



CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Robert K. Barrows, Jr.,
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Heather Smith
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Brittany Plumley
Property Maintenance



Church Office Hours

The church office is open
8:30am-3:30pm-Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri
8:30am-Noon-Thursday
(no office admin available on Thursdays)
Closed for lunch between 12 & 1

Church phone: 828-859-9414
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CHIMES

April 2016

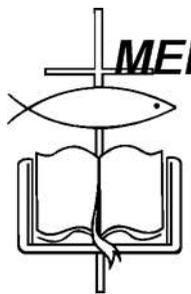
During the month of April, we are in the Easter season. It is a time when we continue to reflect on the good news that Jesus lives and what that good news means for us. Most of the scripture texts that will be used in our worship services this month come from the book of Acts, the book in the Bible that addresses these very questions. How will disciples break from the old ways of being and welcome the new? To whom will they give their allegiance?

Interesting enough, these are also our questions. The challenge of the Christian life is how do we live out our faith? What does it mean for us to proclaim the good news of resurrection. Since God has proved once and for all who the true ruler of the universe is, how do we live as faithful servants?

So, join us this month as we wrestle with these interesting and important questions. Jesus lives. May we all find ways to share that good news with others.

-The Rev. Dr. Robert K. Barrows Jr.

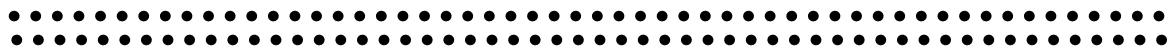




MEMBERSHIP

INTERESTED IN CHURCH MEMBERSHIP?

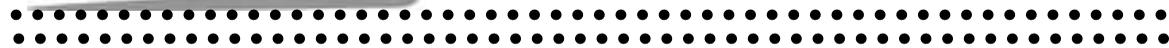
If you are interested in joining the Congregational Church UCC, please let the pastor know. All are welcome to become part of this faith community.



!!Time is running out!!



Pastoral Search Questionnaires are due on Sunday, April 3rd!



Please be aware that as of March 10th our office admin is not be available on Thursdays.

Due to these changes the new church office schedule will be:

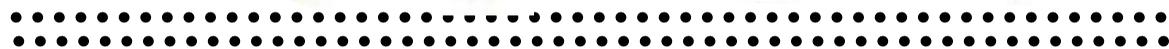
8:30am-3:30pm-Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri
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(no office admin available on Thursdays)
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These changes will continue until **Monday May 23rd** after which regular office hours will be reinstated.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter please contact office admin Jaymee Frole at the church office.



As many of you are all ready aware, our Director of Music and Organist, Diane Pickens, has announced she will be leaving her position here at the Congregational Church and accepting an offer from the First Presbyterian Church in Lauren, SC, effective April 10th. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after the 10:30 service for a reception on **Sunday, April 10th** to thank Diane for all the wonderful work and beautiful music she has provided here over the past ten years.



Music Director



Search Committee

Carole Bartol has graciously agreed to serve as Interim Organist/Choir Director while a search committee begins work on finding a full-time Organist/Choir Director. Those who have agreed to serve on the search committee are: Keith Collins, Carole Bartol, Libby Boone, Gwen Suesse and Ellen Harvey Zipf.

Please keep this committee in your prayers.

-Board of Deacons

Hands of Change

For over nine year the Hands of Change, (HOC), youth service group has been roaming the Thermal Belt, helping nonprofits serve our community. HOC has worked with the Polk County Red Cross, the Polk County Agricultural Center, White Oak, Autumn Care and Ridge Rest assisted living centers. We have helped Pacolet Nature Conservancy, FENCE, and Harmon Field keep natural spaces welcoming to visitors. HOC middle and high school students have worked alongside Thermal Belt Outreach and Operation Hope as well as Hospice Thrift Barn. Kids from all over Polk county serve every Wednesday afternoon that Polk County schools are in session.

Each Spring break Hands of Change travels outside of Polk County to further share the joy of serving others. In the past we have traveled to Washington DC, Atlanta and Charleston SC. On **Wednesday, April 6th** the HOC youth group will celebrate our 9th year of service by preparing a special meal with the help of Nita Ready. Volunteers and guests that manage the local sites we have served in the past will all be invited. As we come to a close of the 2016 school year the Hands of Change youth service group counts among our many blessings, the Congregational Church. The UCC of Tryon members have supported HOC fundraisers, helped with transportation and offered a place for us to meet.



Lance Smith, Director,
Christian Education & Youth

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April 2016 Hands of Change

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6 HOC Banquet	7	8	9
10	11	12	SPRING BREAK No School		15	16
17	18	19	20 Polk Central Afterschool	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 Hospice Thrift Barn	28	29	30



**Nancy Carole Wright Bartol
&
Christopher Perry Bartol**

Also Pictured:
Leo August Bartol (the cat)

"...even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day for darkness is as light to you."
-Psalm 139, (particularly verse 12)

Nancy?? Carole, a native North Carolinian, was born in Winston Salem in 1942. The only child of Evelyn and Calvin Wright, both music lovers, education was the family business; Evelyn taught and Calvin was a principal. Carole began taking piano lessons at age five and grew up playing and accompanying in the Methodist church in Elkin, NC. She didn't like practicing but nevertheless impressed the organist and choir director, who was also her teacher.

She received a bachelor-of-arts degree from Salem College double majoring in piano and English. She would listen to her best friend practice on the college's beautiful Baroque-style organ...instead of practicing her piano. In her spare time she directed a small church choir.

While still attending college, Carole married her high school sweetheart. Charles was born and, five years later, Charlotte. After graduation, she was a technical editor for Bell Labs then worked as a stay-at-home Mom. Carole has three wonderful grandchildren.

How did Carole get to play the organ? Carole and family moved to Tryon in the early 70s and joined the Presbyterian Church. The organist there was retiring and encouraged Carole to learn the organ and become the church's organist. Carole learned. Ask her who gave her lessons.

After 21 years of marriage, Carole found herself single and looking for another job. She had received her masters of education in history and political science from Converse. With this, she taught World Civilization at ICC Polk County. From that, she became ICC's Director. Meanwhile, Carole and Charlotte had begun attending our church and liked it. While visiting her son in Charleston, all attended the Round Congregational Church there. Carole was impressed with the Bulletin's statement. Back in Tryon, she met with Reverend Fred Kurkowski and became a member. She likes the UCC assertion of being, among other things, ecumenical, liberal, and active in the community. Carole has served twice on the board of deacons, sung in the choir off and on for many years, and has filled in as organist. Church and music are inseparable for her.

In the community, she is (back) on the boards of Steps to Hope and Pacolet Area Conservancy (PAC), and Hunting Country Association, was president of the board of PAC and Rotary; she's on the board and program chair of Tryon Concert Association, is a charter member of Foothills Music Club, was the first president of and sang in the Community Chorus, and is a member of Second Wind Hall of Fame.

Little did Carole know that she would marry the man whose great grandparents, Charles and Emma Payne Erskine, provided land in 1908 for a new structure. Their son, Harold, was the architect and helped build what was then called The Erskine Memorial Chapel. Our church!

Christopher Perry Bartol was born in 1941 to Carol (Erskine) and Henry Bartol. He grew up in Tryon as an Episcopalian. After attending UNC and The Citadel, Chris went to Brooks Institute in Santa Barbara, CA, to study photography, which has served as his very successful career. He's enjoyed performing in 15 different Tryon Little Theatre productions, was in Rotary, and now serves on the board of TFAC. Ask him who his great Aunt Violet was.

Carole's Charlotte and Chris's son, Hedgie, attended high school together and thought that their parents should go out on a date. Well...they did in 1986 and were married in our church in October 1988, officiated by Fred Kurkowski. Chris didn't even know that Carole's first name was Nancy. Either did we.

Life has been good for the past 27+ years. They're currently planning a trip to Indonesia to visit Charlotte. Woody, their black cat, is dearly missed, but Leo here has purred into their hearts. Woody (from the *woods* on Baker Drive in Tryon) found the Bartols, but the Bartols found Leo at our Foothills Humane Society.

God bless The Bartols.





Lydia Circle Hosts Tea Ceremony

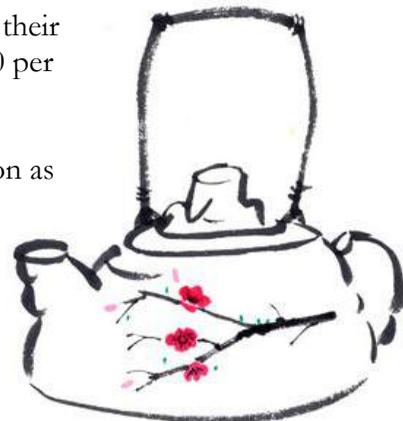
The Lydia Circle will host a traditional tea ceremony at their next meeting on:
Monday April 11th at 11:00AM.

Emiko N. Suzuki is an instructor in the art of tea ceremony, which represents the essence of Japanese culture. The tea will be held in the annex at the church. Sometimes wearing traditional attire, Emiko enjoys sharing Japanese culture locally through the art of Ikebana, tea ceremony and Japanese language lessons. She graduated from North Carolina University with a Master of Art Teacher in May 2011. She also received her Master of Fine Arts from the same school in 2013.

In addition to the tea ceremony, Emiko Suzuki is a Professor 1st Grade of the Ikenobo School of Ikebana, headquartered in Kyoto, Japan. She began her study of Ikebana in Aichi, Japan. She regularly travels back there and has Ikebana lessons at the Ikenobo headquarters. For 13 years, before coming to Western North Carolina, Emiko shared her love for Ikenobo with students of all ages. She and her husband welcome people to their new Japanese Culture Center on 5th Avenue West in Hendersonville, NC. She travels throughout the United States giving workshops, demonstrations and cultural presentations.

The Lydia Circle invites women of the Congregation and their friends to this beautiful tea ceremony. The cost is \$20.00 per person.

Please pay the church administrator, Jaymee Frole, as soon as possible, so the Lydia Circle can prepare the room.



PAC Walk/PacRun

The Pacolet Area Conservancy (PAC) will present an opportunity for us to help protect our natural environment and even promote our own church, on **Saturday, April 23rd**. The event, held at Tryon Estates in Columbus, features a 5K run starting at 8:00am, followed by the walk at 10:00am. Awards and prizes will be given after the run and the walk, followed with lunch provided by Tryon Estates.

You may register for the run online at www.strictlyrunning.com, or download a form from the PAC website at www.pacolet.org or go by the PAC office on Hwy. 176 across from the Frog & Swan. Fee is \$20 if you register ahead of time or \$25 if you register on the day of the run. Swag bags, t-shirts and complimentary coffee and snacks will be provided for the runners. "Medals" for winners have been especially created by our own Manfred Walter!

There are three walks from which to choose. One is a 2-mile trail through the woods; another is a 3/4-mile stroll on a paved path around the lake. If those don't work, you can be a Phantom Walker and walk from home if you like!

A big piece of the fun is walking as part of a team. Think Tryon Congregational Church! Walkers can carry a banner, wear special shirts, hats, badges, or anything they choose to promote their team. There is a prize for biggest team, and "surprise" prizes too. Just name your team on the form when you register to be counted in your group.

Questions? Go to www.pacolet.org or call Carole Bartol at 864.457-5363.



"Make College a Reality"



The Innovative Events Fund at the Polk County Community Foundation and the Congregational Church of Tryon are hosting an evening seminar for families in our community who have students planning to attend college. Join us Thursday, April 7th in the Fellowship Hall from 6-8pm for *College Bound, Making College a Reality*. Dr. Bill Boone, Associate Pastor Lance Smith and Peter Vogel a member of the Polk county high school guidance department, as well as other

community members, will share ideas, goals and timelines for families who have members planning to attend college. High school class scheduling, portfolio building, researching and applying for colleges, searching and applying for scholarships, savings plans and investments are a few of the topics the seminar will introduce. This evening of presentations is for parents and students of the Thermal Belt region. Information will be predominantly about North Carolina schools and opportunities but much of the information will be applicable in South Carolina as well. The evening program includes a free pizza dinner for participants as well as informational packets that will help guide participants in their journey toward college.

For more information about this program contact Lance Smith 859-9414



STOP HUNGER NOW

Since the inception of "Stop Hunger Now" in our area, many members of our congregation have participated in the packing of the dehydrated meals. This year's community packaging will be held on:

**Saturday, April 9th at
Polk County High School**

Come help us reach our goal of packing 30,000 meals. Two shifts are available, the first from 8am to 10am and the second for 10am to Noon.

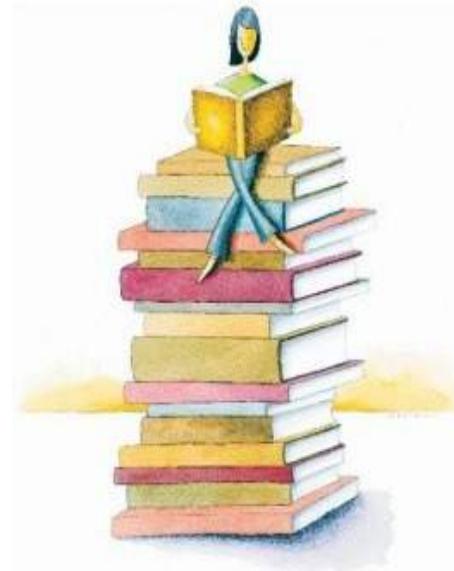
Sign-Up sheets for participation are available in the Fellowship Hall.

**For several years the Congregational Church has been a main contributor of the funds to this worldwide organization dedicate to relieving hunger throughout the world.*

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WISE

In April WISE will continue to read *The Grace in Aging: Awaken as You Grow Older* by Kathleen Dowling Singh

Kathleen is a Dharma practitioner, psychotherapist, author and in-demand speaker and teacher. In her book, Singh invites all those who have ever experienced spiritual longing to awaken in their twilight years, transforming the predictable sufferings of aging into profound opportunities for growth in clarity, love, compassion, and peace.



*WISE meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month at 2pm in the Church Parlor.
All are welcome to attend!*



All children deserve great childhoods because our children are our future.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month and in support, the Congregational Church will display pinwheels on our grounds for the next few weeks. In 2008, Prevent Child Abuse America introduced the pinwheel as the new national symbol for child abuse prevention through Pinwheels for Prevention. By its very nature, the pinwheel connotes whimsy and childlike notions. In essence, it has come to serve as the physical embodiment, or reminder, of the great childhoods we want for all children.

This campaign provides a unique opportunity for all of us, individuals and organizations alike, to take action by learning more about prevention, supporting child and family friendly policies and services, and volunteering at the local, state, and national levels. Every day is your call to action and an opportunity for you to recognize that we all play a role in children's lives

For more information on how you can help visit our states website: www.preventchildabusenc.org

A new member class will be held on Monday, April 4th at 7pm

Anyone interested in church membership is welcome!



mission

M O M E N T S

U N I T E D C H U R C H O F C H R I S T

Shaped by Prayer

It would be hard to imagine a friend not coming to the door when you knock. Can you picture someone who cares about you not opening the door, even at four in the morning, and saying, "Yes? What do you need?" Well, at four in the morning, they might have a few choice words, but they would be there if you needed them. Jesus teaches prayer to his disciples as a kind of knocking on the door--as a kind of persistence, even a dogged, relentless pursuit. One of our UCC testimonies of faith says: *We believe that the persistent search for God produces an authentic relationship with God engendering love, strengthening faith, dissolving guilt and giving life purpose and direction.* Anyone trying to achieve success in the business world knows that persistence is the key. In the arts world, you can be a brilliant painter or writer, but if you stop because you get discouraged or don't sell your work immediately, then you will definitely never succeed. Persistence! Keep at it! Pray, then, not just because you are afraid, or in need . . . pray for nothing but the presence of God.

Brother Lawrence was a 17th century French Carmelite lay brother who wrote a small Christian classic called "The Practice of the Presence of God." He worked in the kitchen and spent his time there attending to his practice of doing everything, even the most boring and menial and trivial task, as a prayer, as a gift. We who live in the 21st century can practice this kind of presence in our daily tasks. We might not be baking bread in a monastery kitchen but we can pray while on the bus, or bagging the groceries, or walking down the street.

O God, may our prayers be as persistent as gravity, as constant as a gentle spring rain, and as open as the sky over the plains. Teach us the spirit of attention and continuance. Teach us to bear the heart of grace in our resolve and focus. Lead us to pray without ceasing.





Congregational Church, UCC

P.O. Box 1367 · Tryon, NC 28782

Church phone 828/859-9414

Fax 828/859-9505

Web site: www.ucctryon.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	FRIDAY	Saturday
					1) 9am Qi Gong 10am Tai Ch'i	2)
3) -Communion- 8:00am Celebration 9am Confirmation Class 10:30am Worship	4) 7:30am Morning Prayer 2pm WISE 7pm New Member Group	5) 1pm Bridge	6) 10:00 Bible Study 11:30 Kiwanis 3-6 HOC 4:00 Handbell Choir 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	7) 6-8pm College Bound	8) 9am Qi Gong 10am Tai Ch'i	9) Stop Hunger Now Packing Date
10) 8:00am Celebration 9am Confirmation Class 10:30am Worship 11:30 CE Meeting -Diane Farewell Reception-	11) 7:30am Morning Prayer 11:00 Lydia Circle 6:00pm Deacons	12) 1pm Bridge 4:00pm Trustees 5:00pm Outreach	13) 10:00 Bible Study 11:30 Kiwanis 3-6 HOC 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	14) 	15) 9am Qi Gong 10am Tai Ch'i	16)
17) 8:00am Celebration 9am Confirmation Class 10:30am Worship 11:30 Search Committee	18) 7:30am Morning Prayer 1:00pm Staff Meeting 2pm WISE	19) 1pm Bridge	20) 10:00 Bible Study 11:30 Kiwanis 3-6 HOC 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	21) 	22) 9am Qi Gong 10am Tai Ch'i	23) PACWalk/Run
24) 8:00am Celebration 9am Confirmation Class 10:30am Worship -Lance Preaching-	25) 7:30am Morning Prayer	26) 1pm Bridge	27) 10:00 Bible Study 11:30 Kiwanis 3-6 HOC 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	28) 7:00pm Church Council	29) 9am Qi Gong 10am Tai Ch'i	30)



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|--------------------|--------------------|
| 04 Nancy Myers | 16 Joanna Wilson |
| Keith Collins | 18 John Short |
| 05 Elizabeth Boone | 21 Cherie Brooks |
| Bill Boone | 23 June Current |
| 07 Linda Campbell | Roger Traxler |
| 08 Mike Winterrowd | 24 Andy Haynes |
| 09 Becky Collins | Charlotte Behrends |
| Brian Stechschulte | 26 Steve Mckinsey |
| Madison Geddings | Virginia Rostick |
| 10 Dawn Forward | 29 Wanda Veh |