



First Reformed United Church of Christ
Lexington, NC

AUGUST 2018



Dear Beloved Community,

As we move back into the newly refurbished sanctuary on Sunday, August 5th, we say a big *Thank You* to the Chair of the Property Committee, John Smith, for his leadership and tremendous effort in coordinating the various projects for the sanctuary update.

Also beginning August 5th is the group study on the book, Bonhoeffer. Dietrich Bonhoeffer is one of the most influential and courageous ministers of the 20th century. While serving in 1930's Germany during the rise of Hitler and the Nazi's, Bonhoeffer separated himself from the Nazified "German Church" and began training seminarians to embody with uncompromising discipleship Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. His faithfulness to God caused him to be imprisoned in a Concentration Camp and ultimately, he was killed.

A word of caution, this book study is not cheerful or lighthearted. Yet it is extremely relevant. It calls us to look deeply into ourselves and our relationship with Christ. It calls us to look at our world and determine how we will live out our faith. The questions he posed to disciples decades ago about Christian Life in Community are ones we need to ask ourselves today. Even if you can't attend the study, please read the book.

As we think about what it means to live as the Body of Christ, I am excited to announce that BRIDGE dinner groups will be starting soon!

Please read inside for details and make plans to be a part of this bridge-building ministry.

We will prepare for these BRIDGE dinner groups by gathering around the Lord's Table for Holy Communion on August 5th and with the sermon series Bread of Life from John's Gospel (*see page 14 for weekly scriptures*), looking at how Christ is made known when we break bread together.

Brothers and sisters, you are the beloved community of God. Thank you for the ways that you live out the call to BE THE CHURCH.

Together with you in the work of love,
Elizabeth



~JULY MEMORIALS~

DANNY LLOYD
JOHN & VICKY GRAY

JOYCE PRICE
JOHN & VICKY GRAY

PATSY BAILEY VIA
PEGGY BATES
JOHN & VICKY GRAY
JERRY & AURELIA SMITH

LINDA YARBOROUGH
BILL & CAROLYN ROBBINS

~JULY HONORARIUMS~

DOUG SINK
FRUCC WILLING WORKERS CLASS

ELIZABETH SINK
GLADYS SNIDER



A special thank you goes to Vicky Gray for her faithfulness in tending to all of the church's outside flowers and plants.

"Their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field."

Isaiah 40:6, NIV

~ THANK YOU NOTES ~

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to say a special **THANK YOU** to **whomever** repaired the hose I use to water the flowers outside the church. The temporary duct tape repair was replaced with a connector, so the hose works like new!

Vicky Gray

Dear Church Family, Trustees and V.G. Price Scholarship Committee,

Thank you for honoring me with the V.G. Price Scholarship. The money will help with my college expenses. I was honored to received it at Senior Assembly from Rev. Horton. Also, thank you for acknowledging me on Graduation Sunday with the gift card, ASU prayer blanket and well wishes.

Your prayers for me are appreciated as I begin my freshman year.

Holt Biesecker

Dear First Reformed UCC,

Thank you so much for the donation to Grant's scholarship fund and your support during the time of his death. Your generosity has truly touched our hearts.

Sincerely,
Alan, Tammi and Adam Miller

Dear First Reformed UCC,

Thank you so much for the \$200 you sent to our church for Bible School. We so appreciate it! This money will be used to purchase school supplies for school children in the community. All of the food for suppers was donated which enabled us to use donated money for school supplies.

We had a wonderful week and had more adults attend Rev. Jim's adult class than children attending VBS. Our count averaged 30 students each night. Those of us who attended Rev. Jim's class learned so much about why we do things in worship!

Enjoy the rest of your summer!
Barbara Perrell, SRUCC

CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

Consistory did not meet in July. The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 12 following the Ushers' Luncheon. There will be a finance committee meeting August 28 at 6:00pm in the Parlor.

Building an Inclusive Church Update

...submitted by Elizabeth Horton

On Sunday, July 22nd, approximately 70 people, both members and visitors, met in the Fellowship Hall after worship for brunch and discussion about the revised Welcoming Statement. The Welcoming Task Force provided delicious casseroles, fruit, and pastries.

We started out reviewing the process, from the beginning in the Fall 2017 up to this point describing the steps along the way. About 15 response cards were received from the bulletin inserts this summer. The Task Force met July 11 to review the responses and make adjustments to the Welcoming Statement. A copy of the revised statement was on each table for people to read and discuss.

We listened as people shared reactions to the Welcoming Statement. We talked about ideas for where and how the statement would be seen and presented. We looked at a sample of an abridged version to use when the full statement was not feasible.

We discussed the next steps, which are to conduct an anonymous, exploratory survey to the congregation members. The purpose of the "straw poll" is to help us hear from everyone and to assess if we have answered as many questions as possible. Be on the lookout for info about the survey in Mid-August.

I am grateful to those who have been faithful to this process...for showing up, asking questions, making comments and suggestions. The process may seem long and drawn-out to some, yet spiritual discernment is rarely quick.

I continue to believe that open discussions and honest sharing of ideas will strengthen us as a church and ultimately

lead us into the mission to which God is creating for us.

In the meantime, please read through the revised statement written below and give prayer to it. If you were not able to come to the brunch and you have questions please let me know. I pray for God's guidance as we talk and listen to one another.

Revised 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 in Lexington, NC.

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. 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. This 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, you are welcome here.

We affirm and celebrate the diversity of God's children as a blessing. We welcome you to First Reformed United Church of Christ.

REMINDER FOR ALL

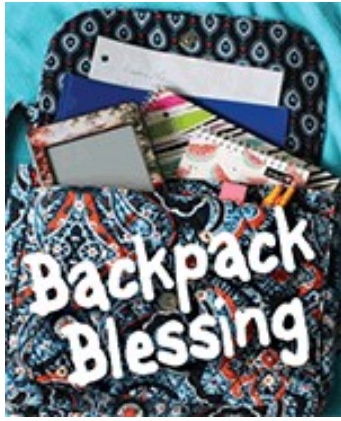
USHERS

WHAT: Appreciation Luncheon for Ushers and their Spouses

WHEN: Sunday, August 12

WHERE: Fellowship Hall

WHY: This free meal is a chance for the church to thank you for your dedicated service along with an opportunity to explain the new sanctuary security system and refresh the operation of the life-saving AED system located in the narthex and fellowship hall. You are the front line for our members and visitors and we want to thank you for your faithful service.



BACKPACK BLESSING

Bring your backpacks to church on Sunday, August 26 to be blessed by Rev. Horton during the 11:00 worship.



**PLANS ARE IN THE
WORKS...**

for Rally Day 2018!

Rally Day is coming up on **SEPTEMBER 9th**. We will have a program in the Chapel for Adults and Youth culminating our study of Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Clarence Jordan. We will receive Confirmants during the worship service. A delicious baked potato and salad bar luncheon is planned for the **CONGREGATIONAL MEAL**.



**ALL INTERESTED ADULTS
ARE INVITED!**

When:

Wednesday, August 22

Where:

Yarborough's at 12:00

Devotions:

Patti Lovell

Program:

Elect new Vice President, Secretary (?), and Treasurer (John will continue serving as President.)



WEEKEND of SEPTEMBER 15-16

Rev. Al Staggs, a minister and performance artist, will share three presentations. Saturday evening, September 15th, Rev. Staggs will present **"Laughter for Life"**. This program focuses on the spiritual, emotional and physical benefits of humor and features his numerous comedic impersonations.

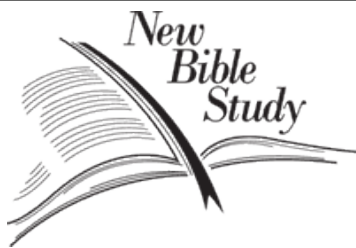
Sunday morning, September 16th, at 9:45am in the education building, Rev. Staggs will perform **"Clarence Jordan and the God Movement."**

Sunday morning at 11:00am in the sanctuary, Rev. Staggs will perform, **"A View from the Underside: The Legacy of Dietrich Bonhoeffer"**. The audience is brought into the prison cell where Bon-

hoeffer awaits execution and listens to his struggles with evil, injustice, and God. In the play, Bonhoeffer tells of the profound influence of fellow Union Theological student, Frank Fisher, an African-American friend who introduced Dietrich to the blight of racism in America. Prisoner Bonhoeffer expresses moral outrage against the Nazi treatment of Jews and explains how that outrage led him to become involved in the German resistance movement, a commitment that would result in his execution by hanging on April 9, 1945.



As we begin preparation for Rev. Staggs' visit, beginning Sunday, August 5th, during the Sunday school hour, Rev. Horton will lead a class on the Life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Our Director of Christian Education, Cathy Waitman, has ordered several books titled, Bonhoeffer Study Guide for those who would like to read and prepare for the Sunday school class. Books will be available in the office.



The East Lexington Collaborative Ministries Group (First Reformed UCC, Second Reformed UCC, Shady Side Presbyterian Church, and St. Stephen UMC) will be having a **Collaborative Bible Study**. The study will be on the book of Psalms and will begin on September 4, 2018 at noon until 1 pm. We will meet in

the Parlor of First Reformed UCC. The study will be lead by Rev. Elizabeth Horton and Rev. Arnetta Beverly. Please contact the church office as soon as possible to reserve your study book, *Psalms Inspiring Truth* by Dr. Robert Smith.

Please bring your lunch and join us as we study and interact with members of our sister churches.

Get to Know Our New Members:



Meet Frankie Hedrick

Frankie became part of our church family in May, 2018. She and her husband, Harold “Buddy” Hedrick, have three children: two sons, Joshua and Zachary, and a daughter, Ryah Hedrick Koprowski. Frankie enjoys reading, yoga, working out and spending time with her family. **Welcome, Frankie!**

REMEMBER TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE



Visit www.frucc.org and see what you can find. Thank

you to the talents of Clifton Murphy, our webmaster!

What you will find:

- ◆ Videos of Rev. Horton’s weekly sermons
- ◆ Current and archived church bulletins and newsletters
- ◆ The current church calendar
- ◆ Prayer Request tab
- ◆ Current church activities



REMINDER: YOU MAY HAVE MAIL!

Please remember to check the mailboxes in the hallway right outside the office on Sundays or any other day of the week during office hours to see if you have mail. The mail sorter has 24 marked slots to hold mail, notices and correspondences.

The mail sorter is labeled with the following

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Rev. June Grubb | Homecoming Committee |
| Lee Ann Peele | Men’s Brotherhood |
| Ellen Peterson | Morning Glory Circle |
| Business Mgmt. & Stewardship | Music Committee |
| Christian Education | Property Committee |
| Community Outreach | Treas./Finance Committee |
| Congregational Life | Women’s Life Fellowship |
| Consistory President | Worship & Sacrament |
| Bd. of Evangelism | Children’s Sunday School |
| Friendship Club | New Way SS Class |
| Historical Committee | Willing Workers SS Class |
| | Sheets Dance Academy |

OPEN HANDS MINISTRY is in need of large (size #10) cans of fruits and vegetables. Please bring any donations to the church office. **ALL DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED!**



From Cathy Waitman - Director of Christian Education

We have had a hot, hot summer! Here are some "cooling" ideas for you for the month of August!



To prepare for Al Staggs visit and his portrayal of Dietrich Bonhoeffer in September, we will be studying about Bonhoeffer in Sunday School this month. The lessons are:

- August 5 - What is the Church?**
- August 12 - Living in a Christian Community**
- August 19 - Religion-less Christianity**
- August 26 - Come and Die**

Bonhoeffer lived in Germany during Hitler's rise to power. He was born into an elite and well-educated family. His mother had a strong Christian faith which greatly influenced him and by the age of 13, he knew he wanted to study theology. When he visited Rome and the Catholic Church at 18 years old, he came to realize that the church was not just the German Lutheran Church he attended, but that it was universal and existed worldwide for diverse groups of people. He traveled all over Europe, in the United States, and Cuba. He commented that the churches in America preached about everything except the gospel of Jesus Christ. The African American churches here were the only churches he attended that preached the gospel. Jesus' Sermon on the Mount was especially important to Bonhoeffer, and he strived to live the life of a servant of Jesus. He was imprisoned for his faith (and his conspiracy with other Germans to assassinate Hitler) and was executed as the Americans were arriving to free Germany.

Al Staggs will be Clarence Jordan during the Sunday school hour on September 16th. We will be learning about Jordan and his Cotton

Patch Gospel the first Sunday of September. Elizabeth will be reading from Jordan's version of the gospel during the worship services in August.

Bowling Night at the YMCA
Friday, August 3 from 5:30 - 7:30
Pizza and drinks will be served.

Back to School Bingo and Movie -
Tuesday, August 14 from 1:30 - 4:00
Kids bring your sleeping bags to sit on. Drinks, popcorn, and snacks provided.

Kids' Club
Sunday, August 19 during the worship service to collate school supplies for Communities in Schools.

Bless the Back Packs
Sunday, August 26 at the 11:00 worship service. All children and youth bring your back packs for a special blessing.

Thank you for all of the school supplies that have been donated to Communities in Schools. So many parents do not have the money to purchase all of the things their children need to start the school year. Your generosity makes things easier for the parents and helps the children feel like all the other kids in their classes.

Rally Day is coming up on September 9th. We will have a program in the Chapel for Adults and Youth culminating our study of Bonhoeffer and Jordan. We will receive Confirmands. A baked potato and salad luncheon is also planned. Come join us for a wonderful Sunday of activities.



Return to Regular Worship Hours

Beginning August 5, Sunday worship services will return to their regular times. Sunday School will begin at 9:45. At 10:30 there will be a First Sunday Social before the 11:00 worship in our *newly refurbished sanctuary!*

Sanctuary News

...submitted by John Smith



Painting, lighting, column cleaning, window cleaning, door staining and some floor cleaning are all completed, and the sanctuary will be ready for our return on August 5th. The security system isn't complete, but is in

the works and will not disrupt our return to the sanctuary. We are thankful for all the hard and good work completed by the painters, electricians, floor cleaner and the organ folks who helped take care of the pipes. I hope ALL will plan to come check out the brighter sanctuary on the first Sunday of August. **Thank you** property committee and the many who helped with this project. And a **BIG THANK YOU** to the congregation for all you do so we can make improvements to our church property!

Girl Scouts 2160 had an **AMAZING** trip of a lifetime out west to Los Angeles and the Grand Canyon in late June.

Thank you for your support!



(Photos submitted by Kivi Miller)

Do You Have a Story to tell about Dixie Furniture?

The Genealogy/Local History Room at the Lexington Public Library and the Davidson County Historical Museum are looking for people to participate in an Oral History Project on Dixie Furniture. If you are interesting in being interviewed for this project be sure to contact us!



For more information contact Tonya Hensley, Genealogist/Historian at 336-242-2935 or genealogy@DavidsonCountyNC.gov or Stephen Harris at the Davidson County Historical Museum at 336-242-2036 or stephen.harris@davidsoncountync.gov



Tonya Hensley, the Genealogist/Historian for Davidson County Public Library System, along with the Davidson County Historical Museum, is embarking on an **Oral History Project**. They are looking for former employees and/or relatives of former employees of Dixie Furniture. This can be from any plant within the Dixie Furniture Family. Participation is free and voluntary. We will be scheduling interviews in September of this year. Interviews will be video and/or audio recorded. Please refer to the flyer above for contact information if you are interested in sharing your story.

'Building Bridges'



(**B**uilding **R**elationships **I**n **D**inner **G**roups **E**ating)

A new Dinner Ministry begins! Join a “BRIDGE” Dinner Group!

The mission is not to play cards, but to build bridges. We want to get to know congregation members better by sharing a meal together in a small group setting, once in September and again in October.

Who's invited to participate? Anyone who wishes...from long-time members to those who are recently visiting.

Tammy Rhodes and Susie Smith will coordinate those who are interested into groups of 6-8 people. Next, an "engineer" will be selected from each group to contact the group members to decide when and where and how the small group will meet for a meal.

Meals could be a covered dish at someone's home, a local park picnic, a table at local restaurant...each small group will decide for itself the meal details.

AUGUST STEWARDS

Liturgist: Bonita Hooper

Youth Liturgist: Griff Smith (August 19)

Ushers:

Chairperson: Jeff Hutchens
Betty Link
James Gray
Cheryl Walser

Youth Usher: Elliott Smith

Plate Attendant: Eddie Yates

Acolyte: Parker Horton

Bible Steward: Patrick Horton

Sound Tech: Jeremy Peterson

First Sunday Social: 10:30am in the
Fellowship Hall
By Rich & Lena Johnson

AUGUST VOLUNTEERS

Greeters:

August 5: Eulene Shepherd

August 12: Calvin & Susan Odom

August 19: Gennie Lou Byerly

August 26: Pattie Everhart

Nursery:

August 5:
Nina Smith & Nicole Smith

August 12:
Lynn Brown & Belinda Yates

August 19:
Keri Hartle & Ashlee Lopp

August 26:
Patti Lovell & Rita Lohr



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 (336-225-2964), contact Ben Hale (benjaminhale08@comcast.net) or call the church office (336-248-2617).

CHURCH MEMBERS: Bill Walser, John Potts, Vogen Everhart, Deanna Michael, Lauren Thompson Gould, Ruth Fritts, Peggy Bates, Margot Everhart

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

OUR FRIENDS: Brian Arensman (Keith Johnson's friend and co-worker), John Hayden (Friend of Kivi Miller), Ed Leonard (Brother of Sylvia Walser), Annetta Everhart (Friend of Lisa Nelson), Dan Smith (Brother of Steve and Jerry Smith), Shane Gordon (Friend of Alane Holste), Lacy Belcher (Friend of Vicky Gray), Jonelle Parker (Friend of Frank Leonard); Family of Cindy S. Bowers...and Kiana Sinz (Friends of Patti & Jerry Lovell); Dennis Yocum (Son of Carolyn Yocum), Ike Trexler (Friend of Mike & Lynn Brown), Eddie Wray (Friend of Lisa Nelson), Lynn Younts (Friend of Susie Smith), Eliza Paris (Friend of Sylvia Walser's granddaughter), Harold Peoples (Friend of Cheryl Walser), Ashley Hutcheson (Daughter-in-law of Heidi & Ron Hutcheson)



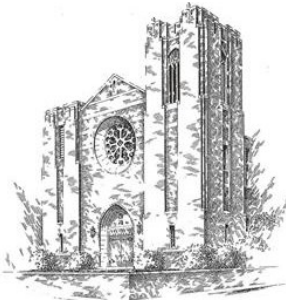
2018



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 5:30 Yoga Class {P} 7:00 Square Dancing {FH}	3 5:30-7:30 Bowling at YMCA	4 9-3:00 NC Lions Club District I Meeting {FH}
5 9:45 Youth: Studying Esther Adult Sunday School: Studying Dietrich Bonhoeffer 10:30 First Sunday Social {FH} 11:00 Worship & Communion in the Sanctuary	6 6:30 Open Hands Meal {FH}	7 6:30 Bd. of Evangelism {P} Bd. of Christian Ed. {Rm. 102}	8	9 5:30 Yoga Class {P} 7:00 Square Dancing {FH}	10	11
12 9:45 Youth: Studying Dietrich Bonhoeffer Adult Sunday School: Studying Dietrich Bonhoeffer 11:00 Worship in the Sanctuary Usher Appreciation Luncheon {FH} Consistory	13 6:30 Open Hands Meal {FH} 11:00 Staff Meeting	14 10:00 Collaborative Ministries {P} 1:30-4:00 Back to School Movie & Bingo {FH}	15 <div style="border: 2px solid yellow; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Please submit articles for the September Newsletter by August 22nd.</div>	16 5:30 Yoga Class {P} 7:00 Square Dancing {FH}	17 1-6:00 WLF feeds NDHS Football Team {FH}	18
19 9:45 Youth: Studying Clarence Jordan Adult Sunday School: Studying Dietrich Bonhoeffer 11:00 Worship in the Sanctuary Kids Club	20 6:30 Open Hands Meal {FH}	21 6:30 Women's Life Fellowship {Linda Sink's house}	22 12:00 Friendship Club {Yarborough's Restaurant}	23 5:30 Yoga Class {P} 7:00 Square Dancing {FH}	24	25
26 9:45 Youth: Rally Day Practice Adult Sunday School: Studying Dietrich Bonhoeffer 11:00 Worship in the Sanctuary BACKPACK BLESSING	27 6:30 Open Hands Meal {FH}	28 6:00 Finance Committee {P}	29	30 5:30 Yoga Class {P}	31	

**First Reformed
United Church of
Christ**

104 East Center Street
Lexington, NC 27292
(336)248-2617
email: church@frucc.org
website: www.frucc.org



All Are Welcome Here!
Where People Discover...
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](https://www.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 (cathy@frucc.org)

Admin. Assistant

Carolyn Robbins
(Carolyn@frucc.org)

Choir Director

Ellen Peterson

Organist

Lee Ann Peele

Financial Administrator

Paula Lopp
(paula@frucc.org)

**SUMMER WORSHIP
HOURS**

Sunday School
9:45am
Worship
11:00am

Church Office Hours:

Monday—Friday
8:30am to 12:30pm

AUGUST



- 16 Doris Sink
- 18 Amanda Fulton
- 19 J.W. Bates
- 20 Myra Thompson
- 21 Ramona Yarbrough
- 22 Edgar Miller
- 23 Vogen Everhart
- 24 John Smith
- 26 Albert Evans
- 30 Jude Sink
- 31 Kathleen Danze

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Pattie Everhart
Claire Smith
- 2 Karla Loper
Jerry Lovell
- 4 Lynn Klopp
- 6 Lucas Peterson
- 10 Nina Smith
- 12 Casey Hartle
- 14 Lena Johnson
- 15 Baron Freeman
Beau Sink

ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Bill & Carolyn Robbins
- 7 John & Vicky Gray
- 11 Tim & Tracy Potts
- 16 Clifton & Harriette Murphy
- 22 Calvin & Susan Odom
- 27 Buddy & Rita Lohr

AUGUST WORSHIP

Please read the following scriptures to prepare for worship with the "Bread of Life" sermon series:

August 5 – John 6: 24-35

August 12 – John 6: 35, 41-51

August 19 – John 6: 51-58

August 26 – John 6: 56-69