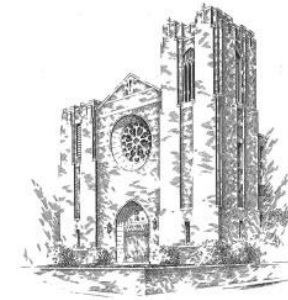


**First Reformed  
United Church of Christ**



**The Worship of God**

September 8, 2019  
RALLY DAY  
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

Choral Call to Worship

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

Welcome & Announcements

\*Hymn

*"Rejoice, You Pure in Heart"*

p. 3

\*Invocation

Gennie Lou Byerly

**Centering**

Young Disciples

Elizabeth Horton

*(All children Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade are invited to join in this worship at the front.)*

A Time of Change with Cathy Waitman

Recognizing an End and a Beginning

Vow of Release

Do you, the members and friends of First Reformed UCC release Cathy from the duties of Director of Spiritual Growth and Renewal?

**We do, with the help of God.**

Do you offer your blessing for Cathy as she discovers the next step of her journey in the life of this church?

**We do, with the help of God.**

Blessing

Special Music

*"My Tribute"*

Lee Ann Peele & Ellen Peterson

Scripture Reading

Psalm 139  
(Page #566 in pew bible)

Gennie Lou Byerly

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 Unclouded Day / Will the Circle Be Unbroken"*

Arr. Curry

*O they tell me of a home far beyond the skies, they tell me of a home far away;  
O they tell me of a home where no storm clouds rise, O they tell me of an unclouded day.*

**FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

104 EAST CENTER STREET, LEXINGTON, NC 27292

PHONE: 336-248-2617 WEBSITE: [www.frucc.org](http://www.frucc.org) FACEBOOK: [facebook.com/firstreformeducc](https://facebook.com/firstreformeducc)

Ministers: The Congregation

Pastor: Rev. Elizabeth Horton ([elizabeth@frucc.org](mailto:elizabeth@frucc.org), cell/text #336-972-8895)

Minister of Pastoral Care: Rev. June Grubb ([jgrubb3@triad.rr.com](mailto:jgrubb3@triad.rr.com) #336-248-5668)

Choir Director: Ellen Peterson

Organist: Lee Ann Peele

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

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

Will the circle be unbroken, by and by, Lord, by and by?  
There's a better home awaiting in the sky, Lord, in the sky!

O they tell me of a home where my friends have gone, they tell me of a land far away;  
Where the tree of life in eternal bloom sheds its fragrance through the unclouded day.

Will the circle be unbroken, by and by, Lord, by and by?  
There's a better home awaiting in the sky, Lord, in the sky!

O they tell me that He smiles on His children there, His smile drives their sorrows away;  
And they tell me no tears ever come again to that land of cloudless day.

Will the circle be unbroken, by and by, Lord, by and by?  
There's a better home awaiting in the sky, Lord, in the sky!

### Proclaiming

Scripture Luke 14: 25-33 Elizabeth Horton  
(Page #952 in pew bible)

Sermon "What Disciples Do: Take Faith Seriously"

### Responding

\*Hymn "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" p. 4 Elizabeth Horton  
Invitation to Receive Offerings

Offertory Old Hundredth  
\*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 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.

### THANK YOU FOR SERVING

LITURGIST: Gennie Lou Byerly PLATE ATTENDANT: Raeann Allred NURSERY: Lynn Brown & Belinda Yates  
USHER CHAIRPERSON: Jeff Hutchens SOUND TECHNICIAN: James Gray GREETERS: Jan Smith & Amy Smith  
ACOLYTE: Ethan Lovell BIBLE STEWARD: Jacob Hartle YOUTH USHER: Jonathan Kepley  
USHERS: John Smith (Captain), Dave Fulton, Alane Holste, Calvin Odom

## Rejoice, You Pure in Heart

Edward H. Plumptre, 1865; alt.

Ps. 20:5; Phil. 4:4

1 Re - joice, you pure in heart; lift prais - es to the sky;  
2 Bright youth and sea - soned age, strong souls and spir - its meek,  
3 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,  
4 Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as you go,  
5 Praise God who rules all worlds, the ris - en Christ a - dore,

Your fes - tal ban - ner wave with joy, the cross of Christ raise high!  
Raise high your free, ex - ult - ing song, God's won - drous prais - es speak.  
Send forth the hymns the saints have loved, the psalms of an - cient days.  
From youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe:  
Praise God the Spir - it, Ho - ly Fire, one God for ev - er - more!

Refrain

Re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, give thanks and sing.  
Re - joice Re - joice

This hymn, inspired by Philipians 4:4, was written for the Choral Festival held at Peterborough Cathedral in England. The author was an Anglican priest and a professor of theology at Oxford University.

Tune: MARION S.M. with refrain  
Arthur H. Messiter, 1883  
For an alternate setting, see 71  
Alternate tune: CHRISTPRAISE RAY

# I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

"Whoever serves me must follow me" — John 12:26 NIV

1. I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus; I have de -  
 2. Tho' none go with me, I still will fol - low; Tho' none go  
 3. My cross I'll car - ry, till I see Je - sus; My cross I'll  
 4. The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me; The world be -

cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus; I have de - cid - ed to fol - low  
 with me, I still will fol - low; Tho' none go with me, I still will  
 car - ry, till I see Je - sus; My cross I'll car - ry, till I see  
 hind me, the cross be - fore me; The world be - hind me, the cross be -

Je - sus; No turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.  
 fol - low; No turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.  
 Je - sus; No turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.  
 fore me; No turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.

WORDS: St. 1,2, Garo Christians; st. 3, John Clark  
 MUSIC: Indian Folk Song; arr. William J. Reynolds, 1920-  
 Music arr. © Copyright 1959 Broadman Press. Renewal 1987 Broadman Press. All rights reserved.  
 Distributed by GENEVOX MUSIC GROUP.

ASSAM  
 10.10.10.8.

## 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.

**THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are given by the Congregation to the Glory of God and in honor of Cathy Waitman for her dedicated service to our church.

## FALL CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS

Remember to visit the display of art in the church parlor through September.

### WILLING WEAVERS

If you are interested in learning the art of mat-weaving using plastic grocery bags, come help! The group will begin weaving again on **Monday, September 9** in Room 3 in the Education Building.

### MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

**Monday, September 9**

The group helps serve the meal at the Crisis Ministry Shelter. **Meet at church at 5:45pm.**

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

Snack Supper and Youth Ministry Group

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

### MEN'S BROTHERHOOD & WOMEN'S LIFE FELLOWSHIP

Both groups will resume their meetings on **Tuesday, September 10 at 6:00** with a meal in the Fellowship Hall. Following the meal, each group will meet separately.

### "A CONVERSATION ON RACE AND FAITH"

Collaborative Ministries' "A Conversation on Race & Faith" begins **September 10 and continues EACH TUESDAY through October 15 from 12:00-1:00pm** in our church Parlor. You may bring your own bag lunch. 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.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

The Red Cross surpassed their goal for the blood drive on Thursday. **A TOTAL OF 22 PINTS** was collected. Thank you to all who gave blood and volunteered to help!

### ATTENTION CONSISTORY MEMBERS

All members should have board reports turned in to the office by **Monday, September 9 prior to the September 15 Consistory meeting.** This will leave more time for business/discussion at the regular meeting. The goal is for the formal meeting to be limited to 1½ hours.

### NEW BOOK STUDY TO BEGIN

During Sunday School time on **September 15**, the adults will begin a 6-week book study on "**A Bigger Table: Building Messy, Authentic, and Hopeful Spiritual Community**" by John Pavlovitz. Bonita Hooper and Lisa Nelson will lead discussions. The first session will discuss the Introduction through the second chapter.

### "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.

### FALL & WINTER CLOTHES CLOSET

We are still in need of fall and winter clothing of all sizes for our closet. Donations may be brought to the table across from the office. You may also contact Jerry Lovell at 336-746-6493 or Patti Lovell at 336-309-6493.

### REMINDER

The bulletin is typically prepared for print on Thursday each week. If you have items you'd like to include, please notify the office by noon on Wednesdays.

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### THROUGHOUT SEPTEMBER

Celebration of the Arts Display in the Parlor

#### Sunday, September 8 \*NOTICE TIME CHANGES\*

**9:45AM** Rally Day Activities  
**Adults** in the Chapel with Billy West  
**Children & Youth** Downstairs for  
"God's Creations" Activities

**11:00AM** Worship in the Sanctuary

#### Following Worship:

Baked Potato & Salad Luncheon {FH}

**Cathy Waitman's last day as Director of Board of  
Spiritual Growth & Renewal**

#### Monday, September 9

**10:00AM** Willing Weavers {Rm 3}

**5:45PM** Middle/High School meet at church for  
Crisis Ministry Shelter Meal

**6:00PM** Crisis Ministry Shelter Meal  
{Nina Smith and Middle/High School Youth Ministry}

**6:30PM** Open Hands Ministry {FH}

#### Tuesday, September 10

**10:00AM** Collaborative Ministries {Parlor}

**12:00PM** Lunch & Learn: A Conversation on  
Race & Faith {Parlor}

**6:30PM** Men's Brotherhood & Women's Life  
Fellowship {Parlor}

#### Wednesday, September 11

**11:00AM** Morning Glory Circle {Parlor}

**6:00PM** Music Ministry Meeting {Chapel Annex}

**7:15PM** Choir Practice {Chapel Annex}

#### Thursday, September 12

**5:15PM** Yoga {Dance Studio}

**7:00PM** Square Dancing {FH}

#### Sunday, September 15 \*NOTICE TIME CHANGES\*

**9:45AM** Coffee {FH}

**10:00AM** Faith Formation (Education Building)

**11:00AM** Worship in the Sanctuary

**All Youth: Garden Work Day with Edgar Miller**

Following Worship: Consistory

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

#### Wednesday, September 18

**6-7:30PM** Middle/High School Youth Ministry

#### Wednesday, September 25

**12:00PM** Friendship Club

#### Thursday, September 26

**6:30PM** Adult Spiritual Growth

Subcommittee Meeting {Parlor}

#### Sunday, September 29

**9:45AM** Coffee {FH}

**10:00AM** Faith Formation (Education Building)

"Parenting and Faith" will meet today

**11:00AM** Worship in the Sanctuary

Children's Church

## OUR CHURCH AT PRAYER

### OUR MEMBERS:

\*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:

\*Clifford Beane (Lee & Ellen Bouchard's neighbor),  
Sam Manes (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), Robert Phelps  
(Friend of John Potts & Janette Neal)

### Dear Congregation,

*Thank you for your caring and prayers for my  
grandson. We got word that he has been found.*

*Marge Doty*

*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

8<sup>th</sup>

Alyson Cruz

10<sup>th</sup>

Eddie Miller

11<sup>th</sup>

Doug Sink

12<sup>th</sup>

Lee Jessup



## PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING DURING OCTOBER FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

**Volunteers are needed to teach either the CHILDREN or YOUTH or to 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.**

**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)**

### Matthew 19:14

**Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."**