



**First Reformed United Church of Christ  
Lexington, NC**

*We are an Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ.  
No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.*

## **FEBRUARY 2019**

Dear Friends,

After a bumpy start with the weather, we entered 2019 with energy and purpose. Ministries are developing and others deepening. Rev. June Grubb has cultivated a compassionate group of "visitors" who are willing to go and visit with some of our sick and homebound members. Our Teens class started with at least 5 each Sunday! Kivi Miller and Mike Price organized our first ever Intergenerational Game Night, and Susie Smith is coordinating another round of "BRIDGE" Groups this semester.

On **Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>** during worship we will celebrate our decision to become an Open and Affirming congregation. In 2017, the *Building an Inclusive Church* process began with the goal of intentionally welcoming and affirming persons regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. As the congregation engaged in the hard, yet sometimes slow work of discernment, it became evident that embracing diversity in its many forms was important in the life of this church. Thus, the Wel-

coming Statement was adopted on October 1, 2018. This statement is listed on Page 2. I have found that it helps me strive to be intentional and, I hope, thoughtful about the way I communicate and envision ministry.

After worship, we gather for the Congregational Meeting. We will celebrate ministry highlights from 2018 and also look forward to what's next.

You are invited to complete the 2019 Visioning Survey. This is meant to start conversations about where God is leading us next. It is a tool for beginning the work of discernment. If you haven't already completed the 2019 Visioning Survey, here's the link:

[https://  
www.surveymonkey.com/r/  
frucc2019](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/frucc2019)

If you need a paper copy, please let Carolyn in the church office know. Deadline is **Tuesday, February 5th**. We will discuss the results at the February 10th meeting, and hopefully spur additional conversation for the future.

Let us give thanks to be a part of a congregation that is united

in our mission to follow Christ... to walk in Jesus' footsteps: protecting and advocating for the vulnerable, serving the poor, setting free the oppressed, alleviating pain and suffering, and treating others as with dignity and respect no matter who they are...

### **JOHNS RIVER VALLEY CAMP**

Let's go this summer!

JRVC is an outdoor ministry of the UCC located near Blowing Rock, NC. This summer, I will be the Director of the Beginner Classic Camp, which is for rising 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and only lasts 3 days. The other camps are typically a week and are grouped according to grades 4-6<sup>th</sup>, 7-9<sup>th</sup>, and 10-12<sup>th</sup>. Also available are mission camps for 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades, which can be a powerful way to connect our young people with service and ministry.

Go to [www.JRVC.org](http://www.JRVC.org) and check out the opportunities.

Looking ahead,  
Elizabeth



## 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.



**Tuesday, February 26, 2019**

**5:00pm Fellowship Hall**  
*First Reformed United Church of Christ*

**Minimum \$5.00 Donation for the Meal**

**MENU INCLUDES:**  
baked spaghetti, shredded lettuce salad,  
rolls and desserts

## ~JANUARY~ MEMORIALS

### RUTH FRITTS

MIKE & LYNN BROWN

J.W. BATES

PEGGY BATES

THE FRITTS FAMILY

*[BOBBY & PATRICIA, DAVID & EVELYN & FAMILY,  
CINDY & GARY FLETCHER & FAMILY,  
ALAN & FAMILY]*

JOHN & VICKY GRAY

MERLE & JERRY HODGES

BILL KEESLER & BARBARA PRESNELL

CLIFFORD & PAULA LOPP

DEANNA MICHAEL

LISA NELSON

JOHN POTTS & JANETTE NEAL

TONY & LEE ANN PEELE

BILL & CAROLYN ROBBINS

EULENE SHEPHERD

ELIZABETH SINK

KATHERINE SKIPPER

JOHN & SUSIE SMITH

MR. & MRS. STEVE SMITH

CATHY & STEVE WAITMAN

DAVID & KATHY WRIGHT

### RAYMOND WILLIAMS

CLIFFORD & PAULA LOPP

EULENE SHEPHERD

ELIZABETH SINK

## ~JANUARY~ HONORARIUMS

### WALTER & ANN HOFFMAN

BILL KEESLER & BARBARA PRESNELL

### HOYLE POTTS

MIKE & LYNN BROWN

## ~ THANK YOU NOTES ~

### Acknowledgements from the following Benevolences have been received

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Elon Homes  
John's River Valley Camp  
Piedmont Crossing Benevolent Fund  
The Salvation Army

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To the Board of Worship and Sacrament:

Thank you to all who agreed to chair and/or serve on the various committees under this board. Your support, service and dedication to First Reformed UCC is vital to the life of our church and is greatly appreciated! We are looking forward to a great year!

Raeann Allred and Deanna Michael  
Co-Chairpersons

Dear First Reformed UCC,

Thank you for your dedication to Grace Food Ministries! We appreciate your church members who volunteer with our ministry! We could not continue our mission without you!

Sincerely,  
Libby O'Shea, Grace Episcopal Church

Dear FRUCC Family and Friends,

I deeply appreciate your remembering me with gifts of the fruit basket and the Christmas cards. It warmed my heart as I read each one. I also thank you for your continued prayers which help me to face each new day. God's blessings on each of you.

Peace,  
Rita Tussey

Dear First Reformed UCC,

Thank you for the Christmas gift! I am overwhelmed by your generosity and truly blessed to be a part of First Reformed UCC.

Sincerely,  
Carolyn Robbins

Dear Trustees,

Thank you so much for honoring me with the \$1000 Hinkle, Sink and Swing Scholarship. I was very happy to learn that I had been awarded this money! It will definitely help with my college expenses here at Appalachian State University. Your support and generosity are greatly appreciated!

Sincerely,  
Holt Biesecker

Dear Trustees of the Hinkle, Sink & Swing  
Scholarship,

I wanted to thank you for your support and love over the years of my college journey. As one of the recipients of the Hinkle, Sink and Swing Scholarship I am grateful for the opportunities this award will provide me. I rely on financial aid and student loans to help finance my education. Receiving this scholarship will help reduce my financial burdens and provide assistance for me as I continue pursuing my education.

Once again, thank you so much. Your generosity truly makes a difference.

Love,  
Kelsey Johnson

Dear First Reformed UCC,

We want to express our gratitude for all the cards and prayers extended to us by the congregation upon the death of my mom, Ruth Fritts. Thank you to Elizabeth and June for their faithful visits and kind words of comfort during her illness. Thank you to Mike Hooper for his thoughtful and loving participation in Mother's service. Thanks also to Ellen, Lee Ann and Mike for the glorious music in the service. We also appreciate the delicious meal provided by the Bereavement Committee for our family and friends. What a wonderful church family we have!

Walter and Ann Hoffman

# FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## Officers and Committees for 2019

**President:** Lindsay Sink  
**Secretary:** Doris Sink

**Vice President:** Eddie Yates  
**Treasurer:** Walter Hoffman

### ELDERS

#### 2017-18-19

Lena Johnson  
Lindsay Sink

#### 2018-19-20

Doris Sink  
Eddie Yates

#### 2019-20-21

Raeann Allred  
Harriette Murphy

### DEACONS

#### 2017-18-19

Denise Durham  
Dave Fulton

#### 2018-19-20

Jerry Lovell  
Deanna Michael

#### 2019-20-21

Kivi Miller  
Mike Price

### TRUSTEES

2019 Merle Hodges  
2022 Doug Sink

2020 Carolyn Spivey  
2023 Buddy Lohr

2021 Walter Hoffman

**PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE:** Chairperson:

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** Chairperson: Buddy Lohr  
Lindsay Sink, Eddie Yates

**BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL LIFE:** Chairpersons: Kivi Miller and Mike Price

#### Hospitality Committee:

Sherry Bonner, Lynn & Mike Brown, Gennie Lou Byerly, Glenyce & Dave Fulton, Alice & James Gray, Vicky & John Gray, June Grubb, Ben Hale, Keri & Casey Hartle, Amy Hedrick, Ann & Walter Hoffman, Bonita & Mike Hooper, Rich Johnson, Jonathan Kepley, Betty Link, Rita & Buddy Lohr, Paula & Clifford Lopp, Patti & Jerry Lovell, John Maze, Kivi & Edgar Miller, Lisa Nelson, Ellen & Jeremy Peterson, Mike Price, Carolyn & Bill Robbins, Aurelia Smith, Susie & John Smith, Nicole & Mark Smith, Cheryl & Bill Walser, Sylvia Walser, Renee Walsh, Travis White, Michell Winters, Belinda & Eddie Yates

#### Church Events Photography Chairperson: Clifton Murphy

Mark Smith, Nicole Smith, Nina Smith, Myra Thompson

#### Historical Committee Chairperson: Merle Hodges

Cliff Lopp, Rita Lohr, Katherine Skipper, Carolyn Spivey

#### Bereavement Committees:

Team #1 Captain: Lynn Brown: Raeann Allred, Vicky Gray, Ben Hale, Amy Hedrick, John Maze, Deanna Michael, Susan Miller, Janette Neal, Susan Odom, Myra Thompson

Team #2 Co-Captains: Marguerite Leonard and Doris Sink: Anne Bevan, Pattie Everhart, Kathleen Danze, Ann Hoffman, Heidi Hutcheson, Betty Link, Rita Lohr, Katherine Skipper, Lib Sink, Linda Sink, Sylvia Walser

Team #3 Captain: Belinda Yates: Alice Gray, June Grubb, Gerri Hill, Mary Jo Jessup, Paula Lopp, Patti Lovell, Lisa Nelson, Lee Ann Peele, Carolyn Robbins, Aurelia Smith, Nina Smith

Team #4 Co-Captains: Harriette Murphy and Carolyn Spivey: Glenyce Fulton, Bonita Hooper, Alisa Johnson, Lena Johnson, Lynn McCarn, Eulene Shepherd, Charlotte Smith, Nicole Smith, Cathy Waitman, Cheryl Walser

#### Homecoming Committee Chairperson: Rita Lohr

Peggy Bates, Alice Gray, Patti Lovell, Lib Sink, Nicole Smith, Susie Smith, Carolyn Spivey

## 2019 CONSISTORY COMMITTEES (CONTINUED)

**BOARD OF WORSHIP AND SACRAMENT:** Chairpersons: Raeann Allred and Deanna Michael

Holy Communion Chairperson: Lynn Brown

Raeann Allred, Betty Barr, Vicky Gray, June Grubb, Lena Johnson, Janette Neal

Holy Communion Servers Chairperson: John Potts

Altar Preparation Co-Chairpersons: Buddy Lohr and Jeff Hutchens

Music Ministry Chairperson: Harriette Murphy

Denise Durham, Glenyce Fulton, June Grubb, Susan Odom, Carolyn Robbins, Elizabeth Sink,  
Cathy Waitman (Ex-officio: Lee Ann Peele, Ellen Peterson)

Sanctuary Needs Chairperson: Jonathan Kepley

Usher Chairperson: Jeff Hutchens

Acolyte Chairperson: Cathy Waitman

Greeters and Liturgists Chairperson: Rita Lohr

Flowers Chairperson: Betty Link

Flower Delivery to Homebound: June Grubb

Decorating Committee Co-Chairpersons: Jeff Hutchens, Mary Jo Jessup and Lisa Nelson

Glenyce Fulton, Vicky Gray, June Grubb, Alisa Johnson, Lena & Rich Johnson, Rita & Buddy Lohr,  
Paula & Clifford Lopp, Harriette & Clifton Murphy, Ellen & Jeremy Peterson, Michell Winters

Sound System Co-Chairpersons: James Gray and John Gray

Dave Fulton, Clifford Lopp, Jeremy Peterson

**BOARD OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND RENEWAL:** Chairperson: Lena Johnson

Director of Christian Education: Cathy Waitman

Alice Gray, Vicky Gray, June Grubb, Carolyn Robbins

**BOARD OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH:** Chairperson: Jerry Lovell

Ann & Walter Hoffman, Alisa Johnson, Jonathan Kepley, John Maze, Aurelia Smith, Mark Smith,  
Susie Smith, Sylvia Walser, Renee Walsh

**BOARD OF EVANGELISM:** Co-Chairpersons: Dave Fulton and Harriette Murphy

Ben Hale, Bonita Hooper, Camille Morgan, Clifton Murphy, Renee Walsh, Travis White, Michell  
Winters (Ex-officio: Rev. Elizabeth Horton)

Prayer Chain Chairperson: Patti Lovell

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Harriette Murphy

**BOARD OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT & STEWARDSHIP:** Co-Chairpersons: Denise Durham and Lindsay Sink

Finance & Budget Chairpersons: Denise Durham and Lindsay Sink

John Gray, Buddy Lohr, Lisa Nelson, Lindsay Sink (Ex-officio: Walter Hoffman and Paula Lopp)

Property Chairpersons: Eddie Yates and John Smith

J.W. Bates, Mike Brown, Jeff Hutchens, Rich Johnson, Buddy Lohr, John Maze, Edgar Miller, Clifton Murphy,  
Lisa Nelson, John Potts, Lindsay Sink, Mark Smith

Security Committee: Lindsay Sink, Mark Smith, Mike Brown, Jeff Hutchens

Insurance: Property Committee Chairpersons

Endowments: Trustees

Memorial Garden Chairperson: Eddie Yates and John Smith

Special Gifts Chairperson: Eddie Yates and John Smith

Merle Hodges

**LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE:** Chairperson: Lindsay Sink

John Gray, Walter Hoffman, Clifton Murphy, Buddy Lohr

# CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

## FROM THE JANUARY 2019 MEETING

### **Board Transitions**

- Outgoing chairs to meet with incoming chairs to review goals of the board/committee. A file will be kept in the office with checklists/guidelines for each chair to ease the transition. Each board chair will follow up with the church staff concerning any approvals/updates following consistory meetings (i.e. items that need to be advertised, clerical needs, etc.).

### **Board of Spiritual Growth and Renewal:** Lena Johnson (unable to attend but sent the following report later)

- Met with Cathy Waitman and Rev. Horton to discuss beginning plans for 2019
  - \* 2019 Board members are in place
  - \* New Sunday school classes include: 3 Classes for Youth and 2 Adult Classes, including the new Family and Faith Discussion Group
  - \* Families First luncheon meeting January 20<sup>th</sup> to gather input on their children's religious development and expectations

### **Board of Congregational Life:** Kivi Miller and Mike Price

- Concern in process of finalizing members of committee since so many church members are involved
- Sunday School Social Volunteers and Congregational Meal Setup/Cleanup Committees will be handled as the year progresses

### **Board of Business Management and Stewardship**

#### **Financial Report:** Lindsay Sink

- Average weekly offering in the month of December was \$6,349
- 2018 budgeted benevolences were paid in full in the month of December
- E-giving research has been narrowed to Vanco that works with the current software used by First Reformed for posting contributions. This process will allow church members and others who visit the church website the opportunity to donate using a debit/credit card or ACH processing. Lindsay requested this information go back to the Finance Committee for processing. (**NOTE:** *The Finance Committee and Consistory held an e-vote January 15, 2019 approving a motion for the church to enter into a trial period (2019) commitment with Vanco as they would provide the most cost effective and easiest method for e-giving service.*)

### **Property Committee:** Eddie Yates

- A leak was reported in one of the upstairs classrooms but with no current issue with this area, Property will continue to check.
- Property is checking on replacing the folding doors that close the kitchen and storage area from the fellowship hall.
- We received a note from the city to check gas connections. Buddy Lohr has asked someone he knows to check this for the church who is willing to perform the work at no charge.
- Property will work on updating guidelines for use of church facilities.

### **Board of Worship and Sacrament:** Raeann Allred

- All committees for 2019 are in place

### **Board of Community Outreach:** Jerry Lovell

- Two new volunteers have been added to this committee
- Jerry is getting details on staying overnight at the Homeless Shelter and serving monthly meals
- "Touching Davidson County With Love" is April 13<sup>th</sup>. He will share more info as it becomes available.

### **Evangelism Board:** Dave Fulton and Harriette Murphy

- Average attendance for December 2018: 119 (Snow Day December 9th)
- CPR Classes advertised in the Fall of 2018 will be offered at Second UCC on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$25 and retired fireman, Dickie Green, is the instructor.
- A Community Meal will be held the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday in February. There is a suggested charge of \$5.00 per meal.
- Plans have been discussed for a fundraiser sometime in November of December with monies going to a non-profit chosen by the Board of Evangelism. They are in discussion with Mike Price, who is part of a big band group of Salisbury, as the entertainment for this event.



### Old Business:

- Annual staff reviews are planned in January.
- Property
  - \* Review those regularly using church property: Open Hands, Sheets Dance, etc.
  - \* Guidelines for maintenance
  - \* Communications when problems arise
  - \* Use of facility

### New Business:

- A motion to accept reinstating Cynthia Crowell Little to full membership was made, seconded and approved.
- Current consistory members are asked to help with communion at church and with home communion for our homebound.
- The annual Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. We will celebrate our covenant. and 2018 Board Chairs will share the 5 top projects their boards/committees completed in 2018 and share visions/goals for 2019.
- A Consistory Retreat was discussed for Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> beginning at 4pm
- Dave Fulton shared Open Hands Ministry's need to combine the Wesley Heights meal group with the group meeting at First Reformed. If this does not exceed the fire code guidelines for our building more individuals would be added to help in serving a larger group.
- Dave shared revised prayer ministry guidelines for approval. The revision was approved.

**The next Consistory meeting is scheduled for February 3, 2019.**

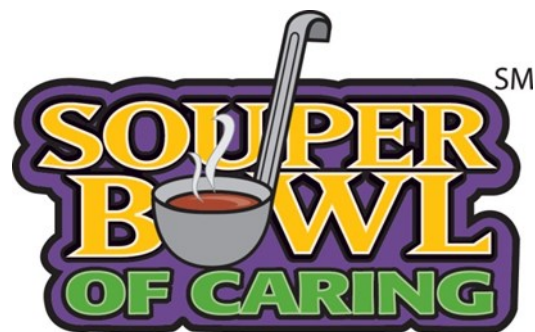


## 2019 BRIDGE GROUPS

2019 Bridge Groups are off to a good start! We currently have 57 people participating. There are six "engineers" to help everyone come together to build bridges of faith and fellowship. Your "engineer" will be contacting you soon if you requested to join.

## "SOUPER" BOWL OF CARING

On Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Youth will stand at the church doors at the end of the worship service with soup pots to collect donations for "SOUPER" BOWL OF CARING. Last year we collected \$291.00. Since 2003, because of your generosity, we have donated \$3528.00 for this ministry. This year, our donation will go to Crisis Ministries of Davidson County.



[tacklehunger.org](http://tacklehunger.org)

**Remember to bring your dollars to help us!**

# HOW TO SUPPORT OUR GIRL SCOUT TROOP'S COOKIE SALE

(submitted by Kivi Miller)



led business venture, a huge success!

Jianna Miller will have a cookie table at the Congregational Meeting on **February 10**, and she is also happy to bring cookies to you on Sundays. Just place an order with Kivi on Facebook or call/text 336-870-0251 **through the end of February**.

You can also buy cookies by the case for your employees or customers or donate them to a local nonprofit. The Girl Scouts will deliver. A case is 12 packages of cookies and costs \$48.

Thank you for supporting Girl Scouts!

## Order Your Girl Scout Cookies from Jianna Miller Troop 2160



Thin Mints®

Crispy chocolate wafers dipped in a mint chocolate coating.



Caramel deLites®

Vanilla cookies topped with caramel, sprinkled with toasted coconut, and laced with chocolate stripes.



Peanut Butter Patties®

Crispy vanilla cookies layered with peanut butter and covered with a chocolate coating.



Girl Scout S'mores®

Crispy graham cookies double dipped in yummy crème icing and finished with a scrumptious chocolate coating.



Lemonades®

Savory slices of shortbread with a refreshingly tangy lemon flavored icing.



Peanut Butter Sandwich®

Crisp and crunchy oatmeal cookies with creamy peanut butter filling.



Shortbread®

Traditional shortbread cookies.



Thanks-A-Lot®

Shortbread cookies dipped in rich fudge and topped with an embossed thank you message in one of 5 languages.



NEW! Caramel Chocolate Chip®

Rich caramel, semi-sweet chocolate chips, and a hint of sea salt in a chewy, gluten-free cookie.\*

**\$4 per box \$48 per case of 12**

## ♥♥♥♥♥ TOUCHING DAVIDSON COUNTY WITH LOVE ♥♥♥♥♥

Jerry Lovell is soliciting volunteers for Touching Davidson County With Love which is Saturday, April 13th, 2019. This event helps many elderly folks in the community who are in need, as well as children and youth. Projects involve various skill levels for almost everyone to be able to help out in some way.

Jerry will have a sign-up sheet in the Narthex soon for volunteers to sign up for any of three different categories of projects...

**SOFT PROJECTS:** such as making blankets, etc.

**MEDIUM DUTY PROJECTS:** such as yard work and landscaping, etc.

**HARD PROJECTS:** such as wheelchair ramp repair and light carpentry, etc.

You may contact Jerry by email (plovell53@yahoo.com) or by phone (336-746-6493 or 336-309-9302) if you have questions. Touching Davidson County With Love is also looking for more projects to consider. If you know of other projects for consideration or know of someone in need of help, please contact Jerry **as soon as possible** so he can submit the project to be considered. **All projects must be reviewed and approved.**



Cold winter temps have finally arrived, but inside FRUCC there is warmth created from the new Sunday school classes and activities in which our members are involved. We started three new Sunday school classes in January – one for Younger Children led by Lena Johnson, one for teens with Pastor Elizabeth and Jeremy Peterson, and a parents group discussion class facilitated by Jeremy Lovell. We have had great participation and hope to keep the energy flowing. In March, the parent discussion group will combine with the other adult class, now named Inquiring Minds, to study Rob Bell's book, "Love Wins," with Walter Hoffman. Let me know if you would like a book. *(See the full details on page 10.)*

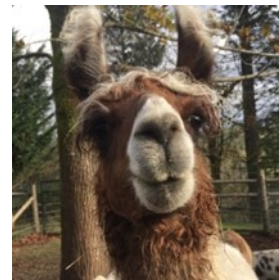


I want to thank our church family for the generous Christmas gift. I appreciate your thoughtfulness and want you to know what a special gift it is to work with all of you. We have a tremendous church family who is always willing to support each other and our ministries.

The Youth Service Project, with special helpers Lena Johnson and Rita Lohr, was a Valentine's surprise for our homebound members. The children made heart decorations to hang on a door or wall and a heart shaped "baggie" of candy. Although there were lots of red (paint), sticky (glue) hands, the children had fun making these gifts! They will be delivered as visits are made to the homebound members. A future service project will be providing filled purses for homeless women. If you are cleaning out closets and have gently used purses you would like to donate, please bring them to the crates in the narthex or outside the office. Costume jewelry and toiletries such as combs, brushes, toothpaste, toothbrushes, lotion, etc. can also be donated. The children will "stuff" the purses which will be distributed through Open Hands and Crisis Ministries.



Thanks to a suggestion from Camille Morgan, we are going to participate in a Heifer Project this spring. It is called "Llamas for Lent" and will begin in March. It will end with a one-day Vacation Bible School in June to celebrate our efforts. Youth will collect "silent" offerings once a month (March – June) and donations will go to Heifer to purchase a



llama and/or other animals. They will be given to people along with feeding and care instructions as a way to make money to support their families. When the animals are bred, the first offspring is given to another needy family and our original gift is passed on to others. Llamas and alpacas are \$150. Sheep, pigs and goats are \$120. Chickens, geese, and ducks are \$20 and honeybees are \$30. Heifer also supports programs for clean water, sustainable farming, and empowering women to become equal participants in farming, business, and leadership roles.

Lessons based on the Heifer Project will be presented in Sunday school classes, and we will be talking about "Llamas for Lent" throughout the Lenten season. Hopefully, this will be a fun project for all of our church members. Plans are in the works for a visit from a llama and other animals at a future date. If you have animals you would like to share or know of someone who would bring animals let me know. (No creepy crawlies, please!)

Upcoming plans are an Easter breakfast, an Easter Egg Hunt, a Winston Salem Dash game, and our annual church picnic in June. Be sure to read newsletters, bulletins and weekly emails to learn more about events in the future.



## KIDS CLUB ~ submitted by Alice Gray

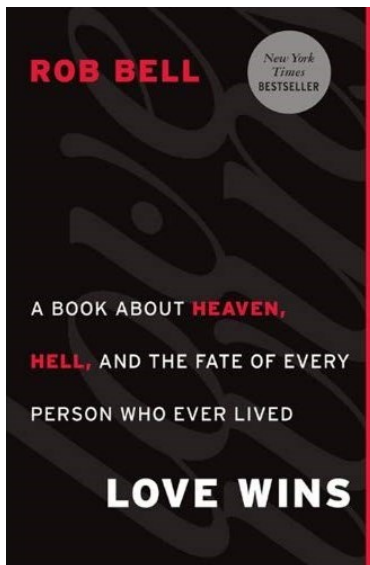


Kids Club met on January 6.

**"KINDNESS"** is the word for the new year. Combining Kahlil Gibran's quote, "Kindness is like snow - it beautifies everything it covers" and "Be kind to one another" (Ephesians 4:32), the children made a nighttime wintry poster that's on display in the Fellowship Hall for all to see.

Many thanks to Vicky Gray for her assistance.

## BOOK STUDY BEGINS MARCH 3rd



Walter Hoffman will lead an 8-week discussion group on **"Love Wins,"** a book about "Heaven, Hell, and the Fate of Every Person Who Ever Lived." The group will meet in the Parlor beginning March 3rd at 9:45 during Sunday School.

### From Rob Bell:

*"First, I believe that Jesus's story is first and foremost about the love of God for every single one of us. It is a stunning, beautiful, expansive love, and it is for everybody, everywhere."*

*"Second, I have written this book because the kind of faith Jesus invites us into doesn't skirt the big questions about topics like God and Jesus and salvation and judgment and heaven and hell, but takes us deep into the heart of them."*

### From Amazon:

*"In 'Love Wins,' bestselling author, international teacher, and speaker Rob Bell addresses one of the most controversial issues of faith—hell and the afterlife—arguing, would a loving God send people to eternal torment forever?" "With searing insight, Bell puts hell on trial with a hopeful message—eternal life doesn't start when we die; it starts right now. And ultimately, 'Love Wins'."*

You can download the book on **Kindle Unlimited** for free. The paperback book is on sale for \$13.09. If you would like to purchase a book, **please email, text, or call Cathy Waitman by February 19.** (cathy@frucc.org or 336-250-2731)

## **MEN'S BROTHERHOOD and WOMEN'S LIFE FELLOWSHIP**

Men's Brotherhood met in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, January 8 along with Women's Life Fellowship for their "Christmas" gathering. Spouses/guests of members in each group also attended. There were 35 people attending.

The meeting was called to order by Eddie Yates. He asked for volunteers from Men's Brotherhood for serving the next shelter meal on January 14th. The meal will be prepared by Mike Brown and helpers. Rev. Mike Hopper shared a blessing before our meal.

The meal, prepared by On Time Catering, consisted of salad, beef tenderloin, marinated chicken breast, scalloped potatoes, green beans, rolls and dessert. It was delicious! It was a wonderful opportunity for all to get together for good food, good conversation, and good company!

The next meeting for Men's Brotherhood will be at 6:00pm on February 12 in the Fellowship Hall. Women's Life Fellowship will meet next at 7:00pm on February 19 in the Parlor.

## **FRIENDSHIP CLUB**

*~submitted by Glenyce Fulton*

The Friendship Club met January 23<sup>rd</sup> at Yarbrough's Restaurant. We enjoyed a program presented by Cathy Robertson and Arianna Lester about the Davidson County Prison Ministry. The ministry is supported by volunteers who commit their time and support to the inmate community at our local prison.

Buddy Lohr provided devotions, "Count Your Blessings." June Grubb and Elizabeth Horton gave an update on our shut-in. We celebrated our January birthdays – Patti Lovell and Carolyn Robins. Reverend Horton blessed our food and we enjoyed a wonderful meal.

A list of potential outings was distributed for members to review and to express interest in attending. Please contact Glenyce Fulton or Patti Lovell regarding your interest and we will do our best to organize outings if there is enough interest. Our next meeting will be February 27<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall for a covered dish luncheon, so bring a dish to share. Our program will be provided by Tad Kepley with a woodcarving demonstration. Everyone is invited.

## **Men's Brotherhood**

*~submitted by Clifford Lopp*

Men's Brotherhood was in charge of the Crisis Ministry shelter meal on January 14th. They served 64 people a delicious meal of hotdogs with all the fixings. We appreciate all the help from J.W. Bates, Mike Brown, John Gray, Rich Johnson, Buddy Lohr, Clifford Lopp, Clifton Murphy, John Potts and John Smith.

## **MORNING GLORY CIRCLE**

*~submitted by Rita Lohr*

The Morning Glory Circle met January 2nd in the church parlor. We welcomed Eulene Shepherd as a new member of the circle. A very inspirational program was presented by Patti Lovell about the power of "being." Our next meeting is scheduled for February 6th in the parlor.

## **FAMILIES FIRST at FRUCC**

*~submitted by Cathy Waitman*

Families First met for a pizza and salad luncheon Sunday, January 20 after the worship service. A special thank you goes to Lena Johnson for her help setting up and to Susie Smith for a delicious Heath bar cake. There were new members present so we all introduced ourselves and talked about recent movies we had seen.

After lunch parents talked about ways their children could learn about and connect to the world around them. Service projects were suggested as ways to expose the youth to the different ways of life in our community and nearby areas. Suggestions included assisting with Open Hands Meals on Monday nights, planning a veteran's project, planting flowers and cleaning yards for our elderly church members, helping Genesis House residents, playing with children at Brenner's Children's Hospital, assisting families in Ronald McDonald House and hospice houses, doing a project for Touching Davidson County with Love and helping at Second Harvest Foodbank. Johns River Valley Camp has some mission camps this summer for older youth that would be another opportunity for service.

Watch bulletins, newsletters, emails, and Facebook to find out about our next meeting and our service projects. All youth and their parents, grandparents, and friends are welcome to participate!



## **FEBRUARY STEWARDS**

**Liturgist:** Alane Holste

**Youth Liturgist:** Griff Smith (Feb. 10th)

**Usher Chairperson:**

Jeff Hutchens

**Usher Captain:**

James Gray

**Ushers:**

Raeann Allred, Henry Crouse,  
John Smith, Michell Winters

**Youth Usher:**

Jonathan Kepley

**Plate Attendant:**

Clifford Lopp

**Sound Tech:**

Jeremy Peterson

**Acolyte:**

Jacob Hartle

**Bible Steward:**

Ethan Lovell

**First Sunday Social:**

John & Susie Smith  
and Jonathan Kepley

## **FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS**

**Greeters:**

**February 3:**

Ben Hale

**February 10:**

John & Lynn McCarn

**February 17:**

Travis White, Renee Walsh,  
Bryson Gentry, Isabella Gentry &  
Caroline White

**February 24:**

Keith & Alisa Johnson

**Nursery:**

**February 3:**

Lynn Brown & Belinda Yates

**February 10:**

Keri Hartle & Ashlee Snider

**February 17:**

Anne Bevan & Cheryl Walser

**February 24:**

Heidi Hutcheson & Kivi Miller



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, or you may contact Ben Hale at benjamin-hale08@comcast.net or 704-772-6908 or call the church office (336-248-2617).

We extend sympathy to Lisa Price on the recent loss of her sister, Julie Kay Price, who passed away on January 25.

**CHURCH MEMBERS:** Myra Thompson, Marguerite Leonard, Mary Berrier, Denise Durham, Tammy Rhodes, Bill Walser, Janelle Bunn, Vogen Everhart, Peggy Bates, Margot Everhart, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Marzell Crotts, Valerie Price, Jo Hudson, Rita Tussey, Hoyle Potts, Doris Flynt, James Everhart

**OUR FRIENDS:** Marinda Hemric (Friend of Ben Hale), Earl Parker (Rev. Horton's father), Wendi Greene (Bill Robbins' sister), Tyler, Alissa, Arlo, Michael & Betsy Philpott Thompson (Friends of Patti Lovell), Rev. Ken Sell (Friend of Gennie Lou Byerly and Eulene Shepherd), Leigh Swicegood (Friend of Jerry & Patti Lovell), Paisley Diane Swicegood, her parents and grandparent (Friends of Jerry & Patti Lovell), Linda Burgess (friend of Susan Odom), Susan Wilkerson (Carolyn Robbins' cousin), Cheri Yates (Eddie Yates' step-mother), Eric Cole (son of visitor, Jill Cole, in training for Border Patrol in New Mexico), Harold Holste (Alane Holste's father), Boyd & Bonnie Perry (Friends of Frankie Hedrick), Kathe Everhart (Frankie Hedrick's sister-in-law), Clifford Beane (Neighbor of Lee & Ellen Bouchard), Jeanette Ingle (friend of Bill & Cheryl Walser), Chris Greene (Michell Winter's step-brother), Virginia Hill (Cathy Waitman's mother), Laura Williams (Carolyn Robbins' mother), Brian Arensman (friend and co-worker of Keith Johnson), John Haydon (friend of Kivi Miller), Eddie Wray (friend of Lisa Nelson), Lynn Younts (friend of Susie Smith)



# february

# 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
<b>3</b> <b>"SOUPER" BOWL SUNDAY</b> <b>9:45</b> <b>Sunday School</b> Children, Teens & Adults <b>10:30</b> <b>First Sunday Social</b> <b>11:00</b> <b>Worship:</b> Holy Communion Kids Club Hand Bell Choir <b>Following Worship</b> Consistory	<b>4</b> <b>11:00</b> Staff Meeting <b>6:30</b> Open Hands Ministry Meal {FH}	<b>5</b> <b>10:00</b> Willing Weavers {Class beside Nursery} <b>6:30</b> Bd. of Spiritual Growth & Renewal {Rm 102} Bd. of Evangelism {P}	<b>6</b> <b>11:00</b> Morning Glory Circle {P} <b>7:00</b> Choir {Chapel Annex}	<b>7</b> <b>5:30</b> Yoga Class {Dance Studio} <b>7:00</b> Square Dancing {FH}	8	9
<b>10</b> <b>9:45</b> <b>Sunday School</b> Service Project for Children Teens & Adults <b>11:00</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>Following Worship</b> Congregational Meal & Meeting {FH}	<b>11</b> <b>6:30</b> Open Hands Ministry Meal {FH}	<b>12</b> <b>10:00</b> Willing Weavers {Class beside Nursery} <b>10:00</b> Collaborative Ministry {P} <b>6:00</b> Men's Brotherhood {FH}	<b>13</b> <b>7:00</b> Choir {Chapel Annex}	<b>14</b> <b>5:30</b> Yoga Class {Dance Studio} <b>7:00</b> Square Dancing {FH}	15	16
<b>17</b> <b>9:45</b> <b>Sunday School</b> Children, Teens & Adults <b>11:00</b> <b>Worship</b> Children's Church	<b>18</b> <b>6:30</b> Open Hands Ministry Meal {FH}	<b>19</b> <b>10:00</b> Willing Weavers {Class beside Nursery} <b>7:00</b> Women's Life Fellowship {P}	<b>20</b> <b>12:00</b> Friendship Club Covered Dish Lunch {FH} <b>7:00</b> Choir {Chapel Annex}	<b>21</b> <b>5:30</b> Yoga Class {Dance Studio} <b>7:00</b> Square Dancing {FH}	<b>22</b> <div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>MARCH NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS DUE TODAY</b> </div>	23
<b>24</b> <b>9:45</b> <b>Sunday School</b> Children, Teens & Adults <b>11:00</b> <b>Worship</b>	<b>25</b> <b>6:30</b> Open Hands Ministry Meal {FH}	<b>26</b> <b>10:00</b> Willing Weavers {Class beside Nursery} <b>5-7:00</b> Community Meal {FH} \$5.00/person	<b>27</b> <b>7:00</b> Choir {Chapel Annex}	<b>28</b> <b>5:30</b> Yoga Class {Dance Studio} <b>7:00</b> Square Dancing {FH}		

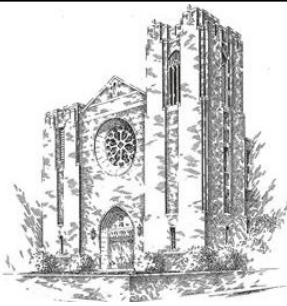


**First Reformed  
United Church of  
Christ**

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, February 26**

5:00pm Fellowship Hall

*First Reformed United Church of Christ*

**Minimum \$5.00 Donation for the Meal!**

*Menu: baked spaghetti, shredded lettuce salad,  
rolls, desserts*



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 (336-248-5668)

**Director of Spiritual Growth and Renewal**  
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)

**WORSHIP  
HOURS**

Sunday School  
9:45am  
Worship  
11:00am

**Church Office Hours:**  
Monday—Friday  
8:30am to 12:30pm

**F E B R U A R Y**

**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

**BIRTHDAYS**

<b>1</b> Bonita Hooper Cameron Sink	<b>18</b> Kalyssa Hutchens
<b>7</b> Haylee Hutcheson	<b>19</b> Susan Morris
<b>8</b> Ethan Lovell	<b>20</b> Frank Callicutt Janette Neal
<b>12</b> Ann Hoffman	<b>23</b> Susie Smith
<b>15</b> Abbie Callicutt	<b>24</b> Megan Horton
<b>17</b> Lee Bouchard Amy Hedrick	<b>26</b> Clifford Lopp

**ANNIVERSARIES**

**1**  
Ted & Nina Smith

**9**  
Mike & Lynn Brown

**10**  
Mike & Bonita Hooper

**20**  
Larry & Betty Link

**28**  
Jerry & Aurelia Smith

**HELP FOR CRISIS MINISTRIES**

Crisis Ministries is in need of the following items to help replenish their supplies. Please bring any items to the table outside the church office if you can help...

**Sugar**  
**Rice**  
**Instant Potatoes**  
**Mac & Cheese**  
**Ramen Noodles**  
**Dried Beans**  
**Canned Vegetables: Green Beans**