who is in your heart.

“Our newsletter will be interesting and helpful to our congregation, if YOU help us make it so! Call the church office with your news.”