

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.

THE FLOWERS on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Cathern and Clifton Murphy, Sr., by Harriette and Clifton Murphy.

USHERS: Steve Smith, Jerry Smith, John Hudson, Vicky Gray and Ted Smith

PLATE ATTENDANT: Roy Bevan

GREETERS: Jessica and Chris Bentley

ACOLYTES: Holt Biesecker and Kalyssa Hutchens

NURSERY (Birth through 6 years-old): Nina and Ted Smith

PRAYER CONCERNS: Ernie Bonner, Sadie Bailey, Catherine Leonard, Velna Swing, Ronnie Durham, John Rollins, Elmer Morgan, Willie Ruth Leonard, Arlene Swing, Jacqueline Leonard, Frances Leonard, Juanita and Henry Beck, Ernestine and Henry Kennedy, Steve Murdock, Paul Stevens (Lisa Nelson's Cousin), Van "Buster" Conrad (Gray Family), and George Horner (Vicky Gray's Father). To place a name on the prayer chain, please call Adena Wall at 249-1904 or the church office.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, March 7	9:45 a.m. ---JOINT ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL {LESSON: WILLING WORKERS CLASS}
	10:20 a.m. ---SUNDAY SCHOOL SOCIAL {HOSTS: MYRA THOMPSON & BETTY & LARRY LINK}
	11:00 a.m. ---WORSHIP SERVICE
	6-8 p.m. --- Community Youth Group & Parents Meeting {FH}
	7:00 p.m. --- CONSISTORY MEETING {Willing Workers Classroom}
Monday, March 8	5:30 p.m. ---Craft/Scrapbooking Night {Fellowship Hall}
	6:15 p.m. ---Women's Life Fellowship serves meal at Shelter
	7:30 p.m. ---Women's Life Fellowship Meeting {Parlor}
Tuesday, March 9	6:30 p.m. ---Evangelism Committee Meeting {Parlor}
	6:30 p.m. ---Search Committee Meeting {New Way Classroom}
Wednesday, March 10	Noon-----Community Lenten Service- Led by 1st & 2nd UCC {First UMC}
	6:30 p.m. ---Bell Choir Practice {Bell Room}
	7:15 p.m. ---Adult Choir Practice {Chapel Annex}
Thursday, March 11	5:30 p.m. ---YOGA Class
Sunday, March 14	9:00 a.m. --- WOMEN'S LIFE FELLOWSHIP BAKE SALE
	9:45 a.m. ---SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR EVERYONE
	11:00 a.m. ---WORSHIP SERVICE AND KIDS' CLUB {OGHS OFFERING}

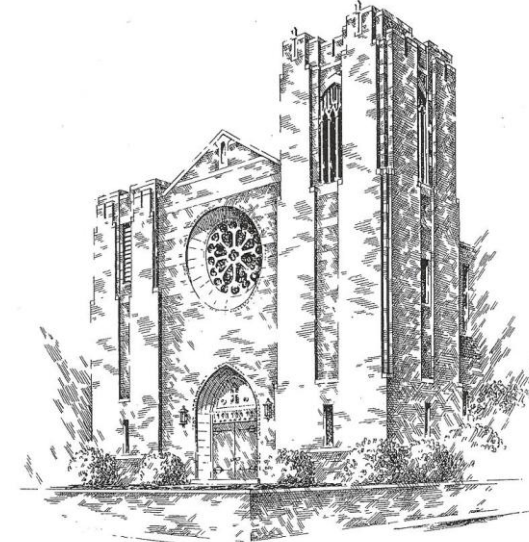
February 28, 2010	Attendance (Worship 142)	Offering Received \$3,389.00
March 1, 2009	Attendance (Worship 96) Icy	Needed each Sunday to meet Budget \$5,581.00

Church Staff

Reverend Walter Patten, Ph.D., Intentional Interim Minister
Cathy Waitman, Interim Director of Christian Education
Lee Ann Peele, Organist

(Cell #336-420-2728 Home #336-632-1985)
Paul Freeman, Choir Director
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
Lexington, NC 27292
Website www.frucc.org*

*Office (336) 248-2617
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Sunday, March 7, 2010

Service of Divine Worship

Third Sunday in Lent

Liturgist: Adena Wall

March 7, 2010

Silent Meditations: "...some of the worst grades that I received, some of the toughest assignments a teacher gave me, were those times when a teacher said to me, 'Well, I gave you a B, but not happily. You can do better. I was disappointed that you did not put more into this paper, and I think you are disappointed too.' How I wished that teacher had simply failed me. That way I could blame the teacher or turn my anger toward the teacher. But with that speech, I had no one to blame but myself. The toughest words of judgment are words of disappointment, words that are true."
--Bishop William H. Willimon

Preparation for Worship

Prelude "Come Unto Him" Maunday from "Olivet to Calvary"
*Chimes Sounding the Hour
*Time of Greeting and Announcements
Choral Call to Worship
Solemn Declaration and Choral Amen

Praise to God

*Hymn "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" No. 193
*Responsive Call to Worship
Liturgist: Drop Thy still dews of quietness,
People: Till all our strivings cease;
Liturgist: Take from our souls the strain the stress,
People: And let our ordered lives confess
Liturgist: The beauty of Thy peace.
*Gloria Patri
*Opening Prayer (unison) (Derived from Isaiah 55:6-7) Liturgist
Gracious God, may we seek you while you may be found, calling upon you while you are near. Let the wicked forsake their way and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let us return to you, that you may have mercy upon us and may abundantly pardon us. Amen.

Confession of Sin

Call to Confession
Unison Prayer for the Confession of Sin (Derived from Isaiah 55:8-9) Liturgist

Merciful God, help us to remember that our thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways our ways. Help us to remember that as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are your ways higher than our ways, and your thoughts higher than our thoughts. Forgive us our confusion, Lord, that we make of ourselves little gods when we fail to remember these things, that we wander off and become dangerously lost when we fail to remember these things. Draw near to us, we implore of you, to sharpen and quicken our minds, our souls, our bodies, our hearts, our community, that our pointless wandering may cease, that the fog of our confusion may clear, that your judgments are no longer fearsome things to us, but rather, life itself; in the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

The Kyrie and Assurance of Pardon - - - Amen Sung

Witness of Faith

The Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Children's Moment

Anthem

"Jesus Gentle Lamb"

Larson

Proclamation of the Word

The New Testament Reading (Liturgist)

Luke 13:1-9 {Page #950 of Pew Bible}

Sermon

"JESUS AND GOD'S JUDGMENT"

Response Through Dedication

Invitation to Give

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory

*The Doxology and Offertory Prayer (unison)

Liturgist

Gracious and generous God, help us to see that your judgment is meant to define the boundaries of the garden within which we may live safely and produce effectively, if not as formerly in the Garden of Eden and if not yet in the new City of Jerusalem with the river of life, then now, even now, as we allow you to define life as leads to our happiness and to our stewardship of resources as leads to compassion and mercy for those in need; in Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Preparation for Obedience in the World

*Hymn

"Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"

No. 226

*Responsive Call to Dedication

Liturgist: 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

"Crucifix"

Kullak

***Those who are able please stand**

Volunteers Needed

The **Labyrinth Committee** needs individuals who will serve as hosts during the week of March 21-27, 2010. Taking two hour shifts, the duties of the host will be to greet and assist people as they come to walk the Labyrinth. There will be a training session on Saturday, March 20th. If you are interested in serving as a host, please call June Grubb (248-5668) or email jgrubb3@triad.rr.com.

Women's Life Fellowship Bake Sale

Mark your calendar for a Women's Life Fellowship bake sale next **Sunday, March 14th** beginning at 9:00 a.m. Come early and have one of Mary Jo's famous sausage biscuits or a muffin with some coffee or juice for breakfast. There will be a variety of baked goods to purchase. Items will be sold before Sunday school, between Sunday school and worship, and immediately following the worship service. All monies raised will help the mission work of our circle. Thank you for your support!



BAKE SALE

NOTE: If anyone has a request for a specific cake or bake sale item, please contact Raeann Biesecker at 248-4703 or email at raeannbiesecker@yahoo.com. We will try to accommodate your request and have your pie, cake, cookies, etc waiting for you on the morning of March 14th. *All requests must be received by Monday, March 8th.*

Easter Lily Order Form



White Easter Lilies are an ancient symbol of the resurrection and our sanctuary will be adorned with the beautiful cross of lilies on Easter Sunday morning. The cost of each plant is \$9.00. Lilies can be picked up immediately following the worship service. To purchase a lily in honor or memory of someone, fill in the appropriate spaces and place in the offering plate or call the church office at

248-2617. **DEADLINE TO ORDER IS MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2010.**

In Loving Memory of

By

In Honor of

By

Blowing Rock Church Retreat

FRIDAY, JUNE 4th – SUNDAY, JUNE 6th

The *second annual* First Reformed UCC church retreat is not that far away! There are twenty rooms reserved that we plan to fill and hope that we'll need to call for more. Everyone who attended last year's retreat had a wonderful and relaxing weekend; if you have any hesitations contact one of them. We had a wonderful time of fellowship and connected with people we really didn't know that well before the retreat. We ended the weekend with an outdoor sermon lead by Pastor Walt and truly felt at peace and a closer connection with one another.



I strongly urge everyone to consider coming this year. If money is an issue holding you back, come see me, we will make it happen!! Fees for the entire weekend are:

Lodging: \$157.00 (2 people in room)

Meals for ages 13 and up: \$45.00

5-12 years: \$28.50

4 years and younger: Free

A deposit of \$85.00 per couple and \$50.00 per individual is due by Sunday, March 28th. . Checks can be made payable to First Reformed UCC with **'Retreat'** written on the memo line. Payment can be placed in the offering plate, brought to the church office or given to Amy. If you have questions or need more information, contact Amy McNeill (243-1420).

Thank You from the Pattens: Elyse, Rachael and I share our deepest appreciation for you as you have shared the burden of our loss of **Myron C. Topkins**, 88, Elyse's mom, last Thursday evening, February 25. Myron had been living at Friends Home West, off Friendly Avenue and near Guilford College and us, for about four years (though the last two years were those of significant decline), involving Hospice and other palliative care strategies. Many of you have been on such watches yourselves and do know the sense of relief that comes when such terminal suffering of loved ones is over. We are also grateful for the personal time that I received to be with my family during this period, thanking as well the **Rev. June Grubb** for her leadership of our service on short notice. Elyse has kept every card that you have sent and we appreciate those of you who could attend our Quaker-style memorial service at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, February 28, on a very tight timeline which we regret. Still, you have been the church for us during difficult circumstances, and we shall be forever grateful.

Rev. Walt & Family