

Service of Divine Worship

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgist: Dave Fulton

We Gather To Serve God In Worship

Prelude "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" Beethoven

*Chimes Sounding the Hour

*Time of Greeting

Announcements

Choral Call to Worship

Solemn Declaration - - Amen Sung

*Responsive Call to Worship

Liturgist: God entrusts us with "the message of the Gospel".

People: We come as "the people of faith", to share the Gospel.

Liturgist: So, let us share the Gospel, first with each other, then with others out and about where our paths lead us as this week progresses. Let us worship God.

*Hymn "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven" No. 3

Confession of Sin

*Call to Confession

*Unison Prayer for the Confession of Sin

Lenient Lord, we recognize how we must disappoint. We do so many things in vain. Without thinking we cause suffering. Forgetting to be sensitive, we shamefully mistreat others. Our courage gets challenged and we back off. We give up on and give in to lesser standards. We let provocations undo us. Oppositions threaten us. We cower in their wakes. Approve of us, as repenting sinners, anew this day. Remind us of your noble expectations for us to do your bidding. We regret our sinfulness and seek to renew our determination to serve you as you deserve. We pray for Jesus' sake. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

*Gloria Patri

We Proclaim The Word of God

The Gospel Reading Matthew 22:34-46 (Page #900 of Pew Bible)

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

Let the Children Come

Anthem

"Yes Jesus Loves Me"

McDonald

The Epistle Reading

I Thessalonians 2:1-8 (Page #1075 of Pew Bible)

Sermon

"Handle With Care"

We Respond To The Word of God

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Pastor: They were bringing children to Jesus and said to them,

People: "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it."

Pastor: Jesus took them John said, "yet you have come to me!"

People: Jesus said, "Let it be so for now. For in this way, we shall do all that God requires." So John agreed.

Pastor: As soon as Jesus was baptized like a dove and lighting on him.

People: Then a voice said from heaven, "This is my own dear Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Pastor: At another time ... growth into full Christian faith and discipleship."

People: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ's body.

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

O God, you give your best. You give us diversity in talents, intelligence, strength and commitment. As we offer these gifts to you, may this represent the best of who we are and what you give to us. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

We Go Forth to Serve God

- *Hymn "Blest Be the Tie that Binds" No. 280
- *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 "God the Almighty" Davidson

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



As a congregation we rejoice with Keri and Casey Hartle upon the baptism of their daughter, **Emma Kathryn Hartle**. Emma's brother is Jacob; grandparents are Clifford and Paula Lopp, Sissy and Don Wicker, and Mike and Debbie Hartle; great-grandparents are Cliff and Eloise Lopp. May God richly bless this family.

United Friendship Club

The United Friendship Club will have their monthly covered dish luncheon on **Wednesday, October 26th at noon** in the fellowship hall. The guest speaker is Reverend Cyndi Burns who will share experiences of her visit to the Holy Lands.

Please bring a covered dish and come enjoy great food and fellowship with church family. **Everyone is invited.**



WOMEN'S LIFE FELLOWSHIP with assistance from our newest member, Trudy Vossburg, will offer an opportunity to members of the church to purchase Christmas cards. Trudy is generously offering cards to the members with a 10% discount and any profit made will be donated to Women's Life Fellowship for mission projects.



Trudy will have a table setup in the fellowship hall for people to view several selections. You will be able to pick out a card and a greeting.

Selection Dates Include:

- Wednesday, October 26th 11 a.m. – Noon and 1 till 2 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 1st 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- Wednesday, November 2nd 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 5 – 6 p.m.
- Thursday, November 3rd 6 – 6:45 p.m.

If you are unable to get here any of these times, please contact the church office at 248-2617 and we will try to work out a time for you.

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.



NOTE:

The next two Sundays, October 30th and November 6th members are asked to bring non-perishable food items to the Narthex.

(The last time we collected, Pastor's Pantry said that we had the largest collection they had ever received from a church...let's try to beat that!)

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.

CHURCH HOMECOMING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2011



Mark your calendar and invite family, friends, and former members to come to First Reformed UCC for our annual Homecoming.

This year we will celebrate during the worship service by honoring the oldest woman, oldest man and youngest child present. Also, this is the Sunday we will have a Memorial Service for those of our congregation who have died in the past year.

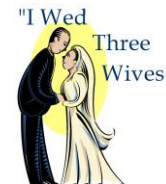
The Board of Congregational Life is sponsoring a **covered dish lunch**. Plan to bring a favorite dish to share with family and friends as we enjoy lunch together immediately following the worship service. (**NOTE:** Members of Women's Life Fellowship will be in the kitchen before and after Sunday school to assist those who need to put food in the refrigerator.)

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

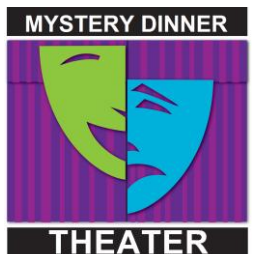


COME ENJOY A HILARIOUS MYSTERY DINNER. TRY TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY. COMPETE WITH OTHER TABLES TO SEE WHO CAN WIN THE EVENING'S PRIZE.

\$30.00 TICKETS INCLUDE DINNER AND THE PLAY

GET YOUR TICKET TODAY!!

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



FLOWERS: The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jake and Corky Briggs by their daughters, Ellen Briggs and Betty Matthews.

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

PLATE ATTENDANT: J.W. Bates

ACOLYTES: Ashley and Sarah Johnson

GREETERS: Harriette and Clifton Murphy

NURSERY {BIRTH TO KINDERGARTEN}: Anne Fletcher, Laura and Katarina

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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

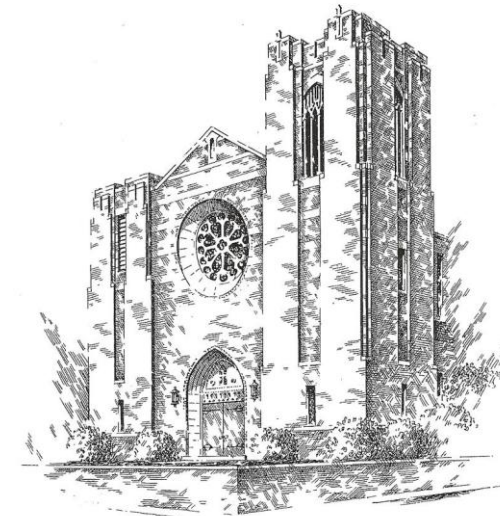
Sunday, October 23	9:45 a.m. --- SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR EVERYONE 11:00 a.m. --- WORSHIP SERVICE {BAPTISM} AND CHILDREN'S CHURCH
Monday, October 24	6:30 p.m. --- Stephen Ministry {Parlor}
Tuesday, October 25	6:00 p.m. --- Mystery Dinner Play Practice {FH} 7:00 p.m. --- Prayer Shawl Ministry {Parlor}
Wednesday, October 26	Noon ----- United Friendship Club Covered Dish Lunch {Fellowship Hall} 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 27	5:30 p.m. --- Yoga Class {Parlor} 7:00 p.m. --- Spiritual Practices {FH}
Friday, October 28	6:00 p.m. --- Mystery Dinner Play Dress Rehearsal {FH}
Saturday, October 29	6:30 p.m. --- Corner Café Mystery Dinner Theatre
Sunday, October 30	9:45 a.m. --- SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR EVERYONE 11:00 a.m. --- WORSHIP SERVICE AND KIDS CLUB

10/16/11 Attendance & Income	Needed Weekly	YTD Received
114	\$5,511	\$5,621
		\$194,516

CHURCH STAFF

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

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 23, 2011