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# The Congregational Connection

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## Pastor's Message



*Pastor Michael C. Dubbs*

I had been to Arlington National Cemetery several times as a visiting tourist. Watching the changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is something everyone should see at least once in their lifetime. The site of the crosses in such perfect alignment is humbling and amazing. The Eternal Flame at the grave of President John F. Kennedy is a symbol of hope to many generations.

While I was visiting Arlington, I would see funerals in progress. And, I officiated my Uncle's Military Service at Fort Indian-town Gap National Cemetery in Pennsylvania.

So, it was an absolute highlight of my career as a Pastor to be asked by Natalie Dauner to take part in Jack's burial at Arlington, although I wasn't sure what it meant that I would "take part" in the service. I thought perhaps

the Army Chaplain would look at a Pastor helping as an inconvenience rather than a blessing. Chaplain Stokes was the Army Chaplain in charge, and he absolutely made me feel welcome and truly a part of the service.

The first part of the service was held in the Old Post Chapel, a 100 year old church on the grounds of Arlington National Cemetery. We were told by the soldiers at the entrance to the Chapel that almost every sitting U.S. President over the last 100 years had taken part in a service in the Old Post Chapel.



And there I was, celebrating Jack Dauner's life in the Old Post Chapel!

That was only the beginning. It would have been easy for Chaplain Stokes to say, "OK, you did your part, I'll take it from here", but he didn't. He also allowed me to participate in the graveside service.

I asked Donna to try to get a photo of me doing the graveside service

with the Arlington crosses as the background. She certainly did!



Most of Jack's Army stories ended with him saying that when he told his father these stories, Jack's Dad would say, "I'll bring you cookies at Leavenworth Prison!"

My favorite Army story that Jack told me was one night he and several of his buddies went AWOL (Absent Without Leave) and snuck into town. After a fun evening in town, and a few adult beverages, they snuck back to their barracks and settled in for a night's sleep thinking they had gotten away with the whole caper. However, it had rained, and the MPs followed muddy boot tracks right to their bunks!

The day at Arlington could not have been more beautiful. The blue sky and white billowing clouds made the perfect setting. From Jack's burial site you can see the Washington Monument. I think Jack would have been very pleased with the whole day!



*September*

|                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| Robert Angeloff | 09/04 |
| Vickie McInnis  | 09/17 |
| Ann Shields     | 09/20 |
| Thomas Beddow   | 09/28 |

*October*

|                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| Ross Caudell      | 10/02 |
| Rhonda Duncan     | 10/05 |
| Gertrude Strine   | 10/06 |
| Clarissa Angeloff | 10/12 |
| Jane Newton       | 10/13 |
| Ralph Cole        | 10/20 |
| Becky Cameron     | 10/22 |
| Sharon Hogan      | 10/22 |
| Mavis B. Martin   | 10/30 |
| Sally Raynor      | 10/30 |

*November*

|                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| Emily Tobias       | 11/07 |
| Tony Mawyer        | 11/11 |
| Linda Dreher       | 11/11 |
| Ann Smith          | 11/12 |
| Joan Daniels       | 11/14 |
| MariJo Brown       | 11/19 |
| Lynn Hammond       | 11/21 |
| Joni Mawyer        | 11/24 |
| Natalie Richardson | 11/26 |
| Thomas Hall, Jr.   | 11/29 |

*December*

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Delylah McDonald Thomas | 12/01 |
| Pastor Mike Dubbs       | 12/04 |
| Richard McInnis         | 12/10 |
| Brenda Williams         | 12/22 |
| Edgar Smith             | 12/24 |
| Alex Cameron            | 12/28 |
| Lois Vollmer            | 12/29 |
| Lillian Richardson      | 12/30 |

A man enters a cafe and sits at a table. The waitress comes over and asks for his order.

"One coffee please, without cream," he replies.

The waitress responds, "I'm sorry sir. You'll have to take it without milk. We're out of cream."



Recently, I attended a workshop entitled: Church Leadership in the Public Square. I was shocked to learn that of people who call themselves Christians, only 50% are registered to vote. That is alarming. Even more alarming is that of that 50%, only half of them actually vote. That means that only 25% of Christians go to the polls.

Why? Well, part of the reason is a misunderstanding of the phrase "Separation of Church and State". Government uses that phrase when it is convenient for them, and when they want the Church to keep its nose out of government business! That is not what it means at all. Separation of Church and State means that the U.S. Constitution forbids governmental establishment or preference of a religion and preserves religious freedom from governmental intrusion. Candidates use religion as a means to garner votes.

I try to keep politics out of the pulpit; in fact, I make it a point not to politicize the pulpit. However, as Christians, we need have our voice heard. Use Bible principles in deciding how to vote.

There are voter registration forms in the hallway, and after I brought this up a few Sundays ago, I had several people volunteer to drive anyone who needs to go to Carthage to turn the forms in.

Our money still says, In God We Trust.  
God Bless America!

~ Pastor Mike ~



Church Millennials at Work !

# Thank You



Seven years ago Community Congregational Church added a second worship service at 9 a.m. on Sunday mornings. From the beginning Scott and Maria Chase have been providing music for that service. Scott is a talented guitar player and singer and songwriter and Maria is an accomplished singer as well. So it was with great sadness that we learned recently that Scott and Maria would be leaving in order to focus their attention on their home Church where they have also been involved in that Church's music program on Sunday mornings.

It goes without saying that everyone involved with Scott and Maria and the 9 a.m. worship service thanks them both for their time and dedication to our Church. And while we certainly support them in this decision, our hope is that we may see them back here in the future.



## SCHOLARSHIPS

Since 1992, Community Congregational Church has been awarding scholarships to deserving students in Moore County. "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." Our thanks to the 2024 Scholarship Committee.

The following students are this year's Scholarship recipients:

**Janabeth Bremer** of Whispering Pines. Janabeth is a graduate of Union Pines High School and is attending North Carolina State University.

**Susannah Leigh-Anne Davis** of Robbins. Suzannah is a graduate of North Moore High School and is attending UNC Greensboro.

**Torre Nordgren** of Pinebluff. Torre is a graduate of Pinecrest High School and will be attending Appalachian State University.



Torre Nordgren & Janabeth Bremer with Pastor Mike & Jane Newton



## Have you noticed...

The Bradford Pear trees in front of our Church have been taken down. The state of North Carolina has passed the Native Plants Act which encourages the use of native plants in state parks, historic sites and along state highways. Bradford Pears are not native to North Carolina and the town of Southern Pines decided to remove the trees in front of the Church.

Enjoy the unobstructed view of our beautiful church!

## Stewardship



Dear Fellow Members,

Thank you for your contributions to our church! We are ahead of plan at the moment and hopefully will end this year with our operating budget fully funded and not have to dip into reserves. Our endowment fund continues to grow to well over \$1 million dollars with a strong mix of stocks and government securities. Our major expend-

itures from the endowment this year have been for much-needed roof repairs. Prior to that it enabled the enhancements to the education wing. Bequests to the endowment fund in cash or securities will insure that we always have sufficient funds for such emergencies and improvements.

The Stewardship Committee asks you to think about and plan for meeting your pledges for this year if you have not already done so. We also hope you will plan for next year's pledge as we will be asking for those commitments later this year.

If you have an IRA and are of an age that you must make annual Required Minimum Distributions

from your IRA, just a reminder that those distributions are normally taxable as income. That is unless you donate some or all of the distributions to charities free of tax. Our church qualifies for such distributions tax free. Cynthia can provide appropriate acknowledgement of such gifts for your tax records.

Other giving vehicles such as Estate Gifts, Charitable Remainder Annuity Trusts or Charitable Gift Annuities are also options if you would like to learn more about those.

Thank you again for sustaining our beautiful, historic and beloved church with your time and treasure.

The Stewardship and Endowment Committees

## Operation Christmas Child

Lois Womack, Secretary to the Women's Fellowship



As the summer draws near to an end, the Women's Fellowship has begun work on one of our favorite projects. We are starting our Operation Christmas Child mission. This program is part of Samaritan's Purse which was founded by Rev. Dr. Billy Graham. The mission of this program is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. Samaritan's Purse partners with the local churches worldwide to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

In the summer of 1993 Rev. Graham contacted the pastor of Calvary Church of Charlotte to ask if his congregation could fill a shoebox with simple gifts. Within weeks the church had created 11,000 boxes. These were shipped to the Balkans along with 17,000 boxes from Canada. Thus a mission was formed, resulting in more than 220 million children around the world receiving an Operation Christmas Child shoebox.

A shoebox can be packed in several ways. Sheets with lists of needed items are available that break the items into groups for boys or girls and also by age groups of 2-4 years old, 5-9 years old and 10-14 years old. The boxes should include a "wow" item such as a toy, and be filled to the brim with school supplies and personal care items. There are some items that are restricted such as candy, gum, used or damaged items, war related items, chocolate, liquids or lotions, medications and breakable items.

If you can help, a box will be provided and you can carefully pack your items in each box and return it to me at the Church. The women will meet in late October for a day of fun as we prepare the boxes for shipment along with a special luncheon of pizza and beverages.

If you would like to build a shoebox please contact me at the Church or by phone for further details. If you would prefer to make a monetary contribution, the charge is \$10.00 per box, cash or check. Please see Lois Womack. This is a project that is rewarding not only to a child but also to the provider.

God Bless you all and thank you for your support of our mission.

## Bell Tower Chimes



We all know how beautiful our church is to look at - both inside and out. But now we have outside music to go with all the great music created inside as well.

### Background

Pastor Dubbs and Richard Dana were curious as to what existed for a chime system. They located a speaker wire and thought it might go to the bell tower. They hooked up Pastor Dubbs' CD player to the wire and music emanated from the speakers!

The next step was to replace the CD player with an old cassette player - remember those? The church had a number of tapes that had appropriate music. While this approach worked, it was a manual procedure that required an operator to perform the various steps and be present whenever music was to be played.

### Moving Forward

Ideally we needed something that could automate the process of playing what music we wanted, when we wanted, without needing someone present to do it. Pastor Dubbs asked Bob Coates if he would look into what was available.

Bob found surprisingly few options but did locate one that had promise. After researching a Canadian company and talking with their support department it was determined that their ALGO 8301 would fill the bill.

The Women's Fellowship volunteered to fund the project. What a blessing! And the cost came in at less than half what they were willing to expend.

### System Overview - what it does

The ALGO 8301 is a box not much bigger than a paperback book - but it packs a lot into that small package. It allows us to download anything we want - chimes, music - any type of audio. And we can program it to play whatever we want at any time - all completely unattended.

Pastor Dubbs has mastered the programming. Music plays at noon on Monday through Friday. The songs rotate from month to month. Currently we have Amazing Grace, Ode to Joy, and Come Ye Thankful People Come. On the 4th of July we play a patriotic hymn every two hours. And all this is automated - it doesn't even require a computer! And you can rest assured that we will have a lot of appropriate Christmas music.

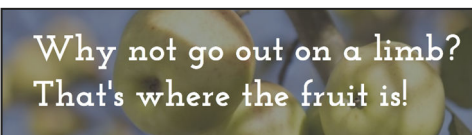
Pastor Dubbs said, "We have now added an audio presence to our already beautiful church. The music is just one more way to remind people that we are here."

Thanks to all those who made this possible, with special thanks to the Women's Fellowship.

## Today's Joke from Bill Shockley!

Scientists have invented a car that will run on parsley.

Now they need to invent an airline that will run on thyme!



Why not go out on a limb?  
That's where the fruit is!

Take a risk! Climb out on a limb where the fruit is!! Stop living life hugging the tree trunk. Reach for the brass ring! Stand in the winner's circle! Your attitude is a choice!

- Quote from John Hagee -  
~ Submitted by Rose Bowers ~

## A Prayer

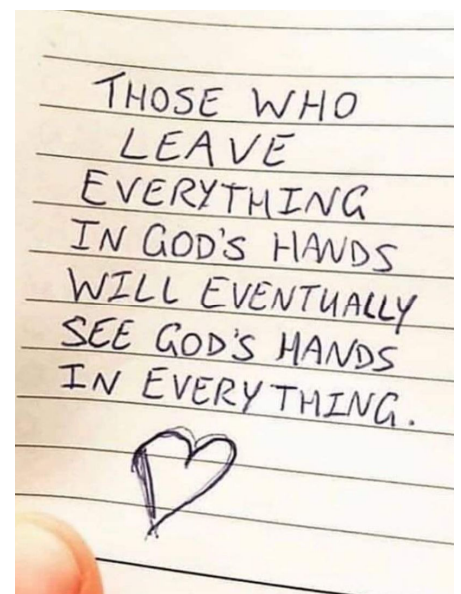
My friend, who knows the Holy Spirit, prays for me.

Lord, I am comforted by his knowledge. I can be stumbling head-on into a hectic day and all of a sudden realize I have been bathed in prayer. I receive peace from the efforts of others, yet I find a deeper comfort knowing that a friend lifts up words to your ears, a call to the Holy Spirit to hear the pleas on my behalf.

I have friends who know Jesus and we all have a friend in you Lord.

Thank You!

~ From Ingrid ~



Do hard things today that will make tomorrow easier for you.

# Youth Sunday

Sunday, June 2, was Youth Sunday at Community Congregational Church

Kileigh Cameron presented the Scripture and Raegen Boan wrote and delivered the Sermon

## Scripture: John 4:21-24

“Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what; we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”

## Sermon:

Today’s sermon is about worship. Our church family worships every Sunday, as a group. There may be other Christians we know that worship through prayer or in different ways and during different times. However, what is worship?

This question and its answer take center stage in today’s world. Information and ideas flow with ever increasing speed and ease. Computers, the internet, and its tools have allowed communication to occur instantaneously and across large distances. With this reality, comes opportunity and some dangers. The opportunities are amazing and welcomed by all, but the dangers need to be monitored and filtered. The monitoring and filtering process we are most familiar with is our Christian worship and our Christian perspective.

This quote from John is about Jesus talking with a Samaritan woman. During these days it would be unheard of for a Jew to speak with a Samaritan because of the way they worshipped, but being Jesus, He talks with the woman. As part of the discussion Jesus tells the woman everything about her life. She then proceeds to asks Jesus if He is a prophet and if they should worship on a particular mountain. Jesus tells her that true worship does not come from a place, it comes from within.

This quote from the Bible contains the idea of worship. Worship is our personal communication with God. We have a personal connection with God based on our worship practices. We are allowed this personal connection because of Jesus Christ. He has shown us the way, the truth, and the light, or more precisely, He is the way, the truth, and the light. Through Jesus Christ as Christians

and believers; worship becomes our connection to spirit. We have a physical connection to this world and the human world. However, Jesus Christ has given us the spirit that we tap into when we worship. Because, as Jesus Christ has told us in our Bible scripture, “God is a spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.”

Matthew Henry states, “In the nature of worship, Christians shall worship God not in the ceremonial observances of the Mosaic institution, but in spiritual ordinances, consisting less in bodily exercise, but animated and invigorated more with divine power and energy.” Jesus Christ has spoken the new way of worship, different from the Old Testament view of worship. The temper and character of worshippers has changed from the ceremonial acts of worship in the Old Testament; to the Jesus Christ announcement of worship. Worship of God in spirit and in truth. Christian Character and duty in worship is to act in spirit and in truth.

So, what does it mean to worship in spirit? Again, Matthew Henry gives us an insight. To worship in spirit means that “we must depend upon God’s spirit for strength and assistance.” It must come from within our heart and our soul. Worship only requires your presence with God. Furthermore, we must worship, “with all that is within us.”

Wow, I do not know about you, but “with all that is within us” sounds like a lot. Well, it is, it is everything. It is submission, which for a teenager like me, is difficult to accept and even understand. Submitting is not looked upon as acceptable within the human world. However, God requires it for true worship! But, what about truth? What does that mean in terms of worship?

The human world, the flesh, would have us believe that there are many different types of truth. There is your truth, my truth, his truth, her truth, and many others. Within the Bible, and in the Christian environment, truth comes only from the Father. There are many examples of this fact. Deuteronomy 32:4, “He is the rock, His work is perfect, for all His ways are judgement: a God of truth and without in-

iquity, just and right is He.” In Psalm 31:5, “Into thine hand I commit my spirit: thou hast redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.” And in John 3:21, “But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.”

Therefore, God the Father is truth. Worship is the act used to search for truth. Worship is where we search and wrestle with our doubts, submitting our human nature to God in the hope that He will reveal the truth to us. We have doubts and questions, that is what makes us human. The call is to worship in spirit and in truth, this brings the personal God in better focus for us to understand His will.

Worship may be best described in this quote written by William Temple, the Arch Bishop of Canterbury from 1942-1944.

Worship is the submission of all our Nature to God  
It is the quickening of Conscience by His Holiness  
The nourishment of the Mind with His Truth  
The purifying of the Imagination by His Beauty  
The opening of the Heart to His Love  
The surrender of the Will to His Purpose

Let me read them once more:

Worship is the submission of all our Nature to God  
It is the quickening of Conscience by His Holiness  
The nourishment of the Mind with His Truth  
The purifying of the Imagination by His Beauty  
The opening of the Heart to His Love  
The surrender of the Will to His Purpose

As you can see this quote personifies all we have been discussing thus far in our sermon. The first requirement is submission, which is easier said than done for this teenager. But submission begins our personal conversation with God and “quickens our conscience by His holiness.”

God is holiness. We derive a sense of holiness with our worship of God and this holiness contributes to our conscience, which is our sense of right and wrong. We need this for our business in this world. The interplay between right and wrong fill our days and nights while we pursue God’s will.

Then we are back to truth. The nourishment of the mind with His truth. We strive to worship in spirit and truth. We place ourselves on the path to knowing God’s truth, not our own truth, but God’s.

Next is God’s beauty. This beauty purifies our imaginations separating them from the worldly imaginations of

human pursuits. There are many renderings of un-Godly imagination that we may use as an example in this world.

Finally, we surrender, or submit, to the Will of His purpose. I know, I know, there is that word submit again. However, when we surrender the Will, we deflate the one quality that holds us back so often, and that would be the human ego. Humility takes hold, God takes hold, and we can now see His purpose for our lives. How glorious, glory be to God and our relationship with Him.

My hope is that you and I can come to worship as Jesus Christ has called us to within our scripture reading today. It is a process and it is what binds us together as Christians. God bless you and keep you forever more.



### *Youth Sunday Participants and Pastor Mike*

**Top Row: Thomas Hall, Kileigh Cameron,  
Macey Jackson, Raegen Boan  
Front: Abri Chiapperino and Nico Chiapperino**

# MUSIC News

## Community Congregational Concerts

### A Retrospective and Events to Come

With the debut season of Community Congregational Concerts now complete, I was asked to take a look back at our first year. The concert series was started as a means of drawing to our church community members who might not otherwise have occasion to visit us, in hopes that they might be inclined to check us out further and eventually become members. While I am not aware of that having happened yet, the music director of another church concert series in town told me that it took five years for their series to establish a dependable audience base and for some of those audience members to become involved in other church activities. We are off to a good start in terms of numbers, having drawn between 50 and 150 audience members to our concerts so far, and we hope that some of those repeat attendees will begin to feel com-

fortable at CCC and will want to participate more fully.

Our series began last October with an afternoon of opera favorites, with Alina Cherkasova, soprano, Robert Mobsby, baritone, and yours truly, mezzo-soprano, singing operatic solos, duets and trios, accompanied by pianist Anastasia Bryant. That concert was followed in January by an organ recital of diverse repertoire by Wes Lockfaw, Music Director and Organist at Fayetteville's Haymount United Methodist Church. In April, we hosted The Pembroke Singers, the select chamber choir at The University of North Carolina at Pembroke, directed by Dr. Jaeyoon Kim and Dr. José Rivera and accompanied on piano by Dr. Seung Ah Kim. Our first season closed in July with a concert by Dr. Paul Murphy, including American popular music, spirituals and Paul's own compositions, on both piano and saxophone.

We look forward to an exciting year ahead for our concert series!

We hope you will put these dates on your calendar now:

\* October 27 – Dr. Timothy Altman, trumpet and Dr. Mark Tollefsen, piano

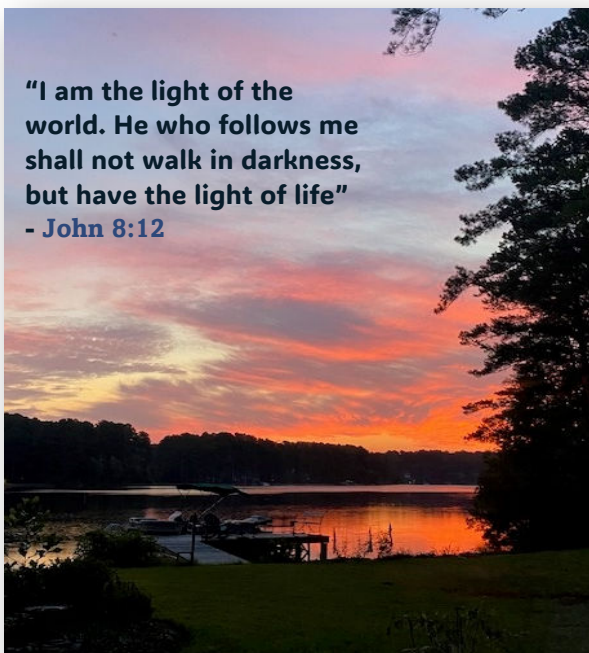
\* January 26 – The Camellia Chamber Music Project: Megan Kenny, violin and Dr. Holland Phillips, viola

\* May 4 – Duo Guitiano: Dr. Carlos Castilla, guitar and Dr. Amanda Virelles, piano

\* July 13 – Dr. Larry Arnold Jazz Trio – piano, bass and drums

Please do plan to join us for these concerts and support our membership-building efforts. The more welcoming Community Congregational members attendees meet, the more likely they are to feel at home in our friendly church!

Robin Lynne Frye



**"I am the light of the world. He who follows me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life"**  
- John 8:12

Photo submitted by Sandy Dana

## Tasty (Easy!) Summer Side Salad

### Ingredients:

- 1 Can Black Beans, rinsed - 15 ounces
- 1 1/2 Cups Corn Kernels (3 ears or a 15 ounce can)
- 2 Medium Diced Tomatoes
- 3/4 Cup Thinly Sliced Scallions (6 scallions)
- 1/3 Cup Minced Fresh Cilantro

### Dressing - Wisk Together:

- 1/4 Cup Olive Oil
- 1/4 Cup Lemon Juice (1 or 2 Lemons)
- 1 Tsp. Salt

Mix All - Enjoy!

~ Recipe from Carol Coates ~





# Word Search

## Psalm 27:1-3

D I A R F A M E T P  
 Q N Y S T N L O R D  
 D M O H H B Y O R S  
 G A G I M O T L S F  
 V I N E T E U E J L  
 L Y R G C A R L O P  
 K T Y T E T V R D B  
 D H I Y R R D L Y K  
 W N R O Q Q J N A R  
 G Z F M D N N N Y S

*The Lord is my light and my salvation—  
so why should I be afraid?*

*The Lord is my fortress, protecting me  
from danger,  
so why should I tremble?*

LORD

MY

LIGHT

SALVATION

WHY

SHOULD

AFRAID

FORTRESS

PROTECTING

FROM

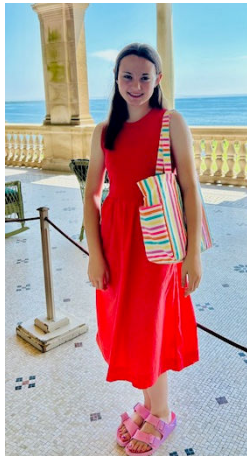
DANGER

TREMBLE

The words may be hidden in any direction:  
horizontally, vertically, diagonally, forwards and backwards.

## Youth Highlights

Our church is blessed to have youth who are talented in many ways! The youth that attend our church are unique individuals with their many varied interests and activities. However, each of our youth have many attributes in common as well. Each of our youth is kind, caring, compassionate, sincere, genuine, intelligent and has the best personality anyone could ever have! They also each value worship and learning more about Jesus, His teachings and the Bible. Reading updates about each youth hopefully will provide information for all of our congregation to get to know each and every youth more personally. We are all blessed to be in their presence!



### Raegen Boan

Raegen is a 13 year old 8th grade student who attends online classes through Moore County Schools Connect Academy. Her favorite subjects are Math and English. Over the summer she attended several camps including a track camp at Liberty University and an acting/singing camp at Temple Theater in Sanford, NC. During Raegen's free time, she competes on a Raleigh travel soccer team and plays the

piano. She is looking forward to a great new year. Raegen - we look forward to hearing you sing and play the guitar or the piano again soon! If you are going to be in a play or soccer match that is close by, please let us know so that those who are able, can attend.



### Kileigh Cameron

Kileigh is 16 and now the proud owner of a NC Driver's License. She is attending both Union Pines High School as well as Sandhills Community College. This fall Kileigh is playing varsity volleyball. Kileigh plans to participate in track during winter and softball in the spring as a Union Pines 'Viking'. Kileigh enjoys playing on a travel softball team named the "Lady Heels".

This summer Kileigh has begun volunteering at First Health Moore Regional Hospital. She has also been able to participate in some job shadowing experiences there as well as observing two robotic surgeries and one C-section surgery. Kileigh - if you are participating in a sport close to our area, please let us know so that those who are able, can attend.



### Abri Chiapperino

Abri is in the 6th grade at STARS Charter School. Her after-school activities include jazz and theater. Abri also performs in local theater productions in Southern Pines. Her appearances include: ELF Jr., James and the Giant Peach Jr., A Christmas Story, Newsies Jr., Beauty and the Beast Jr., Shrek Jr., and the Music Man. She is looking forward to her next show which is Matilda Jr. Abri - please let the congregation know when your next performance is so that all who are able, can attend.

### Nico Chiapperino

Nico is in the 4th grade at STARS Charter School and loves baseball. He has played with the Sandhills Select travel team since he was 7 years old. He currently plays on their 9U travel team as well as local rec ball teams. Nico - please let the congregation know when you play baseball locally so that all who are able, can attend!



When Abri and Nico are not performing or playing baseball, they love visiting NYC to see family, swimming, and hanging out with their cousins. They also spend their summers at the Sandhills Bogeys baseball field watching their "big brothers" play ball.



**Macey Jackson**

Macey is 17 and will be attending North Moore High School this year. She is looking forward to making new friends and playing softball as a North Moore 'Mustang'. It's hard to believe that our youth are growing up so quickly! Macey will have her first college softball recruiting visit coming soon. Her first visit will be to Salem College in Winston-Salem, NC. Macey - please get

a softball schedule for us so that when your softball team plays at North Moore or against a close high school those who are able, can attend.



**Paul Dana**

Paul started 8th grade in August at Sandhills Classical Christian School. His favorite subject is math and he loves all things involving numbers. He has grown so much over the summer that he is officially taller than his older cousins and is almost as tall as his parents. Paul loves playing with his dogs and playing video games in his down time. Paul - we look forward to seeing you soon so that we can all see how tall you are in person.



**Thomas Hall**

Thomas is 15 years old and a 10th grade student who attends online classes through Moore County Schools Connect Academy. We are excited to have Thomas back as a member of our choir this year!

This summer, Thomas went to GalaxyCon in Raleigh. He got to meet a lot of celebrities there. Thomas - we can't wait to hear you tell us all about going to GalaxyCon and who the celebrities are that you met.



Ready for GalaxyCon



**Maria Chase**

It is with great sadness that we said good-bye to Maria Chase who so faithfully provided music for our 9:00 a.m. worship service each Sunday. Hopefully, we will enjoy seeing Maria on special occasions in the near future!

Maria finished her sophomore year at Lee County High School making the honor roll. A week into her junior year, she is taking AP and honors classes. Maria is a member of the Beta Club and National Society of Thespians. She was part of the ensemble cast for the school play, Adam's Family. As a "Swiftie", Maria was bitten by the NFL bug, in particular following the Kansas City Chiefs all season to their thrilling Super Bowl win.

Maria spent a month in Peru this summer with her family, visiting relatives and traveling to such places as Machu Picchu, Lake Titicaca and many other famous sites. Maria shared her vocal talents, singing special music for our Christmas Eve Candlelight service. She also serves as a regular cantor at St. Anthony of Padua Church and is in the choir there, singing exclusively in Spanish. Maria sang the national anthem for a Sandhills Bogeys this summer and sang several songs at a big celebration when she was in Peru. Aspiring to be an attorney, Maria loves to debate. She has an interest in Greek mythology, history, enjoys reading, listening to music and computer gaming.

Maria takes her Christian faith seriously and loves Community Congregational Church. She has a great affection for Pastor Mike and the wonderful, eclectic family that meets at the early service. Maria proved her commitment to her church family by rising early each Sunday to praise the Lord in song. Maria - you are missed!



# The Community Congregational Church

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P.O. Box 62  
Southern Pines, NC 28388-0062

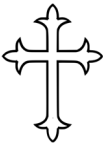
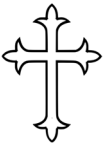
“The Church of Wide Fellowship”



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Church Office 910-692-8468  
Church Fax 910-692-8468  
e-mail: [cccpnc@outlook.com](mailto:cccpnc@outlook.com)  
[www.communitycongregational.org](http://www.communitycongregational.org)



|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <b>Community Congregational Church</b>  |  |   |
| 141 N. Bennett Street, Southern Pines, NC 28387                                     |  |   |
|  | <u>Sunday Worship Services</u><br>9:00 am and 11:00 am |  |
|   | <u>Sunday Bible Study</u><br>10:00 am                  |   |



The Community Congregational Church, UCC  
Established in 1895  
Photo by Renee Shawn Clement

## Weekly Calendar

- Sundays:** Worship Services - 9 am and 11 am  
Adult Bible Study - 10 am - Bill Shockley, Moderator  
Youth Sunday School (Ages 7 & up) - 10:15-11:00 am
- Mondays:** 1st Mon. - Deacons Meeting - 5:30 pm  
2nd Mon. - Trustees Meeting - 6:00 pm  
3rd Mon.- Church Council - 6:00 pm
- Tuesdays:** Bible Study - 10 am - Pastor Mike
- Wednesdays:** Choir Rehearsal - 7 pm  
2nd Wed. - Women’s Fellowship - 12:00 noon - Sept. 11  
4th Wed. - Prayer Shawl Group - 10:00 am

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