

*Arlington Congregational Church*  
**UNITED CHURCH  
 OF CHRIST**

# The Herald

"God is still speaking ..."



## JANUARY AT A GLANCE

- **January 8**  
 Fellowship Group  
 Bag Lunch—after  
 worship [ see de-  
 tails in next col-  
 umn! ]
- **January 15**  
 Special Informa-  
 tional Mtg after  
 10:30 worship  
 The proposed 2012  
 Mission Spending  
 Plan [ Church  
 Budget ] will be pre-  
 sented.
- **January 21**  
 6:00 pm -  
 Chili Cook-Off
- **January 29**  
 Annual Meeting  
 after 10:30 am wor-  
 ship  
 This is the official  
 "Call" to our An-  
 nual Congrega-  
 tional Meeting. We  
 will receive reports,  
 elect officers and  
 approve the 2012  
 proposed Mission  
 Spending Plan  
 [ Church Budget ]  
 All members are  
 urged to attend!

## Renew Yourself in 2012

Join us for an Exciting and Faith-Filled New Year!

### 10th Annual Chili Cook-Off January 21

Calling all Chili Chefs! Our famous annual Chili Cook-Off is coming early this year. Saturday, January 21 the Youth Fellowship of Arlington Congregational Church will sponsor an evening of good food, good fun, and fundraising for our trip to the UCC National Youth Event . We ask that all cooks have their chili at the church by 5:45 pm. Spaces are limited so sign up early. Tickets for the Chili Cook-Off are \$10 for adults and \$8 for kids under 12 at the door. We will provide sour cream, cheese, and crackers/corn bread, drinks and desert. If your chili requires anything else please bring it. Everyone gets one free vote but you can buy as many votes as you want, \$1 each. We will be selling "to - go" containers of last year's award winning chili for \$5 a bowl.

### Fellowship Groups + New Members + Ushers + YOU!

Want to get involved, but don't have a lot of time? Here's the opportunity for you! Come learn what our Fellowship Groups do, how you can be an usher, and other ways to get involved this year. Sunday, January 8, 2012, immediately following the 10:30 am service, the Membership Growth Core Ministry, and the Fellowship Groups will sponsor a "BAG LUNCH". Sandwiches, Chips, Drinks and Dessert will be provided. All are invited especially new members! Information on Fellowship Groups, the Membership and Growth Ministry and "Church Ushers" will be presented. Make a New Year's Resolution to get involved... come and learn what these groups do and get involved! Sign up for lunch and plan to attend. Contact Pamela Simpson, Sabena Norman, or Sandy Price, or Robyn in the church office at [accucc.org](http://accucc.org), or 724-7433.

**Watch for:** Women's Sunday, February 5th the women will lead worship.

---

**FROM THE PASTOR...**


**Happy New Year—2012!** It is the TIME of year when we all think, “where did the last year go?” Time is fleeting say the sages. But everyone has the same amount of time in a day if not the same number of years of life. As we begin the New Year I want to take time to explore the theme of time in the phrase, “What Time Is It.” I hope

to share with you some perspectives from Scripture on time and eternity. It is a good TIME to reflect on both, don't you think? Here are the topics and Scriptures I will be starting with.

**“What Time Is It?”**

**Sunday, January 1: “So What’s New?”**

Scripture Lesson: Revelation 21:1-6

**Sunday, January 8: “Time for Blessing”**

Scripture Lesson: Mark 1:4-11

**Sunday, January 15: “Time to Listen”**

Scripture Lesson: 1 Samuel 3:1-20

**Sunday, January 22: “In Times of Crisis”**

Scripture Lesson: Mark 1:14-20

**Sunday, January 29: “A Time for Authority”**

Scripture Lesson: Mark 1:21-45

Time may be fleeting, but we can all choose how to best use it. I hope you will choose to use your time on Sunday mornings to discover the blessings of worshipping God. Why not make it a New Year's resolution to attend worship regularly, that you might be regularly blessed? Come, and bring a guest to worship who might be needing a blessing too, a new spiritual home, or just a new start. New Years are a good TIME for that, aren't they?

I hope I will ...

See You in Church,

*Bruce*

**FINANCIAL UPDATE**  
**THROUGH DECEMBER 2011**

	<u>December</u>	<u>YTD</u>
<b>INCOME:</b>	\$19,571.25	\$247,166.86
<b>EXPENSES:</b>	17,293.67	239,131.09
<b>TOTAL:</b>	\$2,277.58	\$8,035.77

Thank you for your support. If you have any questions, contact us at [admin@accucc.org](mailto:admin@accucc.org).

---

*Thank  
You*

*Jeanie, Ashley and Choir for a  
WONDERFUL Cantata!!!*

*Your beautiful music brings joy to  
every worship service!!!*

*Your dedication and hard work are  
greatly appreciated.*

---

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:**

**Javier, Michelle,  
Anthony and Dominic del Pino**

**14546 Falling Waters Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32258**

---

### Movie Day

We will be having a movie day on January 29 during the Annual Meeting. There will be popcorn and drinks available. We want to allow parents a chance to be a part of the meeting this way you know where your kids are and what they are up to.

# KIDS'

# K O R N E R



**HEY KIDS**—What are some of your favorite things to do with your friends or family? Twila would love to hear your ideas. We might even use them for a Kids Fellowship event.

# E V E N T

## NEWS **YOUTH** CAN USE

### Chili Cook-Off

Our 10th Annual Chili Cook-Off will be January 21. We are asking that all the youth be at the church at 3:00 pm to set-up and prepare.

Twila will send a list of items for each parent/youth to bring so we can save money on the cost of the extras. If you have any questions please feel free to call the church office or email me at [youthzone1210@att.net](mailto:youthzone1210@att.net).



### Daytona Rolex 24

We are looking at going down to experience the Rolex 24 in Daytona. We will be camping on the infield of the Racetrack. This will take place on **January 28-29**. We will meet at the church at 8:00 am on Saturday the 28th. We will be back around 11:00 am on the 29th. All you need is \$30.00 for your entrance fee and to help cover food cost. You will want to bring a 12-pack of your favorite drink to share and snack food. Twila will send a list of supplies home soon.

### Mardi Gras Dinner

We will be having a youth Lock-in on February 17 to play and help set up for the Mardi Gras dinner and party on February 18. This is a major fundraiser to help get us to National Youth Event (NYE) so I expect everyone to help out!  
More information to come.

# Missions & Ministry

## JUST SOME OF THE WAYS WE DID MISSION LAST YEAR:

### ***Our Church's Wider Mission - \$11,000.00***

Our Church's Wider Mission supports the mission work of the United Church of Christ throughout our state, nationally, and internationally.

### ***Florida Migrant Ministry - \$100.00***

This is a separate ministry for the Florida Conference United Church of Christ in addition to the work of Our Church's Wider Mission funding.

### ***City Rescue - \$500.00***

City Rescue serves the needy, homeless, and hurting adults and children in our community through a variety of soup kitchen, shelter, and other aid resources.

### ***Jacksonville Campus Ministry - \$2,500.00***

Jacksonville Campus Ministry is the only interdenominational ministry serving students at JU and UNF with weekly meals and programs, co-led by our own Twila Rhodes.

### ***Arlington Community Services - \$1,000.00***

This is the primary way we serve area people in need with assistance with rent and utilities as well as food, including the "FOODShare" donations we make the first Sunday of each month. ACS is a cooperative effort of over 30 churches in the Arlington area.

### ***ICARE - \$1,000.00***

The Interfaith Coalition for Action Reconciliation and Empowerment is the only organization in Jacksonville that works for social justice by holding systems and government accountable for effective, fair, and essential services on issues such as education, crime, jobs, housing, and others.

## SHARING IN CARING

Our church has been blessed with many new members this year and we want every one of our parishioners to be aware of the Sharing in Caring ministry.

Some ways we serve include bringing meals; driving a member to the doctor; visiting a member who can't get out; providing a few hours of respite to relieve a caregiver; driving a member to church; taking a member to lunch, a museum exhibit, a social event or the supermarket; and, so much more.

The presence of a caring parishioner means so much in a time of need. Persons needing a service can call the church office and speak with Dr. Havens or Robyn at (904) 724-7433, or Arlene Cossum at (904) 379-0810 as they prefer.

Social services connections have been identified for recipient households to be able to access the help and resources they may still need after Sharing in Caring has fulfilled the short-term intent of our ministry's services. We endeavor to have a thriving ministry so that individuals and families know that their church is able to provide the support they need.

If you know of a parishioner who might welcome the services of this caring ministry team let Dr. Havens know. Depending on the circumstances he may ask a Stephen minister or a Sharing in Caring volunteer to follow up.

To all our parishioners: if you would like to provide any of the above or similar services please consider volunteering for this ministry team and call either of the phone numbers above to let us know. Our ministry team members report that the times they have been able to serve have been rewarding.

\*\*\*\*\*Hold the date—February 18 Mardi Gras Celebration—Dinner, and so much more  
All proceeds go to the Youth Fund\*\*\*\*\*

## National Youth Event

Have you been asking yourself what's so special about this National Youth Event? Why should I send my child? Why should I contribute to sending any children to this event that is taking place at Purdue University in Indiana? Well let me tell you what this trip is all about. First of all it is a gathering of over 4000 youth and their chaperones from all over the United States who stand behind the banner of the UCC. They come together for 4 days to worship God, learn more about themselves and their faith traditions, as well as make new friends. This is truly a once in lifetime experience for most kids because it comes around once every 4 years and you have to be in high school to be eligible to go. Through out the 4 days kids experience worship, play and workshops provided by a variety of people, including our very own Twila Rhodes. I will be co-leading 2 workshops this National Youth Event with a dear friend of mine Neal Watkins. Together we have over 12 years of experience working with youth and youth volunteers. This trip will be an amazing experience for anyone who goes. It's a chance for our kids to realize we are not alone in our faith. There are thousand who believe that "no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome in God's family!" Help us make a difference in our Youth's live by encouraging your child to go, attending the fundraising events and/or keeping us in your prayers.




---

## Annual Gathering for Florida UCC Women St. John's Region Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> 2012

### **Calling all Church Women.....**

On **Saturday, February 25, 2012**, Arlington Congregational Church will host the Annual Gathering for Florida UCC Women from the St. John's Region. Women members of these congregations have been invited to attend. Bonnie Gruntler, UCC Women's Ministries President and Donna Cooney, UCC Women's Ministries, Southern Region Consultant will be in attendance.

Our theme for the day is "**eat, pray, love**". Mark your calendar and make plans to attend this special day of friendship and spiritual renewal with UCC Women from the St. John's Region. The day will begin at 10:30 and close at 3:30 p.m. Mark your calendars for **February 25th** and **plan to "eat, pray, love"** with other UCC women. Contact Sandy Price at [sandyp@bellsouth.net](mailto:sandyp@bellsouth.net) for more information.

### **2012 Women's Sunday .....**

Our Annual Women's Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>. On this Sunday the women of the Church lead us in the Worship Service. Following the service a luncheon will be held in Fellowship Hall. If you would like to participate please see either Earline Veltman or Sandy Price.

### **Bag Lunch.....**

On Sunday, January 8, 2012, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service, the Membership and Growth Core Ministry in conjunction with the Fellowship Groups will sponsor a "BAG LUNCH". Sandwiches, Chips, Drinks and Dessert will be provided. All are invited and a special invitation is extended to new members! Information on Fellowship Groups, the Membership and Growth Ministry and "Church Ushers" will be available. Make a New Year's Resolution to get involved, come and learn what these groups do... **gøt involvød!** Sign up for lunch and plan to attend. For more information please see Pamela Simpson, Sabena Norman, or Sandy Price.

# FYI...

## *On our hearts ...*



*For healing and strength.*

Mary Cardell	Dale Carey
Arlene Cossum	Rodney Covey
Millicent Goins	Holly Harper
Wally Knoechel	Larry Laurinat
Bob McGauley	Bob Negaard
Jim Reeves	Bill Sander

**CONDOLENCES** to Frances Moore's family as she entered the Church Triumphant on Saturday 12/10/11. Dr. Havens performed a graveside service on Saturday, December 17 at Arlington Memorial Park.

**CONDOLENCES** to Warren Price and family on the passing of his sister Lillian James.

*Below is another letter we received.*

Dear Bruce,

This letter is quite late in coming, but as the old saying goes, "better late than never".

And I apologize for my stupidity.

I want to thank you, the church and the committee for inviting me and my wife, Kay, for honoring me at the Heritage Dinner recently.

It was a great affair. During the times when I sang with the choir, was the choir director and was the Treasurer, I never dreamed that I was doing anything that was going to be honored.

The food was delicious, and I want to thank all the cooks and servers.

Last, but not least, it was nice to see old friends whom I hadn't seen since I have been incapacitated.

Yours in Christ,  
Robert E. McGauley



## *NEW BEGINNINGS CIRCLE*

*The next event will be stuffing backpacks for Foster Children on January 17<sup>th</sup>*

*Please see Annette Negaard or Becky Webb for details.*

## **Safe Harbor**

*Below is a letter we received from Safe Harbor. Each boy wrote a personal letter as well, those are posted on the bulletin board.*

Dear Twila, Pastor and Church Family,

On behalf of everyone at Safe Harbor, especially the boys, I would like to thank you for inviting us for a delicious breakfast and the generous donation of gift cards. It was a real treat for the boys.




Safe Harbor is honored to be the recipient of this donation. We are deeply indebted to you for your confidence in our program and in the boys we serve who will be the husbands, fathers and employees of tomorrow. With your help Safe Harbor will continue to effect permanent and positive change in the lives of the boys we serve.

Because 100% of our funding comes from individuals, corporate donors and foundation grants, the number of boys who are able to benefit from Safe Harbor is directly tied to the amount of donations received. You are a partner with us in receiving the reward of knowing these young men are becoming men of character, integrity, and vision.

Thank you for being a part of changing lives in a positive manner. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to give me a call. Again, we thank you and ask God to bless you abundantly.

Warmest Regards,  
Robbie W. Smith (Mrs.)

# Arlington Congregational Church January 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1  Family First Sunday Communion Sunday	2 <i>Church Office Closed</i>	3	4 8:30 am Conversation & Coffee 6 pm OA Meeting <b>7 pm Stephen Min. Team</b>	5 10 am Exercise 7 pm Choir	6 <i>JCM Peer Minister Training</i>	7 <i>JCM Peer Minister Training</i> 9 am OA Meeting
8 <b>Fellowship Groups and new member luncheon</b> <i>JCM Peer Minister Training</i>	9	10	11 8:30 am Conversation & Coffee 6 pm OA Meeting <b>7 pm Worship Team</b>	12 10 am Exercise 7 pm Choir	13	14 9 am OA Meeting
15 Preview Budget Mtg. In Fellowship Hall after worship.	16	17 <b>7 pm Finance &amp; Facility Team</b>	18 8:30 a.m. Conversation & Coffee 6 pm OA Meeting <b>7 pm Christian Ed. Team</b>	19 10 am Exercise 7 pm Choir	20	21  <b>6 pm Chili Cook-Off</b> 9 am OA Meeting
22 New Member Orientation after worship	23 <b>7 pm - ACC Justice Ministry Team</b>	24	25 8:30 a.m. Conversation & Coffee 6 pm OA Meeting <b>7 pm Council Team</b>	26 10 am Exercise 7 pm Choir	27	28  <i>Daytona Rolex 24</i> 9 am OA Meeting
29 <i>Daytona Rolex 24</i> <b>Annual Meeting after worship</b>	30	31				

**NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

The deadline for the **February 2012** newsletter is **January 18<sup>th</sup>**.

Please email your articles to:

admin@accucc.org

**CHURCH STAFF**

- Bruce Havens, Pastor  
*pastor@accucc.org*
- Twila Rhodes,  
Christian Education Director  
*youthzone1210@att.net*
- Robyn Reed,  
Administrative Assistant  
*admin@accucc.org*
- Web site: [www.accucc.org](http://www.accucc.org)

**OFFICE HOURS:** Mon-Fri, 9 am -1 pm

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- 5 Eric Rivera
- 6 Bob Negaard
- 7 Sheri Souers
- 7 Michelle del Pino
- 9 John McKeon
- 10 Kitty Crawford
- 16 LaMar Smart
- 22 Erin Walker
- 26 Annette Negaard
- 26 Taylor Corder
- 26 Peyton Burris
- 29 Arlene Cossum
- 30 Jerry Buirge
- 30 Brenda Milton



**Arlington Congregational Church**

"No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here".

431 University Boulevard North, Jacksonville, FL 32211  
(904) 724-7433  
[www.accucc.org](http://www.accucc.org)

**JANUARY 2012**

Current Resident OR

---

Non-Profit  
Org.U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Jacksonville, FL  
Permit No. 2567

---

