

Service of Divine Worship

Third Sunday of Easter

Liturgist: Carolyn Spivey

April 18, 2010

Silent Meditations: "Picture me alone in that room in Magdalen, night after night, feeling, whenever my mind lifted even for a second from my work, the steady, unrelenting approach of Him whom I so earnestly desired not to meet. That which I greatly feared came upon me...I gave in, and admitted that God was God, and knelt and prayed: perhaps, that night, the most dejected and reluctant convert in all England...a prodigal who is brought in kicking, struggling, resentful, and darting his eyes in every direction for a chance of escape? The words **compelle intrare**, "compel them to come in," have been so abused by wicked men...; but, properly understood, they plumb the depth of the Divine mercy. The hardness of God is kinder than the softness of men, and His compulsion is our liberation."
--C.S. Lewis, *Surprised By Joy*

"Asked whether Jesus was his 'personal savior,' a monk said, 'No, I like to share him.' "

--Scott Cairns

Preparation for Worship

Prelude Fantasia on "Praise Him! Praise Him!" Allen
*Chimes Sounding the Hour
*Time of Greeting
Announcements
Choral Call to Worship
Solemn Declaration - - Amen Sung

Praise to God

*Hymn "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" No. 166
*Responsive Call to Worship
Liturgist: So shall we know the power of Him Who came humankind to save;
People: So shall we rise with Him to life which soars beyond the grave;
Liturgist: And earth shall win true holiness, which makes Thy children whole,
People: Till, perfected by Thee, we reach Creation's glorious goal!

*Gloria Patri

Opening Prayer (unison) Liturgist
Gracious God, just as Saul became Paul after his experience with the Risen Christ on that road to Damascus, so, too, we pray that the Risen Christ will meet us here, gifting and confronting us in whatever ways are needful for our eyes to be opened more completely to your vision for us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Confession of Sin

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer for the Confession of Sin

Liturgist

Merciful and compassionate God, we confess that, like Saul, we are blind. We think that we can see clearly, and the world suggests as much itself, that we may conform to its spirit more completely. We have blinded ourselves in willful ignorance and pride by staring too intently at the media, at false prophets, at our own success, at our own self-righteousness wherewith we pass harsh judgments upon others daily. Grant us, God, that you will place a courageous Ananias in our path, in our lives, in our souls. Empower our Ananias to risk his or her life for us, with the fear and trembling that only such a servant can know, reaching out and sharing with us again the power of the gospel to allow our scales to fall from our eyes. May we yet, with clear and unclouded vision, behold the Risen Christ as he is, and as he is in us; 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

Let the Children Come

Anthem

"Man's Music God's Glory"

Liebergen

Proclamation of the Word

The New Testament Reading (Liturgist)

Acts 9:1-20 (Page #1000 of Pew Bible)

Sermon

"**BROTHER SAUL...**"

Response Through Dedication

Invitation to Give

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory

*The Doxology and Offertory Prayer (unison)

Liturgist

Gracious and generous God, open our eyes that we may see clearly your grace in and among us this very hour. Help us to discern how important we are to one another as vital parts of the Body of Christ. Help us each to be a brother or sister to each other in times of travail and weakness, in times of confusion and distress, in times when the dark night of the soul threatens our very lives. May the gifts of grace that we offer each other be reflected in the very gifts we lay before your Altar. May their multiplying effects reverberate through us and among us, helping us to see our very connectedness through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Preparation for Obedience in the World

*Hymn "O Spirit of the Living God" No. 190
*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 "Marion" Messiter

***THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND**

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 her husband, Louis "Ike" Green by Vicky Green.

USHERS: Brad Biesecker, James Atkinson, Adena Wall, John Gray, and Nicole Smith

PLATE ATTENDANT: Scott Frye

GREETERS: Jeff and Kalyssa Hutchens

ACOLYTES: Ashley Johnson and Kalyssa Hutchens

NURSERY (Birth through 6 years-old): Raeann Biesecker

PRAYER CONCERNS: Ronnie Durham, Jitter Yarbrough, Ernie Bonner, Sadie Bailey, Catherine Leonard, Velna Swing, Elmer Morgan, Willie Ruth Leonard, Arlene Swing, Jacqueline Leonard, Frances Leonard, Juanita and Henry Beck, Ernestine and Henry Kennedy, Steve Murdock, Nancy Daye Greene (Wanda's Daughter), Jules Bliss (Banks & Eulene's Grandson), Paul Stevens (Lisa Nelson's Cousin), Van "Buster" Conrad (Gray Family), Steve Myers (Jan Smith's close friend). To place a name on the prayer chain, please call Adena Wall at 249-1904 or the church office.

April 11, 2010 Attendance (Worship 119)

Offering Received \$9,107.00

April 12, 2009 Attendance (Worship 156) Easter Sunday

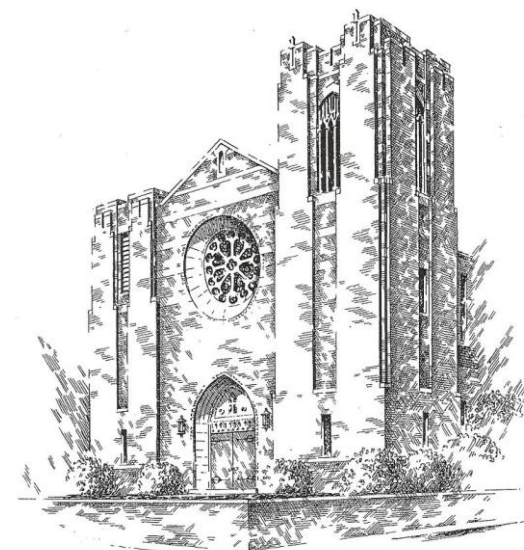
Needed each Sunday to meet Budget \$5,581.00

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
Fax (336) 248-6163
email - church@frucc.org*

Sunday, April 18, 2010

Women's Life Fellowship

Need Help With



Your Grocery Bill?

We are having a **Coupon Makeover Class this Tuesday, April 20th** at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Learn how to get your groceries for \$0.40, \$0.09, or FREE! Bring a friend and learn about savings that will change your life and fill your pantry!

This is an introductory course for those that "see" the ladies that save hundreds of dollars while shopping, but don't know the "how to". A Coupon Makeover Class will teach you how to make the most of spending less!

Sign up for this class by calling the church office at 248-2617 to register you and your guest.

Mother's Day Pamphlet Order Form

Women's Life Fellowship is sponsoring a **Mother's Day Honorarium/Memorial Pamphlet** that will be provided to the congregation on Mother's Day. You can place your loved one's name, (mother, aunt, special friend, etc.) along with a comment ("to the best mother in the world, thank you for everything you do!") for a suggested price of \$10.00 per name; any donated amount will be appreciated. You will also receive a carnation that can be given to your honoree. **Deadline to order is May 3, 2010.**

In Honor of

By

COMMENT:

In Honor of

By

COMMENT:

In Loving Memory of

By

COMMENT:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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|---------------------|--|
| Sunday, April 18 | 9:45 a.m. --- Sunday School Classes for Everyone 11:00 a.m. --- Worship Service Noon ----- Women's Life Fellowship Lunch & Silent Auction {FH} 6-8:00 p.m. -- Community Youth Meeting {Reeds UMC} |
| Monday, April 19 | 7:00 p.m. --- Consistory Meeting {Willing Workers Classroom} |
| Tuesday, April 20 | 7:00 p.m. --- Genealogical Society Meeting (Fellowship Hall) 7:45 p.m. --- Basketball Game - FRUCC vs. First Presbyterian {YMCA} |
| Wednesday, April 21 | 7:00 p.m. --- Women's Life Fellowship Coupon Makeover Class {FH} |
| Thursday, April 22 | 7:00 p.m. --- Kids' Club {Music Room} |
| Friday, April 23 | 7:00 p.m. --- Adult Choir Practice (Education Bldg Choir Room) |
| Saturday, April 24 | 5:30 p.m. --- YOGA Class |
| Sunday, April 25 | 7:15 p.m. --- Living the Questions Study {Parlor} |
| | ----- Hillside Pool Port-a-Pit BBQ Chicken Fundraiser {FH} |
| | 9:30 a.m. --- WNCA "Responsible Handling of Funds" {FH} |
| | 9:45 a.m. --- Sunday School Classes for Everyone |
| | 11:00 a.m. --- Worship Service and Children's Church |

Youth Sunday, May 16th

We are in for a treat Sunday, May 16th when the youth of our church will lead the worship service. This will include youth of all ages. Children's Church participants have been studying the twenty-third Psalm and will be sharing some of what they have learned. The older youth will provide meditations.



Following the service there will be an appreciation lunch. Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters, special friends, **EVERYONE** is invited to attend a luncheon, provided by Yarborough's Restaurant, in the fellowship hall immediately after the worship service.

There is no charge for the catered meal, but donations will be accepted.

To assist with meal planning, please fill out the reservation below and drop in the offering plate or R.S.V.P the church office at 248-2617.

Youth Sunday Lunch Signup

NAME: _____

NUMBER OF ADULTS: _____ NUMBER OF CHILDREN: _____