

Mt. Hope United Church of Christ

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church pastor

Rev. J. Lloyd Spencer

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Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.-Noon

church secretary

Shirley Connor

Office hours:

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

consistory president

Lloyd Gilliam

choir director / organist

Tim Hucks

custodian

Brenda Currie



Mt. Hope Messenger

April, 2014



It's interesting to watch the people who win the lottery. When someone asks them what they're going to do next, the answer is usually the same. "I'm going to quit my job!"

The more I think about it the more I realize that there must be a lot of dissatisfied people out there. There must be a lot of people who are looking for something that they just can't seem to find in their jobs or their social lives. The only problem is that studies of those people who win all that money show that before long they're dissatisfied again. The money just doesn't buy them the things that give them true satisfaction. The only difference is that they're a little more comfortable in their dissatisfaction.

Lottery players aren't the only the only one's looking for something to give meaning, purpose, and satisfaction for their lives. Most people want a reason to live that gives purpose and meaning to their lives. That's where we come in. Mt. Hope has something very special to offer. We have a loving relationship, we have opportunities to make a difference through service, we have opportunities to strengthen talents and abilities in a way that can be used to change lives, and so very much more.

Sure the millions would be nice, but knowing that our lives really matter and that we can really make a difference is even better. Isn't that a better investment than a \$10 lottery ticket? And you have a lot better chance of winning.

Lloyd

Mt. Hope United Church of Christ
Consistory Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2014

Members Present: Gloria Apple, Linda Ayers, Dallas Belvin, Todd Chapmon, Bill Craft, Lloyd Gilliam, Cathy Gossett, Clifton Greeson, Bob Hamlett, Dora Moore, Cheryl Royal, Becky Stafford.

Trustees Present: Harden Phipps and Wesley Reece.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. A quorum was established and President Lloyd reviewed the proposed agenda.

Devotions: President Lloyd spoke on giving. When God blessed people in the Old Testament, the people gave God gifts that were very valuable to them. He said that the Bible tells how Jacob had a powerful dream about God, and to thank God, he took the stone on which he rested his head at night and poured valuable oil on it. The example for us is that when our hearts are full of devotion we should give our best gifts to God.

Secretary's Report: A motion was made and seconded to accept the January minutes as written. The motion carried.

Trustee's Report:

- Harden Phipps stated that the heating contract had been approved by the Maintenance Committee and was ready to sign. A motion was made and seconded that we approve the proposal. The motion carried.
- Lloyd Gilliam signed the contract so that work could begin after the BBQ & Chicken Pie Supper March 10, 2014. It was noted that the new Fellowship Hall would be out of commission for 8-10 weeks following completion.
- Bob Hamlett stated that we need to send a letter of intent to Jim Fields, VP of Superior Mechanical Services Inc. Lloyd Gilliam had drafted the letter and it was ready to mail.
- Harden advised that the heating unit in Shirley's office wasn't working and needed to be replaced. A motion to appropriate \$2,000.00 to replace the old unit was made and seconded. The motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

- Pastor Lloyd stated that he was pleased that the committees were working diligently for the good of the church.

- The classes on "We refused to lead a dying Church" were going well.

Treasurer's Report: Bill reported the February treasurer's report as follows:

- The General Fund balance at the end of December was (\$11,541.80). This reflects a negative balance.
- General fund receipts for January totaled \$13,223.25
- General fund disbursements for January were \$11,311.39
- There was a transfer of \$347.00 from the General Fund to the General Giving Fund Line.
- The General Fund balance at the end of January was (9,976.94). This also reflects a negative balance.

Major expenses (more than \$1000) in January included the purchase of two new boilers, fuel and power, and January salaries. Receipts included \$6000 from the sale of the parsonage CD into the general fund to cover the purchase of two new boilers as part of the HVAC repair work. The final payment for the boilers was \$5,028, less than originally expected because of a discount. We will soon see large expenditures for renovation work on our HVAC system already approved by the congregation last year.

Expenditures that we can feel particularly good about included disbursements to the Greensboro Urban Ministry (\$686.00), Phillips Lifeline (\$40.14), and Meals4kids (\$1,146.00) in outreach activities all during January.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the January treasurer's report as presented. The motion carried.

Mission and Vision Statement- Lloyd G: A vision and mission statement was chosen for our church.

The vision: Mt. Hope United Church of Christ to be the eyes, the ears, the hands, and the voices of Christ's love in the world.

The mission statement: Proclaim the good news of Christ through worship, ministry and outreach to all people.

A motion was made and seconded that we accept this mission. The motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Stewardship Committee – Bill: Bill Craft reported that the Stewardship Committee has had an initial meeting and he presented the draft minutes. Future

meetings will be held monthly on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Meals 4 Kids – Gloria: Gloria stated that she was overwhelmed by the response from church members who have committed to supporting this worthwhile need in the community. Our church is responsible for preparing 23 bags each month and 19 are committed. The committee is looking into providing this service in the summer months when school is out.

Van Committee update - Cliff: Cliff stated that presently the church van is being stored in Larry Moore's garage and in March, training sessions on driving the new van will be offered to interested parties.

Evangelism Committee – Dallas: Dallas reported that the Evangelism committee met and Connie Blakesly was nominated president. The committee would be meeting the 3rd Thursday in each month. Discussions centered around ways to improved communication about our church in the community. It was decided to develop a brochure and get handouts ready to distribute at the BBQ & Chicken Pie Supper at the take-out side.

New Business:

- Dallas Belvin informed the consistory of the Andy Open scheduled May 31st at Walnut Woods Golf Course. Further information will be available as soon as everything is worked out.
- A request was read from Debra Prater for the use of the Church Fellowship Hall June 14th for kindergarten graduation. A motion was made by and seconded to approve. The motion carried.
- It was noted that the Memorial Committee has agreed to a contract for mowing the cemetery and the church grounds for 2014. Kevin Moore had been awarded the contract. The cost will be \$300 for church and \$300 for cemetery.
- The new Altar Guild was named as follows: Nancy Bartenfield and Betty Tucker.

Closing Prayer by Rev. Lloyd Spencer

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Next meeting: March 13, 2014.

Respectfully Submitted By: Linda Ayers, Secretary



What a month March has been! The weather has given us all a few challenges, especially as regards the March Chicken Pie/Barbecue Supper. However, everyone rose to the occasion and we were able to feed a large and enthusiastic crowd on March 22nd. Thanks to all those who helped in any way to make the changed date work.

Due to rescheduling the Supper the date has been changed for the Circles to prepare breakfast for the youth after their lock-in. It will now be Saturday May 10th. We are currently recruiting helpers for this event.

At our joint meeting on March 11th Linda Miller agreed to replace Virginia Barker as chair of the Mary/Martha circle. Carolyn Simpson agreed to send cards for the Mary/Martha circle. Dee Greeson will continue to send cards for Willing Workers.

Our new local project will be to move the parlor from the basement to the former Whitener Bible Class. This room will need some renovation and Cheryl Royal agreed to lead this project. Virginia Barker and Cynthia Morris will assist. This will be a much more accessible location and should prove to be a great asset to our "campus."

In April Mary/Martha circle will meet on April 8th at 7:00 p.m. Willing Workers will meet on Monday April 14th at 1:30. Our Bible Study will continue. This month the theme will be **Becoming a Holy People**. The background Scripture will be Exodus 19 and 24, and Deuteronomy 7: 7-9

Love and blessings to each one,
Elizabeth Craft



Friends & Neighbors

Our Friends and Neighbors group is looking forward to our April meeting and a spring outing. We hope the weather will cooperate! Our meeting will be on Tuesday, April 15. Meet at the church EARLY. We will leave the church at 8:30 a.m. to go to Seagrove where we will tour local pottery barns. We will stop for a biscuit on the way. We will enjoy a ride in our new church bus, the tours at



Seagrove, then stop for lunch before we return to the church in the afternoon. We look forward to seeing everyone and sharing a fun day together.



Greensboro Urban Ministry:

Our April collection dates for Urban Ministry will be Sunday, April 6th and again on Sunday, April 13th. For your convenience a basket has been placed in the Narthex for your donations of non-perishable food items. There are also containers in the breezeway. We pray for God's blessings on all of us as we support this much needed ministry.

New Members: On March 2nd, we were happy to receive Sue Roush and Jeff Holt as the newest members of the Mt. Hope family. Sue and Jeff transfer to us from First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church in Burlington. Welcome Sue and Jeff!



Jeff and Sue pictured here with Consistory President, Lloyd Gilliam and Pastor, Lloyd Spencer

Burlington Boys' Choir: On Sunday, March 16th, we were honored to have the Burlington Boys' Choir to sing for us. The choir members range in age from nine to twelve years and are drawn from the public and private schools in the Burlington area. Boys are chosen for their musical ability and for their maturity, discipline, and high academic standing. The choir has traveled extensively both at home and abroad including seven trips to Europe and four appearances at the White House. In November, 2007, the choir participated in the International Advent Festival in Vienna, Austria and in 2010 the choir was invited to sing at the opening session of the North Carolina General Assembly. The director, William Allred, holds a

Doctorate of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting from UNCG. He serves as Music Director-Organist at Guilford Park Presbyterian Church in Greensboro and volunteers as director of the resident handbell choir at Friends Homes Guilford. Under Mr. Allred's direction, the boys' choir has sung at the White House and made several appearances with the Greensboro Symphony and the Winston-Salem Piedmont Triad Symphony Orchestra. Our music director, Tim Hucks accompanied the choir on their visit to Mt. Hope. A love offering of \$600 was received for the choir. Thank you for your generosity!



The Members of the Choir are: Jayden Austria, Tavius Gray, Burke King, Shane Flaherty, Duncan McMullen, Brandon Rainey, Sebastian Rucci, James Spradlin, *Michael Steed, *Jyrrell Wald-Haith, and Samuel Windley. (*denotes a boy of three or more years)



Sebastian Rucci and his mother, Natalie. They are the grandson and daughter of Jerry and Nancy Bartenfield.

Mount Hope's Outreach Ministries

Meals4kids

Mount Hope United Church of Christ is proud to be a partner with three other churches in our community. We make sure children go home from school for the weekend with their backpacks full of food to help feed them & their families. Our partnership allows us to take care of all the children in need at Alamance Elementary and Nathanael Greene Elementary in our community every week throughout the school year.

ARK

Mount Hope United Church of Christ's Youth and Disciples Class created our ARK project, Acts of Random Kindness. Anyone can bring to our attention someone who needs help with yard work, house work, or even just keeping someone company, etc. We know there are times when we all need a helping hand or just someone to visit with us for a little while. We built a box with an ark on it to place the needs in it. We hope this will serve folks in our church family and the community for years to come.

Chicken Pie/Barbecue Supper: Due to bad weather and power outages our Chicken Pie/BBQ supper was delayed this year and rescheduled for March 22nd. Our awesome team of workers met the task head-on and, once again, provided us with a wonderful supper! Many long hours and hard work show the great spirit of service to our church! Many thanks to those who prepared for and served at the supper.





April 17th 7:00 p.m., Maundy Thursday service
April 18th 7:00 p.m., Good Friday service
April 20th 7:00 a.m., Sunrise Service
 8:00 a.m., Breakfast
 9:45 a.m., Sunday School
 11:00 a.m., Worship

Congratulations
 on Your
 New Baby!



Congratulations to Michael, Julie and big brother Chase Szychowicz on the birth of Jacob Michael. Jacob was born on March 10, 2014. He weighed 7 pounds and was 20 1/2" long. Gloria and Dallas Belvin proud the proud grandparents.



Mount Hope Youth would like to thank everyone who purchased new Mount Hope T-shirts. We made a change and went with a new color and we have had several compliments so we hope everyone was pleased. We ended up purchasing **75** shirts. **Wow!** We sold out of the extras at the church supper and the Sunday following. If you would like a t-shirt, please let Gloria Apple know and she can put you on a list so when we get enough together we will reorder again. We cannot thank you enough for supporting our youth!



To all youth and youth mentors: A HUGE THANK YOU is extended to the entire youth program for your diligence and dedicated work you did to help make the Chicken Pie Supper a success on Saturday night. The church could NOT have done it without you!! This is just one example of the type of positive things the youth can do to make a difference in the lives of others! Smiles, Sharon



MEALS4KIDS NEWS

We have truly been blessed with the support we have received and thank everyone who has donated

to help us feed the children of Nat. Greene on the weekends.

Our next bagging is April 19th at 9am and we are happy to announce we are ready and would love to have volunteers for those of you who would like to join us.

We are up-dating our signs for outside to let everyone know we have a 24-hour drop box and collect items for Meals4kids and Greensboro Urban Ministry.

Also for those of you that are unable to sponsor a backpack we would like to let you know of some items that we always are in need of for our bagging if you would like to donate. They are the small boxes of macaroni & cheese, ramen noodles, jiffy cornbread mix, cereal bars, oatmeal packs, fruit cups, and gummies.

We are close to having a sponsor for every backpack, but still could use a few more, so if you would like to sponsor a backpack for \$10 per month, please let Judy Gerner or Gloria Apple know.

Sponsors have you paid for this month? You can pay monthly or several months at a time. You can pay us or through your Sunday offering, just mark it for Meals4kids and the amount.



Keep this date open. The Fellowship Committee event will be May 17, 2014. "Pickin' in the Park". More to come later. We want to see you there!!!! Virginia

A Note from the Stewardship Committee: The knives that were sold at the Chicken Pie Supper was a project of the Stewardship Committee to support the church and its missions. The knives were donated by the Julian Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary who have disbanded. We would like to thank Helen Shepherd and the ladies for their generosity. The sale was a huge success. We have only a few items left. We took in a total of \$361.00. That is all profit. If you are interested in seeing what we have left please see me. Sincerely, Brenda Currie



Mike and Kendra Terraforte have moved. Their new address is: 109 Courtney Circle, Four Oaks, NC 27254. Please note this change in your directories.

Also, Bill Ingold has been moved from Ashton Place to Springview Care Home. His new address is: Springview Care Home, 1032 N. Mebane Street, Burlington, NC 27217. Please note this change in your directory.



Come join us for an Easter celebration!

There will be a craft, snacks, Easter egg

hunt, a story, fun

Date: Sunday April 6, 2014

Time: 2:00-4:00

*Where: Mount Hope United Church of Christ
2400 Mt. Hope Church Road, Whitsett, NC
Call 336-697-1561 for more information*



April Birthdays

- 1st Helen Whitesell
- 2nd Amanda Levens, Allison Welker
- 3rd Joan Shoffner, Brian Van Nostrand, Homer Walsh
- 4th Modine Friddle, Robert Greeson, Dale Stafford, Peggy Welker
- 5th Tommy Simpson
- 8th Joshua Greeson
- 9th Kay McClintock
- 10th Wesley Reece
- 11th Karen Johnson

- 12th Rodney McClintock
- 13th Shirley Clapp, Jeffrey Prevost
- 14th Ronnie Whitesell
- 15th Heinz Slayton
- 16th Kevin Greeson, Michael Moore
- 17th Cleo Barker
- 18th Garrett Bradsher
- 19th Kelli Childress, Sharon Nance, Mary Welker
- 20th Dee Greeson, Phyllis O'Daniel
- 21st Helen Johnson
- 22nd Steven Edmonds
- 23rd Erin Oakley, Kristin Vaughn
- 24th Linda Greeson, Lorene Greeson
- 25th Jeff Amick, Peyton Eggers, Cliff Greeson
- 26th Ryan Dickson, Judy Gerner, Stephen Shue
- 29th Christina Oliver
- 30th Linda Shue

April Anniversaries

- 2nd Clay & Stephanie Warren
- 9th Ralph & Nancy O'Ferrell
- 10th Paul & Brandi Childress
Ellis & Wanda Stewart
- 18th Michael & Julie Szychowicz
- 22nd Donald & Sharon Nance
Tony & Sherron Whitesell
- 24th Cleo & Virginia Barker



- 1st 7:00 p.m., Good Earth Garden Club
- 2nd 9:00 a.m., Quilters meet
6:45 p.m., Handbell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal
- 6th Collecting for Urban Ministry
9:45 a.m., Sunday School
11:00 a.m., Worship
2:00 p.m., Easter Celebration
7:00 p.m., Special Study Group
- 8th 7:00 p.m., Mary/Martha Circle meeting
- 9th 9:00 a.m., Quilters meet
6:45 p.m., Handbell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal
- 10th 7:00 p.m., Consistory
- 13th Palm Sunday- Collecting for Urban Ministry
9:45 a.m., Sunday School
11:00 a.m., Worship
7:00 p.m., Special Study Group
- 14th 1:30 p.m., Willing Workers Circle meeting
- 15th 8:30 a.m., Friends & Neighbors
7:00 p.m., Evangelism Team meeting

- 16th 9:00 a.m., Quilters meet
6:45 p.m., Handbell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal
- 17th 7:00 p.m., Maundy Thursday service
- 18th 7:00 p.m., Good Friday service
- 20th Easter Sunday
7:00 a.m., Sunrise Service
8:00 a.m., Breakfast
9:45 a.m., Sunday School
11:00 a.m., Worship
- 22nd 7:00 p.m., Stewardship Team meeting
- 23rd 9:00 a.m., Quilters meet
6:45 p.m., Handbell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal
- 27th 9:45 a.m., Sunday School
11:00 a.m., Worship – Gideon's Representative
- 30th 9:00 a.m., Quilters meet
6:45 p.m., Handbell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal

**Andy Open
Golf Tournament**

Begin planning now for this year's Andy Open Golf Tournament. It will take place on May 31, 2014 at the Walnut Wood Golf Course. Put this date on your calendar now!



TEXAS ROADHOUSE
 Sunday, May 18th
 11:00am - 10:00pm
 Texas Roadhouse will Donate **10%**
 of your total purchases back to
 Mount Hope UCC
 when you present this flyer to your server!
 Call AHEAD SEATING (336) 584-1205
 1631 Glidewell Dr
 Alamance Crossing