



# NewsNotes

Christ Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
A Just Peace and Open and Affirming Church  
Becoming an Anti-Racist Church

Volume 64 – Number 10 September 9, 2008

## Welcome to the New Christian Education Program Year Beginning September 14!!



Church School for Kindergarten through eighth graders will take place Sunday mornings during the 10:30 worship service. We

encourage families to worship together on Communion Sundays. For those children K-5<sup>th</sup> grades who may have shorter attention spans or need more movement, there is a special Communion Sunday program. Children, youth and families gather together every Sunday in the sanctuary. Classes begin following Time with Children.

Toddlers through 4 year olds have Church School every Sunday all year long.

### Sunday Evening Youth Night

CCC values and respects each child of God, how we are alike and how we are different. We strengthen this commitment through the Our Whole Lives (O.W.L.) human sexuality curriculum, written by United Church of Christ and Unitarian Universalist educators.

All three classes (6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>) are being offered this year. This does not often happen because the cycles are different. 6th grade OWL takes place annually for 8 weeks. 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade OWL is offered every other year and senior high OWL is offered every 3 years. Teachers are specially trained through an intense mandatory 3 day workshop.

We thank our instructors, past and present, for their commitment and gift to this church and our youth! Jim Conklin, Terry Strand, David and Debra MacLeod, Sallie and Paul Holmes, Chris Walters, Kathy Stedman, Jane and Mike Weber...THANK YOU!



Second Sundays, beginning October 12, are Game Nights! All 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> youth, in OWL and not, are invited to the Social Hall at 6PM for a potluck supper, brief time of worship, and FUN!! Middle High Youth Group leaders, Sallie and Paul Holmes and Senior High Youth Group leaders, Kathy Stedman, Mike Weber, and Chris Walters have a special line up of activities. There is a new opportunity for parents of this age group on Second Sundays. See Maureen's article elsewhere in NewsNotes.

Covenant Class, CCC confirmation, is open to all 9<sup>th</sup> grade youth and older. Bruce Esposito and Sandy Dodson will be leading a trip to Cleveland October 16-18. We tour the national UCC offices and take in the Rock n Roll Hall of Fame.

## The CCC Covenant ~ ~

*"We are united in striving to know the will of God as taught in the Holy Scriptures, and in our purpose to walk in the ways of the Lord, made known or to be made known to us. We hold it to be the mission of the church of Christ to proclaim the gospel to all people, exalting the worship of the one true God, and laboring for the progress of knowledge, the promotion of justice and the reign of peace. Depending on the continuing guidance of the Holy Spirit to lead us into all truth, we work and pray for the transformation of the world into the kingdom of God and we look with faith for the final triumph of righteousness and the life everlasting."*

Does Christ Congregational Church's covenant, adequately express who we are together? Does some of the language needlessly stand in the way of new people identifying with the life of our church? Would some revision of the language of our covenant help us move into the future as congregation? Questions such as these have been raised and discussed over the last several years, and are now, during this interim period, again before us for resolution.

Our covenant involves all of us, and the views of all of us are important. The Covenant Committee is interested in your comments from and concerns relating to our covenant. What changes do you think are desirable, and why? What should remain essentially unchanged, and why? Give us your ideas, concerns, reservations, suggestions. We will have an opportunity to discuss these matters together at two Conversation Meetings to be held after the 10:30 worship services, one on October 12, and the other on October 26. Mark your calendar so you can attend and participate. *The Covenant Committee:*

David Ackerman 301-588-1063 [davetoko@hotmail.com](mailto:davetoko@hotmail.com)  
Charles Mason 301-933-3093 [sugartree2@comcast.net](mailto:sugartree2@comcast.net)  
Mary Stone 301-681-6925 [mnsdaintree@yahoo.com](mailto:mnsdaintree@yahoo.com)  
Jane von Maltzahn 301-593-4340 [design4space@gmail.com](mailto:design4space@gmail.com)  
Anne Weissenborn 301-681-6042 [weissenborn@starpower.net](mailto:weissenborn@starpower.net)



## Got Files? ~ ~

If you have worked on a CCC board, committee, task force or special project, there's a good chance you have a file of your and others' work. To make the Church's official files current, accurate and complete before a new Senior Minister arrives, as well as to be in compliance with generally accepted corporate risk management principles, official files should be in the church office, not in members' homes. Therefore, the Moderator and Communications Officer are requesting that members with files turn them in to the church office no later than November 30, 2008.

Please review and 'weed' your files before turning them in! How do you know what to keep? Here are some basics:

- Charge or charter for your project or committee
- Background studies or research
- Meeting minutes
- Complete email strings reflecting discussion of and decisions reached on **substantive** issues related to the project or group's work
- Original signed documents (letters of hire, letters of resignation, applications, estimates, financial reports, contracts, etc.)
- Manuals, reports, recommendations and other types of final work product.

Questions? Contact Jackie Walters, Communications Officer, [jjwalters.silverspring@verizon.net](mailto:jjwalters.silverspring@verizon.net)

## ~~ Opportunities ~~

### For Parents of Young Children ~

The Parent's Night Out, a babysitting co-op for children of all ages, meets on the third Friday of each month from 6:30 to 10:00 PM. We meet in the meeting room when the children arrive, where the parents sign the children in, leaving a phone number where they can be reached. Weather permitting, we go outside to play before going to the social hall for more play. There we have a snack, which is brought by the parents on duty, before returning to the meeting room for a video. Some of the children enjoy putting on pajamas and resting on a sleeping bag or blanket during the video. Parents receive three or four times off for one time on duty, depending upon the participation in any year. Please remember to sign up on the Board For Church Life bulletin board near the kitchen on the first floor. There is a limit of 22, so if you sign up and can not come, please let Glenda know. If you have questions, call or email Glenda Neal at (302)622-3948 or [gbneal1958@earthlink.net](mailto:gbneal1958@earthlink.net).



### For the Women of CCC ~

Looking for low-stress, convenient and fun ways to connect with other women in the church? Watch this space! Imaginative CCC women are working on low-key, creative and fun ways for CCC women (visitors, friends and members) to get together, make connections and build friendships. One ongoing activity is Second Saturday. On every second Saturday of the month, women are invited to drop in at Panera in downtown Silver Spring (corner of Georgia Avenue and Colesville Road) anytime from 8:30 to 10 a.m., get a cup of coffee or tea, and chat with other women. No agenda, no meeting, no work – just casual conversation and camaraderie. Women of all ages are welcome. If you are interested in receiving occasional emails about women's ministry programs at CCC, including Second Saturday reminders, send an email to Jackie Walters at [jjwalters.silverspring@verizon.net](mailto:jjwalters.silverspring@verizon.net).

### For Parents of Youth ~

Are you interested in meeting other parents of adolescents? Wouldn't it be a great idea to have fellowship with one another? Let's make this happen! Please join us on the 2nd Sunday of every month for a special community-building potluck dinner for youth and parents. On Sept. 14th, we will have our first parent and youth potluck, preceding the OWL information meeting. Our plan is to continue these potlucks on the 2nd Sunday of every month throughout the school year: youth (6th 12<sup>th</sup> grades) will have games and activities all their own; parents will gather in the Conference Room for socializing and discussion. Please email Maureen Ingram if this idea sounds like a good one to you. [maureen\\_ingram88@yahoo.com](mailto:maureen_ingram88@yahoo.com).

### For the Outdoor Spirited ~

There will be a day hike on Saturday, September 20th, in Shenandoah National Park. Participants can choose either a strenuous full hike to the upper falls in Whiteoak Canyon (6 miles round trip), or more leisurely light hikes to either lower Whiteoak Canyon (2 miles round trip) or to the falls in adjacent Cedar Run Canyon. Information and trail maps are at <http://nps.gov/shen>. A signup sheet with more trip information is on the church office bulletin board.

Join us again on November 8th for a 2-3 hour easy to moderate guided walking tour of the Antietam National Battlefield (ANB)--with historical interpretation provided by David Langbart, a research historian and archivist at the National Archives. David has studied and explored Civil War battlefields in Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. His shared expertise and passion will make our trek a memorable experience. The rain date for this trip is November 15th. There will be Sunday service bulletin announcements and a signup sheet with more trip details on the church office bulletin board in October. ANB maps and information are at <http://www.nps.gov/anti>.

The trip leader for both outings is Tim Wehrkamp, [t.wehrkamp@att.net](mailto:t.wehrkamp@att.net), 301-552-1836.

## "Second Chance" Documentary ~ ~

As part of the Board for Social Witness Film Series, on September 21, after the second worship service, the documentary created by the Gandhi Brigade entitled "Second Chance" will be shown. This film explores the challenges faced by young people with criminal records who want to put their lives back together. It will be shown in the Conference Room, with discussion following the screening. The Gandhi Brigade, led by CCC's own Richard Jaeggi, is a collaboration of young people and adult allies in the Long Branch area of Silver Spring which uses multimedia production to prepare young people for community leadership.

### *About CCC Members ~*

Barbara Callander invites you to come see her in the very funny play, UNNECESSARY FARCE at Wayside Theatre in Middletown, VA (in the Shenandoah Valley, near Winchester). The show runs through September 27, Wednesday-Sunday, with both matinee and evening performances. Details at [www.waysidetheatre.org](http://www.waysidetheatre.org) or at (540) 869-1776. You can also call Barbara at (240) 893-3666.

### ~ ~Senior Adults ~ ~

#### Upcoming Activities ~ ~

CCC's Senior Adult Committee is pleased to offer a variety of enriching and fun events this coming September and October. On Wednesday, September 17, we caravan to Chuck and Mary Beth Mason's farm, "Sugartree" in Thurmont, Maryland. The next day, Thursday the 18th, we'll gather at 10:00 for our new "Third Thursday Discussion." The discussion is on "Facing Transitions" and our leaders are Bob Robey and Gordon Forbes. You're invited to arrive at 9:45 for coffee and conversation. (If you prefer, arriving at 10:00

is fine, too!) After church on Sunday, October 5th we offer for seniors and adult children of seniors a roundtable discussion on "Rightsizing" led by our own Lynn White. Make sure to sign up for our luncheon hosted by the senior adult men on Tuesday, October 7th. Gordon Forbes will lead our "Third Thursday Discussion" on Oct. 16 on the short story, "The Deacon." Copies can be picked up in the church office. On Thursday, October 30, we travel by bus to Gettysburg to see the newly refurbished cyclorama and the new Visitor Center. Our brochure with additional details on these events is being mailed September 11th. (If you're not on our mailing list, please call the church office!) If you have questions about these events, please call Sarah Anders at 301-424-3339.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> floor resources and bulletin board ~ ~

They'll be coming down soon so if you get a chance, stop by our bulletin board on the second floor to see pictures from our spring retreat. We are also building a library of resources on the second floor. Watch for more information. *Senior Adult Committee*



~ ~Congratulations to MJ and Jerry Park, Leaders of CCC's Peace Camps ~ ~

Mary Joan (“MJ”) and Jerry Park will be awarded the 2008 Pax Christi USA Teacher of Peace Award at a special event to be held on Sept. 20 at 7:00 PM at the 4-H Conference Center in Chevy Chase. This national award was first awarded in 1978 to Dorothy Day; subsequent recipients have included Daniel Berrigan, S.J., Colman McCarthy, Martin Sheen, Fr. Louis Vitale, Liz and Philip Berrigan, and William Quigley.

MJ and Jerry have led CCC’s Vacation Bible School/Peace Camp for the past three summers, using a lively and full mix of stories, songs, art projects and physical activity to engage children in seeking peace in their own lives and in the world around them. In 1981 they founded Little Friends for Peace while living in Minnesota. Here in the DC area they continued LFP while raising six children. Multitudes of youngsters and their families in both suburban and inner city settings have been encouraged to “climb aboard the Peace Train” via summer day camp programs, weekend workshops and year-long afterschool programs.

Pax Christi USA is the American branch of Pax Christi International, the peace movement within the Catholic Church. Pax Christi “strives to create a world that reflects the Peace of Christ by exploring, articulating, and witnessing to the call of Christian nonviolence.” Priority areas include the spirituality of nonviolence and peacemaking; disarmament, demilitarization and reconciliation with justice; economic and interracial justice in the US; and human rights and global restoration.

If you would like to attend the awards ceremony, contact the Rev. Sandy Dodson.

<p>Deadline for the next NewsNotes is 5:00 PM Wednesday, October 8 Send articles to Susan Gray <a href="mailto:cccoffice@christ-ucc.org">cccoffice@christ-ucc.org</a> or leave them in the NewsNotes Box</p>
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Mailed September 9, 2008

**HAPPENINGS IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER**

Sun., September 14 -- Church School and Youth Groups Begin  
All Church Picnic

Mon., September 15 -- Boards

Fri., September 19 -- Parent's Night Out

Sun., September 21 -- Social Witness Film - "Second Chance" created by  
the Gandhi Brigade

Sun. September 21 -- Conversation Meeting

Sat., October 4 -- Sacred Movement Workshop

Sun., October 5 -- Senior Adult Seminar on Rightsizing

Mon., October 6 -- Executive Council

Wed., October 8 -- CCC Volunteers at Shepherd's Table

**CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH UCC**

**Phone:**  
**301-585-8010**

**Event Line:**  
**301-585-4640, ext. 333**

**Email:**  
[cccoffice@christ-ucc.org](mailto:cccoffice@christ-ucc.org)

Rev. Susan A. Henderson,  
Interim Senior Minister;  
Rev. Sandra K. Dodson,  
Associate Minister;  
Nae Pearson, Director of  
Music; Sarah Anders, Director  
of Senior Adult Programming;  
Dianne Abraham, Church  
Administrator  
Susan Gray, Support  
Administrator

At CCC, we honor and celebrate  
people of all races, cultures, ages,  
abilities, sexual orientation, and  
gender identity.

[www.christ-ucc.org](http://www.christ-ucc.org)