



# FCCH Congregational Chronicle September 2023

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# From the Pastor

take this bread



SARA MILES

Happy September FCCH!

There are so many things percolating for Fall here, so I hope you read the Chronicle from cover to cover. You might find something you want to join in as the season turns—Bible Study? A Circle of Friends small group? Choir? Mindful Coloring? Stewardship Team? Attend a Forum?

The possibilities are endless for you to plug into the ministries here at FCCH.

I am excited to announce a Pastor Spiritual Memoir Book Club. What is that? It's a benevolent dictator book club where I get to choose the books, you get to read them, and we can come together and talk about them! Our first meeting will be in early October (TBA) with a discussion of "Take This Bread" by Sara Miles.

Sara Miles lived an enthusiastically secular life as a restaurant cook and a writer. Then, early one winter morning, for no earthly reason, she wandered into a church. &"was certainly not interested in becoming a Christian", she writes, "or, as I thought of it rather less politely, a religious nut..." But she ate a piece of bread, took a sip of wine, and found herself radically transformed....and the story continues.

There are several copies in the library, and you can order a used copy from Amazon fairly inexpensively. It's definitely worth the read, I promise. If you are interested in participating in the book study, could you please email Jo, our Church Administrator, [office@fcchhendersonville.org](mailto:office@fcchhendersonville.org) to sign up.

Enjoy~

Love and peace,  
Karla

# Moderator's Column



When our very own Lynx made a glorious entrance in the Sanctuary in the Sunday service I was instantly transferred to thoughts of how my new family member, Benji, has such an eagerness to socialize with humans; he's pretty sure you're all here for him. But maybe, he's just really hoping he will be accepted for himself and forgiven when he slips up. Have you ever given thought to the forgiveness dogs show us as owners? It might make us think about the forgiveness the Creator God lavishes upon us. Dogs inherently don't hold grudges, or almost never, nor harbor resentment...or almost never. They nearly always offer readily their forgiveness and renewal of kinship together. Perhaps, their makeup is an example to us to adopt faithfulness and forgiveness in our own relationships with others. Their demonstration is selflessness and willing loving sacrifice in putting

others before themselves is the very parallel of the Creator's love and devotion to his/her children and exemplifies the unconditional love and fulfillment that abounds from genuine companionship. One caveat...our great silent truth...as we are within, so we are without: as we forgive, so we are forgiven. We cannot offer what we do not have and, to that end, we learn to be generous and kind to ourselves...forgive ourselves in order to truly forgive and love others. To love all God's creations begins with our own selves and love must spring from within where we know we are loved and loveably our Creator and radiate that love to others.

I am so glad our church is a place for loving and cherishing all God's children and a place of joyful sharing. God bless us all. Sheryl



Some area retailers let you link your rewards cards to benefit  
(a) local school(s) of your choice.

Examples:

[Ingles Tools For Schools](#)

<https://tie.harristeeter.com/together-in-education>

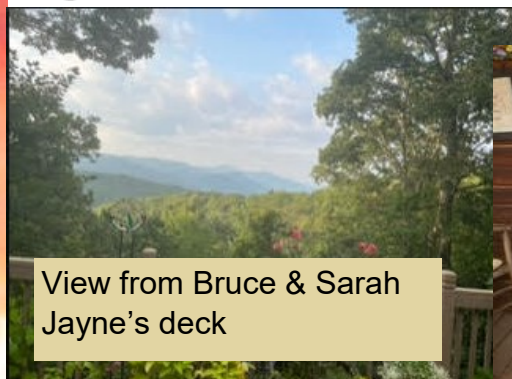
<https://www.staples.com/stores/c/classroomrewards>

**Contributed by Sheila Clendenning**  
**[bsheila.nc@gmail.com](mailto:bsheila.nc@gmail.com)**



# Circle of Friends

## Get Together in August



View from Bruce & Sarah Jayne's deck



Bruce Mills & Jim Hollingsworth



Dana Vannoy, Sarah Jayne, Jim Hollingsworth



Jim Jolly & Bruce Jayne



Kathy Kircher & Dana Vannoy



Raspberry tarts

Good morning, Family Circle! What a wonderful meeting we had last evening. Bruce and Sarah, thanks for being such wonderful hosts and having us in your beautiful home. Del, David and Joan, we missed you greatly, but we are hoping that you will be back with us on September 26th whenever we meet at Jim Jolly's home.

I am attaching some photos from last evening. We sat on Bruce and Sarah's beautiful deck! You can see from one of the photos what a magnificent view they have and TRUST ME...the photo does not do it justice. The highest mountain peak you see in the distance is Sugarloaf. In addition, I would be remiss if I did not mention Bruce's delicious raspberry tarts with delicious vegan whipped topping. Furthermore, he obtained the raspberries from a patch in the back of their home.

I am beginning to treasure these meetings more and more because we are each getting to know one another on a deeper level. ONWARD AND UPWARD!

Art & Commentary contributed by Bruce Mills  
[bmills9@att.net](mailto:bmills9@att.net)



# Scenes from CPR Class, August 23rd, 2023





# Service & Giving Volunteer of the Month...

## Bruce Jayne



Bruce Jayne enjoyed his previous experiences with hospice during his chaplaincy tenure in Charleston so, when he and his wife moved to Saluda fulltime in 2018, it was a natural fit for him to explore possible volunteer opportunities at Four Seasons Hospice. He was impressed by its longevity (one of the first hospices in US), its scope (13 counties in its service area), and the professionalism of the staff (evidenced right away in his 3-day volunteer orientation training).

He serves in two ways: direct visitation with patients receiving palliative care or hospice care (usually in an assisted living or skilled nursing facility) and weekly respite care in the patient's home to permit the caregiver to be out of the home for three hours to take care of personal needs. His service may involve serious (or not-so-serious) conversation (by phone during the pandemic), or singing with a minimally-communicative patient after learning that he loved to sing, or just providing a loving presence.

Bruce considers it a genuine privilege to be involved in the lives of people nearing their end of life. The opportunity to relate to their family members as well has been very satisfying also. He'll gladly share with you some of his experiences, as well as how YOU might become involved also! <https://fourseasonscare.org/get-involved/volunteer-at-four-seasons/>

Contributed by Bill Shaffer  
[wdsiii333@gmail.com](mailto:wdsiii333@gmail.com)

### COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – August 2023

Important Note: Council meetings are always open to all FCC Members and Friends. Please notify Moderator Sheryl Mendenhall if you would like to attend.

- ☐ Financial results year-to-date remain favorable. Net result of the General Operating Fund YTD (as of 7/31/2023) is \$37,930 more than budgeted.
- ☐ Mark and the choir are back after a well-deserved July sabbath!
- ☐ A special meeting was held August 16 with Church Council, the Ministry of Physical Resources, and the Ministry of Finance to discuss 1) why we need to repave the parking lot; 2) what is the best way to pay for the repaving of the parking lot; 3) how the repaving of the parking lot fits into the future mission of FCCH.

Results to be presented to the congregation at our annual meeting.

# Service & Giving Agency of the Month



With over 42 years of experience, Four Seasons is an award-winning, nationally recognized non-profit organization providing Care Navigation, Home Care, Palliative Care, Hospice Care, and Grief Services to thirteen counties, including Asheville, Hendersonville, Brevard, Franklin, Weaverville, Waynesville, Cherokee and many other communities in Western North Carolina.

A locally trusted organization, Four Seasons is a leader in high-quality person-centered care, consistently ranked in the top 10% of service providers for family satisfaction.

Thanks to sales at their thrift stores and support from Four Seasons Foundation - Four Seasons Foundation ([fourseasonsfdn.org](https://fourseasonsfdn.org)) care is provided to all, regardless of ability to pay. Besides donating to the Foundation and shopping at the thrift stores, to get involved with Four Seasons, you will find volunteer opportunities here:

<https://fourseasonscare.org/>  
or call 828 513 2740.

Courtesy of Bill Shafer  
[wdsiii333@gmail.com](mailto:wdsiii333@gmail.com)



## New T-shirts Available

New First Congregational T-Shirts will be available during Sunday "Coffee Hours" in the Fellowship Hall, beginning September 3. Cost is \$20 per shirt. They are 100% preshrunk cotton, screen printed, in sizes from small to 3X. (A limited number of shirts are currently stocked but ,if people want more, then the Service & Giving team can reorder/restock quickly.) Wear your shirt for comfort, and/or in public spaces and gatherings to represent our shared Core Values without speaking a word. Justice, compassion, inclusion, love - Yes!

Courtesy  
Bill  
Shafer



## Hot tip

If you are not reading Sunday morning's auto email (sent around 12 am), you are missing information! This email blast is primarily for members who cannot attend church in person, but contains many good nuggets of information not found elsewhere. If you read last week's Sunday email, you will know: 1) how to download Church Directory to your phone; 2) one oft-overlooked trait of a good leader; 3) a picture from the display of wonderful photography by David Vandre.



# New Member Sunday, August 13th, 2023

## Dennis and Carolyn Maloy



### Carolyn:

I was born and lived in Dayton, OH for much of my life. I worked as a social worker for 25 years in the mental health and chemical dependency fields.

I have 3 sons: Chris, Mark and Steve. When Dennis and I married 39 years ago, we blended our families. Dennis has 3 children: Maureen, Tim and Brian. We have 12 grandchildren ranging in age from 2 years to 37 years. And no, it's not a TV show like the Brady Bunch!

I enjoy book groups, P.E.O, gardening and Bridge, as well as our friends and our large family

I feel blessed to be here and to be joining this loving congregation.

### Dennis:

I have been sharing my life for the past forty years with Carolyn...and with those 6 children and 13 grandchildren she mentioned.

I was born in Albany, NY, and spent my growing up years in the Northeast before heading off to college. I attended the University of Dayton for undergraduate and graduate degrees and was trained as a clinical psychologist. Most of my career was spent developing and managing community-based mental health services. Toward the end of my career, I worked with hospitals in the Midwest and the South to create intensive outpatient programs for patients with severe and persistent behavioral health problems.

My interests are varied and include reading, travel, working in the garden and serving on the HOA board for our community, which is Brookside. Exercise is very important to me and takes the form of walking, hiking, and lap swimming at the YMCA.

Thank you for welcoming us into your wonderful congregation. We are very happy to be here.

## Linda Arata



My life began in the Washington, DC area which I lived in until I retired in 1996. I was really too young to leave my job of 30 years, but I moved to western Maryland with my husband and lived in a rural setting. We loved the little town we lived in, but it was very cold in the winter, and it snowed from Oct thru May, so we moved to Myrtle Beach, SC.

In 2006, we moved to Candler, NC. Moving to Hendersonville, NC 3 years ago led me to this church. My friend, DeDe Walton, told me how wonderful this church was for her. I have always gone to a church and, after one visit, knew this was my church home. This church is so special because of the love you feel all around you each Sunday.

My hobbies are sewing, painting watercolor, and reading.

I look forward to joining this church and helping in any area I can.

Pictures courtesy of Dawn Kucera



# Adopt-a-school

Are your children grown and gone? Do you miss interacting with young people? The Service and Giving Committee is looking to have our church adopt a local school. There are no formal requirements for school adoption. We

can make our church's involvement whatever we and the school decide. Of course, schools always need supplies or a specific piece of equipment, but there are many more personal ways we can be involved:

- Mentoring
- Providing bagels or doughnuts during Teacher Appreciation Week
- Personal cards and snacks
- Helping create portfolios that contain records of a student's accomplishments, grades and goals.
- Doing yard work for our adopted school

This could be a great way for FCC to interact with our broader community and with our younger residents. We have lots of goodhearted members of the congregation, and the schools have lots of needs. All we need to make this happen is you. Does this sound like the project for you? Please let the church office know if you're interested.

Courtesy of Bill Shafer  
wdsiii333@gmail.com



## **Calm Your Mind with Color Therapy and Meditation**

When: Weekly on Wednesdays, beginning September 6

Time: 10:30 - 12:00

Where: FC Choir Room

Contact: catherine.fairbanks@yahoo.com

Grab your favorite coloring tools, pages and coloring books. Take a deep breath, and embark on a soothing journey towards tranquility, one colorful page at a time. Your inner peace awaits by allowing yourself to escape from the chaos of everyday life and immerse yourself in the joyful realm of coloring. Unleash your imagination, dive into the world of hues, and let the colors weave their magic, one stroke at a time.

- ☐ Each session will begin with a short meditation from a meditation podcast.
- ☐ We will explore the fundamental concepts of color therapy, the science behind its effectiveness to calm the mind. Handouts will be provided.

"Color therapy", an ancient healing modality utilized for centuries, harnesses the power of colors to stimulate our minds, bodies, and emotions. In today's fast-paced world, where stress and anxiety have become commonplace, color therapy offers a unique and accessible way to bring balance, harmony, and a sense of calm into our lives. From the colors we choose to wear to the colors we surround ourselves with in our homes and workspaces, the strategic use of color can create an environment conducive to healing and personal growth. "

Courtesy of Catherine Fairbanks  
catherine.fairbanks@yahoo.com



# Sunday School Happenings



The Sunday School class harvested peppers from their garden plot and will soon have ripe tomatoes to donate to the food pantry. They enjoyed making fruit kabobs and designing giant birthday cards for their favorite chief gardener, Milton.

L to R: Matthew, Carol Ann, and James work on Milton's birthday card



L to R row 1: Roddy, Asher, James  
row 2: Matthew, Carol Ann, Xavier,  
row 3: Zachary, Josie, Ginger

Submitted by Ginger Zemp  
[zempvirginia@gmail.com](mailto:zempvirginia@gmail.com)

860 lbs of food  
donated from  
our vegetable  
garden!



# Happy August Scenes



August 13th Forum: Chakra Sound Healing Bath with Kathleen Vard

Photos courtesy of Dawn Kucera  
[dawnkucera@mac.com](mailto:dawnkucera@mac.com)



# Forum Schedule for September

## Sundays @9 am in the Fellowship Hall

**September 3. Story Feast with Mark Acker.** Join Mark in an interesting and engaging discussion and activity around the power of our stories and how they are healing and connecting.

**September 10 Forensics and Psychology in Death Penalty cases with Richard Vickers and Dr. Sharon Pearson.** Richard and Sharon met when Richard retained Sharon to work on a death penalty case he was litigating. According to the federal judge who ultimately decided the case, it was Sharon's testimony that won the case for the client. Richard will discuss forensics and Dr. Pearson will speak about psychological issues

**September 23. Feed The Kids!** Patti Brotherton of Feed The Kids Hendersonville will tell us about this program that began in 2009 to provide lunch for children at the Hendersonville Boys and Girls Club every week. Five core teams rotate to cook and serve. Learn how you can be involved!

**September 24. Unbelievable! with Larry Anderson.** We've been moving toward a 'down home' discussion in our 4th (or 5th) Sunday sessions with Larry (WWLD!) of our beliefs (faith). There are copies of Spong's final book 'UNBELIEVABLE' in our library. Spong's 'JESUS FOR THE NON BELIEVER', also in our library, covers similar territory, ideas in our tradition difficult for a sensible person to 'believe'. Do you have to 'believe' the Bible to be a Christian? What say you?!??

## Parking Lot Paving meeting, Aug 30th



Contributed by Lin Stogner  
alfandellie@gmail.com



## Circle of Friends



In August our small group met at John and Jan Caldemeyer's home. Dr. John blessed us with a beautiful rendition of Amazing Grace prior to our lunch and lively conversation. Over the past months we have enjoyed getting to know each other and sharing time together in each of our homes.

Contributed by Krista Kaufman  
[kristakauffman41@gmail.com](mailto:kristakauffman41@gmail.com)



### PROJECT: Paving the Parking Lots

If you drive to church and park in one of our parking lots, you've no doubt noticed that they are in poor condition. Over the past couple of years, the Ministry of Physical Resources and an ad hoc committee have been looking closely at the situation. They've gathered a lot of information and developed some strategies and ideas for working on it. This is going to be a huge project. The FCC Bylaws state that a project of this magnitude/cost requires congregational approval. So, it is critical that the congregation be well informed on all aspects of this project. We'll have several events over the next month to provide that needed information and engage the congregation.

- Early September - Constant Contact message with the details.
  - September 17 - Congregational meeting to collect questions, comments and ideas.
  - October 1 - Second congregational meeting for further discussion.
- We urge you to read the CC message and attend the meetings.



# Our Wonderful Groups (per your requests)

Facilitator	Group	Day	Contact
John Caldemeyer	Buddy K Rehearsal	1st & 3rd Thursday	<a href="mailto:drjohnncaldemeyer@yahoo.com">drjohnncaldemeyer@yahoo.com</a>
Karla Miller	Carolina Village	1st Mon	<a href="mailto:karla@fcchendersonville.org">karla@fcchendersonville.org</a>
Mark Acker	Choir Rehearsal	Every Wed	<a href="mailto:Mark@fcchendersonville.org">Mark@fcchendersonville.org</a>
Sheryl Mendenhall	Church Council	2nd Wed	<a href="mailto:sherylmendenhall@rocketmail.com">sherylmendenhall@rocketmail.com</a>
Krista Kaufman	Circle of Friends - ongoing small groups		<a href="mailto:kristakaufman41@gmail.com">kristakaufman41@gmail.com</a>
Mark Fagerlin	Finance	2nd Tues of each month b4 Council	<a href="mailto:mfagerlin@gmail.com">mfagerlin@gmail.com</a>
Karla Miller	Forum	Every Sunday	
Kathy Martin	Meditation Group	Every Tuesday	
Diane Rose	Members & Friends	Every Wed	<a href="mailto:dianerose617@gmail.com">dianerose617@gmail.com</a>
Catherine Fairbanks	Mindful Coloring		<a href="mailto:catherine.fairbanks@yahoo.com">catherine.fairbanks@yahoo.com</a>
Mindy Myers	Ministry of Physical Resources	3rd Wed	<a href="mailto:mindy7myers@gmail.com">mindy7myers@gmail.com</a>
Pam Rogers	Peace Building & Justice	4th Tues	<a href="mailto:pamrogers525@gmail.com">pamrogers525@gmail.com</a>
Becky Rowland	Personnel and Pastoral Relations Ministry	3rd Tues	<a href="mailto:rrowland53@gmail.com">rrowland53@gmail.com</a>
Barbara Rathbun	Prayer Shawls	1st Tues	<a href="mailto:bm Rathbun@bellsouth.net">bm Rathbun@bellsouth.net</a>
Patti Clay	Racial Justice Task Force	3rd Tues	<a href="mailto:pclay51@gmail.com">pclay51@gmail.com</a>
William Shaffer	Service & Giving Ministry	2nd Thurs	<a href="mailto:wdsiii333@gmail.com">wdsiii333@gmail.com</a>
Barbara Rathbun	Bible Study: 1 Verse at a Time	Thursdays	<a href="mailto:bm Rathbun@bellsouth.net">bm Rathbun@bellsouth.net</a>

## Aug Attendance

Date	# Attending
6th	118
13th	116
20th	133
27th	144

## Birthdays

Name (First Last)	Birth	Name (First Last)	Birth Date
Jairo Aguilar	9/4	Joel Matthews	9/18
Ann Allen	9/4	Karla Miller	9/3
Susan Bonk	9/27	Cat Oaks	9/1
Janice Bullard	9/28	Betsey Parker	9/13
Powell (Robert) Cotter	9/22	Ingrid Perry	9/6
Katherine (Kay) Davis	9/8	Nancy Pew	9/13
Alfred Diaz	9/25	Alice Pfirrmann	9/1
Heather Fitzwilliam	9/1	Marjorie Richards	9/21
Jacqueline Green	9/16	Cathy Sadler	9/19
Mandy Henderly	9/23	Alice Tenold	9/22
Nolleen Kelly	9/15	Dona Tyler	9/14
Yvonne Kyker	9/9	Virginia Clare Willey	9/29



# September events of note

When: Sunday, September 17 at 3pm

## Joel Helfand in Benefit Concert for 47th Henderson County Hunger Walk

Where: Fellowship Hall of First Congregational United Church of Christ

Acclaimed musician Joel Helfand will present a free-will


A graduate of Chicago Musical College, Joel ran a successful band for many years in the Chicago area. At conventions he was fortunate to work with many outstanding entertainers

including, Doc Severinson, Sarah Vaughn, Tex Beneke, Gerry Mulligan, Helen O'Connell and Red Skelton. He retired to Hendersonville in 2005 and has since worked on staff at the Flat Rock Playhouse, Asheville Community Theatre, Hendersonville Symphony, Brevard Philharmonic, Asheville Jazz Orchestra, Hendersonville Community Band, Brevard Community Band and was a backup for the Temptations at the Biltmore Estate.

Come be entertained by a joyful soloist playing many favorites while supporting the Hunger Walk. Free will donations will be received.

Copy: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z64RGiRr0bU> into your address bar to hear all about Hunger Walk.


Contributed by Pat Argue  
[pkargue@gmail.com](mailto:pkargue@gmail.com)




**ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE**


TRAINING SERIES  
**DE-ESCALATION WORKSHOP**  
SATURDAY SEP 9/1PM  
@ FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF HENDERSONVILLE

THIS TRAINING WILL TEACH WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS SKILLS IN DE-ESCALATION TECHNIQUES AS WELL AS BYSTANDER INTERVENTION. FROM TOPICS LIKE DEALING WITH COUNTER PROTESTORS, TO STEPPING IN TO INTERVENE IN HARASSMENT, THIS WORKSHOP WILL PROVIDE ATTENDEES WITH SAFETY STRATEGIES FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR COMMUNIT

RSVP 



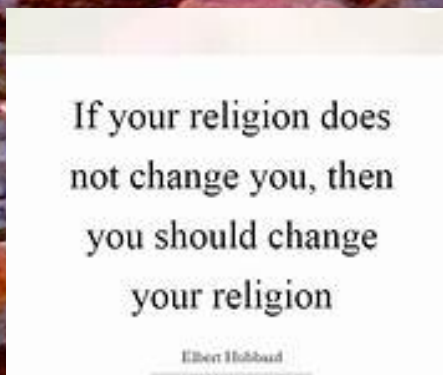
FREE TO ATTEND.  
DONATIONS ACCEPTED.



Contributed by Sheila Clendenning  
[bsheila.nc@gmail.com](mailto:bsheila.nc@gmail.com)



# To make you smile / Inspirational Quote of the Month





**We are Here for you!**

First Congregational UCC  
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Hendersonville NC 28739-4013

Phone: 828.692.8630  
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Jo Freeman, Administrator  
([office@fcchendersonville.org](mailto:office@fcchendersonville.org))

Dora & Charles Littleton, Custodians