

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

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
March 2, 2008**

**Service of worship
10:30 A.M.**

*We gather for worship. During the week we have each sought to respond to
Christ's call in our lives. Let us now enter fully into the Holy One's presence,
the ultimate source of power, nourishment and meaning for us. We begin doing
this by hearing the news of the people, life and events of our faith community,
and greeting one another.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee
Chorale Tune and Variation

William Albright

PRAISE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

This season of Lent, we give thanks for a past filled with trials and triumphs, challenges and changes,
fond remembrances and forgiveness received.

We offer our gratitude and praise for the blessing of continuity.

This season of Lent, we give thanks for a present filled with sacrament and service, programs and
prayers, coffee hour conversations and covenant commitments.

We offer our gratitude and prayer for the treasure of life together.

This season of Lent, we give thanks for a future filled with possibilities and promise, vitality and vision,
emerging ministries and exciting movement.

**We offer our gratitude and praise for the opportunity to do God's will as the Spirit reveals
it and enables it.**

We worship the God who has gifted our past, who guards our present, who will guide our future.

This season of Lent we gather to worship God!

TIME WITH CHILDREN

***HYMN OF PRAISE #359**

O God, Who Teaches Us to Live

ST ANNE

PENITENCE

*As we look around us within our own hearts, we discover brokenness, pain and
aimlessness. Our world and ourselves are in need of healing.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

With our limited insight, we often misjudge people and situations. Our view of things may be far from the
way God sees the circumstances of our lives and our relationships. Let us pray...

PRAYER OF PERSONAL AND CORPORATE CONFESSION

Great Shepherd, we thank you for finding us and bringing us to this time of prayer. We know that we often wandered from paths of integrity, justice and peace that you have set before us. We are ashamed of some things we do when we think no one will find out. We know we can be quick to judge others and to excuse ourselves. We want to decide who is acceptable to you and who is not. Surely, there are times when we persuade ourselves, you prefer people like us and not those who appear, believe or act differently. Even as we say those words, we know we are not always in tune with your way. Forgive us, we pray and help us to change. *Silent reflection...*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

When we let God touch our unseeing eyes, we gain new insights and can begin to view others with the compassion of Christ. Let us accept with joy the healing we are offered right here, right now.

MISSION MOMENT ON STEWARDSHIP

THE WORD

God has come to bring us new life

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 23
John 9:1-7

MEDITATION

Rev. Susan A. Henderson

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER (All)

Clara Scott

Open My Eyes, That I May See

*Open my eyes, that I may see, glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key, that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my eyes illumine me, Spirit divine!*

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
The Chancel Choir

arr. Gilbert Martin

When I survey the wondrous cross, on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the death of Christ, my God.
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far too small;
Love, so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all! Amen!

***DOXOLOGY # 17, verse 1**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

To you, O God, all creatures sing,
And all creation, everything,
Sings your praises, alleluia!
Your burning sun with golden beam,
Your silver moon with softer gleam,
Sing your praises, alleluia,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Gracious and Giving God, as you illuminate our lives with fascinating insights and possibilities; we reach out to share your love through our financial resources and our investment of time and energy in tasks to which you call us. All this we offer now for your blessing. Let us dwell with you and serve you wherever we go. Amen.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Setting the Communion Table

The Hake and McConnell Families

Hymn #337

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

UNION SEMINARY

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution

Prayer of Blessing

Come Holy Spirit, come. As you bless this meal of bread and fruit of the vine, bless us too—make us a living meal, our substance and our attention in prayer pour out for many in your name. Amen.

The Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

(Communion by intinction. Beginning with the front row, come forward and share the bread and cup by dipping the bread in the cup. Return to your seats by the side aisles. If you prefer, remain seated and you will be served.)

Hymns during Communion

Amazing Grace, #547

Let Us Break Bread Together, #330

AMAZING GRACE

LET US BREAK BREAD

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord's Prayer

Redeemer God, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen.

LIVING IN THE NEW LIFE

God sends us forth “transformed non-conformists” to be agents of healing and reconciliation

***HYMN OF GOING FORTH #48**

Jesus Christ Says

YISU NE KAHA

BENEDICTION

Our worship has ended; our service now begins
God sends us out into paths of service.

God will lead us carefully; God knows each one of us by name.

God will lead us wisely, we have God’s word on that.

God will lead us bravely; God knows our strength and limitations.

God will lead us in faith; and bring us back to the right paths.

So, go from this place knowing you are God’s people.
And know God walks with you always. Amen

CHORAL RESPONSE

Aaronic Blessing

Julian Wachter

The Lord bless you and keep you:
The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you:
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and grant you peace. Amen

POSTLUDE

Vater Unser im Himmelreich

J. S. Bach

(Please be seated following the Hymn of Going Forth and remain seated through the Postlude)

Participating in the Service

9:00

Jeanne Young

10:30

Mary Beth Mason

Communion Servers

David Main, Pete Hotchkiss, Chuck Mason,
Neville Platt, Audrey Platt

Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given by
The Hoskinson Family

Large Print Bulletins are available. Please make your needs known to an usher.

Children's Worship Activity Bulletins and pew packets of crayons are available each Sunday in a basket located by the doors to the sanctuary. Please return the crayons to the basket at the end of the service.

Assistive Listening Devices are available for people needing hearing assistance during worship. Ask an usher for one.

Offering Envelopes are available in the Entrance Hall or in the pew racks.

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Please turn off cell phones during the worship service.

Sunday Schedule

9:00 – 10:30 AM	Worship – <i>Meeting Room – Room 108</i> Nursery provided
9:00 – 10:00 AM	Contemporary Theology Adult Education Class – <i>Conference Room</i>
10:30 – 11:40 AM	Worship – <i>Sanctuary</i> Nursery and childcare provided Church School for 3 years through Middle School (grades 6-8)
11:45 – 12:30 PM	Chapel Choir – <i>Choir Room</i> Grades 3-6
5:00 – 6:00 PM	Youth Ensemble – <i>Choir Room</i>
6:00 – 8:00 PM	Youth Programs – Junior High (7 th and 8 th Grades) Covenant Class, Senior High, (5 th and 6 th Grades – monthly on second Sunday of the month)

**CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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The Rev. Susan A. Henderson, Interim Senior Minister
The Rev. Sandra K. Dodson, Associate Minister
Nae Pearson, Director of Music
Sarah Anders, Director of Senior Adult Programming
Dianne Abraham, Church Administrator
Susan Gray, Program Support Administrator
The Rev. Robert E. Marston, Minister Emeritus
Alfred J. Neumann, Director of Music Emeritus



TODAY – March 2, 2008

MORE ON THE MARCH 2, ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING In 2007 OGHS partnered in the launch of the Freedom from Hunger's Microfinance and Health Protection (MAHP) initiative. MAHP initiative is working with five microfinance institutions in Benin, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, India, and the Philippines to develop new combinations of microfinance and health protection services. One beneficiary of this initiative is Raja, an Indian whose two sons had pneumonia. One died before Raja learned that Freedom from Hunger's MAHP partner in India, Bandhan was offering loans to pay for health emergencies. She took a loan that saved the life of her second son by enabling her to pay for medical treatment. Raja describes her joy. "Had I not received the health loan from Bandhan, I would have lost both my sons as well as my assets, and my life would have been in a state of loneliness and misery." Last year UCC churches gave \$3,097,636 to One Great Hour of Sharing – sharing their resources for changing lives in ways such as in Raja's family.

FIRST SUNDAY POTLUCK LUNCH Join us today, March 2, in the Social Hall following the 10:30 worship service for a potluck lunch sponsored by the Board for Church Life. Hot dishes may be brought to the kitchen before the service.

CONTINUE THE JOURNEY OF BECOMING AN ANTI-RACIST CHURCH A Lenten opportunity continues this evening at 6:30 with the viewing of the movie *Crash* in the Conference Room. Focused discussions throughout Lent (and perhaps beyond) will follow. The opportunity grows out of Christ Congregational Church's vision of becoming a multi-cultural, multi-racial church. Over the course of the discussion we will hear personal stories, explore institutional racism and talk about the impact racism has and continues to have on all our lives. The sessions will be led by Rev. Susan A. Henderson, Delilah Marrow, Jim Henkelman-Bahn and others.

THIS WEEK

TUESDAY MORNING TIME OF MEDITATION AND REFLECTION meets on Tuesday mornings from 7:00 – 8:00 AM in the Meditation Room.

DAYS OF SIMPLICITY LENTEN MUSICAL OFFERINGS The Music Ministry will again offer the *Days of Simplicity* Lenten musical series on Wednesdays during Lent. They begin at 12:00 noon in the Sanctuary and will last for approximately 30-40 minutes. Each concert is followed by a simple meal of delicious home-made soup and bread in the conference room. During March we will host Molly Stiers (classical piano), Patricia O'Connor and the Aurora Lyre Quartet, (Lyre Quartet concert in Meeting Room) and Nae Pearson (organ) and Steve Young (trumpet). This musical series provides a wonderful opportunity to extend our extravagant welcome and invitations to friends and guests to join us at Christ Congregational Church. Please plan to join us for each of these Wednesday events during Lent! A free-will love offering will be taken for the guest musicians each week. For further information you may contact Nae Pearson in the music office at 301-585-8010, ext 224.



SENIOR ADULT OVERNIGHT RETREAT BROCHURES are available on the bulletin board in the foyer. Sign up by March 5th in order to reserve your spot for this fun and unique experience. Questions? Call Sarah Anders (301) 424-3339.

**SAFE CHURCH WORKSHOP SATURDAY MARCH 8
9 AM – 1 PM. CHILDCARE AND LUNCH PROVIDED!**

On behalf of the entire congregation, the Personnel Committee and the Board of Christian Education are hosting an essential Safe Church training. Safe church policies aid the congregation in avoiding sexual abuse and misconduct incidents or the false allegations of such activity. All those who volunteer with our children, youth, and at-risk adults are **STRONGLY** encouraged to participate. Others are welcome. It is mandatory that those volunteers mentioned have training concerning our Safe Church Policies. If you cannot participate March 8, there will be a follow up session at a later date.

Rev. Hank Fairman, Pastor for Children, Youth and Families at Rock Spring Congregational UCC in Arlington, is our facilitator. We will discuss our Safe Church policies, review their implementation and be moved by the spiritual significance of our faithful response to God's expectation of hospitality.

Come! Be part of experiencing CCC's ministry of hospitality. Come! Learn how you can help create a safe church for all the members of Christ's body. Please register on the sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Sign up by March 5 so we can plan for lunch. Questions? Contact Rev. Sandy Dodson

SECOND SATURDAY Women of CCC are invited to come together for caffeine and conversation Saturday morning March 8 at 8:30 at Panera Bread in downtown Silver Spring.

NEXT SUNDAY – MARCH 9

FIFTY-YEAR MEMBERS RECOGNITION, MARCH 9 Please join the congregation at the 10:30 service next Sunday, March 9 as we recognize those who have been members of CCC for 50 years or more. Special recognition will be given to members reaching the 50-year milestone this year. After the service there will be a reception in the social hall. Please come meet or renew acquaintances with people who have served the church for so long.



CONVERSATION MEETING If you are interested in learning more about Christ Congregational Church and the United Church of Christ, or if you are considering joining our community of faith, you are invited to meet with members of the Board of Outreach and Engagement following the 10:30 service March 9 in Room 206. If you have questions, please call David Fouse at 301-587-8257.

CHANCE TO GET AN AUTOGRAPHED FIRST EDITION On March 9 in the Social Hall following the 10:30 service, Gordon Forbes will sign and sell (at cost) volumes of his recently published book of poems, **and** he will donate all proceeds to the Retreat House Fund. Gordon especially wanted to do this signing during Lent. You'll find him at a table piled high with books amid the festivities honoring our 50 year members. *Gail Withuhn, Art Committee Chair*

FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADES meet on Sunday March 9 at 6:00 PM. Their evening activity highlights "respecting our differences."

SENIOR ADULTS ~ Join us for a conversation with Susan Henderson next week, March 9th. We invite you to discuss senior adult programming, spiritual needs and what can be provided for the future with Rev. Susan Henderson. We will gather in the conference room at 12:15 (after the 50 year celebration in the Social Hall.) Sandwich wraps, cheese, crackers and drinks will be available. Please join us for this very important meeting. *Senior Adult Committee*

COMING EVENTS



CCC WORK DAY Saturday, March 15, 9:00 – 12:00 Help is needed to mulch trees, trim grasses and make small repairs in church offices. Anyone interested may sign up on the bulletin board in the lobby. Student service hours can be earned in this activity. Questions – call Christopher Lewis at 301-593-5628.

SISTERS FOR SISTERS will meet on Sunday, March 16 after the 10:30 service. Please bring your lunch to the Conference Room. Beverages will be provided.

STAFF PLANNING DAY The CCC Staff will be holding its annual planning day on Tuesday, March 25. At that time events and activities for the upcoming year (now through May 2009) will be put on the calendar. Please take some time to look ahead and think about your board or committee's schedule for the next year. We will need to have your requests for dates in the church office by Sunday, March 16.

COMPUTER TERMINAL IN OFFICE FOR WEBSITE AND CALENDAR VIEWING Recently, the church office discontinued use of the paper wall calendar in the office to work solely with the online calendar, available on the church's website. Several members of the congregation voiced a concern about being able to view the calendar when they stop by the office. At the request of Dianne and Susan, the Technology Committee has set up an additional computer terminal in the office to access the calendar and website. The terminal will be available whenever the church office is open. Instructions are next to the computer.



INVITATION TO JOIN THE PRAYER CHAIN: Many of you have expressed your deep desire to know of prayer concerns as they arise during the week. In response to your request, an electronic prayer chain will be put into place within the next couple of weeks. If you would like to be a part of this prayer chain, please contact the church office with your email address. If you do not have an email address, we will find a way to get the information to you. Please note: each Sunday, a Pastoral Prayer and Care list is posted on the bulletin board just outside the church office and a stack of that list can be found on the table near by. Thank you for your concern for this important ministry.

SOCIAL WITNESS CONCERNS: Ecumenical Advocacy Days, March 7-10. The UCC and Global Ministries are two of many Christian denominations and organizations hosting the sixth annual Ecumenical Advocacy Days next weekend. The conference is being held at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center Hotel, 5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA. The theme will be "2008: Claiming a Vision of True Security." More than 1000 persons are expected to attend workshops on the connections among justice, peace and security in specific parts of the world and on particular issues such as eco-justice and economic justice. Participants may also take part in lobbying of Congress on the final day. Everyone is invited to take part. To register, go to www.advocacydays.org.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, March 2 – Fourth Sunday in Lent

Beginning of the Stewardship Campaign

- 9:00 A.M. Service of Community and Sacrament – Meeting Room
- 9:00 A.M. Adult Education *Contemporary Theology* – Conference Room
- 10:30 A.M. Service of Worship – Sanctuary
 - Service of Holy Communion*
 - Nursery and childcare provided for infants – toddlers/twos
 - Church School for 3 and 4 year olds
 - Children in kindergarten and older worship with their families
- 11:45 A.M. Chapel Choir – Choir Room
- 11:45 A.M. Intergenerational Orchestra Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 12:00 P.M. Personnel Committee – Conference Room
- 12:00 P.M. Potluck Lunch – Social Hall
- 1:00 P.M. Choir Tour Rehearsal – Choir Room
- 4:30 P.M. Marriage Enrichment – Room 206
- 5:00 P.M. Youth Ensemble – Choir Room
- 6:00 P.M. Youth Groups – Junior High (7th and 8th grade), Covenant Class, Senior High
- 6:30 P.M. Anti-Racism Journey – Conference Room

Monday, March 3

- 9:45 A.M. Life Review I – Room 206
- 11:45 A.M. Senior Adult Committee – Room 208
- 7:30 P.M. Executive Council – Conference Room
- 7:30 P.M. Scrapbook Small Group – Room 208

Tuesday, March 4

- 7:00 A.M. Meditation and Reflection – Meditation Room
- 10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting – Room 107

Wednesday, March 5

NewsNotes Deadline

- 10:00 A.M. Worship Committee – Nae's Office
- 12:00 P.M. Days of Simplicity - Sanctuary

Thursday, March 6

- 6:30 P.M. String Ensemble Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 7:30 P.M. Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

Friday, March 7

- 1:30 P.M. Senior Adult Retreat Planning – Room 206

Saturday, March 8

- 8:30 A.M. Second Saturday – Women meet at Panera Bread
- 9:00 A.M. Safe Church Workshop

Sunday, March 9 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

Daylight Saving Time Begins

- 9:00 A.M. Service of Community and Sacrament – Meeting Room
- 9:00 A.M. Adult Education *Contemporary Theology* – Conference Room
- 10:30 A.M. Service of Worship – Sanctuary
 - Nursery and childcare provided for infants – toddlers/twos
 - Church School for 3 year olds through 8th grade
 - Celebration of 50 Year Members*
- 11:45 A.M. Chapel Choir – Choir Room
- 11:45 A.M. Intergenerational Orchestra Rehearsal – Sanctuary
- 11:45 A.M. Conversation Meeting – Room 206
- 11:45 A.M. Nominating Committee – Room 207
- 12:15 P.M. Senior Adults meet with Rev. Susan Henderson – Conference Room
- 1:00 P.M. Choir Tour Rehearsal – Choir Room
- 4:30 P.M. Marriage Enrichment – Room 206
- 5:00 P.M. Youth Ensemble – Choir Room
- 6:00 P.M. Youth Groups – Junior High (7th and 8th grade), Covenant Class, Senior High 5th and 6th Grades
- 6:30 P.M. Anti-Racism Journey – Conference Room

Monday, March 10

- 9:45 A.M. Life Review VI – Room 206
- 7:30 P.M. Simplicity Circle – Room 206