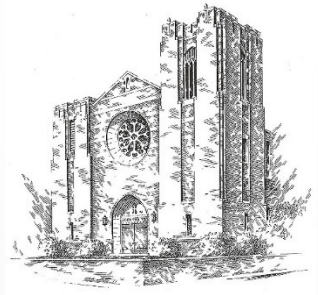


First News

First Reformed United Church of Christ, Lexington, North Carolina



September 2009

UPCOMING AT FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Welcome, once again, to "newsletterland"! We have many wonderful new developments to share with you in this issue of FN, not the least of which are our **Rally Day and Homecoming plans on Sunday, September 13** (including our celebration of the miracle of Creation during our Sunday School time together downstairs, our moving "Liturgy of Closure" for our hardworking Transition Team during the service, an uplifting message from former pastor Rev. Mike Hooper, and a delicious catered fellowship meal in our fellowship hall after the service) and our **three new Sunday School classes** that are forming later this month. Check out Amy's informative column and other entries for key events. We are also reprinting (from our August 16 bulletin) the **autobiographical sketches from our eight new members** for this wider readership and such **pictures** of them as we had available at printing time, plus many other features of interest. We also have an update from our Search Committee on page 5.

However, I would like to devote the balance of this page with you by sharing our very exciting progress with **the formation of an ecumenically-based Community Youth Group, planned specifically for the needs of the traditional junior/senior high youth groupings, from 6th to 12th grade.** We have been in the planning stages for some time now, and after sharing these plans with our Consistory in general terms, I asked *Betty Barr* and her son *Peyton*, *Chris* and *Amanda Fulton*, *Alice Gray*, *Sauni Johnson* (who could not attend because of scheduling conflicts), *Amy McNeill*, and *Bill and Cheryl Walser* to meet with me at 5:00 p.m. Monday, August 24. This meeting was very productive, and we identified a number of smaller and mid-sized area congregations (UCC, United Methodist, and Presbyterian) the leaders of whom we would approach with our invitation to meet with us here on the following Monday, August 31. We would discuss the possibilities of combining our resources, leaders and groups in order to create an ecumenically-based junior/senior high youth group which we hoped could meet approximately every other week--**starting provisionally on October 18 and continuing through December**, acknowledging the practical difficulties that December scheduling creates. (A planning retreat will be set early in January for scheduling through the end of school, including a possible mission trip during the summer.) These youth group meetings would rotate through the participating congregations, with responsibilities for a meal to be assumed by the hosting church, but with the planning of events and experiences to be shared by other participating members. As I did some of this calling and contacting myself, I emailed our progress every couple of days to our working group above, as others emailed their new information to me. Some of you know that I also shared this process of inquiry with our congregation during my sermon on Sunday, August 30, to which there was an overwhelmingly positive response.

We also had enough positive responses to our calls to include the leaders (including clergy) of four congregations (including ours) to meet at 5:00 pm. Monday, August 31, with scheduling conflicts for another four congregations who expressed generally-to-enthusiastically strong support for our Community Youth Group idea and a wish to participate at some level of involvement. Our present and future networking will include contacts with a still larger number of area UCC, UMC and PC congregations, with **our next scheduled meeting at 7:00 p.m. Monday, September 14, in our fellowship hall, to which all of you who are interested in supporting this new ministry are invited to attend. Much more to come!**

Blessings and Shalom, Pastor Walt

First Reformed UCC Welcomes New Members

David and Glenyce Fulton



We have been married for 38 years – soon to be 39 in September. We have one son, Chris and his wife Amanda. We are both Registered Nurses; Glenyce works for Davidson County Health Department as a Nursing Supervisor, and Dave works at Thomasville Medical Center as the Business Systems Analyst for Surgical Services.

Our spiritual journeys began as children with our parents and home churches, and continue to the present. Glenyce was raised in the United Church of Christ. Dave was raised in the Baptist denomination, but found a home in the UCC with their marriage. Glenyce has served on the Evangelism Committee and sang in the church choir. She has also sung with the Lexington Choral Society. Dave has served on various Consistory committees including Finance, Education, and Evangelism. He served on the Board of Directors for the A. Odell Leonard Scholarship Committee, and was also the Website Editor for the website of their last church.

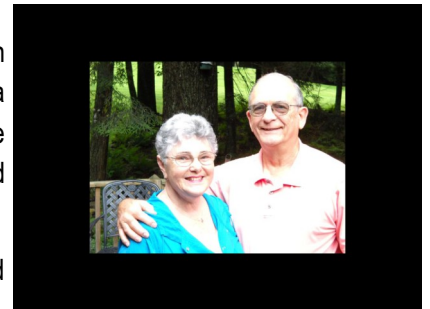
We have been very pleased with the welcome that we have received from the members here at First Reformed UCC. We are looking forward to continuing our journey of discovering and serving God with the members of this congregation.

Doug and Barbara Sink are lifelong residents of Lexington, except for several years in Boone, NC while Doug attended ASU. Barbara became a homemaker and Doug had a twenty-eight year career with Burlington Industries until it downsized in 1984 and left the area. They then started their own home improvement business. They have been married 53 years; have one daughter, three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Both have been active in church life with Barbara serving in committees, choir, circle and guild and Doug serving on consistory (4 terms as consistory president) and various committees. Doug currently serves on the Blowing Rock Conference Center and Southern Conference Boards of Directors.

They serve the community through Meals on Wheels, Habitat for Humanity and Group Work Camps. Doug made a trip to Katrina ravaged Biloxi, MS in 2008, with twenty-seven other UCC members from twelve different churches in the WNCA, and working through Back Bay Mission of the United Church of Christ, started a new home. He is an active Freemason, having served his lodge as secretary for twenty-eight years.

Both are looking forward to becoming members of First Reformed UCC and appreciate the warm welcome, acceptance, and having the opportunity to share their faith journey.



Jan and Amy Smith

Amy Smith - I am 35 years old. I work for Lexington Home Brands as the Direct Container Coordinator. I enjoy reading, shopping and spending time with my family and friends. I graduated from ECU in 1996 with a BS in Social Work. I am very happy to be joining First Reformed United Church of Christ.

Janice T Smith - I am 57 years old. I work for Home Instead, Senior Care Service. I have 2 exceptional children, Amy (35) and Matt (31), who are the light of my life. I have a wonderful life partner, Steve Myers, who is a cancer survivor. I enjoy reading, movies, quilting, crocheting, and trying out new recipes on the family. Since the first Sunday I visited First Reformed UCC, I felt at home. I am very impressed with the kindness that has been shown to both my daughter Amy and me. I feel it to be an honor and a privilege to be accepted into membership. We look forward to sharing our spiritual journey with our new church family.

Brian McKerlie and Mike Price

Brian was born in June, 1957 in Niagara Falls, NY and is the oldest of four boys in his family. David, Thomas and John are brothers living in Florida, New York and North Carolina, respectively. The family moved to North Tonawanda, NY when Brian was in 5th grade and they resided there for many years. Brian graduated from North Tonawanda Senior High School in 1975, attended Niagara County Community College from 1975-1977 and earned a degree in Data Processing and then earned an additional degree from Buffalo State College in Buffalo, NY, graduating in Information Systems Technology in 1982.



Brian has worked in the Information Technology industry in various positions and industries such as health care, manufacturing, distribution and logistics, financial services including mortgage origination/servicing and securities, telecommunications, and food/supply management. Since 1997 he has worked as a consultant specializing in the Data Warehouse space and has traveled all over the country for work to such destinations as California, Ohio, Texas, New Jersey, Missouri, New York and Connecticut to name a few! His latest assignment has him back in the Buffalo area working through the end of 2009.

Brian is the father of two wonderful children: Adam, age 18 and Becca (Rebecca), age 16. Adam is an honors graduate from Lexington Senior High Class of 2009 and will be attending Elon University this coming fall. He will be taking pre-med courses and will graduate as part of the class of 2013. Becca is a rising junior at Southern Guilford High School where she attends the Magnet Academy there. At this point she is planning on attending either Western Carolina or Appalachian State to study the field of forensics.



Mike was born in Atlanta, Georgia in 1950 and attended Druid Hills High School. He has one brother who lives in the Houston, Texas area with his children and grandchildren. He graduated from East Carolina University with a bachelor's and master's degree in music education. As an accomplished alto saxophone player, Mike has performed in numerous recitals and churches throughout the state. Most notable is a performance at the World Saxophone Congress in Toronto, Canada.

Mike moved to Lexington in 1979 to be the High School band director and served as the choir director and hand bell director at Second Reformed UCC for 27 years. He was an active member there and organized the successful Lenten Recital Series there. He retired from the Lexington City school system in 2003 with 30 years of teaching experience. He currently teaches middle school band at Forsyth Academy, a charter school in Winston-Salem.

Mike's "free time" is spent with gardening (he is a Master Gardener and has an associate degree in horticulture), interior design and cooking.

Mike and Brian met in April of 2000 and Brian moved to Lexington in the fall of that year. They have enjoyed their lives together immensely ever since. They both love spending time with their families, love to travel and entertain, read and listen to music and look after their 3 dogs and 2 cats.

Consistory Highlights—August 2009



Search Committee: Dawn Shaak, Chairperson of the Pastoral Search Committee, shared that the Search Committee has begun the process and will be sending survey sheets to the congregation to get their input for the church Profile. This mailing will go out after August 16th to include the new members who will be joining that Sunday. She requested that the Consistory draft a letter to be mailed to inactive members. According to church by-laws and manual, any member "...who fails to partake of Holy Communion, to contribute to the financial support of the church, and continuously absents himself/herself from regular worship services for a period of three years, shall become inactive." Dawn said that the Search Committee plans to have the Profile ready by October 1st.

Financial Report: The average weekly offering for the month of June was \$7,905. General Fund available balance is \$28,122, Building Fund is \$36,082, and Music Fund is \$7,557.

Pastor's Report: Reverend Patten requested that Consistory members make every effort to attend Sunday, August 16th, as new members are received. He reminded Consistory members that they are the official lay leaders of First Reformed UCC and personal attendance at church functions is important. He stated that our Rally Day/Homecoming celebration is scheduled for Sunday, September 13th. He has asked Reverend Mike Hooper to be the featured speaker, who has accepted this invitation. We will also celebrate a "Liturgy of Closure" for the ministry of the Transition Team on that Sunday (13th). He plans to have an update concerning the church website and ecumenical approaches to junior and senior high youth ministries at the next meeting of the Consistory (13th).

Board of Christian Education: Rally Day is scheduled for Sunday, September 13th. "Roads to God" children's Sunday school program continues. Great program in place, just need children! A new young adult class is starting after Rally Day. Class will start an 8-week program on living in this economy with a Bible-based background. A new children's class (3-5 year-olds), entitled, "Two by Two," is beginning. The Board of Christian Ed will be cleaning the room and decorating with a Noah's Ark theme.

Congregational Life: Thanks to Raeann Biesecker and Sauni Johnson for the August Sunday Social. A new member luncheon, provided by Women's Life Fellowship, will be held August 16th. Rally Day will be a catered luncheon with Congregational Life and the Board of Christian Education sharing setup and cleanup duties.

Finance Committee Report: Scott Frye reported that the Finance Committee will meet Monday, August 17th at 7 p.m. in the parlor to discuss the 2010 budget.

Property Committee: Mike Brown, Property Chair, said they had contacted Foley Tree Service to manage cleanup from a broken pecan tree limb that fell over the playground fence. Foley said the tree could become a danger to the building and offered to top it for \$400. Mike met with Property Committee members who decided it would be better to go ahead and take the tree down. Foley quoted \$800 for tree removal. Mike is to receive a second quote on Monday.

Board of Community Outreach: Board Chair, Edgar Miller, stated that he is continuing to familiarize himself with duties of his new position as board chair. He has had better response for shelter volunteers that stay overnight on the fourth Tuesday of each month. He is currently supplied through October.

Evangelism Board: Nancy Robbins reported the average weekly attendance was 111 for the month of July. Average number of visitors attending each Sunday is 12. As of July 31st, membership stands at 405.

Referencing the request by the Pastoral Search Committee to send a letter to inactive members, the Consistory thought the letter should be mailed as soon as possible to include an invitation to Rally Day/Homecoming activities.

Old Business: Several people have approached Consistory members with requests either to leave the summer schedule time as it is or to return to the standard worship hour. The majority view was to return to a standard worship schedule. Edgar Miller made a motion with Cheryl Walser seconding to go back to 9:45 a.m. Sunday school and 11:00 a.m. worship the first Sunday in September. Nine voted in favor and one opposed, so it passed. A renewal of our summer schedule will be considered next May.

The Consistory's next meeting will be **Sunday, September 13th immediately following the Homecoming lunch.**

Search Committee Update

Over the past month your Search Committee has met and begun the work of creating a church profile. By this time all church households should have received a "Family Questionnaire," to be filled out by the family, and an "All Church Survey," for each family member age twelve and older to complete. **We are asking that this information be returned to the church by September 7th.** We hope to have our church profile completed by October 1st and your input is **VERY IMPORTANT**. Once the profile of First Reformed UCC is complete the committee will contact Reverend Larry Walser, Western North Carolina Associate Conference Minister. Our profile will create a snapshot of our church that Reverend Walser will share with potential ministerial candidates.

Another step in creating a church profile is to provide an accurate count of membership. The Consistory authorized the Search Committee to send letters to members who have not participated in church functions over the last three years. The church manual states:

Inactive Status: If any member without reasonable cause acceptable to the Consistory, for a period of three years fails to partake of Holy Communion, to contribute to the financial support of the Church, and continuously absents himself from regular worship services, such members shall be considered by the Consistory for inactive status. It shall be the duty of the Consistory to inform members of their being considered for inactive status and their obligations as members of this Church as contained herein. Those members who cannot be located and are being considered for inactive status will be given inactive status without prior notice. Inactive status means that the inactive member will not receive the regular and special mailings of the church, will not be provided offering envelopes, will not be considered a voting member of the Church and will not be counted as member for purposes of the United Church of Christ.

These letters were mailed August 12th. It is our hope that those receiving letters will renew their participation in church activities. However, if not, we will be honest with our adjusted and accurate membership count to potential ministerial candidates as we begin our search. **This could be the last newsletter that some present members will receive.**

Every church member can assist the Search Committee by supporting our church through participation in all activities. You are the strongest selling point for First Reformed United Church of Christ as we begin the process to call a permanent minister. Again, thank you for all of your help and feel free to contact any member of the Search Committee with your concerns or questions.

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

United Friendship Club

President, June Grubb

The United Friendship Club and friends enjoyed several flavors of delicious homemade ice cream, desserts, and lots of great fellowship at our annual social on Wednesday, August 26th.

EVERYONE is invited to bring a covered dish and join us for the next meeting of the Friendship Club on **Wednesday, September 23rd at noon** in the fellowship hall. Peggy Bates has devotions; Jo and John Hudson, Howard Wall and June Grubb are the food committee. Wanda Daye has asked William Deal, Director of T.R.I.P. (Tourism Recreation Investment Partnership) to provide a power point presentation from the Davidson County Passenger Rail Advisory Committee about plans for the Lexington Train Depot

Morning Glory Circle

Secretary, Mary Berrier

On August 9th, the Morning Glory Circle met at Lib Sink's home for a covered dish luncheon. Eight current and two new members attended.

Lib opened the meeting with a poem, "Good Morning, God." Minutes were read and approved; the treasurer reported a balance of \$175.50.

After an afternoon of fellowship, the meeting adjourned with Lib reading quotes from "Silver Linings."

All ladies of the church are welcomed (and needed) to meet with us each month, first Wednesday at 11:00 a.m.

Women's Life Fellowship

Women's Life Fellowship, Yarborough's Restaurant and Mike Brown hosted the New Member Lunch on Sunday August 16th. Special thanks to Mike and his crew for a fine job on the BBQ. We hosted approximately 130 people. Women's Life Fellowship would like to welcome all new members and invite them to join our group which meets the **third Tuesday of the month** at 7pm in the parlor.

Women's Life Fellowship celebrated our annual summer picnic on Tuesday August 18th. We gathered at the home of Nina Smith. As always, wonderful food, fun and fellowship was enjoyed by all. Special thanks to Nina for offering her home as our venue. Our group is making plans for an evening out at the Barn Dinner Theatre in the Fall. Please contact Paula or myself if you have any questions or interest in attending.

We will be preparing and serving the evening meal to the Lexington Senior High School football team on Friday September the 4th at 4:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. This is an opportunity for our group to show community support and provide a healthy pre-game meal to a fine group of young athletes. Women's Life Fellowship looks forward to continuing our community outreach and support of local charities and programs during this upcoming season.

Our next meeting is **September 15th at 7 p.m. in the Parlor**. We will have a devotion, refreshments, and work on fundraising ideas and community outreach goals for the upcoming year. Our officers include: Sauni Johnson, President; Belinda Yates, Treasurer; and Camille Morgan, Secretary

Thank you and God Bless, Sauni Johnson, President



YOUTH INVITATION...

The **Teens Living for Christ Youth Group of Mount Tabor United Church of Christ** will be sponsoring a fall kick-off event on **Saturday, September 12th, from 4 until 7 p.m. at Mt. Tabor Church**. All youth (6th—12th grade) are invited to participate. There will be games, snow cones, cotton candy, popcorn, and a dunking booth (come try to dunk the new pastor), and hot dogs and hamburgers for your enjoyment. Also, the youth band Tangent 90 will be performing Christian music as the highlight of the event. There is no charge for attending, so come and share some food, fun, and fellowship with the youth of Mt. Tabor. *(Pastor's Note: Mt. Tabor UCC is one of the congregations with whom we have been in dialogue concerning our mutual plans to create the Community Youth Group. Part of the health and cohesion of the CYG would involve our interest in and support of individual congregational initiatives such as this one by Mt. Tabor. I am planning to attend this event and I invite you to do the same. WP)*



COMMUNITY NEEDS

Hunger is a very real problem right here in our community and you can be a part of the solution. "Communities In Schools" is partnering with Lexington Area Chamber of Commerce to begin a backpack program at Pickett Primary School. Of the 372 students at Pickett, 348 are on the Free and Reduced Lunch program. With your help, fifty students will be sent home with a backpack full of kid-friendly food every weekend during the school year. That means fifty children will no longer spend the weekend with empty stomachs staring at empty cupboards. They will be able to eat, to get the nutrition they need to grow healthy and strong. With just \$5 you can provide food for one child for one weekend; \$200 will provide food for a hungry child for an entire school year. If you are able to contribute, please make your check payable to First Reformed UCC and write "**backpack**" on the memo line. You will be given credit on your giving statement and we will see that your donation is forwarded to "Communities In Schools." Thank you.



CHRISTIAN FUN FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 19, 2009

11:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.



Crisis Ministry of Davidson County is planning a Christian Fun Fest to kickoff the "Pennies from Heaven" campaign.

The streets will be blocked off below The Dispatch for booths providing food, a bouncy house, puppet show, crafts, face painting, and Christian music. There will also be a food drive for the Crisis Ministry food pantry, so bring along non-perishables to help. Peggy Bates is heading up securing people to staff this booth. If you think you can assist with this project, please contact Peggy at 249-0916.

Tours will be available for you to see how and why the ministry is so important to Davidson County. Visit the men's and ladies' Homeless Shelter; the Genesis House which is set up to care for parents with children. View the clothes closet and food pantry to see how Crisis Ministry assists our own Davidson County people in need. Rain date for the festival is Sunday, September 20th from 1 to 6 p.m.

Director of Christian Education

Amy McNeill

Perfect Attendance! 

August 2009

Doris Flynt
Wanda Daye
Jo Hudson
Marguerite Leonard
Mary Berrier
Gladys Snider
Katherine Skipper
Adena Wall
Lib Sink
Butch Bouchard
Earlie Hartley
Don Leonard
Cliff Lopp
John Barber
Camille Morgan
Cathy Waitman
Clifford Lopp
Paula Lopp

A new school year is here which means two things: 1) the summer is officially over and 2) a new Sunday School year is getting ready to kick off!!! We did a lot of fun church activities this summer with the retreat, the picnic, and Vacation Bible School. We also were in the middle of planning new classes for you this Sunday School year. Rally Day is going to be on September 13th during our Sunday School time at 9:45 a.m. downstairs with an intergenerational Sunday school class. It will be an exciting time of honoring Sunday School teachers and promoting children to the next grade level. It is also our big kick-off for new classes. A) We will have a **new preschool class "Two by Two" for ages 3-5 years old**. This class will be lead by Ms. Nancy Robbins. B) Also, we are offering a **new adult class called "Seekers."** This class is focused on the young adults of the church but all are welcome. We will be rotating teachers as well as study material. *On September 27th we will begin a 6-8 week session titled, "Upside Living in a Downside Economy" with Walter Hoffman and Birke McNeill leading the class.* This study will consist of a short video with each lesson and a study guide book to read. The books will be available Rally Day so you can become familiar with them. C) **Our third class is a nursery for 2 years and under.** This will be lead by eight different women who have kindly volunteered their time and service to this. Thank you so much!! We have finally done it and have something to offer for everyone. I can't wait to see the hallways alive at 9:45 a.m. every Sunday. Don't forget that after Rally Day we will be having a delicious catered "Homecoming Meal" that follows the worship service conducted by Rev. Patten (including our "Liturgy of Closure" for the TT) and preached by Rev. Mike Hooper. This is going to be a wonderful day for all to enjoy.



"Roads to God" just ended up the study of Pentecost and collecting Corn Flakes for Crisis Ministries. The children had a great time bringing in the cereal boxes and we ended up collecting around 15 boxes. Thank you again to everyone who participated in this great cause. We are getting ready to start up our study on Creation. There will be another community outreach project included with this study. More information when this study starts up on September 20th.

Vacation Bible School was held at Second UCC this year and I want to thank everyone from our church who volunteered their time to help out. We had about 40 children to attend and I feel like all ages had a blast studying the "Miraculous Powers of Jesus". The children loved all of the different Science experiments that took place, the music, crafts, story time, and of course watching the great adventures of Chadder the chipmunk. Thank you to Second UCC and Wendy Rummage for hosting us this year!!

I also want to let everyone know that there is a great group of people working really hard right now to start up a new youth group for middle and high school students. It is all in the works right now so I just ask for your prayers on this great cause. We will keep everyone posted as we proceed.

Thanks to Mike Brown, we have a new bulletin board on the wall by the nursery and preschool rooms. I will post information you will need for that month on that bulletin board. Be sure to check this board regularly for information you may need concerning the youth of our church. I will post the dates for Kids Club and Children's church there each month. **Currently the restart dates for Kids Club are October 11th and October 20th during Women's Life Fellowship.** Mark your calendars now because the children won't want to miss it. We will also start Children's Church in October and the date will be posted as well as information about what we will be studying on the bulletin board. I will mail a letter out as well. So much information at once so please feel free to contact me if you ever have questions or suggestions. Thank you!

RALLY DAY AND CHURCH HOMECOMING

Sunday, September 13, 2009



Invite family, friends, and former members to come to First Reformed UCC for Rally Day and our annual Homecoming. Worship begins at **11:00 a.m.** Reverend Mike Hooper, former minister, will be our guest preacher. After worship we will enjoy a time of good food, friendship and fellowship as we share a catered lunch together. Please fill out the reservation form found in the church bulletin and drop in the offering plate, or call the church office

at 248-2617 by Tuesday, September 8th. Donations will be accepted at the door.

Sunday School News

Rally Day will be on **September 13th** to kick-off our Sunday school year. The day will begin at **9:45 a.m.** downstairs with an intergenerational Sunday school class. If you've been wondering about the new children's program "Roads to God," you'll be able to get a small taste on Rally Day. They are beginning a new session on Creation. The Board of Christian Education decided that it would be interesting and fun for everyone to rotate through the classrooms. There has been a great deal of work put into keeping all things exciting through study and visual effects. Plan to be here Rally Day to see for yourself! **Everyone is welcome!!**



The Board of Christian Education is very excited to announce that we will be offering **three new Sunday school classes this fall.**

1. Beginning Sunday, September 20th a **nursery for two-year-olds and under** will be provided each Sunday morning. This class is located on the main level to the left as you enter the Sunday school side of the education building.
2. Also, beginning Sunday, September 20th we will begin our **"Two by Two" class for pre-schoolers, ages 3-5.** This class will be led by Nancy Robbins and is located on the main level to the right as you enter the Sunday school side of the education building.
3. Beginning Sunday, September 27th, the **"Seekers,"** a class for young adults, will be back. This class will begin with an eight-week course of material titled, "Upside Living in a Downside Economy," by Mike Slaughter. Class leaders are Walter Hoffman and Birke McNeill. This class is located on the main level across the hall from the Willing Workers Sunday school class.

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

First Reformed UCC,

Thank you for the generous gift.

Tyson Bray, High School Graduate

First Reformed UCC Food Committee,

Thank you all so much for taking your time to feed our family before mother's funeral. We are so grateful!

Hutchens, Nichols, and Lewis Families

Dear Ladies,

Thank you so much for the lunch you served our family after the funeral for Bud. The food was delicious and we appreciated this time together.

Sincerely, Ruth Fritts

Congratulations!!

Grandparents Ron and Heidi Hutcheson welcomed their second grandchild, Michael Blake Hutcheson, Monday, August 17, 2009 at 3:35 in the afternoon. He weighed 6 lbs 11 ozs. His parents are Jess and Anna Hutcheson and his big sister is Haylee Nicole Hutcheson.



We rejoice with Emily and Franklin Leonard upon the baptism of their son, **Landon Kade Leonard** on Sunday, August 23, 2009. Landon's brother is Clayton; grandparents are Henry and Kay Crouse; and Great-grandmother is Mary Crouse. May God richly bless this family.

Cory Reece, son of Joel and Celia Reece, graduated this summer from Western Carolina University with a BS Degree in Business Administration/Marketing/Pre-Law.



August Memorials

SANDRA HUTCHENS
Doris Frye

COL. LOUIS "IKE" GREEN
Doris Frye



CALVIN HEDRICK
Peggy Bates

RUBY EVERHART
Doris Frye

JIM GRUBB
Doris Frye

EVERETTE "BUD" FRITTS

Carolyn and Carroll Spivey
Doris Frye
Mary Berrier

Wanda Daye
Maxine Lohr

Evelyn McDade Kepley
John Smith

Our Church's Wider Mission

What is "Our Church's Wider Mission" - or OCWM? Some of the ministries that are supported by OCWM giving are:

- ◆ Scholarships for seminary students
- ◆ Scholarships for college students
- ◆ Parish Leadership Program
- ◆ Youth ministries
- ◆ Clergy support
- ◆ Clergy counseling and special emergency support
- ◆ New church support
- ◆ Revitalized/renewal churches support
- ◆ Conflict resolution support
- ◆ Search and Call support for congregations seeking pastoral leaders
- ◆ Information Services
- ◆ Clergy gatherings
- ◆ Laity gatherings
- ◆ Christian Education support and services
- ◆ Justice and witness work
- ◆ Evangelism training
- ◆ Stewardship training
- ◆ Resource center
- ◆ Support for Cornerstone Fund
- ◆ Four outdoor ministries—2 owned by the Southern Conference

- ◆ A Children's Home
- ◆ Two related institutions for higher education—Elon and Catawba
- ◆ Financial services for Southern Conference, Pastoral Leadership Development and Black Lake
- ◆ Travel to local churches by staff
- ◆ Liaison to national setting of the church
- ◆ North Carolina Council of Churches
- ◆ Virginia Council of Churches
- ◆ Board and staff gatherings
- ◆ Office upkeep
- ◆ Accounting services and audits
- ◆ Annual gatherings of the Southern Conference
- ◆ Staff salaries and benefits
 - Drew Morris, Eastern Virginia
 - Vertie Powers, Eastern NC
 - Larry Walser, Western NC
 - Stephen Camp, Conference Minister
 - Support Staff
- ◆ 137 missionaries spread throughout the world
- ◆ Plus—supporting the ministry of the UCC in the national setting

And so much more. Our OCWM gifts make a difference.
Thank you!

SEPTEMBER STEWARDS

Ushers: Chairperson: Peggy Bates

Captain: Birke McNeill

Ushers: Scott Frye, Frank Callicutt and Thomas Johnson

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

Plate Attendant: Adena Wall

Acolytes: Kalyssa Hutchens and Mary Lloyd Callicutt

Sound Tech: Jordan McCarn

Adult Joint Sunday School: Responsible for lesson - - - Willing Workers Class

Social: Host/Hostess: Alice & James Gray and Sauni & Thomas Johnson

Greeters:
September 6 Marzell Crotts and Pattie B. Everhart
September 13 Mike and Lynn Brown
September 20 Ted and Nina Smith
September 27 Ron and Heidi Hutcheson

Nursery:
September 6 Heidi and Ron Hutcheson
September 13 Katie and Shane Decker
September 20 Amanda and Chris Fulton
September 27 Nicole and Mark Smith



(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

Joel Reece (member now living in Hickory), Doris Frye, Mary Rhodes, Tom Danze, Hilda Leonard, Ronnie Durham, Henry and Juanita Beck, Jacqueline Leonard, Ethel Bailey, Sadie Bailey, Giles Crowell, Gertrude Jarvis, Catherine Leonard, Willie Ruth Leonard, Micki Smith, Velna Swing, and Margaret Trexler. Also, please remember Ernie Bonner, Spencer Wilson, Phyllis Sheehan (Eddie Yates' sister), Joyce Bowie (Joyce Price's sister-in-law), Jacob Berrier (Great-grandson of Mary Berrier), Susan Fletcher (Anne Fletcher's Mother), and Ann Kreps (widow of Reverend Carl Kreps). To add a name to the prayer chain, please contact Adena Wall at 249-1904 or the church office at 248-2617.

Return to Regular Worship Schedule

SEPTEMBER 6, 2009

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
(Classes for all ages)

11:00 a.m. Worship



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.

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