

Thank You for Serving in Our Church

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR today are given to the glory of God and in honor of our children, Holt Biesecker, Kacie and Jacob McPhie, Erinn Allred, and Madison Allred; given by Chris and Raeann Allred.

USHERS: Jeremy Peterson, Mark Smith, Denise Durham, Ben Hale, Susan Miller

YOUTH USHER: Ava Miller

PLATE ATTENDANT: Lynn Brown

SOUND TECHNICIAN: James Gray

ACOLYTE: Emory Smith

BIBLE STEWARD: Elliott Smith

GREETERS: Bill & Cheryl Walser

NURSERY {INFANTS-KINDERGARTEN}: Keri Hartle & Ashlee Snider

- ❖ A wall unit changing table is located in our handicapped restroom {through left door at chancel.}
- ❖ A comfort area with rocking chair, monitor and speaker is available if you need to leave the sanctuary to calm or soothe a baby or young child {through left or right door at chancel.}

Our Church at Prayer



We celebrate the marriage of Raeann Biesecker and Chris Allred which took place January 20, 2018.

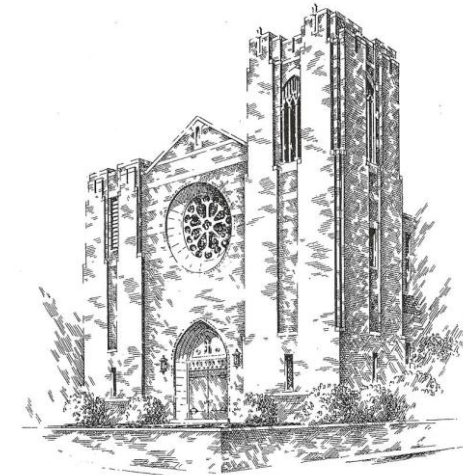
PRAYER CONCERNS: Remember those in the Armed Forces. To add a name to the prayer list please contact Sylvia Walser at 336-225-2964 or the church office.

CHURCH MEMBERS: Holt Biesecker, Ruth Fritts (Alston Brook), Margot Everhart, Mary Berrier, Ruth Essick, Carolyn Spivey, J.W. Bates (at home), Betty Bates (Abbotts Creek, Room 109), Merle Hodges, Peggy Bates

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS: Jo Hudson, Valerie Price, Joyce Price, Rita Tussey, Adena Wall, Marzell Crofts, Hoyle Potts, Margie & Vogen Everhart, Doris Flynt, James Everhart, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle

OUR FRIENDS: Eric Vernadore (Carol Vernadore's son), Ashley Anderson (Lee Ann Peele's cousin), Nancy Barr (mother-in-law of Betty Barr), Judy Stanley (family of Alane Holste), Nell and Ken Holmes (Neighbors of Jerry and Patti Lovell), Jeffery Saunders (Amy Hedrick's Son), Sandra Isaacs (Mike Hooper's sister), Geraldine Westmoreland (Frank Westmoreland's mother), Frankie Powell (former Meals on Wheels cook), Randy Carter (son-in-law of the late Wanda Daye)

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
email – church@frucc.org
[facebook.com/firstreformeducc](https://www.facebook.com/firstreformeducc)*

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

**January 21, 2018
11:00am**

The Worship of God

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Liturgist: Dave Fulton

Welcome to First Reformed United Church of Christ. We are glad you are here. If you are visiting with us, please fill out a pew card with your information and place it in the offering plate when passed so that we may send you some information about the church. Childcare for infants through Kindergarten is offered in the Educational Building. Please let an usher know if you need assistance.

Gathering

Prelude

“For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.” Mark 8: 34-35

*Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Elizabeth Horton

Choral Call to Worship

*Responsive Call to Worship

Dave Fulton

Leader: What right have we to invoke God's name on what we say and do here together?

People: In Christ we have been called to be God's people, and we are given God's Spirit and Word.

Leader: Have we the courage to worship in spirit and in truth, knowing that it may change us?

People: We have come to seek, to find, and to be found.

Centering

*Hymn: *“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”*

Insert

*Invocation

Elizabeth Horton

Young Disciples

Elizabeth Horton

(All youth are invited to join in this worship at the front.)

Proclaiming

Gospel Reading

Mark 5:21-43
(Pew Bible page 915)

Dave Fulton

*Hymn:

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

Insert

Pastoral Prayer

Elizabeth Horton

Anthem:

“The Gift of Love”

Hal H. Hopson

*Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love; my words are vain, as sounding brass and hopeless gain.*

*Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.
Come, spirit, come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole,
Let inward love guide every deed, by this we worship and are freed.*

Amen, Amen, Amen.

Sermon:

“Risky Business: “Reach Out and Touch”

Elizabeth Horton

Responding

*Affirmation of Faith:

Apostles Creed:

[4th Century]

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again;
He ascended into heaven,

He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Responding to God's Grace by Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory:

“He Touched Me”
Lee Ann Peele and Ellen Peterson

William Gaither

*Prayer of Dedication

Dave Fulton

*Congregational Response: "Make Me a Servant"

Make me a servant, humble and meek,
Lord, let me lift up those who are weak;
And may the prayer of my heart always be:
Make me a servant, make me a servant, make me a servant today.

Sending

*Responsive Call to Dedication:

Leader: 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."

*Benediction

*Congregational Response: "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"
(Verse 3)

My cross I'll carry, 'til I see Jesus; My cross I'll carry, 'til I see Jesus;
My cross I'll carry, 'til I see Jesus; No turning back, no turning back.

Postlude

*THOSE WHO ARE ABLE PLEASE STAND

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

CHARLES WESLEY, 1747

8. 7. 8. 7. D.

BEECHER
JOHN ZUNDEL, 1870

In moderate time

1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
2. Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to ev - ery trou - bled breast;
3. Come, Al - might - y to de - liv - er, Let us all Thy life re - ceive;
4. Fin - ish, then, Thy new cre - a - tion; Pure and spot - less let us be;

Fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown:
Let us all in Thee in - her - it, Let us find the prom - ised rest;
Gra - cious - ly re - turn, and nev - er, Nev - er - more Thy tern - ples leave.
Let us see Thy great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee;

Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un - bound - ed love Thou art;
Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts a - bove,
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, Till in heaven we take our place,

Vis - it us with Thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
End of faith, as its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
Pray, and praise Thee with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.
Till we cast our crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise. A - MEN.

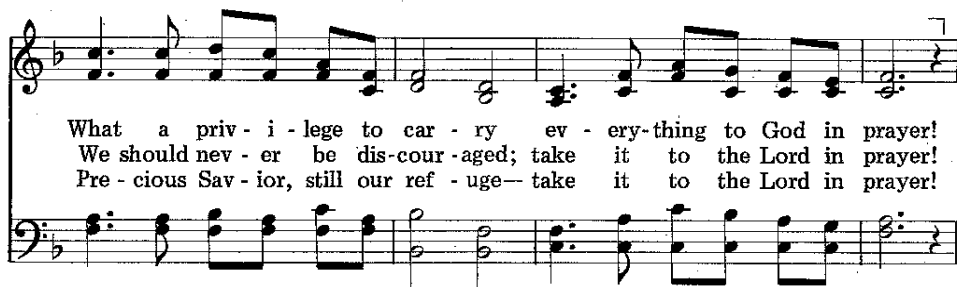
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What a Friend We Have in Jesus

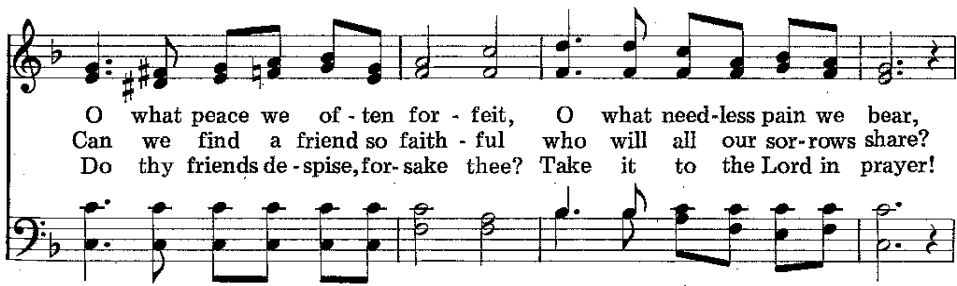
By prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. Phil. 4:6



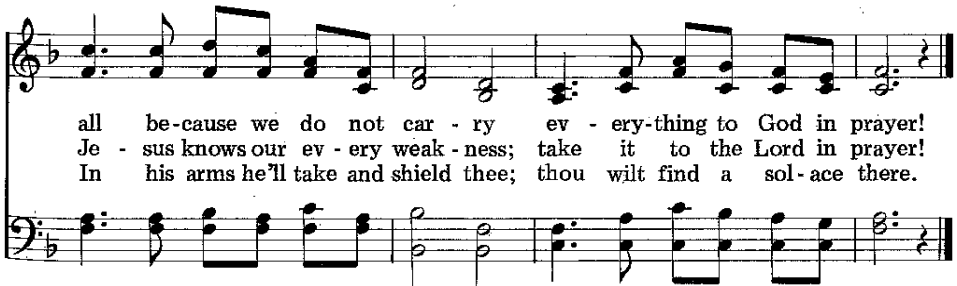
1. What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3. Are we weak and heav - y la - den, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— take it to the Lord in prayer!



O what peace we of - ten for - feit, O what need - less pain we bear,
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?
Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness; take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a sol - ace there.

WORDS: Joseph M. Scriven, c. 1855
MUSIC: Charles C. Converse, 1868

CONVERSE
8.7.8.7.D.

Upcoming Events

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES

Gianna Miller will be selling Girl Scout Cookies in the Narthex this morning after worship and next Sunday, January 28th after worship. Help support Troop #2160, First Reformed UCC's church-sponsored Girl Scout troop, by purchasing a box or two.

CONGREGATION PICTURE

There are a **FEW EXTRA COPIES** of the congregational picture taken before Christmas available to purchase. The cost is \$20. Please contact the office if you are interested. These will be sold on a first-come basis.

2018 BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY CALENDARS

If you pre-ordered a calendar, please remember to pick it up in the church office. There are still a few available if you didn't pre-order. Come by or call the office if you are interested in purchasing one. The cost is \$10. Thank you again Ron and Heidi Hutcheson of Davidson Speed Printing for your generosity!

HOMEMADE SOUP

Order your homemade "Brunswick-Stew-Style" soup from Women's Life Fellowship by completing the order form below to place in the offering plate or calling the church office. **The soup will be available for pick up on February 4th.** It will be sold in quarts (\$8.00 each) and pints (\$4.00 each). **PLEASE HAVE YOUR ORDERS IN BY THE END OF JANUARY!**

HOMEMADE SOUP ORDER FORM

NAME _____

OF QUARTS (\$8 ea.) _____ # OF PINTS (\$4 ea.) _____ Total Amt. Paid _____

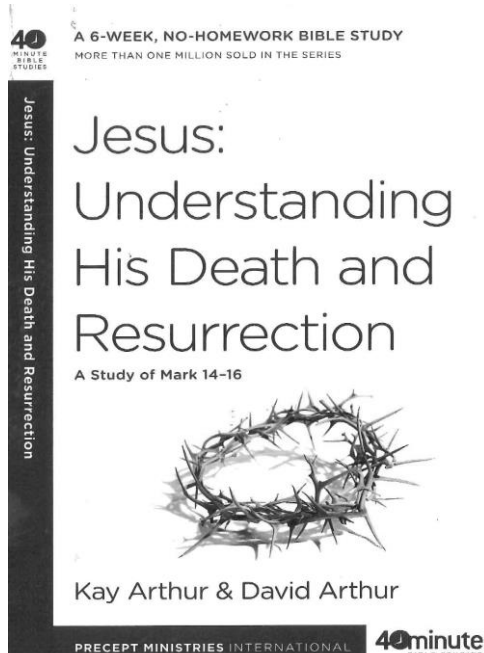
BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE CHURCH PROCESS

Forum #1: “Exploring What the Bible Says about Homosexuality”

On Sunday, January 28 from 4:00-5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall you are invited to attend a panel discussion featuring Rev. Dr. Lee Jessup, Rev. Mike Hooper and Rev. Elizabeth Horton. This is the first in a series of educational forums as we explore what it means to be an inclusive congregation.



LENTEN “LUNCH & LEARN” SERIES



The East Lexington Collaborative Ministry Group (First Reformed UCC, Second Reformed UCC, Shady Side Presbyterian, and St. Stephen UMC) will be holding a “Lunch & Learn Series” beginning Tuesday, February 20th in our church Fellowship Hall from 12:00-1:00pm. The meetings will continue each Tuesday through March 27th.

Each meeting will begin with lunch (**BRING YOUR OWN BAG LUNCH**) and will be led by Rev. Elizabeth Horton and Rev. Dr. Arnetta Beverly, pastor of St. Stephens UMC. The bible study will be based on the book *Jesus: Understanding His Death and Resurrection - A study of Mark 14-16*.

The books may be purchased in advance by contacting the church office or completing the order form below to return to the office or place in the offering plate. The cost is \$5.00.

Please sign up by February 4th so that we may have time to order literature.

Lenten “Lunch & Learn” Series

Name _____

Number of copies _____ @ \$5.00 each Amount Paid _____

COMMUNITY MEAL

‘Come to our Table’

Tuesday, January 23rd

First Reformed UCC

104 East Center Street, Lexington, NC

5:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Menu will include:

Pork Loin...Pinto Beans...Collard Greens...Cornbread

prepared by Mike Brown and Team

Dessert & Drink included

Free to all...Donations appreciated!

Proceeds will go to Hospice of Davidson County

Opportunities for Service

OPEN FLOWER DATES FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

There are a couple of Sundays in February that are open flower dates. February 4th and February 25th have not been filled for placing flowers in our sanctuary. If anyone is interested in reserving either of these dates, please contact Betty Link at 336-956-2707 or jll3@ptmc.net or call the church office.

CAROLINA SENIOR CARE

The East Lexington Collaborative Ministry Group continues to support the Carolina Senior Care “**Bucks for the Boutique**” ministry. There is a desperate need for the following items. Many of the items can be purchased at stores like **Dollar Tree** and **Big Lots**. Donations can be placed on the table outside the church office.

Everything is tax deductible and tax forms can be provided by Carolina Senior Care.

Toilet Paper	Paper Towels
Laundry Detergent	Dish Detergent
Hand Soap	Body Wash
Body Powder	Room Deodorizer
Trash Bags	Denture Cleaner
Multipurpose cleaner	Toilet Bowl Cleaner
Shampoo	Body Lotion
Mouthwash	Kleenex

FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Pastor, Rev. Elizabeth Horton (elizabeth@frucc.org, cell/text #336-972-8895)

Minister of Pastoral Care, Rev. June Grubb (jgrubb3@triad.rr.com)

Director of Christian Education, Cathy Waitman (cathy@frucc.org)

Choir Director, Ellen Peterson Organist, Lee Ann Peele

Administrative Asst., Carolyn Robbins Financial Secretary, Paula Lopp

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, January 21

Third Sunday after Epiphany

9:45am... Children’s Sunday School with Cathy Waitman
New Way Sunday School with Dave Fulton
Willing Workers Sunday School with Doug Sink
Pastor’s Discussion Class with Elizabeth Horton
11:00am...Worship in the Sanctuary

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES FOR SALE IN THE NARTHEX FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Monday, January 22

4:00pm...Trustees Meeting {P}
5:00pm...Tutoring
5:30pm...Confirmation Class
6:30pm...Open Hands Meal

Tuesday, January 23

10:00am...Weaving Women {Willing Workers Classroom}
2:00pm...Meals on Wheels {P}
5-7:00pm...Community Meal {FH}

Wednesday, January 24

10:00am...Church Office Staff meeting
12:00pm...Friendship Club: Stone Soup {FH}
6:30pm...Bell Choir {Bell Room}
7:15pm...Adult Choir {Ch. Annex}

Thursday, January 25

5:30pm...YOGA Class {Parlor}
7:00pm...Square Dancing {FH}

Sunday, January 28

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

9:45am... Youth Service Project with Cathy Waitman
New Way Sunday School with Dave Fulton
Willing Workers Sunday School with Doug Sink
Pastor’s Discussion Class with Elizabeth Horton
11:00am...Worship in the Sanctuary

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES FOR SALE IN THE NARTHEX FOLLOWING WORSHIP

4:00pm...Forum #1: Exploring What the Bible Says
about Homosexuality {FH}

Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries {January 21-27}

Birthdays	January 21	Laura Perry
	January 22	Lisa Nelson
	January 24	Denise Durham
	January 25	Eddie Yates