



PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING AS A SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER FOR OUR CHILDREN & YOUTH

Three volunteers are needed each week in October to help with the Children and Youth Sunday School classes. Two are needed to teach either the CHILDREN'S or TEEN'S CLASS and one is needed to serve as a ROVING HELPER. The Sunday School period is 10:00-10:45AM. The lessons are shown below for the month...

Teens:		Lessons on Habits and Thanksgiving
Oct.	6	Habits of Godliness: Hang Time with God
	13	Accountability Partners: Pair Partners
	20	Bible Memory
	27	Involvement in the Church
Children:		Lessons from Danielle's Place
Oct.	6	David and Jonathan
	13	Wise and Foolish Builders (King Solomon)
	20	Elijah and the Ravens
	27	Elijah and the Widow

Volunteering as a Sunday School Teacher or Roving Helper, even if it's just for one Sunday, **would be a big help!** Lessons are already planned and printed for **each Sunday**. Volunteers will need a background check, which is a quick and easy process and the cost is covered by the church.

Please contact the church office if you are willing to help! (336-248-2617)

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 #336-248-5668)

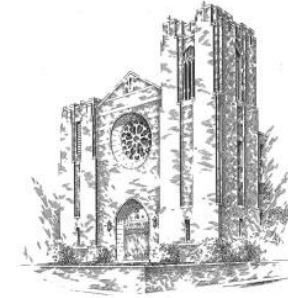
Choir Director: Ellen Peterson

Organist: Lee Ann Peele

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

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

First Reformed United Church of Christ



The Worship of God

September 15, 2019
11:00

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

Gathering

(*)Please stand as you are able
"BOLD" indicates congregational response

Prelude

*Chiming of the Hour

Welcome & Announcements

Elizabeth Horton

Choral Call to Worship

"There's a Spirit of Love in This Place"

Gathering Words

Based on Luke 15

Gennie Lou Byerly

When the lost are found,

there is joy!

When hope overcomes despair,

there is joy!

When we seek and find God's faithfulness,

there is joy!

*Hymn

"Come We That Love"

1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known, join
2 Let those re - fuse to sing who nev - er knew our God; but
3 The hill of Zi - on yields a thou - sand sa - cred sweets be -
4 Then let our songs a - bound, and ev - ery tear be dry; we're

in a song with sweet ac - cord, and thus sur - round the throne.
chil - dren of the heav - en - ly King may speak their joys a - broad.
fore we reach the heav - en - ly fields or walk the gold - en streets.
march - ing through Em - man - uel's ground, to fair - er worlds on high.

*Invocation

Gennie Lou Byerly

Centering

Young Disciples

Elizabeth Horton

(All children and youth are invited to join Edgar Miller, Sylvia Walser and Vicky Gray in the Community Garden.)

Scripture Reading

Psalms 51

Gennie Lou Byerly

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Prayer of Confession

Elizabeth Horton

Although we believe we are experts at faithfulness, Holy God, we must confess we are unskilled at doing good for others. Too often we turn a deaf ear to the cries of people we have judged to be fools. We easily scoff at those we believe have nothing to teach or share with us.

How foolish we are! Forgive us, and restore us to your goodness. Then, send us forth to search for all who sit in the shadowed corners of our world, yearning for someone to come and find them, even as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior came to find us. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Passing the Peace

“Peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.”

*Hymn

“Take My Life, Lead Me Lord”

p. 4

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

Anthem

“The Least of These”

Shackley & Stewart

*The waters rise and dreams lie shattered. A nation falls; her people flee.
A mother prays to feed her children as hunger drives them to their knees.*

*A body fails; a spirit falters. A burdened heart cries for relief,
Forsaken in its darkest moment. Have mercy on the least of these.*

*Lives are broken all around us. A sparrow falls; the Father sees.
But God needs hearts and arms to open in mercy for the least of these.*

*He left His Father and the angels to dwell among the poor and weak.
He touched the outcast and forgotten, the ones we call “the least of these.”*

*But on the cross His arms were open in mercy for our spirits’ need.
He came to fill our deepest hunger for we are all “the least of these.”*

*Lives are broken all around us. A sparrow falls; the Father sees.
But God needs hearts and arms to open in mercy for the least of these.
Lord, may our hearts, redeemed in mercy, have mercy on the least of these.*

Proclaiming

Scripture

Luke 15: 1-10

Elizabeth Horton

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So he told them this parable: “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

Sermon

“What Disciples Do: Search for the Outcasts”

Responding

*Hymn

“Amazing Grace”

p. 5

Invitation to Receive Offerings

Elizabeth Horton

Offertory

*Doxology

Old Hundredth

**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

Gennie Lou Byerly

Sending

*Call to Dedication

Gennie Lou Byerly

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send and who will go for us?”

Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”

*Benediction

Elizabeth Horton

*Choral Benediction

“Pass the Love”

*Postlude

You are invited to join the Intercessory Prayer Circle at the front of the sanctuary after worship.

Extra ZOOM bags are in Narthex if you wish to pick one up after worship.

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given by Marsha Green Fitzgerald to the Glory of God and in loving memory of her parents, Vicky & Louis “Ike” Green, who so loved our church.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING

LITURGIST: Gennie Lou Byerly

PLATE ATTENDANT: Raeann Allred

NURSERY: Rita Lohr & Patti Lovell

USHER CHAIRPERSON: Jeff Hutchens

SOUND TECHNICIAN: John Gray

GREETERS: Jerry & Aurelia Smith

ACOLYTE: Ethan Lovell

BIBLE STEWARD: Jacob Hartle

YOUTH USHER: Jonathan Kepley

USHERS: John Smith (Captain), Dave Fulton, Alane Holste, Calvin Odum

Take My Life, Lead Me, Lord

I consider my life worth nothing to me. Acts 20:24

1. Take my life, lead me, Lord, take my life, lead me, Lord,
 2. Take my life, teach me, Lord, take my life, teach me, Lord,
 3. Here am I, send me, Lord, here am I, send me, Lord,

make my life use-ful to thee; take my life, lead me, Lord,
 make my life use-ful to thee; take my life, teach me, Lord,
 make my life use-ful to thee; here am I, send me, Lord,

take my life, lead me, Lord, make my life use-ful to thee.
 take my life, teach me, Lord, make my life use-ful to thee.
 here am I, send me, Lord, make my life use-ful to thee.

WORDS and MUSIC: R. Maines Rawls, 1968
 © 1968 Broadman Press

LANGLEY
 6.6.7.D.

Amazing Grace

JOHN NEWTON

1. A - maz-ing grace! how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me! I
 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears re-lieved; How
 3. Thro' man - y dan-gers, toils and snares, I have al-read - y come; 'Tis
 4. When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun, We've

once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.
 pre - cious did that grace ap-pear The hour I first be-lieved!
 grace hath bro't me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
 no less days to sing God's praise Than when we first be-gun. A-men.

WELCOME TO FIRST REFORMED UCC

If you are visiting with us, please fill out a pew card and place it in the offering plate when passed.

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.

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

PLEASE HELP!

Volunteers are needed to teach either the CHILDREN or YOUTH or serve as a ROVING HELPER during the Sunday School period (10-10:45AM) in October. Volunteering as a Sunday School Teacher or Roving Helper, even if it's just for one Sunday, would be a big help! Lessons are already planned and printed for each Sunday during October. (Refer to the back page for lesson titles.) Volunteers need to be background checked, which is a quick and easy process. Please contact the church office if you are willing to help! (336-248-2617)

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS AT SECOND UCC

On **Saturday, September 28 from 10:00AM-Noon** join Second UCC for their 3rd Annual Blessing of the Animals. Rev. Jim Luck will be blessing your animals in the parking lot across from the church. (There will be drive-up blessings, also.) Davidson County Humane Society will also be on site with pets for adoption, a Lexington Police Officer and his K-9 and McGruff! For more information, please contact Second UCC at 336-248-2107

GRACE EPISCOPAL FOOD MINISTRY

The Food Ministry Lunch Program at Grace Episcopal Church will continue operating on Sundays. There is an organizational meeting planned for September 17 to discuss any changes in the program. Jerry Lovell (336-746-6493) will be attending as chairperson of the Board of Community Outreach. Anyone interested in attending the meeting may contact Jerry for time and place details.

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

**Wednesday, September 18th
6:00- 7:30**

This ministry will continue to meet on the **1st and 3rd Wednesdays** of each month. Susan Morris will lead.

"CONVERSATION ON RACE AND FAITH"

"Conversations on Race & Faith" continues **EACH TUESDAY through October 15 from 12:00-1:00pm.** Meetings will take place in the Chapel Annex through September, and then move to the Parlor in October. This is open to anyone who would like to attend. No special preparation is required.

FILMS FOR CONVERATION ON RACE & FAITH

On **Tuesday, September 17** the monthly film series will continue at Second UCC with a viewing of "**The Green Pastures,**" a 1936 film depicting stories from the Bible as visualized by black characters. Please join us at 6:00PM in Second UCC's Fellowship Hall.

"PARENTING & FAITH"

Sunday, September 29th Jeremy Lovell will lead a discussion group for parents during Sunday School. No preparation is needed. All parents are invited to attend.

WNCA 52nd ANNUAL MEETING

The Western North Carolina Association of the Southern Conference of the United Church of Christ 52nd Annual Gathering is Saturday, October 5 from 9:00-3:00 at Abernathy Laurels Retirement Community in Newton, NC. The topic of this year's gathering is "Politics & the Pulpit." The day will offer a blend of speakers, workshops, "working lunch" breakouts, worship, and the business session and elections. Registration and the agenda may be found online at wnca-soc.org. Early registration, which includes morning refreshments and lunch, is \$25/person through September 22, \$30 until September 30, and \$35 thereafter. Our church can send two delegates. Please contact the church office if you are interested in attending.

CHURCH CALENDAR

THROUGHOUT SEPTEMBER

Celebration of the Arts Display in the Parlor

Sunday, September 15 *NOTICE TIME CHANGES*

9:45AM Coffee {FH}
10:00AM Faith Formation (Education Building)
Adults: "A Bigger Table" book study led by Lisa Nelson
Teens: "Bad News Friends" led by Susan Morris
Children: "Blessed Are the Pure in Heart" led by Jeremy Lovell
11:00AM **Worship in the Sanctuary**
 "What Disciples Do: Love the Outcasts"
All Youth: Garden Work Day
 with Edgar Miller, Sylvia Walser & Vicky Gray
Following Worship: Consistory

Monday, September 16

6:30PM Open Hands Ministry {FH}

Tuesday, September 17

10:45AM Willing Weavers {Rm 3}
12:00PM Conversations on Race & Faith {Chapel Annex}
6:00PM Race & Faith Film Night {Second UCC}

Wednesday, September 18

6:00PM Middle/High School Youth Ministry {FH}
7:15PM Choir Practice {Chapel Annex}

Thursday, September 19

5:15PM Yoga {Dance Studio}
7:00PM Square Dancing {FH}

Sunday, September 22

9:45AM Coffee {FH}
10:00AM Faith Formation (Education Building)
Adults: "A Bigger Table" book study led by Susan Morris
Children: "Don't Judge by Appearances" led by Jeremy Lovell
11:00AM **Worship in the Sanctuary**
 "What Disciples Do: Resist Greed"

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wednesday, September 25

12:00PM Friendship Club {Yarborough's}
 October Newsletter Articles due

Thursday, September 26

6:30PM Adult Spiritual Growth
 Subcommittee Meeting {Parlor}

Sunday, September 29

10:00AM "Parenting and Faith"
 led by Jeremy Lovell
11:00AM Children's Church
 led by Keri Hartle & Keri Lovell

OUR CHURCH AT PRAYER

OUR MEMBERS:

*Lib Sink, Peggy Bates, Vogen Everhart, Katherine Skipper, Marguerite Leonard, Lindsay Sink, Bill Walser

AT HOME AND IN CARE FACILITIES:

Janelle Bunn, Marzell Crotts, Ruth Essick, Margot Everhart, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Carolyn Spivey, Adena Wall

Brookdale: Hoyle Potts

Lexington Health Care: Jo Hudson, Valerie Price

Piedmont Crossing: Mary Berrier, Doris Flynt, Rita Tussey

OUR FRIENDS:

*Bruce Wehrle (friend of Johnny & Lynn McCarn, Robert Phelps (friend of Janette Neal & John Potts), Sam Maness (Marge Doty's grandson), Jerry Byrd (Friend of John & Susie Smith), Pat Celender (Jill Cole's mother), Bobbye & Jake Bradley (Friends of Patti Lovell), Bert & Virginia Davison (Friends of Frank Leonard, Randy Swicegood (Friend of Bill & Cheryl Walser), Cindy Coble (Friend of Alane Holste), Family of Lydia Rose (Friends of Alane Holste)

To add a name to the prayer list please fill out a prayer request card located on the backs of the pews or call the church office (336-248-2617).

**Indicates newly added. Names will remain on the prayer list for 4 weeks, unless the church office is notified.*

September Birthdays

15th
 Andy Sink

16th
 Barbara Sink
 Addie Walser

September Anniversaries

18th
 Eddie & Belinda Yates

19th
 Johnny & Lynn McCarn
 Tony & Lee Ann Peele

20th
 Brad & Molly Robertson

