First Reformed United Church of Christ Lexington, NC

JULY 2018



Dear Beloved Community,

"WhooHooo! This place feels good!" Words said excitedly by a teenage boy Monday night in our Church Fellowship Hall at the Open Hands Meal. This young man lives in a house that has no air conditioning, only a small fan to circulate already warm air. He lives with a parent, yet he is responsible for getting himself from place to place. In the late afternoon on Monday, the June 18 when temp swarmed around 93 degrees, you as a congregation gave a tremendous gift to this young man and to so many like him who have no access to AC on these hot days. Not only did he receive a meal, but, I truly believe, the cool air he felt was a powerful symbol of the breeze of the Holy Spirit...of what grace feels like when life is tough and the odds are stacked against you. Thank you First Reformed for BEING THE CHURCH.

I have spent 2 days in Greensboro at the Annual Gathering of Southern Conference of the United Church of Christ held in Greensboro. Our conference, like the nation in general, is concerned about the issues of immigration, sexual violence, racial equity, the environment and so many other challenges. I took part in seminars and discussions on how the Church can help show love and compassion in the midst of these difficult times. I also had rich conversations with other pastors whose congregations went through the *Building An Inclusive Church* process. I continue to believe this process is leading us in a healthy direction as we seek to further ourselves in God's mission. I believe we have a unique calling at First Reformed to help alleviate the suffering and pain that, unfortunately, so many have felt from traditional churches.

Conference delegates from our church were Patti and Jerry Lovell, who volunteered for the hospitality team who helped provide refreshments to those who attended. They can also provide other info about the meeting.

I want to say *Thank You* to Clifton Murphy for agreeing to serve on the Board of the Southern Conference. I know his wise spirit and calming presence will be a blessing to the Board as they continue to seek to discover how to better serve the churches in the Southern Conference.

As part of my call agreement with you, I receive 4 weeks vacation. I will be taking 2 of those beginning June 25. Rev. Dr. Lee Jessup will lead worship on July 1, and Rev. Larry Bolick will lead worship on July 8. Please support the church and

these ministers with your attendance. Rev. Mike Hooper and Rev. June Grubb will be On-Call should a pastoral emergency arise.

Summer blessings be upon you. Enjoy the warm weather as you are able, be reminded of God's spirit in all the summer goodness, reminding you that you will never walk alone.

Striving alongside you in love and hope to BE THE CHURCH,

Elizabeth



~ MEMORIALS ~ JUNE 2018 ~

DANNY LLOYD
EULENE SHEPHERD

JOYCE PRICE

LINDA YARBOROUGH

BOB & KAY TIMBERLAKE

JOHN & VICKY GRAY

FRUCC MORNING GLORY CIRCLE

EULENE SHEPHERD

TONY & LEE ANN PEELE

~ HONORARIUMS ~ JUNE 2018

JOHN GRAY'S BIRTHDAY

JAMES & ALICE GRAY

AURELIA SMITH'S BIRTHDAY

MARTHA ELLEN SMITH

GLADYS SNIDER'S BIRTHDAY

ELIZABETH SINK

SYLVIA WALSER'S BIRTHDAY

MARTHA ELLEN SMITH

STEVE SMITH'S BIRTHDAY

MARTHA ELLEN SMITH

~ THANK YOU NOTES ~

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent gift to the American Children's Home. Always remember that you are here during each event being held, each need being met, and during each life being transformed. Our staff is just the one implementing your blessing.

Victoria Davis Financial Development Assistant

Dear FRUCC,

Thank you to everyone for your cards, calls, e-mails visits and thoughts during my recent hospitalization and rehab.

It really means a lot to me knowing you are there. Again, thank you.

Doug Sink

Dear Friends.

Our young people are very fortunate to have caring friends, like you, so willing to help us meet their needs. We want to thank you for your gift of \$250.00 received on June 1, 2018.

As you know, this gift helps us meet the needs of our children. The children who come here come with very little. Your gift will help us provide for them, as well as prepare them for a better life when they leave us.

Thank you from all of us here at American Children's Home.

Sincerely, Kathy C. Berrier President, CEO Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We would like to acknowledge your generous giving to our Emergency Aid Fund. So far in 2018 you have donated \$1438.00. May the Lord bless your ministry.

Yours in Christ, A. Lee Zehmer, Treasurer, GLAMA

An acknowledgement has been received from Gideons International for the \$300 received from members of our congregation on June 24, 2018.

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### MORNING GLORY CIRCLE ~submitted by Susan Miller

Morning Glory Circle had their final meeting for the year at Yarborough's on Wednesday June 6th. There was a short business meeting with updates on homebound members, reading minutes, and sharing the treasurer's report. Rita discussed how successful the meal for the homeless shelter was and how extra food was divided. Lib Sink led our devotions. We then ended with our delicious meal. We will begin our next season in September.

### **Building an Inclusive Church Process**

Please review the Draft of the Welcoming Statement printed below. Below the statement are questions for you to provide feedback. The Welcoming Task Force will meet on July 11 to review. On July 22, the congregation is invited to a church-wide brunch after worship for additional conversation about the statement and BAIC process. Your questions and comments are encouraged as we proceed in the process of becoming an inclusive church.

### **DRAFT of Welcoming Statement**

If you are searching for a place to experience God's wondrous and inclusive love, we invite you to join us at First Reformed United Church of Christ.

Following the example of Jesus, we believe that God's love, Christ's church, and the power of the Holy Spirit are for all people. We believe our unity as one body in Christ transcends worldly differences, and that no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

First Reformed United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming congregation, which means we welcome into the full life and ministry of the church all people, regardless of ability, age, education, ethnicity, family or marital status, gender identity or expression, income, nationality, political affiliation, race, sexual orientation, or any other distinction.

At the baptismal font and at the communion table, from the nursery cribs to the church leadership, whether you were raised in a church or have never before attended one, we affirm and celebrate the diversity of God's children as a blessing and welcome you to First Reformed United Church of Christ.

| What questions do you have? |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
|                             |  |
|                             |  |

**SAVE THE DATE!** 

WHAT: Usher Appreciation Luncheon

WHEN: Sunday, August 12

WHERE: Fellowship Hall

WHY:

To thank the ushers for their service and share updates on the new Usher Guidelines incorporating the sanctuary security system. Lynn McCarn will also review the operation of the life-saving AED system located in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall.

Lunch will be provided for the ushers and their spouses.

Please notify the church office by Sunday, July 29 if you plan to attend.

# CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE June 2018 MEETING

After the Pastor's Report...

### **Board of Christian Education: Jerry Lovell**

Joint Vacation Bible School with Second Reformed UCC had approximately 100 attendees. Thank you to Linda Sink who was coordinator for our church. Jerry and Patti Lovell attended the SOC annual meeting as delegates for FUCC. Also attending were Rev. Elizabeth Horton, Rev. Mike Hooper and Clifton Murphy. Clifton will serve on the Conference Board and was installed at the meeting. Rev. Al Staggs will be here the weekend of September 15-16 with presentations on Saturday evening and Sunday morning.

### **Board of Congregational Life: Eddie Yates and Lena Johnson**

Thanked Clifford and Paula Lopp for the June First Sunday Social. There will not be a social in the month of July.

Board of Business Management and Stewardship Financial Report: Denise Durham Lindsay Sink and Walter Hoffman will draft a letter stating the status of church finances as of the end of June that will be mailed to members along with giving statements to serve as a reminder of amount given versus pledges.

Average Weekly
Offering for
May: \$3,092

### **Board of Worship and Sacrament: Sylvia Walser and Deanna Michael**

Teams of two will deliver communion to homebound church members on August 5th. An Usher Appreciation Luncheon is scheduled for Sunday, August 12th following worship. Ushers will learn of the new security system in place in the sanctuary and be instructed on the life-saving AED system located in the narthex and fellowship hall. The August Consistory meeting will follow the luncheon.

### **Board of Community Outreach: Chairperson, Mark Smith was unable to attend.**

Betty Barr attended to present the possibility of an ARC Blood Drive in the month of September. A motion was made by Eddie Yates and seconded by Sylvia Walser to schedule the drive. All approved. Thank you Betty for chairing this event.

### **Evangelism Board: Dave Fulton**

The music recital on May 6th raised \$1,600 for Pastor's Pantry. Thank you Ben Hale for leading the Intercessory Prayer Circle that meets at the close of worship each week. Participation has been very good.

Average Weekly
Attendance for
May: 93

### **Old Business:**

The Welcoming Team drafted a new welcome statement for the church at their April 30th meeting. A draft of the statement can be found on page 3. The draft will be part of the bulletin until July 8th for questions and comments. The Welcoming Task Force will meet on July 11th to review comments and questions. Anyone is welcome to attend. On Sunday, July 22nd the Welcoming Task Force will host a Church-Wide Brunch in the fellowship hall. All are welcome!

### **New Business:**

- Rev. Horton will be on vacation June 25th through July 9th. Rev. Mike Hooper and Rev. June Grubb are on call if needed
- Bridge Groups with Susie Smith and Tammy Rhodes as leaders will form in August with more info to be forthcoming.
- Discussion was held on alternate ways to raise money for added support to the budget.
- Confirmands will be confirmed on Sunday, September 9th. This is also Rally Day!
- A donation will be made as a memorial to the Grant Miller Scholarship, to support local youth bowling, in memory of Grant Alan Miller, son of Alan Miller, who was killed in a car accident June 10th.
- The next Consistory meeting will be held August 12th following the Usher Appreciation Luncheon.

(For a complete copy of the minutes, please contact the church office.)

# Summer Summer WORSHIP TIMES

### **Summer Worship Hours Have Begun!**

Worship will continue at 10:00am in the Chapel through July 29th. There will be no Sunday School during this period. The plan is to resume Sunday school and regular worship time in the sanctuary the first Sunday in August, if the painting is complete. Look for updates on progress in the Sunday bulletins.

### FRUCC: Who We Are

As part of the 6-week Adult Discussion video series, "UCC: WHO WE ARE" we looked at the UCC Statement of Faith, realizing that in our denomination we have testimonies of faith, not tests. This means that while reciting collective creeds and unison statements helps us communicate our faith and build community with one another, none of us are mandated or required to believe or recite any particular theological doctrine in order to be part of the Church. The class participants were asked to complete these sentences about faith as they felt led. Below is the beautiful Statement of Faith that was created. What would you add?

### I believe that God...

- ~is the Spirit of Love.
- ~is everywhere for <u>all</u> people. (He goes by many different names.)
- ~loves each and every one of us and is present always.
- ~is the ground of all being and our constant companion.
- ~loves all people...period!
- ~is LOVE!

### I believe that Jesus...

- ~is the light showing the way to love = "God".
- ~is my constant companion.
- ~is the good shepherd.
- ~is our great and consummate mentor.
- ~loves all people...period!
- ~is always with me and loves me unconditionally.

### I believe that the Holy Spirit...

- ~is transformative to the person and world who accepts it.
- ~guides me (when I allow it!)
- ~is shown in every act of kindness we do.
- ~is always there for us.
- ~is our comforter and advocate.
- ~invades our souls and keeps us on the right track for Jesus.
- ~is within us, guides/leads us.
- ~surrounds us and comforts us.

### I believe that the Church...

- ~is the collection of people seeking the previous statements.
- ~is a family of seekers with similar paths, not always agreeing but continually seeking.
- ~is a community of loving people seeking a closer walk with God.
- ~is the body of Christ made of huggers, seekers, and servants.
- ~is a reflection of what it does for the community.
- ~supports the growth of all its members.
- ~is a family of love and support that helps guide us as we seek to be more like Jesus and be better servants.



### **CONGRATULATIONS HOLT BIESECKER!**

Holt is a graduate of Lexington Senior High School where he was a member of the National Honor Society and Beta Club. He was a scholar athlete. He was on the swim team and varsity baseball team where he was also captain. He served as Ward 3 representative for Lexington City Government Youth Council, was a member of Acts Alive and a volunteer with Special Olympics. He will be attending Appalachian State University in the fall and is this year's recipient of the Vernon G. Price, Jr. Scholarship.

### HOME "TWEET" HOME

Thank you again, Buddy Lohr, for the beautiful hand-crafted bird-house for the church garden. Buddy installed it early June for our feathered friends to enjoy.

If you have not had a chance to look at the article from the April 2018 issue of "Davidson Living Magazine" posted on the bulletin board right outside the church office, take a few minutes to stop by and read it. We are fortunate to have Buddy share his talent with the church in such a special way!



# SHIPWRECKED! Submitted by Jerry Lovell, Chairperson, Bd. of Christian Education

It wasn't Robinson Crusoe or Gilligan's Island, but it was a great five days of learning and fun for about fifty kids who were **Shipwrecked** at Second Reformed Church for Vacation Bible School.

Each evening began with kid-friendly meals, enjoyed by adults, too.

Next, there was music and dancing and action and enthusiastic giggles. Students moved on to their age-grouped classes to learn about the many ways God can rescue all of us in so many different situations: when you're lonely, worried, struggling, have done something wrong, or are feeling helpless. The children had fun with stories and activities each night that reinforced the theme.

Young and older adults attended classes led by Reverend Jim Luck and his wife, Paula. These two tag -teamed topics that examined the differences and similarities in religions and denominations: including music, architecture, sacraments, art, and worship services.

In all, there were approximately 100 folks in attendance each night from the combined congregations. First Reformed was represented by eight members interacting with everyone there. As our local newspaper used to always end coverage of social events. "A good time was had by all!"







# From Cathy Waitman - Director of Christian Education

# **Summer Fun Stuff**

All young at heart church members and friends are invited!

July 31 at 10:00 — Adventure Landing in Winston Salem
2 hours of miniature golf, bumper boats, and 20 arcade
game tokens for \$12.00;
2 slices of pizza and medium drink \$6.00

deadline to sign up - July 8





August 3 from 5:30 -7:30 - **Bowling** at Lexington YACA

2 hours of bowling; pizza, drinks, and dessert (no charge)

deadline to sign up - July 22





August 14 from 1:30 - 4:00 - Back to School Bingo & Movie prizes, popcorn, snacks, & drinks (no charge) bring your sleeping bag and pillow to be comfy deadline to sign up - August 5



Please call, text, or email Cathy to sign up or sign up on bulletin board outside Fellowship Hall by deadlines.

### FRIENDSHIP CLUB ~submitted by Cathy Waitman

Wednesday, June 13, Friendship Club members, children, grandchildren, relatives and friends visited All-A-Flutter Butterfly Farm in High Point. After a presentation about the life cycle of Monarch butterflies, we entered the butterfly garden armed with sugar sticks. It was not long before we had butterflies on the sticks, in our hair, and attached to our shirts. As the sun came out, the butterflies became more active and flew around us landing on fruit, sponges, and flowers in the garden. Some of us walked on the nature trail and some of us left with butterfly bushes to plant in our own yards. As you can see from the pictures, everyone had a great time and enjoyed being out in our natural environment!

I have enjoyed planning programs, arranging our "field" trips, and going on all of the outings for the past several years. This is my last newsletter report. I am resigning as Co-Vice President of Friendship Club. I hope the next Co-VP enjoys working with John and Paula as much as I have. I will still participate in activi-

ties, just as a regular member! Have a great summer!



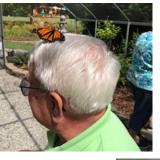
















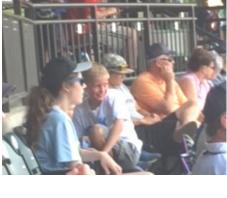






# **TAKE ME OUT** TO THE **BALL GAME!**

We had a "BALL" at the Winston Salem Dash game on June 3, even if it was a little warm!















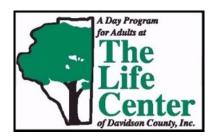














# The 2018 Annual Campaign is still in progress...

A donation to The Life Center of Davidson County benefits the quality of life for both the participant and their loving caregivers by offering a safe supportive environment, relief, respite and counsel.

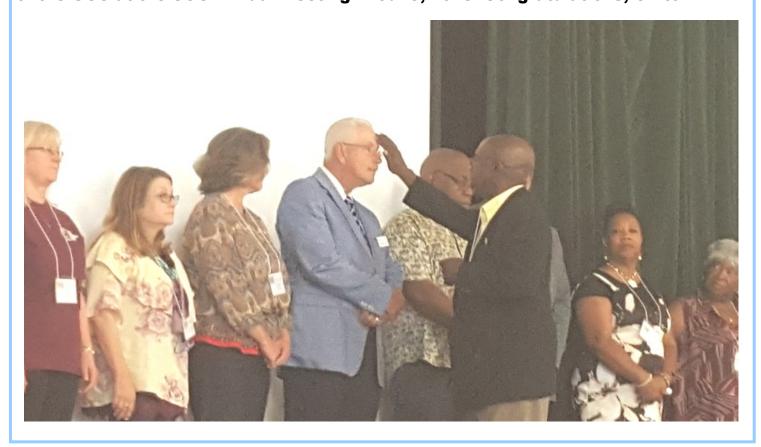
We appreciate your thoughtful consideration in helping us continue to provide unsurpassed day time care to older and impaired adults in our community

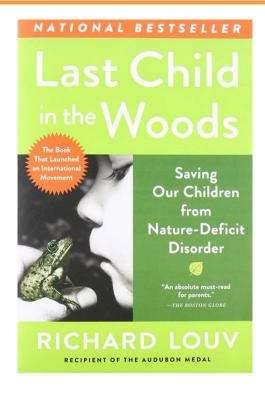
who call The Life Center their home away from home.

If you would like to donate online, please visit our website at  $\underline{\text{www.lifecenterdavidson.com}}$  where you can

### NOW SERVING ON THE BOARD...

Clifton Murphy was anointed for serving on the Board of the Southern Conference of the UCC at the SOC Annual Meeting in June, 2018. Congratulations, Clifton!







Several people have asked Rev. Horton about the book she referenced during worship at Wildcat. Here is picture of the front and back cover.

# FRUCC Kids Lend a Helping Hand in the Community Garden!

As part of a Kids Club activity on Sunday,

June 24, some of our youth braved the hot weather and helped Edgar and others in the garden.





# IT'S TIME AGAIN TO HELP... Send a Kid to School

We will begin our "Back to School" campaign for Communities in Schools on July 16th. We will collect supplies during the month of July and August. Each Sunday, please help by bringing the specific items to the Communities in Schools box outside the office during July or to the Narthex during August. Please refer to the list below.

July 15 – pencils & notebook paper
July 22 – crayons & glue sticks
July 29 composition books & erasers
August 5 – colored pencils & markers
August 12 - backpacks

### Thank You JULY 2018 Stewards!

**<u>Liturgists:</u>** Jeremy Peterson (July 1, 15, 22, 29) Paula Lopp (July 8)

**Ushers:** Chairperson: Jeff Hutchens

Ron Hutcheson (Captain), Keri Hartle, Rich Johnson, Edgar Miller, Ashlee Snider

<u>Plate Attendant:</u> Walter Hoffman <u>Youth Usher:</u> Haylee Hutcheson

Acolyte: Jacob Hartle <u>Bible Steward:</u> Ava Miller

**Sound Tech:** James Gray

| GREETERS | <u>3:</u>                  | NURSERY: |                               |
|----------|----------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| July 1   | Bill & Carolyn Robbins     | July 1   | Heidi Hutcheson & Kivi Miller |
| July 8   | Clifford & Paula Lopp      | July 8   | Patti Lovell & Rita Lohr      |
| July 15  | Denise Durham              | July 15  | Aurelia Smith & Sylvia Walser |
| July 22  | Clifton & Harriette Murphy | July 22  | John Smith & Joy Walser       |
| July 29  | Camille Morgan             | July 29  | Anne Bevan & Cheryl Walser    |



**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 the church office at 336-248-2617.

**CHURCH MEMBERS:** Lauren Thompson Gould, Ruth Fritts (Piedmont Crossing, Rm. 308), Peggy Bates, Kelly Greathouse, Doug Sink, June Grubb, Margot Everhart, Margie & Vogen Everhart

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

**OUR FRIENDS:** Annetta Everhart (friend of Lisa Nelson), Dan Smith (Steve and Jerry Smith's brother), Shane Gordon (friend of Alane Holste), Lacy Belcher (friend of Vicky Gray), Jonelle Parker (friend of Frank Leonard), Patsy Bailey Via (Peggy Bates' sister), Sandra Johnson (friend of Patti & Jerry Lovell), Dennis Yocum (Carolyn Yocum's son), Ikie Trexler (friend of Mike & Lynn Brown), Eddie Wray (friend of Lisa Nelson), Lynn Younts (friend of Susie Smith), Susan & Joe Calloway (friends of Patti Lovell), Kiana Sinz (friend of Patti Lovell), Eliza Paris (friend of Sylvia Walser's granddaughter), Harold Peoples (friend of Cheryl Walser), Rev. Jamie Armstrong (1st UMC) and his wife, Rev. Elizabeth Graves, Ashley Hutcheson (Heidi & Ron Hutcheson's daughter-in-law)





# 

| SUN                                                                                                                       | MON                               | TUE                                                        | WED                                             | THU                                             | FRI | SAT |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE CHAPEL ~~~~~ In the Pulpit: Rev. Dr. Lee Jessup                                                      | 6:30 Open Hands Meal {FH}         | 3                                                          | HOLIDAY  CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED                | 5:30<br>Yoga {P}<br>7:00<br>Square Dancing {FH} | 6   | 7   |
| 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE CHAPEL CHAPEL In the Pulpit: Rev. Lawrence Bolick  DEADLINE TO SIGN UP FOR TRIP TO ADVENTURE LANDING | 9<br>6:30<br>Open Hands Meal {FH} | 10                                                         | 6:00 Welcoming Task Force {Rev. Horton's house} | 5:30<br>Yoga {P}<br>7:00<br>Square Dancing {FH} | 13  | 14  |
| 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE CHAPEL Children's Church                                                                             | 6:30 Open Hands Meal {FH}         | 17                                                         | 10:00<br>Staff Meeting                          | 5:30<br>Yoga {P}<br>7:00<br>Square Dancing {FH} | 20  | 21  |
| 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE CHAPEL CHAPEL Welcoming Task Force Church-wide Brunch {FH}  DEADLINE TO SIGN UP FOR BOWLING AT YMCA  | 6:30 Open Hands Meal {FH}         | 24                                                         | 25                                              | 5:30<br>Yoga {P}<br>7:00<br>Square Dancing {FH} | 27  | 28  |
| 10:00<br>WORSHIP IN THE<br>CHAPEL                                                                                         | 6:30<br>Open Hands Meal {FH}      | 10:00 SUMMER FUN STUFF: Adventure Landing in Winston Salem |                                                 |                                                 |     |     |

### **First Reformed United Church of** Christ

104 East Center Street Lexington, NC 27292 (336)248-2617

email: church@frucc.org

website: www.frucc.org



The Love of God The Power to Love Others The Ability to Love Ourselves



# 'Come to our Table'

# **NEXT COMMUNITY MEAL**

Tuesday, September 25

5:00pm Fellowship Hall

Donations appreciated!

First Reformed United Church of Christ Fellowship Hall

104 East Center Street, Lexington, NC 27292



Join Us on Facebook: facebook.com/firstreformeducc

### **Church Staff**

Pastor: Rev. Elizabeth Horton

(email: elizabeth@frucc.org) (cell: 336-972-8895)

**Minister of Pastoral Care** 

**Rev. June Grubb (**home: 336-248-5668)

Director Christian Ed.

Cathy Waitman

Admin. Assistant

Carolyn Robbins

**Choir Director** 

Ellen Peterson

Organist

Lee Ann Peele

**Financial Administrator** 

Paula Lopp

# **SUMMER WORSHIP**

**HOURS** 

June 17-July 29 Worship at 10:00am

in the Chapel

**Church Office Hours:** 

Monday—Friday 8:30am to 12:30pm



### **BIRTHDAYS**

| 1 | Keri Hartle | 16 | Craig Coe |  |
|---|-------------|----|-----------|--|
|   |             |    |           |  |

2 Raeann Allred **Brad Robertson** 

**Marguerite Leonard** 3

5 **Paula Lopp** 

7 **Cheryl Walser** 

**Carolyn Yocum** 

9 Jacob Hartle

Mary Jo Jessup

**Jonathan Odom** 11

12 Elizabeth Sink

13 Lynn McCarn

**Calvin Odom** 

**Tracy Potts** 

**Lindsay Sink** 

**Bill Walser** 

**Johnny McCarn** 

21 **Jeremy Peterson** 

**Michell Winters** 

23 Annabell Callicutt

24 **Mary Lloyd Callicutt** 

**Melody Evans** 25

27 **Betty Link** 

**Jeff Hutchens** 28

31 **Margot Everhart** 

### ANNIVERSARIES

8 Frank & Beth Callicutt

12 Rich & Lena Johnson

27 Mark & Nicole Smith

30 Eddie & Belinda Yates



UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS BOOK WITH OUR

PASTOR'S NEW ADDRESS!

Dan, Elizabeth, Megan, Patrick & Parker Horton

303 Overbook Drive

Lexington, NC 27292