



Women's Life Fellowship is beginning an effort to replace many of the Chrismons that are old and in disrepair. They would like to offer everyone the opportunity to contribute to the purchase of new Chrismons **in honor of or in memory of** someone special in your life. If you are interested, please complete the form below and place in the offering plate by November 25th along with \$20 each to help cover the cost of the new Chrismons. A list will be included in the bulletin the first Sunday in December similar to Poinsettias purchased in honor or memory of loved ones. The Chrismons will remain at the church to be used each Christmas.

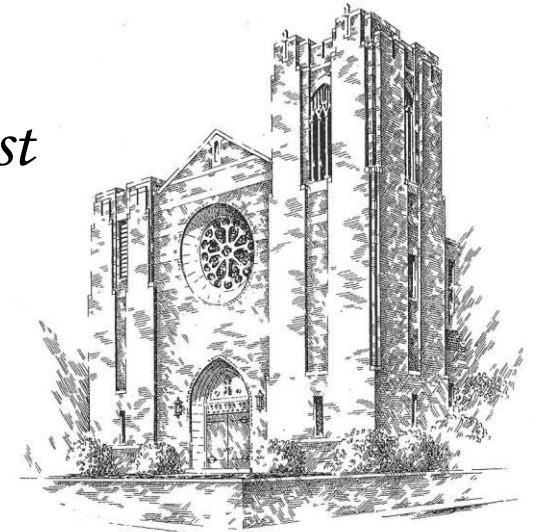
of Chrismons _____ purchased by _____ Total Amount _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

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.



October 7, 2018
11:00AM

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: 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 cell/text #336-240-2503)

Director of Spiritual Growth and Renewal, 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)

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

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgist: Doris Sink

Gathering

Prelude

*Chiming of the Hour

Welcome

Elizabeth Horton

Choral Call to Worship

"Bind Us Together"

*Call to Worship

Doris Sink

Leader: Welcome to this place:

where children and seasoned citizens sit side by side,

**People: where heaven and earth embrace in peace,
where God has been, is, and always will be.**

Leader: Welcome to this place, as we gather with all of God's children:
where we find God's love,

**People: where we hear the tender voice of Jesus,
where the Spirit teaches us new songs.**

Leader: Welcome to this place, where all is made ready by our God:
where we bring our hunger, and find food,

**People: where we bring our brokenness, and find healing;
where we bring our very selves, and find acceptance.**

*Hymn

"I Come with Joy"

Insert

*Invocation

Doris Sink

Centering

Unison Prayer for Forgiveness

Elizabeth Horton

We have not been Your people, Prince of Peace.

When we could see Jesus in others, we turn away.

When we could offer words of peace, we hoard grudges.

When we could speak of hope, we fling words that shatter another's heart.

When we could live as one with all people,

we try to push them as far away from us as possible.

Forgive us and Redeem us. May the warmth of Your tenderness melt our frozen souls,

may the balm of Your words mend any broken hearts we have damaged,

as we follow Jesus Christ, our Lord, our Brother, into Your kingdom of joy.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Young Disciples

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

Connecting in Ministry

Invitation to Give Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

"We Are Marching in the Light of God"

*Offering Response

"The Doxology"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Doris Sink

Proclaiming

Anthem

"Communion Kum Ba Yah"

Rhoades and Kupferschmid

Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah.

In this bread, my Lord, kum ba yah.

In this wine, my Lord, kum ba yah. Oh lord, kum ba yah.

Let us break bread together on our knees.

Let us break bread together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees.

(Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah.)

Let us praise God together on our knees.

(In this bread, my lord, kum ba yah.)

When I fall on my knees with my fact to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

(In this wine, my Lord, kum ba yah.)

Oh Lord, kum ba yah. Oh Lord, kum ba yah.

Scripture Reading

Mark 10: 2-16
(Page #921 of Pew Bible)

Elizabeth Horton

Communion Meditation

"No Limits on Love"

Liturgy for Holy Communion

All are invited to share in the gifts at Christ's Table

Invitation to the Table

Communion Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We offer our hearts to God for wisdom and peace.

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

We give thanks to God for all the blessings which are ours.

Let us pray... ..we offer our praises to you with glad songs:

Holy, holy, holy are you, God of all, God of each.

All creation everywhere joins in praising You.

Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who calls us to the Table of life.

Breaking the Bread and Pouring the Cup

Call to the Supper

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sending

*Hymn "Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?" Insert

*Responsive Call to Dedication Doris Sink

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."

*Benediction

*Congregational Response "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

**Lord, listen to Your children praying, Lord, send Your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to Your children praying, Send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

* PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

Invitation to Congregational Meeting Lindsay Sink

Vote on Inclusive Church Welcoming Statement

Hymn "Seek Ye First" Insert

Announcement

*Parting Song "Blest Be the Tie that Binds"

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;

The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

*Prayer

*Postlude

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

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Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?

Richard Gillard, 1977; alt.

Rom. 12:9-18; Col. 1:24-29

1 & 6 Won't you let me be your ser- vant, let me be as Christ to you?
 2 We are pil- grims on a jour-ney, we are trav- elers on the road;
 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shad- ow of your fear;
 4 I will weep when you are weep- ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
 5 When we sing to God in heav- en we shall find such har- mo- ny,

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser- vant, too.
 We are here to help each oth- er go the mile and bear the load.
 I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
 I will share your joy and sor- row till we've seen this jour-ney through.
 Born of all we've known to- geth- er of Christ's love and ag- o- ny.

(repeat stanza 1)

Richard Gillard was born in England and later made his home in New Zealand. Largely self-taught, Gillard has described his musical style as "folk." This is the best known of his many songs in the United States.

Tune: SERVANT SONG 8.7.8.7.
 Richard Gillard, 1977
 Arr. Betty Carr Pulkingham, 1977; adapt.

Seek Ye First

Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness — Matthew 6:33 KJV

1. Seek ye first the king- dom of God, And His righ- teous- ness,
 2. Ask and it shall be giv- en un- to you, Seek and ye shall find,

And all these things shall be add- ed un- to you— Al- le - lu, al- le- lu - ia!
 Knock and the door shall be o- pened un- to you— Al- le - lu, al- le- lu - ia!

WORDS: Karen Lafferty, 1948- ; based on Scripture

MUSIC: Karen Lafferty, 1948-

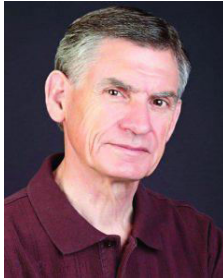
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LAFFERTY

Irregular

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**REV. AL STAGGS
MINISTER and PERFORMING ARTIST**



**October 20-21, 2018
THREE PRESENTATIONS**

Saturday Evening, October 20th at 6:30PM
First Reformed UCC Fellowship Hall
Catered Reception and Performance
“Laughter for Life”

ADMISSION WITH TICKETS ONLY...COST \$10.00 each
Contact the church office to reserve your ticket (336-248-2617)

Sunday Morning, October 21st at 9:45AM
First Reformed UCC Fellowship Hall
“Clarence Jordan and the God Movement”

Sunday Morning, October 21st at 11:00AM
First Reformed UCC Sanctuary
***“A View from the Underside:
The Legacy of Dietrich Bonhoeffer”***



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month!
Honoring those who have survived...
Remembering those lost to Domestic Violence.

There will be a Vigil held on **October 11th at 7:00pm**
at the Lexington Police Department.
Rev. Elizabeth Horton will be speaking.
For more information you may contact
Family Services of Davison County at 336-249-0237
or visit www.fsdcc.org.

Congregational Meeting

On **Sunday, October 14th** following worship, lunch will be served. The menu includes: Boston Butt, potato salad, baked beans, slaw, rolls and dessert. **Donations are appreciated!** After lunch, Lindsay Sink will present the 2019 budget proposal for a congregational vote. All members are encouraged to be a part of this important process in the life of First Reformed UCC.

To assist with meal planning, please sign up below and drop in the offering plate or call the church office.

Name: _____

Number of Adults _____ Number of Children _____



Family Fun Night Sponsored by Women's Life Fellowship
On **Tuesday, October 23rd at 6:00pm** there will be **pumpkins to decorate (\$5 each)** and hot dogs with all the fixin's, chips, drinks and dessert to eat!

There is no charge for the meal, but to help with planning, please sign up below and drop the slip in the collection plate to reserve your pumpkin now or call the church office! If you prefer not to decorate a pumpkin but would like to come enjoy a hot dog and fellowship, you are welcome!

Name: _____ Number Attending _____

of Pumpkins _____ (\$5.00 each) # of Hotdogs _____ (free)



HOME COMING 2018

This year's Homecoming will be celebrated on **Sunday, November 4th**. Guest baritone Leonard Rowe will join us during the 11:00 worship to share his talents. Mr. Rowe is a graduate of the North Carolina School of the Arts and also attended Elon College. He has performed with many symphonies and opera companies in the United States, including the New York City Opera, The Buffalo Philharmonic and Peter Nero and the Philly Pops, and worked with the great Fred Waring and his Pennsylvanians. He has also performed in Europe. Mr. Rowe now lives in Winston Salem. Following worship there will be a Congregational Meal in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to attend!

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR today are given to the glory of God and in honor of Jordan McCarn and Maria Whitman McCarn in celebration of their marriage yesterday; given by Johnny and Lynn McCarn.

Thank You for Serving Our Church

USHERS: Susan Odom, Nicole Smith,
Clifford Lopp, June Grubb

PLATE ATTENDANT: J. W. Bates

USHER CAPTAIN: Ted Smith

SOUND TECHNICIAN: Calvin Odom

YOUTH USHER: Claire Smith

ACOLYTE: Jacob Hartle

GREETER: Michell Winters

BIBLE STEWARD: Griff Smith

NURSERY {INFANTS-KINDERGARTEN}: Dave Fulton & Jeremy Peterson

- ❖ 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

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 704-772-6908) or call the church office (336-248-2617).

CHURCH MEMBERS: Melody Evans, Ruth Fritts, Vogen Everhart, Deanna Michael, Lauren Thompson Gould, 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: Eugenia Holste (Alane Holste's Mother), David Combs (Friend of Open Hands), Noriko Shaw and the Family of Heather & Joe Surrett (Friends of Mike & Lynn Brown), Clifford Beane (Neighbor of Lee & Ellen Bouchard), Brian Arensman (Keith Johnson's friend and co-worker), John Hayden (Friend of Kivi Miller), Ed Leonard (Brother of Sylvia Walser), Dan Smith (Brother of Steve and Jerry Smith), Judy Stanley (Friend of Alane Holste), Lacy Belcher (Friend of Vicky Gray), Jonelle Parker (Friend of Frank Leonard); Family of Boyd Shirley (Friends of Patti & Jerry Lovell); 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)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, Oct. 7

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

9:45AM..... SUNDAY SCHOOL

Youth – JAM & Children's Sabbath Practice {Downstairs}

Adults -- "UCC: Who We Are" Dave Fulton {FH}

10:30AM..... First Sunday Social: Edgar & Kivi Miller

11:00AM..... WORSHIP SERVICE IN SANCTUARY

World Wide Communion...NIN Offering

Following Worship: Special Meeting for Congregational Vote

12:15 Consistory

Monday, Oct. 8

11:00am .. Staff Meeting

6:30pm ... Open Hands Ministry Meal {Fellowship Hall}

Tuesday, Oct. 9

10:00am ... Collaborative Ministries Meeting {Parlor}

Noon Collaborative Ministries Bible Study;
Book of Psalms {Parlor}

6:00pm Men's Brotherhood {FH}

Wednesday, Oct. 10

10:30am GLAMA {Parlor}

6:30pm Bell Choir Practice {Bell Room}

7:15pm Choir Practice {Chapel Annex}

Thursday, Oct. 11

5:30pm YOGA Class {Parlor}

7:00pm Square Dance {Fellowship Hall}

Saturday, Oct. 13

10-Noon..... Sheets Dance Academy "Nutcracker Practice {FH}

Sunday, Oct. 14

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

9:45AM..... SUNDAY SCHOOL

Youth -- Children's Sabbath Practice {Downstairs}

Adults -- TBD

11:00AM..... WORSHIP SERVICE IN SANCTUARY

NOISY OFFERING... CHILDREN'S CHURCH

12:15PM CONGREGATIONAL MEAL & BUDGET MEETING {FH}

Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries {Oct. 7-13}

BIRTHDAYS..... October 7..... Kelsey Johnson

October 9..... Griff Smith

October 12..... Bill Robbins

ANNIVERSARIES October 7..... Robert & Beverly Sandifer

“Building an Inclusive Church”

Today a special meeting will be held directly after worship to vote on adopting the proposed 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.

A Welcoming Statement publicly states that a congregation is willing to be an inclusive church home, which is designated in the UCC by the term, **Open and Affirming (ONA)**. Recently, a congregational Exploratory Survey was taken in August, with 124 responses received. 87% were in favor of the proposed statement, and 13% against.

While this church *already* reflects inclusive values in our day-to-day life and ministry together, this statement helps us grow into our future, sending a clear message and providing assurance to those looking for an inclusive church home.

First Reformed UCC began this process last Fall. If you would like to see any of the materials, including forum handouts, congregation correspondence, or a timeline of events, they are available in the church office.