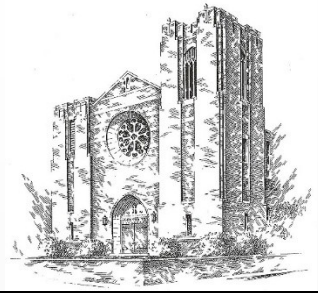


First News

First Reformed United Church of Christ, Lexington, North Carolina



November 2009

Pastor's Notes



We have much to share with you this month, so let's get right to it.

Sunday, November 1, 2009: 1) Please note that the ol' **Daylight Saving Time** goblin is going to mess with your clock and mine at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning, pulling the hour hand back for one hour, magically morphing 2:00 a.m. instantly into 1:00 a.m., meaning that your alarm, wherever it is set, will jar you to consciousness one hour later than you would expect. This extra hour of sleep is what I call the upside to DST, removing any excuse you might have had for being late to church! 2) This being All Saints day, we will observe our traditional **Memorial Service** for our members who have passed since last year's service, so your ministry of presence is especially important on this occasion, particularly for family members and relatives for whom this service is tender. 3) We will hear from our **Nominating Committee** about their selections for open leadership positions, reminding you that nominations from the "floor" will be held on the following Sunday, November 8. Please observe the criteria for participating in this process, mentioned in last month's Notes. 4) Do give generously to our **CROP "walkers"** who are asking for you to sponsor them in this ministry. Everyone gathers at First Baptist Church for the walk to begin approximately at 2:00 p.m. 5) Our **Community Youth Group (CYG)** met here for the first time at 6:00 p.m. Sunday, October 18, during which everyone had a great time, as you will see as **I refer you to Amanda Fulton's article in this issue of First News, page 2.** The CYG will meet again here this Sunday at 6:00 p.m., with **Tracy Stull and friends from Reeds UMC providing the meal.** An away-trip for the CYG is planned for Saturday, November 14, as they attend the Wake Forest football game! Our CYG is off to a great start!

Sunday, November 8, 2009: 1) We will observe **Dedication Sunday** as we receive our pledges and "estimates of sharing" which will enable us to plan and project our FRUCC ministries into many places and situations for next year. Please be giving your stewardship opportunities both here and with your "Time & Talent" sheets every prayerful consideration as we prepare to respond faithfully with the very resources that God has entrusted to us. 2) If we receive nominations from the floor at this time, we will prepare ballots and then vote on Sunday, November 15; if there are no such nominations, then the Nominating Committee's slate of officers will be officially established for next year without further balloting.

Saturday, November 14, 2009: 1) I am gratified by the interests that many of you have expressed about Stephen Ministry, some of whom cannot go to the special introductory meeting that we will attend at St. James Presbyterian Church in Greensboro. In alphabetical order, those persons who have committed to this meeting are: **John Barber, Dave Fulton, Glenyce Fulton, Alisa Johnson, Camille Morgan, Teresa Parks, Andrea Reagan and Eddie Yates.** While I will drive from my home, the rest will carpool from our FRUCC parking lot, leaving around 8:00 a.m. and returning by 2:00 p.m. All fees have been paid and there will be a fruit bowl & snacks available, and we have room for more. Again, your attendance does not imply commitment to the Stephen Ministry itself, but do contact me soon. 2) **CYG at Wake Forest!**

Sunday, November 22, 2009: Plan now to attend **our annual Thanksgiving Service with Second Reformed UCC,** scheduled for 6:30 p.m. here, with combined choirs and **Rev. Joe Coltrane preaching,** refreshments to follow.



Sunday, November 29, 2009: I've been trying to get the **Madrigal Singers** from Grimsley High School, Greensboro, to perform here almost since I arrived...they really are that hard to book! Now, it's going to happen, on the first Sunday in Advent, here in our sanctuary at 6:00 p.m., with a reception to follow. **Please refer to page 3 of this issue of FN for the full scoop.** You might even notice Rachael Patten in the blue dress, fourth from the left, on the front row! *Blessings and Shalom, Pastor Walt*

Community Youth Group Update

The first **Community Youth Group** meeting took place at First Reformed UCC on October 18th with twelve young people in attendance from various churches in Lexington. There were several youth from First Reformed, two from Second Reformed, and several from Reeds United Methodist! The evening began with a great taco dinner (a special thanks to **Mike Price, Brian McKerlie and Eddie and Belinda Yates**) and a lot of great conversation among the young people as they became acquainted with each other. After dinner, **Tracy Stull** from Reeds UMC led the kids in several ice breakers and fun games which got us all up and moving! Following the games, **Chris Fulton** led them in a lesson on friendship. We discussed our friendships with people in our personal lives as well as our friendship with Christ and his sacrifice for us. The youth broke into small groups to discuss trust and respect within their friendships and the lesson closed with a snip from the movie "Napoleon Dynamite" where Napoleon dances in front of the whole school to gain popularity and votes for his friend Pedro who is running for Student Body President. The youth were able to make a connection between real life experiences with friendship and



what happened in the movie. During the closing, the youth and leaders gathered together in a circle and each person shared a prayer out loud. Many prayers were said for our youth group...everyone wanted to meet again soon.

Amanda Fulton

(P.S. And meet again we will, 6:00 p.m. Sunday, November 1, at First Reformed UCC!)

Organizing leaders: Dawn Jenkins, Ken Davis, Sara March Barber, Amanda Fulton, Tracy Stull, Chris Fulton, and Reverend Walter Patten.



MADRIGAL SINGERS

First Reformed UCC Sanctuary

6 p.m. Sunday, November 29, 2009

The First Reformed United Church of Christ **Arthur and Maggie Thomason Endowment** is sponsoring a concert by the Grimsley High School Madrigal Singers on Sunday afternoon, November 29 as a kickoff to the Advent Season.



Since 1966 the Grimsley High School Madrigal Singers have been known for choral excellence throughout the state. Instantly recognizable in their authentic Renaissance attire, they are even better known for their captivating performances. The Madrigals, as they are commonly known, are proud to represent Grimsley and Greensboro locally, nationally and internationally as they continue this long-standing tradition. The singers are all in 11th or 12th grade and along with their musical duties are active in school athletics, honor societies, church and civic organizations, community theater, service clubs and myriad other community service organizations. The students are solely responsible for the program's fundraising, and are grateful for the support given by the community throughout the years. Each year the Madrigals prepare repertoire for eight major performance events: the Carolina Renaissance Festival, Fall Concert, Christmas Caroling, NCMEA Festival, Master's in the Hall Annual A Cappella Showcase, a touring program, Spring Concert, and prepare a major work with orchestra on Concerto Night. Many of the students also participate in the school musical, Governor's School, orchestra, band, school and private recitals, concerto competitions, and various camps and workshops. Recent tours include France, Italy, San Francisco, New York, and last year's Presidential Inauguration in Washington, DC. This year the Madrigals will return to New York City on tour in March.

The Madrigals' director, Marshall Johnson, is honored to continue the Madrigal tradition begun nearly forty years ago. A native North Carolinian, Mr. Johnson completed his Bachelor of Music Education degree at UNC-Greensboro and his Master of Music in Choral Conducting at The Ohio State University. A Grammy Award nominated singer, Mr. Johnson is honored to be Vocal Music Director and Music Department Chairman at Grimsley where he has been teaching since 2004. He resides in Greensboro with his wife Denise and daughter Greta, and directs music for contemporary worship at Grace United Methodist Church in Greensboro.

Consistory Highlights—October 2009

Financial Report: Paula Lopp, Administrative Assistant, distributed copies of the treasurer's report for September to all members. The average weekly offering for the month of September was \$3,384.00. General Fund balance is \$14,213.00, Building Fund is \$38,291.00, and Music Fund is \$7,558.00.



Pastor's Report: Reverend Patten handed out his 4-week report from September 14, 2009 to October 11, 2009: This report included 172 phone calls, 15 hospital visits, 68 office visits and approximately 58 hours work per week. Total number of people assisted by Pastor's Discretionary Fund since 4/15/08 was 90 with a balance of \$4,176.99.

- ◆ Reverend Patten wanted to thank the **Search Committee** for their work on creating an accurate, honest and statistically correct Congregational Profile. 1) First a large survey was mailed to all church members requesting data needed to complete the Church Profile. 2) The Search Committee then sent a letter to members who had not attended, communed or donated for a period of two years. This letter provided information about upcoming events with a special invitation to please come fellowship and worship with us. They were also asked to complete a simple, one page form entitled "**Membership Updates.**" In due course, approximately 20 responses were received, either with the form or by phone. This left 69 members with no response and 8 people with unknown addresses. 3) The Search Committee sent the last letter on September 30, 2009 exercising their constitutional right to declare them "inactive" as members of FRUCC and doing so with this communication. As a result of these actions, we now have a much more accurate membership total, in alignment with our actual resources which are available for Christian ministry. As of September 30, 2009, our total active membership was 401; as of October 11, 2009, our current active membership is 322.
- ◆ Has conducted two sessions in a new study series "**Living the Questions**", averaging about 20 persons for each Thursday evening. Exploring both our journeys with God as well as the answers that develop from those journeys. These sessions are on Thursday evenings starting at 7:15 pm. to 8:30 pm. beginning October 1st to the second Thursday in November the 12th, 2009. There will be session sheets to reinforce the lessons as well as refreshments. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- ◆ "**Community Youth Group (CYG)**" organizational meetings are going very well. As of this Friday October 9, some 18 area congregations, representing 4 denominations (Baptist, Presbyterian, United Methodist & UCC), have 37 adult persons, lay & clergy, who are posted on our email and telephone contact list. We have called such congregations "Track I," meaning churches for which this **CYG** ministry is a necessity. We have also identified "Track II" congregations, meaning those that are large enough to offer their own junior/senior youth programs, but are interested in what we are doing and would like to meet periodically with us for special purposes of area and larger interests. Our first actual **CYG** meeting with young people is now set for 6:00 pm Sunday, October 18th, here at **FRUCC**, where we will furnish the evening meal. I believe that we could have as many as 20 youth in attendance, with more than adequate adult supervision.
- ◆ The **Crop Walk** will be headed by Edgar Miller and Paula Lopp. It will start at the First Baptist Church at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 1st. If you are unable to walk please offer to be a sponsor.
- ◆ **Website Update:** If you have not checked our church website lately, please do so at your convenience and browse around for a while: www.frucc.org. Some great ideas are developing as to how we can use it in new and informative ways. Please share any of your ideas.
- ◆ **Stephen Ministry** is a workshop that helps train lay leaders to deal with sickness or pastoral care. It is a proven system for training & organizing lay people in congregations to provide high-quality, distinctively Christian care to people who are experiencing tough times. The workshop starts November 14th, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at St. James Presbyterian Church, 820 Ross Avenue, Greensboro N.C. There will be three sessions: "**Ministering to Those Persons Experiencing Grief,**" "**An Introduction to Stephen Ministry**" and "**How to Care in a Distinctively Christian Way.**" The cost is \$15.00 per person or \$50.00 for a group of 4 or more. This is something that some of our members may be interested in attending. Please feel free to contact Rev. Patten if this opportunity interests you.
- ◆ The annual joint **Thanksgiving service** including Second and First Reformed UCC, is on the Sunday evening before Thanksgiving. First Reformed UCC will host this event on Sunday night, November 22, 2009, with the Rev. Joe Coltrane preaching, combined choirs providing special music and refreshments afterwards. Plan to attend.

Pastor's Report continued...

- ◆ On September 22, 2009 the **Rev. Stephen Camp** wrote a letter of resignation to the Southern Conference of the UCC. Transition plans are underway.
- ◆ Our Western North Carolina Association of the Southern Conference of the United Church of Christ annual meeting was attended on October 3rd in Charlotte, by our church delegates Eulene Shepherd, Doug and Barbara Sink.

Board of Christian Education:

- ◆ Vicky Gray reported that **Kids' Club** met on Sunday October 11th and went very well with Lisa Nelson teaching the class.
- ◆ **Roads to God** new instructional material will be ordered for the next quarter.
- ◆ **Advent Workshop** date set for Tuesday, December 1, with dinner prior to the workshop.
- ◆ **Children's Christmas Program** and covered dish meal set for December 20th at 6:00 p.m. The **play practice** will begin on October 21st.
- ◆ Next Board meeting date Nov. 2nd at 6:30 p.m.

Congregational Life:

- ◆ Thanks to everyone who had a hand in the planning, set-up, cooking, and cleanup of the **Congregational Luncheon** today, October 11th: Mike and Lynn Brown, John and Vicky Gray, Belinda Yates, Camille Morgan, Janette Neal and especially Cheryl Walser.
- ◆ Thanks to Walter Hoffman and Birke McNeil for leadership of the new **Seekers Sunday School Class**.
- ◆ Bible Study "**Living the Questions**" began October 1 to November 12th.
- ◆ **Crop Walk** November 1, 2009.
- ◆ Beginning of the **Community Youth Group** on October 18, 2009

The Finance Committee: reported that the 2010 budget passed unanimously at the congregational luncheon.

Property Committee:

- ◆ The heat will be off in the educational building for a week starting Friday, October 23, for repairs.
- ◆ A motion was made and passed to approve the cost of \$750.00 to redo the wooden doors on the sanctuary.
- ◆ Special thanks to Property Committee members: Scott Frye, Mike Brown, Rich Johnson, J.W. Bates and Johnny Potts for power washing the side walks and the Memorial Garden area.

Board of Worship and Sacrament: Board chair, Ramona Yarbrough, reported that everything is going well. Thanks to everyone on her committee for doing such a good job.

Board of Community Outreach: It was suggested that our church might want to reach out to the Genesis House. This is the family part of the shelter. Lately it has been full with children and their parents, usually around 30 people. It is the building located beside the shelter.

Evangelism Board: Nancy Robbins reported current church membership is 401. The average weekly attendance was 119 with four Sundays in September. Walter Patten read the letter sent by the Search Committee that went out to members who have been inactive. (See Pastor's Report).

New Business: The nominating committee met on Tuesday, October 6, 2009, to begin the work of nominating potential candidates for the office of elder, deacon and trustee. Nominees needed are: 3 Deacons and 2 Elders for 3 year terms; 1 Trustee for a 5 year term.

The Consistory's next meeting will be **Sunday November 8th, 2009** at 7:00 p.m.

Vicky Gray, Consistory Secretary

Report from the Western NC Association Meeting

Eulene F. Shepherd, Delegate

The 42nd Annual Meeting of the Western North Carolina Association of the Southern Conference of the United Church of Christ was held at Holy Covenant UCC, in Charlotte, N C on Saturday, October 3, 2009. Doug and Barbara Sink and Eulene Shepherd were your delegates. After registering, we participated in worship and communion.

Rev. Dr. Robert Thompson had the meditation. (See bulletin board by office for a copy of the worship bulletin.) The offering received, over \$900, was designated for victims of the recent Tsunami in the South Pacific.

Rev. Dr. Nancy Allison, host pastor, welcomed us, and then Rev. Warren Casiday presided over our business meeting. Rev. Steve Camp gave a short talk in which he announced his resignation as Conference Minister of the Southern Conference. The group of over 200 delegates and visitors gave him a standing ovation in appreciation of his work with us. The newly elected president of Southern Conference, Rev. Dale Kennedy, brought greetings and asked for three things: 1) our prayers, 2) our patience, 3) our participation.

Rev. John Gundlach gave the report of the Church and Ministry Commission. Nineteen ministers were recognized for celebrating anniversaries (in multiples of five years). He remarked that their years of service total 665 years of ministry. We have lost seven ministers by death since the last report. (One noteworthy item: the term "Student-in-Care" is now "Member in Discernment." These are persons under the supervision and guidance of the Association who wish to enter full-time Christian ministry. We have two such students, now.) One sad matter, on which we voted as part of the Church and Ministry Commission's report, was the removal of standing "in and on behalf of the United Church of Christ" of Raymond Reid. The almost unanimous tally had one "nay" vote. After the vote Rev. Julie Peebles of Congregational UCC, Greensboro rose to ask for prayer for "Raymond, his family, his church, and those who have been affected by his actions." We observed a moment of silent prayer.

Rev. Gundlach, wearing another "hat" -- as UCC Minister for Government Chaplaincies—reported on "Holy Joe's Cafe", a coffee house ministry to American service men and women in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait. Information on this ministry is posted on the bulletin board by the office.

Treasurer's report -- bottom line-- as of August 31, 2009: we have a balance of \$28,740.91. We adopted a budget of \$30,750 for 2010. It was pointed out by treasurer Rev. Johnnie Jones that many congregations wait until the last two or three months of the calendar year to send in their church's dues.

See reports of our WNCA president , Warren Casiday; and our Associate Conference Minister, Lawrence O. Walser, III; on the bulletin board.

New Officers, Board of Directors and Committee Members were elected by acclamation. (See list -- bulletin board. Mrs. Faye Humphries served as chair of the nominating committee.)

Afternoon Highlights...Three Workshops: 1) Church Vitality led by Rev. Vertie Powers, 2) Safe Church and Risk Management - Karl Kotheimer from UCC IB, 3) Youth in the Church-- by two young people, Andrew Hege and Tyler Smith, from 2008 Leadership Now program at LTS.



Bell Ringers

Mark your calendar for **Friday, December 4th** and **Saturday, December 5th**. First Reformed UCC will be ringing bells for the Salvation Army Christmas Kettle Fund at Lanier's Hardware. You can sign up for hour increments between 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. both days. Sheets are in the narthex or call the church office at 248-2617.

Search Committee Update

As reported in the last newsletter the Search Committee has been busy completing the church profile. At the request of the Consistory the committee, following guidelines of the First Reformed UCC bylaws, updated the church membership. According to the bylaws a member is considered inactive when they have had a persistent breach of the covenant vows, continued absences for a period of two years, or lack of knowledge of his/her residence for a period of three years. This process will give potential ministerial candidates a more accurate picture of our church which has a current membership of **322**. At the completion the profile was mailed to Reverend Larry Walser, our Associate Conference Minister. After his review he assembled profiles, available to him at this time, and met with the Search Committee on Tuesday, October 27th. Our church vacancy will be advertised nationwide through the United Church of Christ website. Ministers who might be interested will then request that their profile be released to Reverend Walser to forward to our Search Committee. No profile/resume will be accepted by any individual committee member. Profiles **MUST** funnel through the Western North Carolina Association office where background checks are verified.

We cannot stress enough the importance of confidentiality as the committee receives profiles. **DO NOT** ask committee members to share information about any profile being reviewed. Please be patient as we work through this lengthy process.

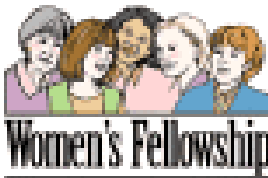
Search Committee Members:

Dawn Shaak, Chairperson
Eulene Shepherd, Chaplain
Sauni Johnson

Mark Smith, Vice Chairperson
Vicky Gray
Birke McNeill

Clifford Lopp, Recording Secretary
Walter Hoffman
Tony Peele

Women's Life Fellowship



Women's Life Fellowship met on Tuesday, October 20th at 7 p.m. in the Parlor with eighteen members present. In the absence of President Sauni Johnson, Treasurer Belinda Yates conducted the meeting.

Paula Lopp coordinated the devotions with the Communities in Schools Backpack Program. She then made a motion to continue our community outreach this month by donating \$200.00 (amount needed to sponsor a child for a year) to the Backpack program. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Continuing a discussion from our previous meeting Kivi Miller, Positive Wellness Alliance board member, announced that those women who are donating baked items for the West Davidson Club to sell at the BBQ Festival with donations benefiting the PWA, please drop off baked goods at the church by noon on Friday, October 23rd and she will pick them up.

Edgar Miller, chair of the Board of Community Outreach, asked for assistance from the Women's Life Fellowship with a potential project. Jo Ellen Edwards of Uptown Lexington has contacted the church about the possibility of partnering on Sunday, November 22nd during the Uptown Lexington Christmas Open House, to collect non-perishable items for local food banks. The idea is to have 3 or more people in designated time slots to be stationed in front of the sanctuary where those who are coming to the Uptown Open House would be able to pull up and someone go to their car to collect food items. The group was in favor of assisting if we are able to work out the particulars with Uptown Lexington and have time to advertise.

There was some discussion about providing refreshments on Sunday, November 22nd after the Community Thanksgiving Service which will be held at our church this year. It was decided that we will provide desserts, coffee, cider and hot chocolate.

Vicky Gray suggested that we look into adding serving dinner at Genesis House to our list of assistance. It would be similar to serving at the Homeless Shelter; however, Genesis House is for families with children. She will get more information for our next meeting.

We will be meeting again on **Tuesday, November 17th at 7 p.m. in the parlor**. We have several projects lined up and would love to have anyone that would like to join our group.

Men's Brotherhood

Secretary, Clifford Lopp

MEN'S BROTHERHOOD



The Men's Brotherhood met Thursday, October 15th in the fellowship hall. The meal, provided by Eddie Yates and Mike Price, was very tasty and enjoyed by everyone. We had one of our largest groups attending this year with a few new faces joining the dedicated regulars. Our guest speaker for the night was **Greg Newlin**, the principal at **Lexington Senior High School**. Mr. Newlin shared information about his journey to become a principal and his commitment to make the school and students succeed in the community.

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, November 19th**. The meal will be provided by John Potts, J.W. Bates and Mike Brown. All men of the church are invited. Also mark your calendar for our annual Christmas Party to be held on **Monday, December 14th** at Yarborough's Restaurant. Guests and spouses are invited to attend. Watch for details.

Morning Glory Circle

Secretary, Mary Berrier

The Morning Glory circle met on Wednesday, October 7th with nine members present. Lib Sink opened the meeting with a prayer.

Plans for the Christmas party were discussed. The definite date will be announced at the November meeting.

Lib thanked the volunteers who assisted with the September 29th Food Drive sponsored by Crisis Ministries.

A program on "Prayer" was presented by Mary Berrier followed by group discussion.

All ladies are welcome to attend...first Wednesday of each month.



United Friendship Club

By: June Grubb



The October meeting of the United Friendship Club had **Wayne Linville** as its guest speaker. He shared information about the Southern Conference UCC Pastoral Leadership Development (PLD) which is an alternative educational track toward ordination as a UCC pastor within the Southern Conference. Wayne graduated from the program this past June. He also talked about his class trip to South Africa in the Spring of 2009.

The next meeting of the group will be the combined November/December meeting on **Wednesday, December 9th**. We will meet at Piedmont Crossing for an informative program given by staff of Piedmont Crossing, a United Church of Christ retirement community in Thomasville, N.C. Lunch will be provided by Piedmont Crossing. *We are inviting all First Reformed members who are residents at the Center to be our guests for lunch that day.* More information will be shared later in November (as to cost and possible car pooling).

Another field trip to various pottery places in Seagrove, N.C. is being planned. We will have lunch together at the Jugtown Cafe as part of the outing.

If you are interested in going to Piedmont Crossing or Seagrove, please call June Grubb (248-5668) so that car pooling arrangements can be made.

Director of Christian Education

Amy McNeill



I hope everyone had a great October and a happy Halloween!

As we enter into November there is always an excitement and energy in the air because so much is getting ready to happen with the holidays approaching. The church is always filled with a lot of wonderful activities. We started practicing for the children's Christmas program on Wednesday, October 28th at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. We will continue to practice on Wednesdays and welcome all children of the church. If you would like to participate but missed the first practice that is okay, but please come to the next one. This really helps in placing the children in their roles for the program. **Remember to mark your calendar for Sunday, December 20th at 6:00 p.m. so you won't miss the Christmas program**, a wonderful night of fellowship, delicious home cooked food, and of course a visit from the jolly old man in the red suit.

We will be having our annual **Advent Workshop on Tuesday, December 1st at 5:30 p.m.** in the fellowship hall. We decided to kickoff the first day of December with a celebration by getting together to make our advent wreaths and do some fun crafts with the children. We are still working on the details for our meal but we will have something wonderful to eat before we start our activities. As always, if you have any greenery you can cut to share with us that would be wonderful and if you still have your pie pan from last year, bring that as well. Don't forget garden shears!!! I will provide the candles, oasis, and pie pans for anyone who doesn't have one. We will have our snowman tree up with around twenty names of children from the city schools who need our help in having a special Christmas this year. This has been a great success for the past two years and I know we have touched many children's hearts, so let's try to do it again this year.

Remember we now have a Sunday school class for everyone and they all are going really well. All classes start at 9:45 a.m. every Sunday and we can't wait to see some more new faces. Hope you all have a blessed Thanksgiving!

Perfect Attendance!

October 2009

Claire Smith
 Griff Smith
 Wanda Daye
 Katherine Skipper
 Betty Bates
 Vicky Green
 Doris Flynt
 Elizabeth Sink
 John Walser
 Earlie Hartley
 Don Leonard
 Cliff Lopp
 John Barber
 Harriette Murphy
 Lisa Nelson
 Susan Odom

Kids' Club

Alice Gray

Kids' Club is up and running this Fall! Through a variety of activities, the children have started learning the 23rd Psalm. During the October Sunday meeting they made precious lamb puppets!



With Halloween right around the corner, the kids had a blast decorating their own pumpkins at the Tuesday night meeting. A big Kids' Club THANK-YOU to Lee Hinkle for donating the pumpkins!

The next scheduled meetings for November are Sunday, November 1st right after the Children's Sermon during church and Tuesday the 17th at 7:00 p.m. Cathy Waitman and Lisa Nelson are leaders for the Sunday meetings. James and Alice Gray are the Tuesday night leaders. Kids' Club is for all children ages Kindergarten through 5th grade.



Dear Church Family,

Steve and I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, and good wishes during his recovery from back surgery. Your thoughtfulness and kindness have meant a lot to both of us.

Cathy Waitman

First Reformed UCC,

Sincere thanks for the kindness and love shared with our dad during his life and passing at First Reformed UCC. The various expressions of love and remembrance are greatly appreciated. May God richly bless you all. In friendship and love,

Steve, Sharon and Allie Crouse

First Reformed UCC Family,

I would like to say thank you to all. I am very tardy in this response, however; when trying to thank you I was getting hung up on words and phrases such as “struggle”, “fight my way back”, etc... Every time I would begin to write a thank you, it would end up in file 13, because it truly wasn’t enough to express to all of you how blessed I have felt throughout this ordeal. My experience was not a “fight” or “struggle”. It was more of a ride on the wings of your prayers and support. I didn’t have to do anything but just hang on and your prayers and support pulled me back so that I could re-integrate into my church family. I feel that so many go to church knowing that everyone there is part of your family. I have been blessed to experience such a mass demonstration of love and caring. I have more thanks to send and will eventually get around to getting them out. Please consider this a heartfelt bookmark of my appreciation. I wouldn’t be here without you. You all are great and God bless you.

Tom Danze

Thank you notes were received from the following for benevolent gifts from First Reformed UCC:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Blowing Rock Conference Center | Catawba College | Communities in Schools | Crisis Ministry of Davidson County |
| Davidson Medical Ministries | Family Services | Elon University | Habitat for Humanity |
| Hospice of Davidson County | Lancaster Seminary | Nazareth Children’s Home | Johns River Valley Camp |
| UCC Homes and Services | | | |

Reserve a poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one. The cost is \$9.00. These will be placed in the sanctuary the first Sunday of Advent, November 29th. Poinsettias can be picked up immediately following the worship service to enjoy at home during the Advent Season. Please fill out the information form below and place it in the offering plate or call the church office. **Order deadline is FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH.**



In Memory of: _____ **By:** _____

In Memory of: _____ **By:** _____

In Honor of: _____ **By:** _____

October Memorials

WILLIAM G. SMITH

Holton Davis

LOIS LEONARD

Becky F. Wray



JANE SURRATT COFFEY {Lloyd Surratt's Sister}

Holton Davis

GERTRUDE MYERS JARVIS

Merle and Jerry Hodges
Henry and Juanita Beck
Elizabeth Sink
Holton Davis
Cheryl D. Sprinkle

Don Leonard
Pattie Everhart
John and Vicky Gray
Wanda Daye

Katherine Skipper
Gladys Snider
Banks and Eulene Shepherd
Janie Lohr

GEORGE WILLIAM CROUSE

Merle and Jerry Hodges
Henry and Juanita Beck
Gib and Jean Parlier
Mildred Whisnant
Mr. and Mrs. Randy Everhart
Banks and Eulene Shepherd
Janie Lohr
Colleen Thacker
Roy and Anne Bevan
Central Services—Nathan Kuykendall

Don Leonard
John and Vicky Gray
Jo and Calvin Everhart
Mr. and Mrs. Sandy Whisnant
Wanda Daye
Gladys Snider
Nancy C. Jackle
Cathy and Steve Waitman
Ann and Don Bishop

Katherine Skipper
Holton Davis
Jacqueline and Victor Kirkman
Mr. and Mrs. Greg Whisnant
Pattie Everhart
Gregory and Angela Meredith
Jan Ridenhour
Cliff and Eloise Lopp
City of Lexington

October Honorariums

HOYLE AND BETTY POTTS' 56TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Lynn, Mike and Family

NICOLE SMITH'S BIRTHDAY

Heart Sister

NOVEMBER STEWARDS

Ushers: Chairperson: Peggy Bates

Captain: Mike Perry

Ushers: Mike Brown, Dave Strenk, and John Barber

Plate Attendant: Lynn Brown

Acolytes: Ashley Johnson and Griff Smith

Sound Tech: Tony Peele

Adult Joint Sunday School: Responsible for lesson - - - Men's Bible Class

Social: Host/Hostess: Mary Jo Jessup and Beth Callicutt

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:20 a.m. SS Social
11:00 a.m. Worship Service

<u>Greeters:</u>	November 1	Joyce Price and Mary Rhodes	
	November 8	David and Glenyce Fulton	
	November 15	Marguerite Leonard and Vicky Green	
	November 22	Jan Smith and Amy Smith	
	November 22	J.W. and Betty Bates	{6:30 p.m. Community Thanksgiving Service}
	November 29	Clifford and Paula Lopp	

		SUNDAY SCHOOL NURSERY	WORSHIP HOUR NURSERY
<u>Nursery:</u>	November 1	Lynn Brown	Belinda Yates
	November 8	Sylvia Walser & Aurelia Smith	Amy and Birke McNeill
	November 15	Harriette Murphy	Lynn Klopp
	November 22	Paula Lopp	Anne Fletcher, Laura and Katarina
	November 29	Glenyce Fulton	Raeann and Brad Biesecker



- (Alston Brook)* Betty Potts
- (Centerclair)* Jeanne Trexler
- (Lexington Health Care)* Louise Rollins
- (St. Martins in the Pines)* Barbara Schaeffer
- (Piedmont Crossing)* Henry and Ernestine Kennedy, Frances Leonard, and Rita Tussey




Ethel Bailey, Sadie Bailey, Arlene Swing, Ronnie Durham, Margaret Trexler, Joel Reece, Doris Frye, Hilda Leonard, Henry and Juanita Beck, Jacqueline Leonard, Giles Crowell, Catherine Leonard, Willie Ruth Leonard, Micki Smith, and Velna Swing. Also, please remember Steve Waitman (Cathy's husband), Ernie Bonner, Spencer Wilson, Joyce Bowie (Joyce Price's sister-in-law), Jacob Berrier (Great-grandson of Mary Berrier), and Susan Fletcher (Anne Fletcher's Mother). To add a name to the prayer chain, please contact Adena Wall at 249-1904 or the church office at 248-2617.

We extend **SYMPATHY** to and share Christian hope with:

- ◆ Connie Lancaster and family upon the death of her mother and our friend, Gertrude Jarvis.
- ◆ Steve, Sharon and Allie Crouse upon the death of their loved one and our friend, George Crouse.



NOVEMBER 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:45 a.m. {Chapel} JOINT SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:20 a.m. {FH} SUNDAY SCHOOL SOCIAL 11:00 a.m. MEMORIAL WORSHIP SERVICE AND KIDS' CLUB 2 p.m. CROP WALK 2 p.m. (FH) Candlelight Choir Practice 6 p.m. (FH) COMMUNITY YOUTH GROUP	2 6:30 p.m. {Parlor} BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MEETING	3 6:30 p.m. {Parlor} SEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING	4 11:00 a.m. {P} MORNING GLORY CIRCLE 6:30 p.m. {FH} Children's Play Practice 7:00 p.m. ADULT CHOIR	5 5:30 p.m. {P} Yoga Class 7:15 p.m. (FH) "LIVING THE QUESTIONS"	6	7
8 9:45 a.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:00 a.m. WORSHIP SERVICE and DEDICATION OF PLEDGE CARDS 2 p.m. (FH) Candlelight Choir Practice 7 p.m. CONSISTORY MEETING Willing Workers Classroom	9 MEN'S BIBLE CLASS Serve evening meal At Homeless Shelter 5:30 p.m. {Parlor} Scrap-Book/Craft Class	10	Veterans Day 11  6:30 p.m. {FH} Children's Play Practice 7:00 p.m. ADULT CHOIR	12 5:30 p.m. {P} Yoga Class 7:15 p.m. (FH) "LIVING THE QUESTIONS" (concludes for the year)	13	14 COMMUNITY YOUTH Wake Forest Football Game STEPHEN MINISTRY WORKSHOP (9 a.m.—1 p.m.)
15 9:45 a.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:00 a.m. WORSHIP SERVICE 2 p.m. (FH) Candlelight Choir Practice	16	17 7:00 p.m. {P} WOMEN'S LIFE FELLOWSHIP AND KIDS' CLUB	18 6:30 p.m. {FH} Children's Play Practice 7:00 p.m. ADULT CHOIR	19 5:30 p.m. {P} Yoga Class 6:00 p.m. (FH) MEN'S BROTHERHOOD DINNER MEETING	20	21 Baby Shower (Parlor)
22 9:45 a.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:00 a.m. WORSHIP SERVICE AND CHILDREN'S CHURCH 2 p.m. (FH) Candlelight Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. (Sanctuary) COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE	23 Kickoff to the Advent Season Madrigal Singers perform in the Sanctuary.	24	25 7:00 p.m. ADULT CHOIR	26 Office Holiday  <i>Thanksgiving</i>	27 Office Holiday <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> DECORATE CHURCH BUILDINGS FOR ADVENT </div>	28
29 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 6:00 p.m. (S) MADRIGAL SINGERS	30	1 ADVENT Workshop 	2 6:30 p.m. {FH} Children's Play Practice 7:00 p.m. ADULT CHOIR	26 Office Holiday <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> DECORATE CHURCH BUILDINGS FOR ADVENT </div>	27 Office Holiday <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> DECORATE CHURCH BUILDINGS FOR ADVENT </div>	28
						<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> Dec. 4-5 : Ring Bells for Salvation Army Kettle (Lanier Hdwe) Dec. 13: Christmas Cantata (11:00 a.m.) Dec. 20: Covered Dish Dinner and Children's Christmas Program Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (9:00 p.m.) </div>



Food Collection

First Reformed United Church of Christ is partnering with Uptown Lexington to collect non-perishable items for local food banks at the...

Uptown Christmas Open House

Sunday, November 22, 2009

1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

As you drive into town please stop by the church for curbside service. Pull up in front of the sanctuary and individuals will come to your vehicle and collect your donations. If you do not plan to attend the Uptown Christmas Open House please bring items to church Sunday morning and they will be added to the afternoon collections. Thank you.

First News

First Reformed United Church of Christ
104 East Center Street
Lexington, NC 27292
Phone: 336-248-2617
Fax: 336-248-6163
Email: church@frucc.org

www.frucc.org

Return Service Requested

CHURCH STAFF

Minister.....Reverend Walter Patten, Ph.D.
Email: wrpatten@earthlink.net or minister@frucc.org
Director of Christian EducationAmy McNeill
Administrative Asst.....Paula Lopp
Choir Director Paul Freeman
Organist..... Lee Ann Peele

SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Worship Service11:00 a.m.

Non-Profit Organization
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