



BINKLEY NEWSLETTER

MAY 7, 2008

May Musings

I have always been intrigued by May Day, a collection of various labor holidays and pagan and Christian Holy Days. In its social and political sense, May 1st is International Worker's Day, commemorating historic achievements of the labor movement and in remembrance of the 1886 Haymarket Riot in Chicago which led to the official sanction of the eight-hour workday. In many European countries, May Day is an official government holiday that is often referred to as "Labor Day".

I am even more fascinated by the ancient spiritual roots of May Day. It was originally a Celtic and European festival celebrating fertility and the return of spring and the sun. As with many pagan holidays, it soon had its Christian overlay. May Day is exactly a half-year from November 1, All Saints Day. It was also known as Beltane, the ancient Gaelic holiday celebrated in Scotland and Ireland. May 1st was Cross-quarter Day, marking the midpoint in the Sun's progress between the spring equinox and the summer solstice. In rural areas, it was the beginning of the pastoral season when herds of livestock were driven out to summer pastures and mountain grazing lands.

The lighting of bonfires on mountains and hills was the most important activity of Beltane. In fact, the word can mean "bright fire", or "shining one". The Druids would kindle bonfires on top of a hill and rush the village cattle through the flames to purify them and get rid of the vestiges of winter sickness. People would also jump between the fires to purify themselves and to seek good luck in the coming year.

In a May Day sermon, James Ishmael Ford, a Unitarian minister, said that this holiday speaks to the spiritual shift we experience when winter cynicism and despair finally give way to hope and a sense of possibility. It is a time for looking at new directions and possibilities.

I like May Day with its complex layering of spiritual and political elements, pagan and Christian roots, green earth and hot ashes. It is brim-full of image and metaphor. It reminds me of the cross-points in my own life, the intersection of politics and faith, the convergence of activism and fire-gazing. I feel a longing to gather together my many competing selves and herd them through a purifying fire, cleansing away all that weighs me down.

Next Sunday, May 11th, is Pentecost, another important Christian festival where flames and wind are central images. In ecclesiastical calendars Pentecost is the seventh Sunday after Easter and closes Eastertide. On this day, the church commemorates God's Spirit descending on the disciples in tongues of fire accompanied by the sound of a rush of wind. Pentecost is observed as the birthday of the church, marking the time when God made visible the divine sparks that live in each human soul. And like the early disciples, we in our time and place can also feel freshened by a season of energy and action, reminded that our vocation is to reach out across differences to create new community.

May we celebrate this month of May with all its fire and spirit!

Denise

Church Council: The Church in Conference elected the following officers and members of the Church Council on May 4: Moderator-elect: Janie Benson; Stewardship Committee Co-chairs: Karen Long and Kathy Bryan; Long-Range Planning Committee Chair: Van Tanner; Board of Outreach Chair: Judy Sordean; Youth Representative: Stephanie O'Daly; Church Council Members-at-Large: Jean Westbrook and Adams Wofford Church Treasurer: Rachel Avery; and Financial Secretary: C.L. Morton. We thank them for their willingness to serve the congregation.—*Jim Wilde*

Earth Ministry Committee will meet on **Tuesday, May 13, at 7:30 p.m.** in the Lounge. All are welcome! Contact Allison Smith Corum for more information.

Prime Timers meets on **Wednesday, May 14, 12:30 pm** in the lounge. Lunch is \$6.00. Binkley member and contract producer of short stories for UNC-TV Billy Barnes will present “TV Land Adventures of a Cheap Charles Kuralt”. Billy will include some of his favorite shows, as well as Q&A about the process, and will end with a story about world famous NC twins. Sign up outside Beth’s office. If not having lunch, please indicate.

Binkley Readers: Binkley Readers will meet Friday evening **May 16** in the church lounge at **7:30 pm**. The book for discussion is “An American Childhood” by Annie Dillard.



Daytime Book Group meets **Tuesday May 27, 10:30 am**. Gladess Crisp will lead a discussion of “The Woods” by Harlan Corbin.

Save the Date: Barbee's/Binkley Women's Fellowship Supper: **Saturday, May 31; 6-9 pm;** Binkley Fellowship Hall. Women from Binkley and Barbee's Chapel/Harvest Word will eat supper, share Bible Study, and have fun! Contact Nancie McDermott; 933-8850; nanciemac@yahoo.com.

Yard Sale Opportunities! **August 16** may seem like a long time away, but it's now time to organize for our 2008 Binkley/Barbee’s Yard Sale! Enclosed is Yard Sale Volunteer Form. Please consider helping out, and join in the work (and fun!), fill out a form, and leave it in the church office, or go to www.binkleychurch.org to submit our online volunteer form. Call Tom Fewel (929-3594), Ann Cockrell (383-4379) or Carole Stevens (967-6590) with questions. And of course, it's time for that spring cleaning and gathering of treasures for the sale!

Musical Notes: Another “**Night to Remember**” is coming! On **Saturday, June 7 at 7:30 pm**, come to the Fellowship Hall for a night of jazz entertainment by Caryl Thomason Price, Billy Barnes and Mike Davis.

Photos! For the celebration of the 50th anniversary of Binkley Church we need photos of people and happenings at Binkley over the last 50 years. Photos will be returned! Put your name and phone number on the back of each one, and place them in the Fine Arts mail box in the office. Contact Rachel Avery at 942-6150. Thank you for helping us remember the past 50 years at Binkley.—*The 50th Anniversary Committee*

Calling All Graduates: If you or someone in your household is graduating or has recently graduated from High School, College or Graduate School, please contact Dale at dale@binkleychurch.org or 942-4964 ext. 26 to leave the following information: name of graduate, school and degree earned if applicable. Thank you for helping us to recognize our graduates in the next newsletter and in the last Sunday in May worship bulletin.

NAMI Walks for the Mind of America: NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) is the largest education, support and advocacy organization that serves the needs of all whose lives are touched by mental illness. We are fortunate to have a NAMI affiliate here in Orange County, and we will have Binkley represented by several walkers. This year’s NAMI Walks is on **May 17, 2008** on the grounds of Dorothea Dix State Hospital in Raleigh. If you are interested in walking these 2.3 miles, or would like to support a Binkley walker: please go to www.nami.org and type in Julia Hicks, Barbara Nettles-Carlson, Susan Read, Barbara or Gove Elder (in the walker’s name field at the top right). One half of all money raised will go back to Orange County NAMI.

Binkley-Barbee's Yard Sale Volunteer Sign-Up Form



**Yard Sale Date: Saturday,
August 16, 2008**

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

I'd like to work:

- Where Most Needed
- Accessories, Jewelry
- Bake Shop
- Books, Games, Music
- Children's Clothing,
Toys, Furniture
- Collectibles
- Computers, Electronics
- Electrical Appliances
- Furniture
- Hardware, Tools,
Automotive
- Kitchen

- Linens
- Men's Clothing
- Recreation and
Relaxation
- White Elephants
- Women's Clothing
- Women's Finer Things
- Yard, Gardens, Plants
- Set Up
- Clean Up
- Greeters
- Pick Up and Delivery

PLEASE LEAVE YOUR COMPLETED YARD SALE SIGN UP FORM IN THE CHURCH OFFICE!

The Olin T Binkley Memorial Baptist Church



*September 20th & 21st 2008, and the 50th Anniversary
Celebration for Binkley Church will be here
before we can blink an eye!!*

Please send us your Binkley memories! Your “BINKLEY MEMORIES – The First 50 Years” should not exceed the front and back of an 8 ½ X 11” sheet of paper, typed and single spaced. It may be shorter if you wish, and you may submit more than one memory. Please include your full name, dates of your Binkley membership, and the approximate date that your memory took place. You can send in your Binkley memories in several ways:

1. Email them to: nbradleywilburn@hotmail.com, or
2. Mail them to: Nettie Wilburn, 100 Gristmill Lane, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, or
3. Visit the Binkley website at www.binkleychurch.org, and go to the “Memory Form” link on the home page. You’ll find an online form to simply fill out and submit.

If you have any questions, call Nettie Bradley Wilburn at 919-967-3103.

Church Committees and Other Binkley Room Users: Kindly remember, when your group has used a Binkley space for a meeting, to clean up the room and to put it back in the order in which it was found.

A Note From Leandra... The new wooden music stand in the sanctuary was given by friends of Mike and Barbara Davis in thanks for the many years of musical gifts Binkley has received from Mike and Barbara. The stand was custom-made for us of walnut and zebrawood by Michael Norris in Idaho. Thank you, Barbara and Mike!

The Children's Choir has new robes! The purchase of the robes was made possible by several generous gifts, including a large gift given by Mark and Jane Walters in memory of Mark's grandmother, Edith Walters (Muz). Grandparents are special people! Thank you to Jane and Mark for sharing Muz's memory with the children and the congregation of Binkley in this way!

Council and Diaconate Retreat, Saturday, May 17, 9:00am – 4:00pm, Wesley Foundation Center, Chapel Hill. New and returning members of the Binkley Church Council and Diaconate will meet for a retreat and orientation time together with separate break-out sessions. More information will be forthcoming, but participants may contact Jim Wilde, Chair of the Diaconate, jmwilde@mindspring.com, 942-1952, or Dick Clifford, Moderator of the Church Council, dickclifford@mindspring.com, 929-2206, for more information.

Are You Ready to Have Fun?! VBS and End Of Year
Picnic Registration forms are in the narthex!



END OF YEAR PICNIC

Sunday, May 18, Homestead Park, 3:00 pm

Softball, Barbeque, Celebrate Christian Education!



VBS RAINFOREST ADVENTURE

July 6, 6pm Kick Off; July 7-11, 9am-12pm Vacation School Days

July 13, 10 am Celebration Worship

VBS is for children ages 4 (by Aug. 31) through completed 5th grade. Please see Jamie Rogers-Cook or Ilona Page about volunteer opportunities.

Habitat Trip June 16-21: If you are 16 or older and would like to build a Habitat house in Richmond, VA next month then please sign up on Dale's office door. We will leave on a Monday after business hours and return by lunch on Saturday. No prior experience is necessary. We will sleep at a local church in Richmond. Join us in providing safe affordable housing for a family nearby.

BINKLEY YTD CONTRIBUTIONS:

As shown in the chart to the right, pledge contributions through April are \$32,161 below the pro-rata budgeted amount. Pledges usually run behind during the summer months, but this year the shortfall is significantly greater than any April in the last eleven years. Please keep pledge contributions current so the church can meet its commitments. Thanks.
- Don Willhoit

		BINKLEY OPERATING RESULTS		
		YTD Apr 08	YTD Apr 08	
		Actual	Budget	Difference
2007 Pledges		\$4,850	\$5,000	(\$150)
2008 Pledges		178,172	210,333	(32,161)
Non-Pledged		10,711	13,333	(2,622)
Undesignated		2,642	2,600	42
Birthday Bank		157	500	(343)
Building Use		9,406	8,333	1,073
Total Income		\$205,938	\$240,099	(\$34,161)
Total Expenses		222,325	236,748	(\$14,423)
Excess Income-Expenses		(\$16,387)	\$3,351	(\$19,738)
PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND				
	Balance	Donations	Assistance	Balance
	4/1/08	Received	Given	4/30/08
	\$1,543	\$2,130	\$997	\$2,676

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS: Thanks to the following folks who will be volunteering in the nursery in the coming weeks:

- **May 11:** Fred and Sue Schroeder, Patricia Shane, Weldon Thornton, Deborah Tippet, Anna Kirby and Angela Snider (greeter).
- **May 18:** Lu Stella, Ellen, Gary and Drew Stutts, Dan Textoris and Kara Richards-baker (gGreeter)
- **May 25:** Mark and Amy Phelan, Jeff, Pam and Matthew Swanson, and Tamara Dempsey-Tanner (greeter)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY: We're embarrassed to realize that we neglected to acknowledge the April birthdays in the March newsletter, so here they are. Wishing you all a belated on time or future "Happy Birthday"! So sorry. - *Maureen Rosen*

APRIL BIRTHDAYS		12	Olivia Johnson	20	Mable Strowd, Zachary Szostak
4	Nathaniel Jenkins	13	Lin Crockett	21	Jacob Osborne, Angela Swanson
6	Alex Swanson	14	Neal Cheek, Chandler Zirkle	23	Abbie Dickinson, Bob Willis
7	Lynn Marshall	15	Lydia Osborne, Michael Turner	24	Kristin Jenkins
8	Jonathan Avery, Ruby Pardington, Alexa Savelli, Bonnie Stevenson	16	Alexis Avery, Julia Avery, Carol Vander Zwaag	25	Priscilla Bratcher, Gordon DeFriesse, Jery Soldi
9	Ann Brock, Samantha Burris, Peggy Kinnaird, Sophia Palmer, Kareem Shah, Will Warasila	17	Bob Bratcher, Marcella Burk Groon, Nancie McDermott, Julie McKenzie	26	Ellen Sorrells, Harshi Turner
10	Caryl Price, Karen Stewart	18	Joe Clontz, Jeremy Fisher	28	Eric Peaks Jr, Jaana Siple
11	Amy Gellatly, Racquel Guy, Dana Trent	19	Christopher Schmid	29	Reed Willis
BEST WISHES FOR A GREAT YEAR!				30	Susan Christopher, Caroline Lindsay, Jackie O'Daly, Jim Wilde

MAY BIRTHDAYS		14	Ella Guy, Savannah Nobles	23	Travis Berger, Jody Hite, Carol Kille, Stephanie O'Daly, Hunter Quinlan
1	Michelle Christopher, Emma McNairy	15	Bill Dickinson, Meghan Morton, Allen Smith	24	Michael Resnik
2	Pat Harriss, William Maltbie, Mark Wells	16	Linda Hill-Wise, Terry Huneycutt-Horn	25	Bill Bodkin, Martha Green, Beth Honeycutt, Amy Quinlan
3	Elley Shelp-Peck	18	June Bratcher, Colby Rabalais	26	Carol Hogue, Allan Maltbie, Wesley Sorrells
4	Jenny Pyatt	19	Tom Fewel, Jo Lea, Gloria Lightsey Lewis, Walker Richards-Baker	27	Mike Reed
5	Lynn York	20	Shanequa Williams	28	Willard Hamrick, Eric Nelson, Bereket Selassie, Evey Wooten
7	Andrew Baker, Lena Hudock, Andrew Weathers	20	Tessa McKenzie-Keyser	29	Libba Wells
10	Bob Goetz, Talmadge Walker	21	Brooks Smith	30	Justus Heizer
12	Marge Miles	22	Donald Beeson, Lee Corum	31	Carol Bailey, Gove Elder

And while we're on the subject of being embarrassed, here are the April and May anniversary celebrations, too!

HAPPY APRIL ANNIVERSARIES!	
30	Harshi and Michael Turner 2005
HAPPY MAY ANNIVERSARIES!	
4	Betsy & Yue Wu 1994
10	David & Gretchen Phillips 2003
15	Jerry & Elio Soldi 1965
18	Lynn Calder & Sonke Johnson 1997
18	Lou & Sally Shook 1991
18	Ellen & Gary Stutts 1985
20	Herman Greene & Sandra Payne 2000

21	Susan Read & Randy Russell 1988
21	Dean & Linnea Smith
22	Brian Graves & Beth Honeycutt 2004
25	Nancy Ehle & Warren Nord 1985
25	Daniel & Raqi Gut 1996
26	Sharlene & Craig Meisner 1974
27	Bill & Abbie Dickinson 1972
27	Bill McNairy & Libby Fosso 1989
29	Ellen & Wesley Sorrells 1999
31	Carl Henley & Martha Henderson 1981

Prayer Concerns in the Church Family: Norma Willhoit, Carolyn Kozelka, Martha Tate, Jan Clark, Robert Hughes, Kathy Bryan, Jane Hill, Gladys Matthewson, Julie Lentz, Lyn and Nash Pollard, Gretchen Aylsworth, Bess Bailey, Sarah Buren, Joan Ewing, Roma Harris, Martha Henderson, Phillippi family, Coye Rogers, Dean Smith, Millie Smith, Pam Swanson-Boyd and the Minister Search Committee.

Prayer Concerns in the Extended Family: Carol Richardson (Bonnie and Laura Rogers' mother), Chris Todderoskki (friend of Kent Coyle), Ann Huffman (Anne Huffman's sister-in-law), Sally Resnik Rockriver (David Resnik's sister), Margie DeWoskin (Laurie Freeman's daughter), Michelle Cootis, Briuna Richardson, Virginia Coyle (Kent Coyle's mother), Tony Lamont (Lyn Lamont's son), Samuel and Elizabeth Pollard (Lyn Pollard's brother), Landon Mazer (Van Tanner's friend), Yvonne Chapman (Barbee's Chapel), Boyd Switzer (Katherine Walker's father), John Kent's father, Tim Buckley (Geraldine King's friend), Kim Archer and David Bouldin (friends of Allen and Millie Smith), Marge Butera Sedlak (Karen Long's friend), Johnnie Johnson, (friend of Lillian Lee), Hope Conway (Kit Conway's mother), Karen Brock (Ann and Roy Brock's daughter-in-law), family of Thomas Barnett (Karen Long's friend), Joyce Bradley (Kent Coyle's friend), Tan and Scott Coats, Richard Cole (Kent Coyle's uncle), Tara Hogan (Talmadge Walker's niece), Thalia Falk, (Nettie Wilburn's friend), Gayle Gordon (Ruth Nagle's sister), Christine Hopkins (Anne Fishel's mother), Verla Insko's mother, Ethel Moses (Nettie Wilburn's sister), Jessica Mosqueda (Jo Flair's granddaughter), Dan Peck (Bill Peck's brother), Rebecca Rogers (Susan's mother), Jeanne Schulte (Gladess Crisp's friend), Sebene Selassie (Bereket's daughter), Linnea Smith's father, Don & Sally Weil (Doug and Susan MacKinnon's friends), Health Center Residents.

In The Military: Logan Peck (Bill Peck's nephew, in Iraq); Todd Thomas (son of Libba Wells' cousin, in Iraq).

We offer prayers of sympathy the family of Susan Read and Randy Russell, whose father recently died; to Robert Hughes, whose grandmother died on April 15; and to Jan Clark, whose aunt Vivian Wilson, died on April 19.

We offer a prayer of gratitude for having Bryan Buchanan, Kathy Bryan's nephew, safely home from Afghanistan.

Binkley Baptist Church

1712 Willow Drive
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
(919) 942-4964
www.binkleychurch.org

Nonprofit Org. US Postage Paid Chapel Hill, NC Permit No. 70

Denise Cumbee Long, *Interim Senior Minister*

denise@binkleychurch.org, ext. 27

Dale Osborne, *Associate Minister*

Dale@binkleychurch.org, ext. 26

Beth Honeycutt, *Minister of Christian Education*

Beth@binkleychurch.org, ext. 25

Leandra Merea Strobe, *Minister of Music*

Leandra@binkleychurch.org, ext. 24

Chris Fisher, *Business Manager*

Business@binkleychurch.org, ext. 23

Maureen Rosen, *Office Manager*

Office@binkleychurch.org, ext. 10

Bo Lloyd, Organist

Megan Stauffer, Nursery Director

Nicole Suddeth, Nursery Caregiver

Robert E. Seymour, *Minister Emeritus*

Pearl Seymour, *Organist Emerita*

Bill Eastman, Volunteer Minister of Visitation

Gloria Lightsey-Lewis, Volunteer Minister of Church Growth

Marlene Dickison, Director of Binkley Pre-School

Carl Moraven (DCM Cleaning Company), Custodian