

Service of Divine Worship

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgist: Carolyn Spivey

We Gather To Serve God In Worship

Prelude

*Chimes Sounding the Hour

*Time of Greeting

Announcements

Choral Call to Worship

Solemn Declaration - - Amen Sung

*Responsive Call to Worship

Liturgist: Come, God's Righteous Ones, and enter this holy place for a time of worship and praise.

People: We are not worthy to worship the living God.

Liturgist: But Jesus said that you offered him food and drink. You welcomed him and clothed him. You visited him in his times of sickness and need. Jesus said that in him you are worthy.

People: But when did we do these things?

Liturgist: When you care for another you minister to the Lord. Now come, rejoice and worship God.

People: We come to praise the Son of Man and give to him all glory and honor.

*Hymn "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" No. 434

Confession of Sin

*Call to Confession

*Unison Prayer for the Confession of Sin

Lord, too often we close our eyes to the needs of our brothers and sisters. We stop up our ears to the cries of the hungry and naked. We bind up our hearts, not feeling the pain of the hurting, the lonely, the desperate, and the lost. We beg your forgiveness, asking for another opportunity to care for you by reaching out to our sisters and brothers. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

*Gloria Patri

We Proclaim The Word of God

The Old Testament Reading Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 (Page #788 of Pew Bible)

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

Let the Children Come

Anthem "Our Grateful Song of Praise" Parker

The Gospel Reading Matthew 25:31-46 (Page #904 of Pew Bible)

Sermon "Where God Is"

We Respond To The Word of God

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

Let us pray for the many and varied ways God feeds us spiritually. Let us pray for the many and differing ways God befriends us. Let us pray for the many and special ways God takes care of us, protects us and even heals us. Let us pray for the many and diverse ways God reminds us of our need to pray. Let us pray for the many and assorted ways God proves to be with us and to remain with us always. Let us be so thankful in Christ's name. Amen.

We Go Forth to Serve God

*Hymn "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" No. 461

*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

***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.

FLOWERS: The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of Cliff and Eloise Lopp who celebrated their sixty-sixth wedding anniversary Friday, November 18th, by The Clifford Lopp Family.

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

PLATE ATTENDANT: Lynn Brown

ACOLYTES: Griff and Claire Smith

GREETERS: Wanda Daye and Gladys Snider

NURSERY {BIRTH TO KINDERGARTEN}: Amy and Birke McNeill

PRAYER CONCERNS: Don Leonard, Ronnie Durham, Sadie Bailey, Ernie Bonner, Mary Crouse, Holton Davis, Willie Ruth Leonard, Juanita Beck, Ernestine & Henry Kennedy, Evelyn Smith, Sterling Hedrick, Bob Biesecker, Jules Bliss, Virginia Hill, Mary John Allred, Ann Spivey, Connie Weichert, Sandra Fern, Randy Carter, and Paul Stevens. 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.



CONGRATULATIONS! The rose on the altar is in celebration of the birth of Annabelle Elizabeth Studebaker. Annabelle was born to Brianne and Adam Studebaker on Monday, November 14th, in Germany. She was also welcomed by her brother, Addison and grandparents, Paul and Debra Freeman.

We extend **SYMPATHY** to and share Christian hope with Lee Ann Peele upon the death of her mother, Alossie Knowles.



11/13/11 Attendance & Income		Needed Weekly	YTD Received
118	\$11,431	\$5,621	\$219,857

CHURCH STAFF

Reverend Robin Keating (Office #336-248-2617, Cell #336-250-9554)
 Cathy Waitman, Director of Christian Ed
 Lee Ann Peele, Organist
 Paul Freeman, Choir Director
 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
 email – church@frucc.org
[facebook.com/firstreformeducc](https://www.facebook.com/firstreformeducc)

Thanksgiving Sunday, November 20, 2011

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, November 20	9:15 a.m. ----- BAKE SALE AND ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR {FH}
	9:45 a.m. ----- SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR EVERYONE
	11:00 a.m. ----- WORSHIP SERVICE AND KIDS CLUB
	Noon----- BAKE SALE & ALTERNATIVE GIFTS CONTINUES
Monday, November 21	7:00 p.m. ----- Genealogical Society Board Meeting {Parlor}
Tuesday, November 22	6:00 p.m. ----- Decorations Committee Decorate for Advent
	7:00 p.m. ----- Prayer Shawl Ministry {Parlor}
Thursday, November 24	<i>Thanksgiving Day</i>
Sunday, November 27	9:45 a.m. ----- SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR EVERYONE
	11:00 a.m. ----- WORSHIP SERVICE AND CHILDREN'S CHURCH
Monday, November 28	6:00 p.m. ----- Chili Cook-off and Advent Workshop

Labyrinth

The season of Advent is fast approaching. Take some time from your hectic schedule to participate in a **Prayer Labyrinth** experience. Our Prayer Labyrinth will be laid out in the fellowship hall Thursday, December 1st through Sunday, December 4th. Plan to take a moment to relax, reflect, and enjoy the inner peace found through prayer.



Stephen Ministry Update



The table below shows a summary of all the caregiver contacts made by our Stephen Ministers from July 29th through October 31, 2011.

Categories of care receivers include shut-ins, hospitalizations, deaths of congregational members and others. These 92 contacts include 36 phone calls, 40 visits, 3 funerals and a card. This totals almost 53 hours in 3 months. Outstanding! We should all be proud of this new ministry now functioning in our church.

DATE	CATEGORY			TYPE OF CONTACT			MONTH TOTAL	
	SICK	SHUT-IN	OTHER	PHONE	VISITS	OTHER	CONTACTS	MINUTES SPENT
July 2011	X	X		2	4		6	280
Aug. 2011	X	X	X	14	15		29	887
Sept. 2011		X	X	10	10		20	463
Oct. 2011	X	X	X	10	11	16	37	1520
PERIOD TO DATE TOTAL							92	3150

Holiday Bake Sale and Alternative Gift Fair



Women's Life Fellowship is having a holiday bake sale **TODAY** in the fellowship hall. Do you need help with your Thanksgiving holiday baking? If so, we can help with pound cakes, pies, cookies, and mixes. Also, our famous homemade vegetable soup will be sold by the quart (\$5). **Sale will continue immediately following the worship service.** All monies raised will help with church benevolences. 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 table 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.

Women's Life Fellowship will sponsor the tree of "angels" in the breezeway of the education building again this year. Make a donation (your discretion) to place an angel on the tree in honor or memory of someone. **ALL donations** will be given to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund for assistance to needy individuals/families. Please contact the church office if you are interested.



Advent Workshop & Chili Cook-off

The Chili Cook-off and Advent workshop will be held on **Monday, November 28th at 6:00**. Vote for your favorite pot of chili with \$1.00 bills. All proceeds will be used to purchase costumes for the Christmas play. Peanut butter, jelly, bread, drinks, and cookies will be furnished for the children.



For the Advent Workshop, we will be making **"Memory Wreaths"** to hang on doors. Bring your sentimental, no longer used ornaments or decorations to glue on wreaths. Suggestions include: balls, large colored lights, angels, stars, ABC blocks, little toys, etc. We will furnish the wreaths and ribbon. This is a multi-generational event.