



Greensboro Gleanings

July 2018

From the pastor's desk ...

In Mark, chapter 4, we encounter Jesus and the disciples crossing to the other side. As the storm is raging, Jesus is asleep. Frantically, the disciples awaken him. Mark tells us, "He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm."

2000 years ago, Jesus is in the boat, in the storm speaking to the storm. 2000 years later, more often than not, the followers of Jesus are standing on the dock or perched on the deck of a vessel that oozes privilege speaking not to the storm, but to the victims of the storm. We hear them say things like:

"You wouldn't be in this storm if you had studied harder and stayed in school."

"I can't imagine him doing something like that. What did you do to encourage him?"

"If you want a wage you can live on, get a better job."

"You would not be facing this surgery if you had eaten less red meat and more kale and quinoa."

The ways we blame those who are suffering through life's storms is virtually endless. Jesus never taught us to do that. We created that ourselves for our on peace of mind. So long as the victim is a fault then we can maintain the illusion that a storm like that could never happen to us.

What Jesus did teach his followers to do was to speak up for those who are on the other side, the outside. This is a lesson that has been well learned here at Greensboro United Church of Christ. Group of us just spent the last six Mondays in Montpelier speaking to systemic causes of poverty and racism in our country with the Poor People's Campaign. Some of us just finished another year of speaking hope into the lives of students at Lakeview School. Our whole community gathered for a meal that spoke encouragement and support for refugees in our state. This past Sunday we spoke of our openness and affirmation for all God's children as we reaffirmed our Open and Affirming Covenant.

Because we, the people of the Greensboro United Church of Christ, believe that all persons are loved and valued by God, all are invited and welcomed into our church family. We are committed to following the teachings of Jesus to love all people, and we seek to be an expression of God's love in the world.

We invite and welcome into our community persons of every sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, ability, age, race, nationality, ethnicity, economic and social status, faith background and family structure.

All persons are encouraged to participate in the life, leadership, ministry and mission of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe, nurturing community of faith.

How exciting it is to serve with people who are willing to model the practices of Jesus with their words and actions. Let us continue to speak words of hope and encouragement to those who are battered by life's storms. Let us not grow weary of raising our voices in opposition to the storms that torment and oppress those whom God has called us to love.

Joy and peace, Ed

THANK YOU



July Ushers and Greeters

- July 1 — —
- July 8 — Kissie Ohlrogge & Syddie Sowles
- July 15 — Hal & BJ Gray
- July 29 — Elsa Williams & Cilla Bonney-Smith



July Coffee Hour Hosts

- July 1 — Jeff & Chris Pierpont
- July 8 — Ken & Janney Johnston
- July 15 — Mary Meyer
- July 22 — Donna Lee



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July 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Amy Mclaghlin -Sheasby Pulpit Guest	2	3	4	5	6 Morning Cole Slaw Making Kitchen in Fellowship Hall	7 11am—1 pm Chicken BBQ GUCC grounds
8	9	10 9:00 a.m. Hope Reimag. Fellowship Hall 7:30 p.m. SMFG Neave Trio	11 5:00 p.m. Deacons Meet 5:00 p.m. Missions Meets 7:30 p.m. Summer Lec-	12	13 9:30 a.m. Yoga w/Sophie Fellowship Hall	14 3:00 p.m. Anne Harbison Service GUCC
15	16	17 9:00 a.m. Hope Reimag. Fellowship Hall 7:30 p.m. SMFG Highland Art	18 7:30 p.m. Summer LectureSeries Fellowship Hall 7:00 p.m. Trustees Meet	19 10 a.m. Summer Book Discussion Fellowship Hall	20 9:30 a.m. Yoga w/Sophie Fellowship Hall	21 Marion Stegner Service off grounds
22 4:00 p.m. Rev. Sumer- Winters Installation	23	24 9:00 a.m. Hope Reimag Fellowship Hall 7:30 p.m. SMFG Thoreau Trio	25	26 10 a.m. Summer Book Discussion Fellowship Hall	27 9:30 Yoga w/Sophie Fellowship Hall	28
29 Ann Peck Pulpit Guest	30 7:30 p.m. Greenaboro Land Trust Annual Meeting Fellowship Hall	31 9:00 a.m. Hope Reimag. Fellowship Hall 7:30 p.m. SMFG TelegraphQuar.	Sundays 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Worship Service	Mondays & Wednesdays 10:00am Growing Stronger Fellowship Hall	Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:00pm Pilates Fellowship Hall	

MISSION & OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Welcome to summer! The Syrian Themed dinner was a big success! Thank you to Sonia for planning and cooking a delicious meal that was enjoyed by all. Thank you to all who donated items, helped in preparing, cooking, serving, or set up for the meal itself and especially those who helped clean up afterward. Thank you to Pastor Ed and Kyle for setting up the video and offering heartfelt words for the plight of those who have been affected by the war in Syria. We raised over \$1000 in donations that will be given to the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program in Colchester.

If you were unable to attend and want to help there is still time. We have a set of stars in Fellowship Hall that represent items needed to set a new family up in their own apartment when they reach Vermont. If you would like to donate items – pick a star, purchase that item, return it to Fellowship Hall by Sunday, July 8th. We will be presenting everything to the director of VRRP when she comes to speak with us after church on either July 8th or July 15th.

**Cathy Pollard
Chair**

Chicken BBQ

It's time— the Annual Greensboro Church Chicken Barbeque on Saturday, July 7, from 11 – 1. Price is \$12: for a generous plate of our world-famous BBQ Chicken, our much sought after vinaigrette coleslaw, a roll, beverage and dessert. Proceeds from this event benefit the work of the church.

The BBQ starts immediately after the parade behind the church. Park where you can and line up for the traditional Independence Day meal. We will be taking reservations by email at greensborochurch@gmail.com . *Your e-mail reservation is not complete until you have received a reply confirmation from us.* You can also call the church at 802-533-2223 to make a phone reservation. We have a limited number of meals, so get your name in quickly if you want to participate.

MILESTONES

Happy JULY Birthday to: Eric Belote, Thomas Collier, Zachary Collier, Connie Dornseifer, Ken Johnston, Bill Niemi, Kristyna Meyer, Sophie Meyer, Fenton Meyer, Elli Hill, John Rohnert, Ethne Gray, Joot Wright, Dan Beresford and Brent Kinsley. **AND** a happy anniversary to Mike and Susan Coffey.

Is your birthday listed this month when it shouldn't be? Have we missed you in our celebrations? Contact the church office and let us know if your birthday is listed incorrectly or has been missed.



THE MUSIC CORNER

With the arrival of summer you will notice we in the choir shed our robes during worship. This brings us great comfort as we lead services and our mission of *Serving God through music*. We hope you experience comfort as well during our July offerings:

July 1st— During the 1970's Lani Smith composed many sacred works for Lorenz Publishing Co. One of our favorites is *Blessed Is the Nation* that we perform today, a majestic Psalm based anthem.

The text reminds us "blessed is the nation whose God is Lord". Be sure to listen for the trumpet-like sounds from the organ that help bring this piece to life.

July 8th— On this communion Sunday we have a lovely arrangement of *Lamb of God*. This anthem is originally from a 1540 German chorale and arranged by F. Melius Christiansen (1871-1955). Christiansen was a Norwegian-born violinist and conductor in the Lutheran choral tradition, who was on the faculty of St. Olaf College in Minnesota and famous for his arrangement of *Fairest Lord Jesus* he titled *Beautiful Savior* which is St. Olaf's official song. This anthem is to be sung as smoothly as possible in a slow tempo and has beautiful harmonies and suspensions.

July 15th— From our collection *Anthems From Scripture* we bring you *Trust in the Lord* this Sunday. Based on Proverbs 3, this broad-based anthem will begin with a solo voice: "Trust in the Lord with all thy heart" with the choir responding. Be sure to listen for the soft prayer-like middle section which brings a certain reverence to this musical offering.

July 22nd— Living prolific composer Joseph Martin (1959-), a native of North Carolina, published this anthem "O Lord, Our Lord, How Excellent Thy Name" in 1992. With a driving tempo and crisp fugue shared between the soprano and alto's and tenor's and basses, this 2-part up tempo anthem is fun to sing and listen to.

July 29th—W. Glen Darst (1896-1986), an American sacred arranger, took text by Scottish-born James Montgomery (1771-1854, hymnodist, poet, editor) and created *Stand Up, and Bless the Lord* in 1959. This bold anthem begins with all voices in unison : "Stand up, bless the Lord, Ye people of His choice, with heart and soul and voice." It concludes with a definitive sustained loud "Amen." The Early Music folks will play selections from Johann Christoph Petz's Suite 1 during the prelude and postlude. Sonia Dunbar and Gina Jenkins on recorders, Tom Anastasio on gamba and Bronwyn Massé on harpsichord

**Hal Parker
Music Director**

GUCC MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to love as Jesus loved, caring for others and joyfully serving God, our community, and the world.

NEWS FROM
THE GREENSBORO UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION
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Upcoming Lectionary Readings

July 1 ~2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27 • Psalm 130 or Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15, 2:23-24 or Lamentations 3:22-33 • Psalm 30 ~2 Corinthians 8:7-15 ~Mark 5:21-43

July 8 ~2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10 • Psalm 48 or ~ Ezekiel 2:1-5 • Psalm 123 ~ 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 ~ Mark: 6:1-13

July 15 ~2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 • Psalm 24 or Amos 7:7-15 • Psalm 85:8-13 ~ Matthew 1:3-14 ~ Mark 6:14-29

July 22 ~ 2 Samuel 71-14a • Psalm 89:20-37 • Psalm 9:9-20 Jeremiah 23:1-6 • Psalm 23 ~ Matthew 2:11-22 ~Mark 6:30-234, 53-56

July 29 ~ 2 Samuel 11:1-15 • Psalm 14 or 2 Kings 4:42-44 • Psalm 145:10-18 ~Matthew 3:14-21 ~John 6:1-21



Pastor Installation

Rev. Ed Sunday-Winters will be formally installed as the pastor of The Greensboro United Church of Christ on Sunday, July 22, 2018 at 4:00 p.m..

This is an important service recognizing the settling of Ed and his family into our congregation and our community. They and their gifts will be welcomed and recognized as significant additions to the spiritual and social life of the Greensboro area and to local church connections. Ed and his wife, Patti, have already become cherished contributors to our community. While their two sons, Will and Josh, do not live locally, they have enjoyed visits to Greensboro, and episodes from their lives do make their way into Sunday sermons. Greensboro relishes their visits. Of course, their affectionate dog, Huck, reflects the loving and caring nature of the Sunday-Winters family.

A respected team of Clergy and laity including Rev. Deborah McKinley of the East Craftsbury Presbyterian Church, Rev. Douglas Carter of the Danville Congregational United Church of Christ and Rev. Jeff Pierpont and Rev. Judy Waible from our own congregation will bring God's blessings to this service. The music ministry will be led by Karen Miller as the guest organist.

This important celebration will not be complete without you. We look forward to sharing this service with members of our congregation and other local congregations along with all community members who have already enjoyed Ed's spiritual verve, social justice initiatives, and good humor. Your presence will honor Ed, The Greensboro United Church of Christ, the Greensboro community, and you.

All are invited to share the light refreshments that will be provided in Fellowship hall following the Installation service.

Your Search Committee

WHITE PRIVILEGE: LET'S TALK!

SUMMER DISCUSSION SERIES GREENSBORO UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Please join our Summer 2018 discussion of this very timely topic. We will read *White Privilege: Let's Talk—A Resource for Transformational Dialogue* which, through group discussions, activities, and reflection, invites us to engage in safe, meaningful, substantive, and bold conversations on race. A copy of the reading material and blank journals will be provided to all participants.

We will meet in the Greensboro United Church of Christ Fellowship Hall Thursday mornings, 10:00-11:30 AM, for six weeks in July and August 2018, starting July 19th and continuing through August 23rd (July 19, 26, August 2, 9, 16, 23).

- **Session 1. Introduction** – Getting to know one another, discussing how we will explore the topic, and setting the stage for the next 5 weeks.
- **Session 2. Whiteness as the Norm:** Five Loci of Insights on the Binary of Light/Dark and Black/White
- **Sessions 3 & 4. The Cash Value of Whiteness or Whiteness as a Tax-Exempt Status** (Education, Housing, Income and wealth disparities, Medical and health industry advantages)
- **Session 5. The Spiritual Autobiography Told Through the Lens of Race**
- **Session 6. On Becoming an Ally**

All are welcome! We look forward to exploring this relevant topic with you. Questions? Call the Greensboro United Church of Christ: 802-533-2223.