

# umstead park

UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST  
a thoughtful and progressive community of faith

10:30 am • August 5, 2018  
The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

A special welcome to our visitors. We're glad you're here! Please fill out one of the brightly colored information sheets (an additional form for children) on the name tag table, and we'll make sure you get on our email lists for UPUCC news and events.

If there are children in your family, they are especially welcome to join in the activities designed for them. Children through fifth grade are invited to join at the front during the Children's Moment early in worship. This Communion Sunday, children in grades one through five will remain in worship. Children in PreK and kindergarten will leave for their activities. A nursery is provided for infants and toddlers.

In an effort to carve out a space for worship in our 21st century lives, we ask that you use careful discretion when taking photos. UPUCC's policy is to not post photos of anyone on our website or on social media without their permission.

## WELCOME

Doug Long

## PRELUDE

David Wilson

## Meditation

How is it they live for eons in such harmony—the billions of stars—when most men can barely go a minute without declaring war in their mind against someone they know. There are wars where no one marches with a flag, though that does not keep casualties from mounting. Our hearts irrigate this earth. We are fields before each other. How can we live in harmony? First we need to know we are all madly in love with the same God.

-Thomas Aquinas

## \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Anya Frazer, Audrey and Max LeBouef

Anya: When my voice is irritating, and you do not have the patience to listen

People: See the Divine Mystery deep inside

Max: When you are old and withered and wrinkled

People: See the Divine Mystery deep inside

Audrey: When someone takes your parking space that you've been waiting for

People: See the Divine Mystery deep inside

Max: When someone is righteous, racist, sexist

People: See the Divine Mystery deep inside

Audrey: When we see the crabgrass or the weed

People: See the Divine Mystery deep inside

Unison: Through all that divides us from one another, God, help us see the Divine Mystery deep inside.

-Adapted, Judith McWalter-Sante, "Litany of the Crabgrass and the Weeds"

## \* OPENING HYMN

Ver. 1-3  
No. 575

Ver. 1-3  
O For a World

## \* INVOCATION

Rev. Lynn Coye

## A TIME with the CHILDREN

Children through grade five are invited to join at the front. Afterward, the Young Children may leave for their activities. Elementary age children will return to their parents. A nursery is provided for infants and toddlers.

## A Time of Greeting

## CELEBRATION of GIFTS

### Offertory Music

David Wilson

## READING of the SCRIPTURE

Nicki Norris

Ephesians 4: 1-6

In light of all this, here's what I want you to do. While I'm locked up here, a prisoner for the Master, I want you to get out there and walk—better yet, run!—on the road God called you to travel. I don't want any of you sitting around on your hands. I don't want anyone strolling off, down some path that goes nowhere. And mark that you do this with humility and discipline—not in fits and starts, but steadily, pouring yourselves out for each other in acts of love, alert at noticing differences and quick at mending fences. You were all called to travel on the same road and in the same direction, so stay together, both outwardly and inwardly. You have one Master, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who rules over all, works through all, and is present in all. Everything you are and think and do is permeated with Oneness.

-The Message

## SERMON

### "The Shadowlands of Unity"

Rev. Lynn Coye

## \* HYMN

No. 332

Ver. 1-3

As We Gather at Your Table

## \* INVITATION to the TABLE

Doug Long

Leader: Beloved, the elements before us here are miracle enough in themselves. From soil and sun comes grains and grapes. From grinding and kneading and pressing come bread and juice. But the elements are symbols of gifts more precious still... the bread of life... the cup of blessing. These are nothing less than the gifts of God that hold us in communion with God, all of God's children and all of God's creation.

People: This, then, is the joyful feast of the people of God. Women and men, youth and children, come from east and west, from the north and the south, and gather about God's table.

Leader: This table is for all people who wish to come. It is God who welcomes us here. The marvelous gifts of God for all the people of God... Come, for all things are ready.

*At this time you are invited to come forward.  
The bread may be dipped into the cup and then eaten. The cup contains juice.*

## Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Communion Music  
One Voice

The Wailin' Jennys

## Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

Scriptures commend us to pray without ceasing. Prayer requests, however, are best kept brief so there is time for all to share. If you would rather your prayer not be published, please inform the minister.

Joanne Kennedy Frazer

Divine Mystery, we thank you for all the ways  
you nourish us.

We pray that our sharing of bread and cup  
will be a reminder for us to nurture others.

We ask that You provide us a clear vision of your kin-dom  
and that You give us the strength to shape a world  
where we live in communion with all of Earth's creatures.

Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## \* CLOSING HYMN

No. 401

Ver. 1-3  
O God in Whom All Life Begins

## \* RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

Anya Frazer, Audrey and Max LeBouef

Any: Teach us to love our Native American brothers and sisters and all native people of the world.

People: "It is no longer good enough to cry peace; we must act peace, live peace, and live in peace." *—Shenandoah proverb*

Audrey: Teach us to love our Muslim brothers and sisters.

People: "Hold fast, all together, by the rope which Allah stretches out for you, and do not be divided among yourselves." *—Qu'ran 3.103*

Max: Teach us to love our Buddhist brothers and sisters.

People: "Happy is the life of those who live in harmony." *—Dhammapada 194*

Anya: Teach us to love our Hindu brothers and sisters.

People: "Let your aims be common, and your hearts of one accord, and all of you be of one mind, so you may live well together." *—Rig Veda 10.191.4*

Audrey: Teach us to love our Jewish brothers and sisters.

People: "How good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity! ... For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore." *—Psalm 133: 1,3*

Max: Teach us to love our Taoist brothers and sisters.

People: "Who regards self as the world may accept the world." *—Tao Te Ching 13*

Unison: Together in one spirit, "let us make every effort to do what leads to peace." *—Romans 14: 19*

## \* POSTLUDE

O God in Whom All Life Begins

David Wilson

\* The asterisk invites all who are able to stand.  
Scott & Renate Andrews Family usher this morning.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WELCOME!** We are pleased to welcome you to our worship at Umstead Park UCC! We sincerely embrace your presence among us. If you would like to be on our mailing list, please fill out one of the brightly colored information sheets on the hallway table.

**TODAY**

9:30 a.m. **Forum:** The Big Bang Theory, David VandeVusse leads the discussion.

10:30 a.m. **Worship & Communion:** "The Shadowlands of Unity," Rev. Lynn Coye preaching.

Following worship:

- **Newcomers & Inquirers Session** in the library.
- **LGBTQ Workshop Planning Group** meets in the small atrium conference room.
- **UPUCC Advocacy Group** meets in the large atrium conference room.

**Teaching our children today:** Erica Stuckey, Kelly Foglia. Children in grades one through five remain in worship today for communion.

**Today's Forum:** The Big Bang theory is the prevailing cosmological model of our universe and its origin. It has been the standard model for more than 50 years. David VandeVusse plans to outline some of this model, including how it developed within the field of astrophysics and then ask us to think about what this may say about the nature of God.

**Summer Volunteer Needs:**

With many on summer vacations, our roster of Sunday volunteers can be more challenging to fill. Please take advantage of the sign up links in This Week emails to assist when you are in town.

Choose from the tasks on the Sign Up Genius, for dates convenient to your schedule. Volunteers receive a reminder a few days ahead. **Complete instructions are listed for each task as well as ways to re-schedule when necessary. Thank you!**

**THIS WEEK****Tuesday, August 7**

9:30 a.m. **Creativity Group** meets in the library.

**Thursday, August 9**

6:30 p.m. **Enneagram Journey** in the library.

**Friday, August 10**

6:00-8:00 p.m. **Children's Church Camp at UPUCC.** Details below.

**Saturday, August 11**

9 a.m.-Noon **Children's Church Camp at UPUCC.**

1-5:00 p.m. **Fellowship Committee Kitchen Cleaning.**

***Starting Friday Evening:***

**UPUCC Vacation Church Camp  
for Children, Youth & Young at Heart!**  
**August 10-12**

**Building Bridges II:** Connecting with the rhythms, stories and wildlife of Puerto Rico. Children's Committee joins with Faith in Action to collect hygiene kits for Puerto Rico. Hygiene kit components lists are available in This Week email or at the back of the worship space.

- **Friday Evening 6-8 pm** - catered meal and drumming fun for **all ages**.
- **Saturday Morning 9 am-noon** for children and youth- games, art, yoga, wildlife and more!
- **Sunday Worship**- share about our weekend.

Cost \$10 for Friday night dinner per person or \$25/family and one hygiene kit.

**UPUCC FEAST OF FRIENDS FALL, 2018**

Do you want some good food, friends and fellowship? Then this is the activity for you! Feast of Friends groups 6 - 8 people together monthly for four months for meals in homes, restaurants or other establishments in order to get to know one another better. **Register by August 12<sup>th</sup>.** Please contact Nicki Norris with any questions. [Nnorris649@gmail.com](mailto:Nnorris649@gmail.com)

FAQ and Registration at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X8GDWY7> or paper registrations can be found on the table at the rear of the worship space.

**NEXT SUNDAY, August 12**

9:30 a.m. **Committee Meeting Time.** Childcare available in the nursery.

10:30 a.m. **Worship:** "Esther: Best Supporting Actress?" Doug Long preaching. Special music by Neil Hall.

Following worship: **Forum- Sermon Talk Back.** How does our current "Me, Too" movement inform our Biblical reflections?

***"All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir!"***

**Sunday, August 19 - Music, Food, Fun & Fellowship:** Immediately following worship, all are invited to participate in a time of music, food, and fellowship with the UPUCC Choir in the worship space, during which time childcare will be provided. This event is an opportunity for interested folks to come and get a taste of what it is like to be in the choir. *More details are included in the UPUCC August Newsletter.*

***Are you now ready for a 'Bird Sanctuary'?***

Eliseo has 'caught up' on all his current requests. He continues to build 'spec houses.' If you've been meaning to get your name on the list for a work of folk art, now this time to speak with Eliseo or contact Doug Long. Perhaps you'd like to consider a holiday gift? An explanation of the bird houses and their purposes can be found here: <http://upucc.org/newscalendar/eliseo-bird-sanctuaries>

***...and further assistance for Eliseo and his family***

-Offer activities for Allison and Christopher (who are with Eliseo full-time over the summer). Contact Sarah Sydney at 919-434-3358 or [sarah62278@hotmail.com](mailto:sarah62278@hotmail.com) for further details.

-A need for funds for groceries, birdhouse materials, etc. are ongoing. If you would like to make a donation, submit a check marked 'Sanctuary' or contact Vickie Teal [vickie@upucc.org](mailto:vickie@upucc.org).

-The 24 hour 'hosting' is challenging with summer vacation schedules. A special thank you to all our hosts for their efforts. Contact Gary Sanders if you haven't signed up yet and would like to ([sandersgarya@gmail.com](mailto:sandersgarya@gmail.com))

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**WELCOME TO UMSTEAD PARK UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST!**

*If you understand that faith is a matter of mind as well as heart, and that taking the Bible seriously means it cannot always be taken literally...*

*If you know that God's love embraces all persons equally, no matter their gender, race, or sexual identity...*

*If, for you, diversity, tolerance, and inclusivity are strengths to be taught...*

*If you believe that the Christ calls us to be nothing less than global citizens, that the social expression of love is justice, and that spiritual concerns are inseparable from commitment to the natural world...*

*If you've wished for a more open and embracing community of faith to nurture your spirit and raise your children, and haven't yet found a like minded place of belonging... then we warmly invite you to help us build the family of Umstead Park UCC.*