

CAHU – December 2009 Newsletter

President's Message

The Reverend Joe Hamby provided a spirited presentation at our December meeting titled "Discovering Joy through Simplicity and Generosity." As we approach the holidays this year we're living in uncertain economic times, causing many of us to reflect upon our focus and priorities. Rev. Hamby spoke simply and from the heart with some wonderful ideas about giving in this special season.

During the meeting, we presented a check for \$3,700 to The Spokes Group, a Charlotte charity founded in 1994 by CAHU Board member Andy Beard and retired member Dick Dunn. They have purchased and assembled 2050 bicycles and helmets to give away to children through the Salvation Army's Christmas Bureau and organizations such as Right Moves for Youth. The Spokes Group was featured in a front-page article in *The Charlotte Observer* on December 7- please read it if you missed it last week.

Next up for the January 6, 2010 meeting is our annual health care panel format, "Health Care Reform: Are We There Yet?" Board member Brook Seaford has put together some provocative questions for our four panelists that will elicit lively debate and discussion. In the meantime, it's critical that every member of CAHU continue to email and call our legislators and urge them to get health care reform done right. We need to focus on solutions for lowering the cost of health care without adding to the deficit.

Here's wishing you and your family a peaceful and joyous holiday season.

-Nat Smith