

Service of Divine Worship

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgist: Dave Fulton

We Gather To Serve God In Worship

Prelude "Ye Servants of God" Lyons

*Chimes Sounding the Hour

*Time of Greeting

Announcements

Choral Call to Worship

Solemn Declaration - - Amen Sung

*Responsive Call to Worship

Liturgist: Children of God and searchers for truth, Jesus teaches the way of God in accordance with truth, and does not regard people with partiality.

People: Jesus, like lost children seeking the way home, we come to you. Our undesirable past would turn away eyes less merciful than yours.

Liturgist: Even while threatened by the hypocrites' snare, Jesus pierces treachery with truth. "Give to God the things that are God's," he says.

People: We have come from God, Revealer of Truth, and to God we seek to return. Following your way, blessed Jesus, we give ourselves to God, today and all the days yet to come.

*Hymn "In Christ There Is No East or West" No. 406

Confession of Sin

*Call to Confession

*Unison Prayer for the Confession of Sin

Holy God, we offer you flattering prayers and affirming words in worship, then do as we please when we leave the sanctuary. We do not give to you what is yours because we believe what we have is really ours and ours alone. We play games with each other, just as Jesus' opponents attempted to do with him, games that divert our attention away from your reign in this world. Forgive our selfish and sometimes immature ways. Draw us back to the paths of generosity, compassion, integrity and honesty. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

*Gloria Patri

We Proclaim The Word of God

The First Scripture Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 (Page #1075 of Pew Bible)

The Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer *{we pray debts}*

Let the Children Come

Anthem "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" Pfautsch

The Gospel Reading Matthew 22:15-22 (Page #900 of Pew Bible)

Sermon ***"Show Me the Money!"***

We Respond To The Word of God

Affirmation of Baptism: Reception of Members

Pastor: Let us ... affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

People: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

Invitation to Give

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory

*Our Response **"We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise"**

**We bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the Lord,
We bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the Lord.
And we offer up to You the sacrifices of thanksgiving,
And we offer up to You the sacrifices of joy!**

*The Offertory Prayer

God of truth, we are honored that you call us to participate in Christ's ongoing ministry in the world. Bless the gifts we bring in Jesus' name. We give you what is yours. Amen.

We Go Forth to Serve God

*Hymn "Rise Up, O Men of God!" No. 389

*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 "Postlude" Eslava

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

Bio for Chris Keel

I was born and raised in eastern NC, moved to Indiana after high school and began a career as a pipe-fitter. I remained in the trade for some 20 years until injury forced me to leave. Concurrently, I served as a minister/pastor in a Pentecostal denomination for more than 15 years. Currently, I am a senior at Eastern Oregon University working on a degree in Liberal Studies. Afterwards, I plan to attend seminary. I am also married to a wonderful lady and together, we have nine beautiful children, ages 5-23.

Bio for Shery Keel

I was born in Canton, IL; but grew up in Havana, IL. I made North Carolina my permanent home in 1995. I am the Occupancy Specialist at Lexington Housing Authority. I am fluent in sarcasm, love music, reading and writing poetry, and being with my husband and four girls. I see myself as God's pocket change and look forward to Him spending me wherever He sees fit.

Bio for Trudy Vossburg

My given name is Trudy Jean, better known as "Sunny" to my husband, Robin. Born and raised in southwestern Pennsylvania (Go Steelers!) I graduated from Westmoreland Community College where I earned a scholarship to Atlantic Christian College in Wilson, North Carolina.

Raised in the Methodist Church until I was 7, and later baptized in the Presbyterian Church. In my late twenties I found myself desiring a deeper spiritual life. That's where my love for the UCC came into being. I had the wonderful opportunity through the UCC to be the music and choir director for the church & conference for 7 years.

I am blessed by God in so many ways, having a wonderful family and many friends. A three time cancer survivor, I've realized that God is not done with me yet! So I wait patiently for His calling as to what, when and where He can use me.

In life I enjoy God's world in nature & gardening, music, reading, decorating and caring for our pups; Lil Red Dog, a dachshund and Sassy our tarnished retriever.

My latest blessing has come in the form of First Reformed UCC of Lexington, NC. I am so grateful for all of you!

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. If visitors are interested in learning more about First Reformed UCC, please contact the church office at 248-2617 or church@frucc.org.

CONGRATULATIONS to Craig and Donna Coe who have recently become grandparents to a beautiful baby boy, Tyson Lee Johnston who was born September 30th. Tyson's parents are Nichole and Brandon Johnston. Tyson was also welcomed by his Great-grandmother, Nancy Robbins.



Coin Offerings

Today the children will be collecting a **"Noisy Offering"**. Their new mission project is to purchase a sheep for the Heifer Project. To assist them with raising funds they will be coming around the sanctuary, following the children's moment, collecting coins from members of the congregation. **Please give generously...let's make a lot of noise!**



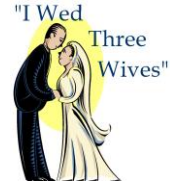
Participate in the Fall **Pennies from Heaven – Spare Change Changing Lives Campaign!** It's a fundraiser for Crisis Ministry of Davidson County to help meet operational costs. Collectively the change of many is helping to change the lives of those served by Crisis Ministry. What can you do to help? It's simple...**collect pocket change!** Drop donations in coin bottles located in the narthex and outside the church office.

Corner Café Dinner Theatre

PRESENTED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF FIRST REFORMED UCC

SATURDAY OCTOBER 29, 2011 AT 6:30 PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

MENU INCLUDES: Choice Rib Eye, Salad, Twice Baked Potato Casserole, Spiced Apple Rings, Rolls, Dessert, Tea and Coffee



COME ENJOY A HILARIOUS MYSTERY DINNER. TRY TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY. COMPETE WITH OTHER TABLES TO SEE WHO CAN WIN THE EVENING'S PRIZE.



\$30.00 TICKETS INCLUDE DINNER AND THE PLAY

SEE A FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS
FUNDS RAISED WILL ASSIST WITH BENEVOLENT GIFTS

CROP Walk

WHAT IS THE CROP HUNGER WALK? Sunday, November 6, 2011, neighbors from different faiths, cultures, and ages, walking together to take a stand against hunger in our world. Together we raise awareness and funds for international relief and development, as well as local hunger-fighting agencies.

WHAT DOES CROP MEAN?



Communities
Responding to
Overcome
Poverty

WALKERS: Signup envelopes to record pledges and collect money are located in the narthex. Please sign beside the form # you take.

Spiritual Practices Study Group



Reverend Keating is offering opportunities to explore the Spiritual Practices that have come down to us through the Church Fathers of the Early Christian Church. He will lead a group each Thursday evening from 7 to 8 p.m. through November 10th, and again on December 1st. We will encounter Scripture, through the old ways, that for many have fallen out of practice which, when resurrected, will add depth and meaning to our lives and our search for God. We will explore briefly the history and theology of each practice, but more importantly focus on how the particular practice is done.

Mission: 1 Campaign

This Fall we are participating in the national UCC's Mission:1 Campaign, which will be conducted nationally from 11.1.11 through 11.11.11. First Reformed UCC will participate by contributing to the National UCC's goal of collecting more than 1 million items of healthy food for local food banks.



Beginning on Sunday, October 30, church members can bring non-perishable food items to drop off in the Narthex. Some suggested items include: **canned stew beef, brown rice, low sodium soup, canned fruit packed in its own juice, canned tuna, multi-grain cereal with low sugar content, low sodium oatmeal, pasta and pasta sauces.** Board of Community Outreach members will count how many items have been donated and report those numbers on-line as part of the national effort. On Stewardship Sunday, November 13th we will celebrate our Mission:1 effort with a Service of Blessing for the donated food items.

For Information, Coming Events, Important Dates check:

church website – www.frucc.org

church Facebook page – www.facebook.com/firstreformeducc

bulletin board in the hallway of the education building

bulletin board outside the church office

FLOWERS: The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Grace Greer, Ruth Miller, and Libby and Edwin Rohrbaugh by their family.

USHERS: Tom Danze, Susan Odom, Roy Bevan and Nicole Smith

PLATE ATTENDANT: J.W. Bates

ACOLYTES: Ashley and Sarah Johnson

GREETERS: Betty and Darren Barr

NURSERY {BIRTH TO KINDERGARTEN}: Amanda and Chris Fulton

PRAYER CONCERNS: Ronnie Durham, Margaret Trexler, Sadie Bailey, Ernie Bonner, Mary Crouse, Holton Davis, Willie Ruth Leonard, Juanita & Henry Beck, Ernestine & Henry Kennedy, Jules Bliss (Banks & Eulene's Grandson), Virginia Hill (Cathy Waitman's Mother), Lossie Knowles (Lee Ann Peele's Mother), Mary John Allred (Gray Family), Ann Spivey (Carroll Spivey's Mother), Connie Weichert (Gerri Hill's Sister), Sandra Fern (Sauni Johnson's Mother), Randy Carter (Wanda Daye's Son-in-law), and Paul Stevens (Lisa Nelson's Cousin). 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 the family of Giles Tilden Crowell.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, October 16 9:45 a.m. --- **SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR EVERYONE**
 11:00 a.m. --- **WORSHIP SERVICE {NEW MEMBERS} AND KIDS CLUB**

Monday, October 17 7:00 p.m. --- Genealogical Society {Fellowship Hall}

Tuesday, October 18 6:00 p.m. --- Mystery Dinner Play Practice {FH}
 7:00 p.m. --- Women's Life Fellowship {Parlor}

Wednesday, October 19 6:00 p.m. --- Children's Christmas Play Practice {Fellowship Hall}
 6:30 p.m. --- Bell Choir Practice {Bell Room}
 7:15 p.m. --- Adult Choir Practice {Chapel Annex}

Thursday, October 20 5:30 p.m. --- Yoga Class {Parlor}
 7:00 p.m. --- Spiritual Practices {FH}

Saturday, October 22 Fundraiser – Parking Cars for BBQ Festival

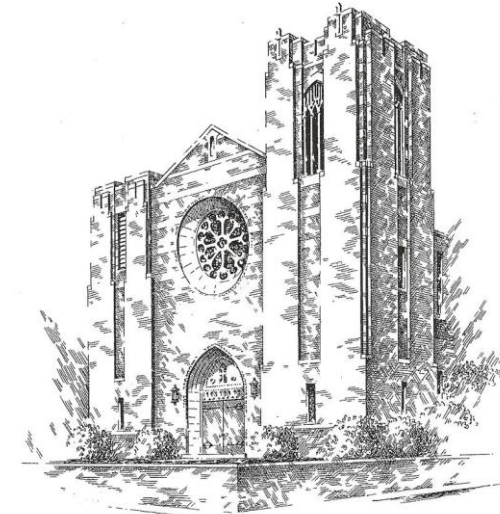
Sunday, October 23 9:45 a.m. --- **SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR EVERYONE**
 11:00 a.m. --- **WORSHIP SERVICE {BAPTISM} AND CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

10/9/11 Attendance & Income		Needed Weekly	YTD Received	YTD Budget	Difference
123	\$3,577	\$5,621	\$189,005	\$226,942	(\$37,937)

CHURCH STAFF

Reverend Robin Keating (Office #336-248-2617, Cell #336-250-9554)
 Cathy Waitman, Director of Christian Ed Paul Freeman, Choir Director
 Lee Ann Peele, Organist 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*

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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



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October 16, 2011