

**WE WELCOME VISITORS** who are attending our service of worship today. **EVERYONE** is requested to sign the attendance pad found at the end of each pew. We request visitors also to note their addresses and telephone numbers.

**USHERS:** Walter Hoffman, Ann Hoffman, June Grubb, Doris Sink

**PLATE ATTENDANT:** John Potts

**ACOLYTES:** Ashley Johnson and Kalyssa Hutchens

**GREETERS:** Thomas, Sauni, Ashley, Sarah and Abigail Johnson

**NURSERY (Birth through 6 years-old):** Keri Hartle and Ashlee Lopp

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Sadie Bailey, Rita Tussey, Ronnie Durham, Arlene Swing, Margaret Trexler, Jacqueline Leonard, Frances Leonard, Joel Reece, Juanita and Henry Beck, Ernestine and Henry Kennedy, Willie Ruth Leonard, Johnny Sink, Paul Stevens (Lisa Nelson's Cousin), Van "Buster" Conrad (Gray Family), Melvin Evans (Paul Freeman's Uncle), Ernie Bonner, Jacob Berrier, and Susan Cadwallader (Anne Fletcher's Mother). To place a name on the prayer chain, please call Adena Wall at 249-1904 or the church office.



We extend **SYMPATHY** to and share Christian hope with Sadie Bailey upon the death of her sister and our friend, Ethel Bailey.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Today, December 27    | 9:45 a.m. ----- SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR EVERYONE  |
|                       | 11:00 a.m. ----- WORSHIP SERVICE ( <b>NEW MEMBER SUNDAY</b> )   |
|                       | Noon----- <b>CONGREGATIONAL WELCOMING LUNCH</b> {FH}  |
| Thursday, December 31 | 5:30 p.m. ----- Yoga Class {Parlor}   |
| Friday, January 1     | Office Holiday  |
| Sunday, January 3     | 9:45 a.m. ----- JOINT ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL {Lesson: <b>New Way Class</b> }   |
|                       | 10:20 a.m. ----- SUNDAY SCHOOL SOCIAL<br>{Host: Cheryl and Bill Walser, Janette Neal and John Potts}                |
|                       | 11:00 a.m. ----- THE COVENANT SERVICE AND HOLY COMMUNION<br>Ordination/Installation of Elders and Deacons           |
|                       | Noon----- <b>DECORATING AND HANGING OF THE GREENS COMMITTEES</b><br><b>REMOVE DECORATIONS FROM CHURCH BUILDINGS</b> |
| Tuesday, January 5    | 6:30 p.m. ----- <b>Search Committee Meeting</b> {Parlor}  |
| Wednesday, January 6  | 11:00 a.m. ----- MORNING GLORY CIRCLE {Parlor}  |
|                       | 7:00 p.m. ----- Adult Choir Practice  |

December 20, 2009 Attendance (Worship 139)

Offering Received \$6,878.20

December 21, 2008 Attendance (Worship 138)

Needed each Sunday to meet Budget \$5,574.00

#### Church Staff

Reverend Walter Patten, Ph.D., Intentional Interim Minister

Amy McNeill, Director of Christian Education

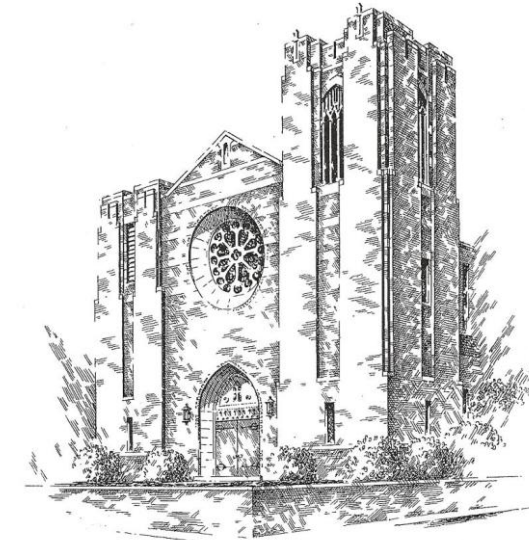
(Cell #336-420-2728 Home #336-632-1985)

Paul Freeman, Choir Director

Lee Ann Peele, Organist

Paula Lopp, Administrative Asst

# *First Reformed United Church of Christ*



*Where People Discover - - -  
The Love of God  
The Power to Love Others  
The Ability to Love Ourselves*

*104 East Center Street*

*Office (336) 248-2617*

*Lexington, NC 27292*

*Fax (336) 248-6163*

*Website [www.frucc.org](http://www.frucc.org)*

*email - [church@frucc.org](mailto:church@frucc.org)*

*Sunday, December 27, 2009*

# Service of Divine Worship

First Sunday after Christmas

December 27, 2009

## Preparation for Worship

Prelude "Tell the Good News" Smith  
\*Chimes Sounding the Hour  
\*Time of Greeting  
Announcements  
Choral Call to Worship  
Solemn Declaration

## Praise to God

\*Hymn "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" No. 102  
\*Responsive Call to Worship {Isaiah 60:1-3}  
Minister: Arise, shine; for your light has come.  
**People: And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**  
Minister: For the darkness shall cover the earth,  
**People: And thick darkness the peoples;**  
Minister: But the Lord will arise upon you.  
**People: And his glory will appear over you.**  
Minister: Nations shall come to your light,  
**People: And kings to the brightness of your dawn.**

\*Gloria Patri  
Invocation

## Confession of Sin

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer for the Confession of Sin

**Eternal God, take from us that sin by which we declare we have no sin. Make us sorry for all the ways we have wounded one another. Keep us penitent for our neglect of the world's suffering, for the sick we have not visited, for the hungry we have not fed, for the naked we have not clothed, for the prisoners we have not set free. Especially, deepen our sadness for not having loved enough the holy, and the innocent. Humble us now in our sin, forgive us, and help us make ready to receive thy Light, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Kyrie and Assurance of Pardon - - - Amen Sung

## Witness of Faith

The Order for the Reception of New Members into the Church  
The Statement of Faith Inside Cover of the Red Hymnal  
The Invitation to the Candidates *(Please come to the Altar as your names are called.)*  
The Questions of the Candidates *(Answers: "I do." and "I promise, with the help of God.")*  
The Address  
The Question of the Candidates about Participation *(Answer: "I promise, with the help of God.")*  
\*Statement of Welcome and Reception from the Congregation  
**We welcome you with joy in the common life of First Reformed United Church of Christ. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**  
Greeting of Christian Love Rev. Patten and Scott Frye, Consistory President  
Prayer  
Benediction *(Candidates may return to their seats.)*  
Anthem "The Earliest Christmas Morn" Althouse

## Proclamation of the Word

The Old Testament Reading Genesis 22 (Page #17 of Pew Bible)  
The New Testament Reading Luke 4:16-19 (Page #936 of Pew Bible)  
Message **STAY WITH ME** Cameron Barr

## Response Through Dedication

Invitation to Give  
Giving of Tithes and Offerings  
The Offertory  
\*The Doxology and Offertory Prayer

## Preparation for Obedience in the World

\*Hymn "O Thou Joyful, O Thou Wonderful" No. 117  
\*Responsive Call to Dedication  
Leader: And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"  
**People: Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."**  
\*The Benediction  
\*Postlude "How Great Our Joy" Koury  
**\*Those who are able please stand**

# New Member Sunday

First Reformed UCC is welcoming new members: **Darren, Betty, Cameron, and Peyton Barr, Ernie Bonner, and Adam McKerlie** today, December 27<sup>th</sup>. Following the worship service, a welcoming luncheon will be served in the fellowship hall.

***We are all invited to our welcoming luncheon for our new members in the FH across the street. I will ask our new members and their families to exit with me through the side doors, requesting that you follow along to the fellowship hall through the most convenient exit. WP***



Meal donations will be accepted at the door. Please come get to know our new members and enjoy Sunday lunch with your church family.

## The Barr Family

**Betty and Darren Barr** have been married twenty-seven years and have two sons, Cameron and Peyton.

**Cameron**, an Eagle Scout, graduated with a Political Science Degree from Davidson College in May 2009. He is now a first year Divinity student at Vanderbilt University in Tennessee.

**Peyton** is a junior at West Davidson High School currently working on his Eagle Scout project at Churchland Elementary School. He is active in sports and is an avid runner and exercise enthusiast. Peyton is a leader in the Lancaster Seminary *Leadership NOW* Program. Last summer he traveled to Thailand and will likely travel to India this summer.

**Betty** owns and operates The Lexington License Tag office in addition to The Tax Office. She is very active with West Davidson High School thru the Boosters Club and the Concession Stand, to name a few involvements.

**Darren**, currently unemployed, is exploring new career paths and business opportunities. He had previously served in regional and national capacities with Factory Built housing and Recreational Vehicle Industries, both in sales and multiple management positions.

We want to say thank you for allowing us to become a part of the First Reformed United Church of Christ family.

## Ernie Bonner

I was born in Charlotte, NC and graduated in 1966 from Garringer High School. I attended Pfeiffer College and UNCG. During my career I have traveled performing jazz, gospel, and rock music up and down the east coast. In 1994 I married Sherry. I look forward to being a member of the First Reformed UCC family.

## Adam McKerlie

My name is Adam McKerlie and I am now 19 years old. I'm a 2009 graduate of Lexington Senior High School and currently a freshman at Elon University in Elon College, NC where I'm a premedical biology major and chemistry/neuroscience minor. I hope to specialize in neurosurgery in medical school in my near future. Peyton Barr is my best friend and we have had some good times together. I participated in a group called *Leadership NOW* which was based at Lancaster Theological Seminary in Lancaster, PA. It is a summer academy which teaches its exclusive students about taking a role of leadership in their communities through church and independent measures. They recently did a summer global experience (SGE) to Chiang Mai, Thailand which was an eye-opening experience about the local culture, religion, communal issues, and how they view American citizens. When not at school, I live at 203 Duke Drive here in Lexington with my father Brian McKerlie and Mike Price and I often visit my mom Beverly McKerlie who lives in Greensboro, NC. I have requested a Letter of Transfer from Second Reformed UCC. I have decided to join First Reformed UCC in hopes to establish myself as a more permanent individual of this fine community.

**THANK YOU** to Cameron Barr for sharing the message in our service of worship today. Reverend Patten will be in the office intermittently until the first of the year.