

Service of Divine Worship

Thanksgiving Sunday

November 21, 2010

Preparation for Worship

Prelude "Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven" Andrews
*Chimes Sounding the Hour
*Time of Greeting
Announcements
Choral Call to Worship
Solemn Declaration - - Amen Sung

Praise to God

*Hymn "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" No. 434
*Responsive Call to Worship Reverend June Grubb

Pastor: Let us gather together in thanksgiving to God.

People: For God has made us and this earth which gives us nurture.

Pastor: Let us gather together in gratitude to one another.

People: For we are the bearers of God's blessing and love for the earth and its people.

ALL: Let us praise God; let us join hands; let us reach out in care and courage so that the goodness of life may be for all God's children. Amen.

*Gloria Patri
Invocation

Confession of Sin

Call to Confession
Unison Prayer for the Confession of Sin

Gracious God, the season of Thanksgiving alerts us and reminds us to be grateful for common, everyday wonders. Too often we do not express our gratitude for all that you provide, rather we find ourselves complaining and disregarding your gracious spirit at work in our lives. Forgive us as we pause to share our words of thanks:

Thank you for colored things: for the bright landscape of an autumn day with its splashes of colored leaves, for the brilliant bronze of sunset reflected in a skyscraper's glass, for the many hues of human skin.

Thank you for your love expressed through various loving relationships: for spouses, parents and children, for families of all shapes and sizes, for friends and colleagues who express care for one another.

Thank you for textured things: for the slippery smoothness of ice, for the rocky roughness of a hiking path, for the impossible softness of a baby's hair.

Thank you for imaginable things: for the vision of a world at peace, for bold forgiveness, for the dreams and hopes of all our years.

Gracious God, our Provider and Sustainer, all gratitude and glory we give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

The Kyrie and Assurance of Pardon --- Amen Sung

Witness of Faith

The Epistle Reading Philippians 4:4-9 (Page #1071 of Pew Bible)
The Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer {we pray debts}
Children's Moment
Anthem "Hymn of Grateful Praise" Carter

Proclamation of the Word

The Old Testament Reading Psalms 92:1-5 (Page #537 of Pew Bible)
Sermon "WHEN IS THANKSGIVING?" Reverend Banks Shepherd

Response through Dedication

Invitation to Give
Giving of Tithes and Offerings
The Offertory

*The Doxology and Offertory Prayer (Unison)

For every benefit we praise you, God; for every gift received and for each gift we are blessed in giving. For all your goodness we give thanks to you: the providence which made and nourishes life; the presence which brings meaning in divine and human love, and the promise that gives hope for each new moment. Out of faith and into hope we are led by your love, and for these graces we return our thanks, through the mercies of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Preparation for Obedience in the World

*Hymn "Now Thank We All Our God" No. 72
*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 "Sing to the Lord of Harvest" Steurlein

THE FLOWERS on the altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of Cliff and Eloise Lopp who celebrated their sixty-fifth wedding anniversary Thursday, November 18, 2010, by The Clifford Lopp Family.

USHERS: Mike Perry, Mike Brown, David Strenk, John Barber

PLATE ATTENDANT: Lynn Brown

ACOLYTES: Holt Biesecker, Kalyssa Hutchens and Griff Smith

GREETERS: Roy and Anne Bevan

NURSERY (to 6 years-old): Kay Crouse and Emily Leonard

PRAYER CONCERNS: Ronnie Durham, Callie Kepley, Betty Potts, Ernie and Sherry Bonner, Sadie Bailey, Elmer Morgan, Willie Ruth Leonard, Arlene Swing, Frances Leonard, Juanita and Henry Beck, Ernestine and Henry Kennedy, Nikki Slemp (Alisa Johnson's Mother), Paul Stevens (Lisa Nelson's Cousin), Patricia Green (Myrtle Latimer's Daughter), Van "Buster" Conrad (Gray Family), and Terri Evans (Paul Freeman's Cousin). Please remember our men and women serving in the Armed Forces. To add a name for prayer, contact Adena Wall at 249-1904 or the church office.



We extend Sympathy to and share Christian hope with Linda Sink upon the death of her Mother, Roma Jean Goins Burkhart.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sunday, November 21 9:15 a.m. ---Bake Sale and Benevolent Gift Booth
 9:45 a.m. ---Sunday School Classes for Everyone
 11:00 a.m. ---**WORSHIP SERVICE {Reverend Banks Shepherd}**
- Monday, November 22 6:30 p.m. ---Search Committee Meeting {Parlor}
- Tuesday, November 23 6:30 p.m. ---Decorating & Hanging of the Greens Committees decorate buildings for Advent {**WE WELCOME ALL WHO WANT TO ASSIST**}
- Thursday, November 25 *Thanksgiving Day*
- Friday, November 26 Office Holiday
- Sunday, November 28 9:45 a.m. ---Sunday School Classes for Everyone
 11:00 a.m. ---**WORSHIP SERVICE {Reverend June Grubb}**
 CHILDREN'S CHURCH
 6:00 p.m. ---MADRIGAL SINGERS
- Monday, November 29 6:00 p.m. ---**CHILI COOK-OFF AND ADVENT WORKSHOP**

Income 11/14/10	Needed Weekly	YTD Received	YTD Budget	Difference
3,817	5,581	211,697	258,599	(46,902)

Church Staff

Reverend June Grubb, Minister-On-Call (jgrubb3@triad.rr.com; Home #248-5668; Cell #240-2503)
 Cathy Waitman, Interim Director of Christian Ed Paul Freeman, Choir Director
 Lee Ann Peele, Organist Paula Lopp, Administrative Asst



*It is good to
 Praise the Lord
 and make music to your
 name, O Most High.*

Psalm 92:1

*First Reformed
 United Church of Christ*

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

104 East Center Street
 Lexington, NC 27292
 Website www.frucc.org



Office (336) 248-2617
 Fax (336) 248-6163
 email – church@frucc.org

Thanksgiving Sunday, November 21, 2010

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.



Bell Ringers

Mark your calendar for **Friday, December 3rd** and **Saturday, December 4th**. First Reformed UCC will be ringing bells for the Salvation Army Christmas Kettle Fund at Lanier's Hardware. You can sign-up for an hour increment between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. either day. A sheet is in the narthex or call the church office.

Advent Workshop & Chili Cook-off Monday, November 29, 2010

The Advent workshop will be on Monday, November 29th starting at 6 p.m. We are going to have another chili cook-off since the one last year was such a great success. There will be about eight pots of chili entered in the contest. Come and taste all of them to pick out the one you like the best. Vote for that one by placing money in the jar in front of the pot. Proceeds from the voting will be used to purchase costumes for the children's play.



Following the chili contest, we will be making a gingerbread village of Lexington using milk cartons, graham crackers, icing, and candy for decorations. We'll need the help of **EVERYONE** in constructing our town. **Young and not-so-young, individuals, families and groups of friends** will be making buildings in town, including our church and a stable for the front lawn. The "buildings" will be on display in the fellowship hall throughout December. If you would like to participate in designing one of the buildings, please let me know by Sunday, November 14th. I will need to know how many materials to have ready.

ADVENT WORKSHOP

To help with planning, we are requesting that you sign-up **TODAY**. Please fill out the reservation form and drop in the offering plate or call the church office at 248-2617.

NAME _____

ADULTS: _____ **CHILDREN:** _____

Holiday Bake Sale

Women's Life Fellowship is holding a holiday bake sale **TODAY, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21st**. Do you need help with your Thanksgiving holiday baking? If so, we can help with pound cakes, pies, cookies, and mixes. **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!



NEED A CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA?

The First Reformed UCC Board of Community Outreach can help! They are offering an "Alternative Gift Fair". There is a booth setup in conjunction with the Women's Life Fellowship Bake Sale. Make a donation to one of our benevolences in honor of teachers, family members, friends, co-workers, etc. We will provide an acknowledgement card and envelope for you to mail. Some suggestions are:

Salvation Army

Crisis Ministries

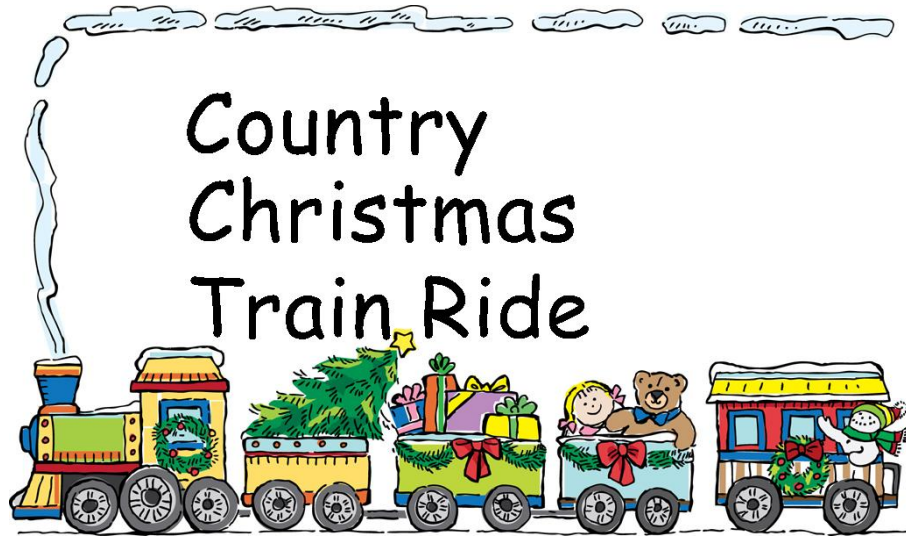
Davidson Medical Ministries

Piedmont Crossing Trust Fund

OCWM



Adopt a Benevolence



Country Christmas Train Ride

Denton Farm Park

Friday, December 3rd, 6 p.m.

Train Ride, Christmas Lights, Food,
Antique Cars, Doll Museum and much more.

Adult \$9.00 (group of 15) – Children – (paid by church)

Questions: Call the church office (248-2617) or email Cathy (dce@frucc.org)

COUNTRY CHRISTMAS TRAIN RIDE SIGN UP

To help with planning, we are requesting that you sign-up by **Tuesday, November 23rd**. Please fill out the reservation form and drop in the offering plate or call the church office.

NAME _____

ADULTS: _____

CHILDREN: _____



First Reformed United Church of Christ
is partnering with Uptown Lexington during the
Uptown Christmas Open House
TODAY, Sunday, November 21, 2010
1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Please drop off non-perishable foods for local food banks. Curbside service will be available. To assist First Reformed UCC members, **collection boxes are in the narthex now**. Items dropped off will be included with Open House collections. Thank you.

Labyrinth



The season of Advent is fast approaching and as always we are very busy. First Reformed UCC is offering our members the opportunity to participate in a **Prayer Labyrinth** experience. Friday, December 3rd, Saturday, December 4th, and Sunday, December 5th our Prayer Labyrinth will be laid out in the fellowship hall. Plan to take a moment from your busy schedule to enjoy a spiritual respite. Relax, reflect, and enjoy the inner peace found through prayer.

Fellowship Hall Chairs

How many times have you sat in the fellowship hall and thought how uncomfortable you were? How much would you enjoy sitting on a comfortable chair during the children's Christmas pageant? Buy yourself a comfortable seat or two...or three.



The Consistory has approved a project to raise funds to replace the fellowship hall folding chairs. The proposal is to NOT take funds from the budget but, raise enough funds to purchase chairs. When enough is raised, the current chairs will be sold to another church, organization, or individuals with the money earned going to the general fund. This is a win, win proposition. The cost for a new chair is \$25.00. **We are seeking individual donations and supplemental donations from organizations within the church.** This is a church-wide project that will benefit everyone. Please contact the church office with the amount you plan to give. To have the chairs for the Christmas program, **the order will need to be placed by November 29th**. **Currently we have sold 106 chairs. Our goal is 140.**



MADRIGAL SINGERS

First Reformed UCC Sanctuary

6 p.m. Sunday, November 28, 2010

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, November 28th as a kickoff to the Advent Season. The event will begin in the sanctuary followed by a reception in the fellowship hall for everyone. Information about the group is located on the back of the insert. Please share this information with friends, family, coworkers, etc. along with an invitation to come join us for a wonderful evening of music.

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 the Presidential Inauguration in Washington, DC. Earlier this year the Madrigals returned to New York City on tour.

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.