

Thank You for Serving Our Church

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Fred Green and Fannie Green; given by Beverly, Bob, Jennifer, Caroline, Mike, Jillian, Jarrod, Alice and Mikellah.

USHERS: Mike Brown, Keith Johnson, Matthew Johnson, Ramona Yarbrough, Jeremy Peterson

PLATE ATTENDANT: Doug Sink

YOUTH USHER: Kalyssa Hutchens

SOUND TECHNICIAN: Dave Fulton

ACOLYTE: Ava Miller

GREETERS: Lee & Ellen Bouchard

BIBLE STEWARD: Emory Smith

NURSERY {INFANTS-KINDERGARTEN}: Sylvia Walser & Nina Smith

- ❖ A wall unit changing table is located in our handicapped restroom {through left door at the 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 extend sympathy to Frank Callicutt and family on the death of his father, Danny Lloyd, on April 25th. A celebration of life will held at 5:00pm on Sunday, May 20, 2018 at Davidson Funeral Home in Lexington. The family will receive friends following the service.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Remember those in the Armed Forces. To add a name to the prayer list please fill out a prayer request card located in the backs of the pews, contact Sylvia Walser at 336-225-2964 or call the church office at 336-248-2617.

CHURCH MEMBERS: June Grubb, Carolyn Spivey, Peggy Bates, Ruth Fritts, Margot Everhart

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

OUR FRIENDS: Susan & Joe Calloway (friends of Patti Lovell), Coney Leonard (Sylvia Walser's brother), Virginia Byars (friend of Alisa Johnson), Derrick Wong (friend of Joni Walser), Ashley Anderson (Lee Ann Peele's cousin), Kiana Sinz (friend of Patti Lovell), Louis Honeycutt, Eliza Paris (friend of Sylvia Walser's granddaughter), Ronald Yates (Eddie Yates' dad), Harold Peoples (friend of Cheryl Walser), Rev. Jamie Armstrong (1st UMC) and his wife, Rev. Elizabeth Graves, Ashley Hutcheson (Heidi & Ron Hutcheson's daughter), Morgan Cecil (daughter of Charm & Steve Ketner)

FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

104 EAST CENTER STREET, LEXINGTON, NC 27292

PHONE: 336-248-2617 WEBSITE: www.frucc.org FACEBOOK: [facebook.com/firstreformeducc](https://www.facebook.com/firstreformeducc)

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)

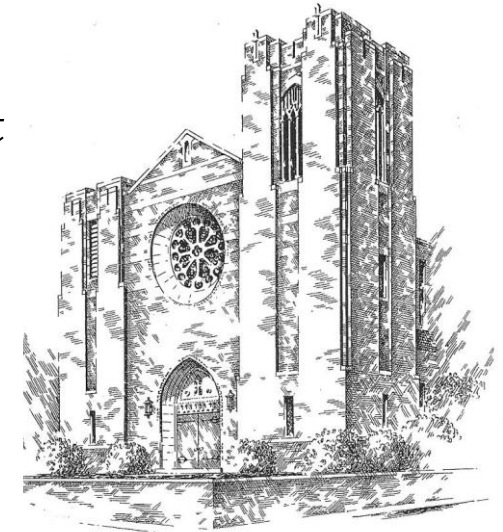
Choir Director, Ellen Peterson

Organist, Lee Ann Peele

Admin. Asst., Carolyn Robbins (carolyn@frucc.org)

Financial Secretary, Paula Lopp (paula@frucc.org)

First Reformed United Church of Christ



*Where People Discover...
The Love of God
The Power to Love Others
The Ability to Love Ourselves*

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



May 6, 2018
11:00am

Welcome! If you are visiting with us, please fill out a pew card and place it in the offering plate when passed. Prayer Request Cards can be found on the backs of the pews if you would like to request prayer for yourself or someone else. Please place these in the offering plate when passed.

Childcare for infants through Kindergarten is offered and hearing devices are available. Please let an usher know if you need assistance.

The Worship of God

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Liturgist: Patti Lovell

Gathering

Prelude

*Chiming of the Hour

Welcome

Elizabeth Horton

Choral Call to Worship

“Open Our Eyes, Lord”

*Call to Worship

Patti Lovell

Leader: We gather to worship the One who crafted creation out of chaos,

People: Our shouts of joy join the anthems of the universe.

Leader: We gather to lift our praise to the God who gives us voice,

People: We bring the songs which have echoed in our hearts all week long.

Leader: We gather as the children of God, our joy unbroken in God’s love.

People: Young and old, tone deaf and perfect-pitched lift the new, new songs of faith.

* Hymn:

“I Come with Joy”

Insert

Centering

*Invocation

Elizabeth Horton

Young Disciples

Elizabeth Horton

All youth, pre-K - 5th grade, are invited to join in this worship at the front.

Prayers of the People

Elizabeth Horton

Connecting in Ministry

Elizabeth Horton

Invitation to Receive Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory:

“My Soul Cries Out To the Lord”

(Albrecht/Althouse)

*My soul cries out to the Lord: “Free me from sin.
Fill my heart with greater joy; make me pure within.”*

*My soul cries out to the Lord; “Hear now my plea.
Listen now and answer my prayer; Lord, deliver me.*

*Guide me in your truth. Lead me in your ways
Teach me your paths that I may know your love for all my days.”*

*My soul cries out to the Lord; “Free me from sin.
Fill my heart with greater joy; Make me pure within.” Amen*

*Eastertide Doxology

Tune: “Old Hundredth” Text: Ruth Duck

**Praise God the Source of life and birth.
Praise God the Word, who came to earth.
Praise God the Spirit, holy flame.
All glory, honor, to God’s name. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Patti Lovell

Proclaiming

Gospel Reading

John 15: 9-17

(Pew Bible page 983)

Elizabeth Horton

Communion Meditation

“Friend Request”

Elizabeth Horton

Responding

Liturgy of Holy Communion

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to our God.

Let us give thanks to our good God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise!

Creator God, in whose image we are made—

each of us, all of us

beautiful in diversity—

we give you thanks for calling us into relationships

based not on family ties of affection alone,

nor on structures of inequality and domination,

but on the extravagant welcome of friendship with you.

Holy Wisdom of God,

We thank you for inviting us to share in the company of your friends
throughout time and around the world, who are

**blessed by your faithfulness,
challenged by your prophets,
forgiven by your mercy,
and ever surprised by your power to do more,
working in us, than we can ask or imagine.**

Therefore we join our voices across time and space
with voices of all created things,
to praise you, singing:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, God.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory:
Hosannah in the Highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.
Hosannah in the highest.**

We thank you for sending Jesus into our world.
He called into being a beloved community:
strangers and neighbors, powerful and needy, wise and foolish.
All who gathered around him rejoiced in his blessing and his challenge:

**“Abide in my love, as I abide in God’s love...
Love one another as I have loved you...
I do not call you servants...I call you friends.”**

We remember and give thanks that,
on the night before Jesus lay down his life for his friends
he gathered at a table with them one more time.
He took the bread, blessed it and gave it to them saying:
“Take and eat: for this is my body.”
And after supper,
as Jesus looked forward to your long-awaited day of joy and power,
he took the cup of wine,
again gave you thanks and praise and said:
“Take this, all of you, and drink.
This is the cup of the new covenant in my blood.
I will share this with you again in the reign of God.
Share this bread and this cup in remembrance of me.”

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ comes again.

Prayer for God’s Presence

Sharing the Gifts (*Servers please come forward*)

*The bread and the cup will be served to you in your pew. Please hold each
element until all are served, then we will partake together as one Body.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn: *“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”* Insert

Sending

*Responsive Call to Dedication Patti Lovell

Leader: As God has loved us,

People: So we will go to love those despised by the world.

Leader: As Jesus has forgiven us,

**People: We will go to forgive everyone who has hurt us and bring healing
into their brokenness.**

Leader: As the Spirit calls us “friends,”

People: So we will go to befriend the outcasts, the lonely, and the lost.

*Benediction Elizabeth Horton

*Congregational Response

**Peace I leave with you, my friends,
Shalom, my peace, in all you do.
Peace I leave with you, my friends.
I give to you so you can give to others, too.**

Postlude

***THOSE WHO ARE ABLE PLEASE STAND**

I Come with Joy

Brian Wren, 1968; rev. 1982, 1994

Unison

1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
 4 And thus we meet, and bet - ter know the Pres - ence, ev - er
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, in friend - ship we will

free, The life of Je - sus to re - call, in
 fed, The new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, And join our hearts and sing with joy that
 stay, And go with joy to love the world and

love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
 Christ is ris - en here, that Christ is ris - en here.
 live the way we pray, and live the way we pray.

One of Brian Wren's most widely published texts, this hymn was originally written to "sum up a series of sermons on the meaning of communion." It tries to use simple words to suggest important theological themes."

Tune: DOVE OF PEACE 8.6.8.6.6.
 Southern Harmony, 1835
 Arr. Austin Lovelace, 1977

Words Copyright © 1971; music Copyright © 1977 by Hope Publishing Company

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

"UCC: WHO WE ARE" is a new video-led class scheduled for TODAY through June 3. All who are interested in learning about the United Church of Christ are invited to attend. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall, so there will be plenty of room!

MEN'S BROTHERHOOD MEETS TUESDAY, MAY 8TH AT 6:00 Come enjoy good food and fellowship. Mike has planned a delicious menu for the evening that includes hamburger steak with grilled onions, baked potato, salad, Texas toast and fruit cobbler. Mark your calendars so you won't forget!

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY IS MAY 20 In anticipation of New Member Sunday, anyone interested in becoming a part of our congregation or learning more about the church should plan to attend the new video-led series titled *"UCC: WHO WE ARE."* Please let the church office know (carolyn@frucc.org) if you are interested.



FIRST REFORMED
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
104 EAST CENTER ST
LEXINGTON, NC 27292

CONCERT
BRINGING LOCAL
CHURCH MUSICIANS
TOGETHER
FEATURING...

Connie Burleson,
First Presbyterian Church Organist/Harpist

Phyllis Jones,
First Methodist Church Organist

Beverly Khemlani,
First Baptist Church Organist

Celie Lough
First Lutheran Church, Vocalist

Arch McMullan,
Beck's Lutheran Church Organist

Kelly Newsome,
First Lutheran Church Organist/Pianist

Lee Ann Peele,
First Reformed UCC Organist/Pianist

Ellen Peterson,
Choir Director First Reformed UCC, Vocalist

Mike Price,
First Reformed UCC, Saxophonist

Albert Evans,
Trinity UMC, North Myrtle Beach
Guest Musician, Cellist

TODAY!
MAY 6TH
3 P.M.

ADMISSION IS FREE
OFFERING TO BENEFIT
PASTOR'S PANTRY
OF DAVIDSON
COUNTY



Community Meal

Tuesday, May 22
5:00pm Fellowship Hall

Free to all. Donations appreciated!

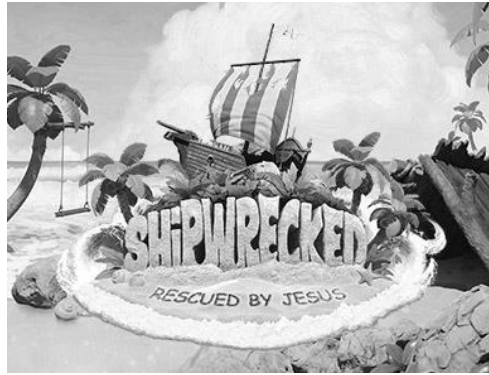
*First Reformed United Church of Christ Fellowship Hall
104 East Center Street, Lexington, NC 27292*

GRADUATION SUNDAY is scheduled for **Sunday, June 3rd**. We would like to honor all milestones in education. If your child is graduating from kindergarten, elementary school, middle school, high school or college please advise the church office **by Sunday, May 27th**.

WINSTON SALEM DASH GAME SUNDAY, JUNE 3 at 2:00pm. The deadline to sign up is **TODAY, MAY 6**. The cost is \$13 per person. We will be sitting in a covered area near home plate. If you are interested in attending, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the Education Building or let Cathy know.

BEGINNING JUNE 17TH THROUGH JULY 29TH morning worship will begin at 10:00am. There will be no Sunday school. Worship will be in the Chapel on these Sundays while the sanctuary will be painted.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE CHURCH PICNIC – JUNE 10TH at Wildcat Mountain. Come for WORSHIP...FELLOWSHIP...GOOD FOOD...AND MUSIC BY THE WILDCAT MOUNTAIN BOYS! Sunday worship WILL NOT be held at church on this day. Carpooling will be available for anyone who needs a ride.



**REGISTER NOW FOR...
VBS - Shipwrecked
At Second Reformed UCC
June 17 – 21
Meal 5:30 – 6:00
Program 6:00 – 7:30**

Children

Preschool...Fifth Grade...Nursery available for under age three

Themes

**Sunday When You're Lonely – Jesus Rescues!
Monday When You Worry – Jesus Rescues!
Tuesday When You Struggle – Jesus Rescues!
Wednesday When You Do Wrong – Jesus Rescues!
Thursday When You're Powerless – Jesus Rescues!**

**Middle/High School and Adults – Class with Rev. Jim Luck
"WORSHIP 101: VBS - It's not just for kids anymore!"**



WANTED: People to share their musical gifts
WHEN: June and July Worship Services
WHO: Anyone...young or old
WHAT: Piano to Banjo...Solos or Quartets...
and EVERYTHING in BETWEEN
HOW: If you are interested, please email ELLEN
[ellenrpeterson@gmail.com]

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, May 6 Sixth Sunday of Easter...Communion
9:45am Children – JAM with Ellen Peterson & Carolyn Robbins
Confirmants & Adult Sunday School: "UCC: Who We Are" {FH}
10:30am First Sunday Social – John & Vicky Gray
11:00am Worship in the Sanctuary
3:00pm Organ Recital {S}

Monday, May 7 11:00am Staff Meeting
5:00pm Tutoring
6:30pm Open Hands Ministry {FH}

Tuesday, May 8 10:00am Collaborative Ministries {P}
6:00pm Men's Brotherhood {FH}

Wednesday, May 9 CHOIR WILL NOT MEET TONIGHT!

Thursday, May 10 5:30pm YOGA Class {P}
7:00pm Square Dancing {FH}

Sunday, May 13 Seventh Sunday of Easter
9:45am Children – Youth Service Project with Cathy Waitman
Confirmants & Adult Sunday School: "UCC: Who We Are" {FH}
11:00am Worship in the Sanctuary

SUNDAY MAY 20th IS PENTECOST SUNDAY...REMEMBER TO WEAR RED!

Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries {May 6-12}

Birthdays	May 8	Sherry Bonner Ben Hale Nathan Jessup
	May 9	Ellen Peterson
	May 12	Sloan Gray
Anniversaries	May 6	Joy & Vance Walser
	May 9	Carroll & Carolyn Spivey