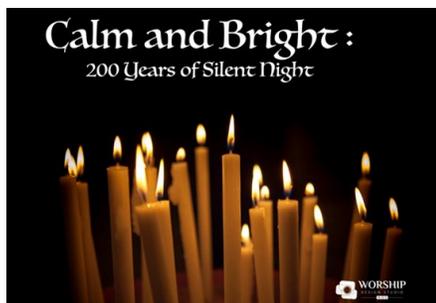




**First Reformed United Church of Christ
Lexington, NC**

*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.*

DECEMBER 2018



Advent 2018

**Calm and Bright:
200 Years of
Silent Night**

This year is the 200th anniversary of the debut of the beloved Christmas Carol, "Silent Night, Holy Night." Many people say their favorite time of the season is on Christmas Eve when they light their white candle in the midst of the dark sanctuary, and sing this beloved song. Something mystical and sacred occurs as our small, solitary lights unite together in the darkness as we sing the hope of "all is calm, all is bright."

This classic hymn, "Silent Night," first made its debut on Christmas Eve 1818 at the St. Nicholas chapel in Oberndorf bei Salzburg, Austria. The melody by composer Franz Gruber is instantly recognizable from the first few notes, and the original text by Joseph Mohr has been translated from the original German into over 140 languages.

In 1914, just four years shy of the 100th anniversary of "Silent Night," the soldiers fighting World War I along the Western front held a ceasefire in some areas. Known as "The Christmas Truce," the sounds of rifles firing and shells exploding faded in a number of places as British, Belgian and French soldiers put down their rifles, stepped out of their trenches and spent Christmas mingling with their German enemies along the Western front. It was observed that members from opposing sides exchanged gifts and stories with one another, played games, and sang Christmas carols together, includ-

ing the beloved hymn "Silent Night."

Although this cease-fire was one of a kind never repeated with the same effect, it served as heartening proof, however brief, that beneath the brutal clash of weapons, the soldiers' essential humanity endured.

We need this kind of reminder today, that our humanity and identity as God's children - across this globe, is proof that we are bound together. We need a "Silent Night."

Our Advent worship will celebrate the carol's message and remind us of our call to be

doers of justice,
makers of peace,
and bearers of light.

~Elizabeth

December 2

Sleep in Heavenly Peace – PEACE

December 9

Glories Stream – JOY

December 16

Redeeming Grace – LOVE

December 23

Let us Sing – HOPE

December 24

Christmas Eve—CALM AND BRIGHT



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.

~ **NOVEMBER** ~ **MEMORIALS**

GLADYS SNIDER
MR. & MRS. DAVID SNIDER

~ **NOVEMBER** ~ **HONORARIUMS**

JAMES GRAY
JOHN & VICKY GRAY

~ **THANK YOU NOTES** ~

Dear Pastor Horton,

(Along with a returned Honorarium check...) Please use this money for something else within your church's ministry. It was a joy to be with your members on Sunday, and I found great blessing in worship. Next time you all put a notice in *the Dispatch* about a special program or speaker, I may show up again.

Blessings,
Donna Hurt

Dear Friends,

The altar flowers that you sent to celebrate our 150th Church Anniversary were so beautiful. Thanks for sharing in ministry with St. Stephen UMC.

Peace and grace,
Arnetta and the St. Stephen Family

Dear Church,

Thank you for your prayers. For six months you have been faithful. The prayers are what get me through the day. I am getting much better, praise the Lord! He is still on the throne! He's not through with me yet. I thank God for every day that He gives me. The Lord is good!

Lynn Younts

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for your gift of \$647 received on 10/16/2018 in support of the United Church of Christ's 2018 Hurricane Response USA/Flood Victims of Florence. We are deeply grateful for your donation.

On behalf of the United Church of Christ, thank you! Thank you for being inspired by God's grace, for partnering with us in loving our neighbors, and uniting with us to build a just world for all.

Faithfully,
Nichole M. Collins
Associate Director, Annual Giving and Special Events

Dear Church Members,

Thank you to our church members and guests who participated in Homecoming Sunday this year. A special thanks to all who brought the delicious food for our bountiful lunch. Much appreciation to the Congregational Meal Team for all their work with the set up and clean up duties.

Thank you to the Thomason Endowment Fund for sponsoring Leonard Rowe, our special musical guest. We are blessed with dedicated members who came together for a successful day of worship, food and fellowship!

Rita Lohr and the Homecoming Committee

CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NOVEMBER 2018 MEETING

Elizabeth asked that we keep Janelle Bunn in our prayers. Lindsay passed a card for Consistory members to sign for Janelle.

Board of Spiritual Growth and Renewal: Jerry Lovell

- ◇ Noisy offerings collected in October Blessing Bags for Crisis Ministries netted \$354.50. Sixty-five bags were delivered to the shelter.
- ◇ Children's Sabbath was a huge success with good participation by children and parents.
- ◇ The Chili Cook-Off is scheduled for December 2nd.
- ◇ Thank you to Carolyn Robbins for making an Advent Banner to be dedicated the first Sunday of Advent.
- ◇ The children's Christmas program will be December 9th. Following the program there will be a catered lunch provided by Yarborough's Restaurant.
- ◇ Spiritual Growth and Renewal guidelines for the church manual were updated previously and meet current needs.

Board of Congregational Life: Eddie Yates

- ◇ Thanked Homecoming Chairperson Rita Lohr and her committee for making Homecoming a success. Thanks to the set-up/clean-up committee chairs, Mark and Nicole Smith for their leadership.
- ◇ Thanks to the Historical Committee: Katherine Skipper, Merle Hodges, Rita Lohr, Carolyn Spivey and Clifford Lopp for their dedication in assembling and copying documents and old photos to send for archive in Lancaster, PA.

Board of Business Management and Stewardship

Financial Report:

- ◇ Average weekly offering in the month of October was \$5,180

Property Committee: John Smith

- ◇ There were a couple of small problems that were brought to the committee's attention (lights in sanctuary, leaky faucet) and taken care of.

Board of Worship and Sacrament: Sylvia Walser

- ◇ The Prayer Chain Ministry will be re-evaluated by the Board of Evangelism.

Board of Community Outreach: Mark Smith

- ◇ Thanks to Bonita Hooper for heading the team to provide the meal at Crisis Ministries Adult Shelter on Monday, November 12th.
- ◇ Sign-ups to ring the bell for the Salvation Army Kettle Fund are being circulated.

Evangelism Board: Dave Fulton

- ◇ Average attendance for the month of October was 101

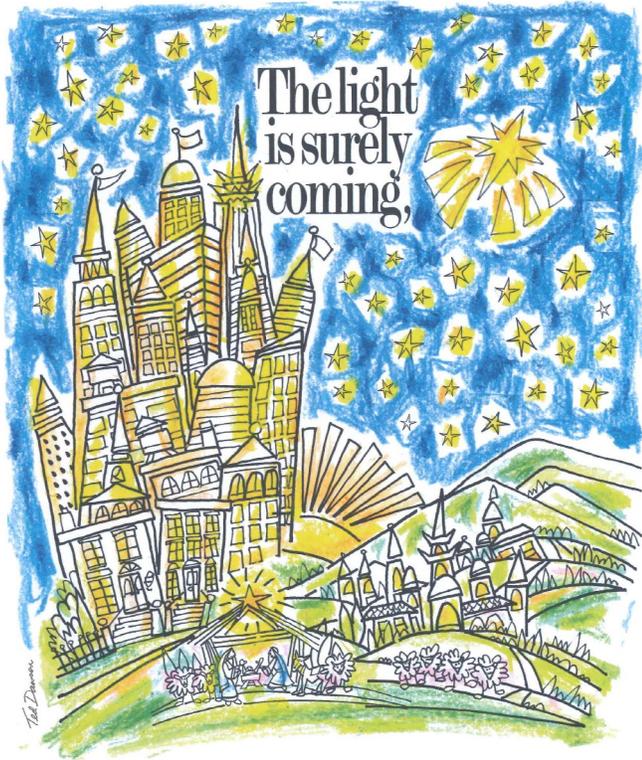
Old Business:

- ◇ Paula Lopp has met with Pinnacle Bank referencing e-giving. This is still in the research stage.
- ◇ Follow-up on last month's discussion of Absentee Voting.
- ◇ There will be continued discussion on the By-Laws regarding inactive membership.
- ◇ Current board chairpersons are to meet with new board chairs to go over duties before January.

New Business:

- ◇ New consistory members will meet for orientation and to be introduced to the consistory notebook before the January 2019 consistory meeting.
- ◇ Time and Talent sheets will be recorded for board chairs to select new members.
- ◇ The Men's Brotherhood is taking orders for pork loins to be sold December 22nd in time for the holidays.
- ◇ Reverend Horton invited Consistory members to be her guests December 7th at 6pm in her home. Please bring an appetizer.

The December Consistory meeting date has been changed to December 2, 2018.



For 116 years, the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund has been a tangible expression of God's love and light in the world. One of the four Special Mission Offerings of the UCC, the Christmas Fund provides UCC congregations and member an opportunity to reach out in kindheartedness to those who have faithfully shepherded our Church and who now find themselves facing unexpected financial needs.

In 2016, UCC congregations and members generously contributed \$1,562,260 to the Offering. This enabled the United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance, the charitable arm of the Pension Boards, to provide, on behalf of the whole church, Supplementation of Small Annuities, Retiree Health Premium Supplementation, Emergency Grants, and Christmas "Thank You" Gift Checks to individuals and families in need.

The Theme of the 2017 Christmas Fund Offering is "Shepherding the Light," and our goal is to raise \$1.7 million to help support these ministries of light and love. The recipients of these gifts have faithfully served the church and now, in their time of need, we can be the church to them. We invite and encourage you to shepherd God's light and support this year's appeal.

On behalf of the hundreds of clergy and lay employees and their families whose lives were touched by your support of last year's Christmas Fund Offering, we offer our sincere thanks for your generosity. **Please look for the envelopes for this year's offering in the bulletin on Sunday, December 24th.**

THE CHRISTMAS FUND
for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
God is still speaking.

The Pension Boards
United Church of Christ, Inc.
WHERE FAITH AND FINANCE INTERSECT

www.christmasfund.org

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR OUR MEMBERS AT HOME



Again this year, we will collect Christmas cards for our homebound members. Thank you, Lena Johnson for making the cute bags to collect the cards. They will be on the front pew in the sanctuary until December 9th, then they will be delivered along with the fruit baskets. You do not need to put names or addresses on the envelopes. Simply sign the cards, place them in envelopes and distribute them among the stockings. **We need 20 cards for members/families at home, so please bring a card for each.**

December 16th at 11:00AM

Rhapsody in Bluegrass: A Christmas Jubilee

Come join us in worship as the Adult Choir presents their annual Christmas cantata. This year's gift of music will be accompanied by a bluegrass band. *Rhapsody in Bluegrass* is a celebration of pure Christmas joy inspired by American folk song, bluegrass, gospel, hymn and traditional musical styles. Come along on a Christmas journey from prophecy to proclamation. This cantata is enhanced with traditional instruments and an informal narration that accents the character of the music and encourages the spirit of hope.

From Cathy Waitman
Director of Spiritual Growth and Renewal



You are invited...

December 2

12:00 Chili Cook-Off

Small salad, corn bread, desserts,
and drinks

NO CHARGE FOR THE MEAL

Bring your \$dollars\$ to vote for your favorite
chili. Proceeds will go to upcoming Youth
Service Projects

December 9

11:00 Children's Christmas Program:

"Christ the Savior is Born"

12:00 Catered Lunch in Fellowship Hall

(Please sign up to help with planning)

1:00 "The Twelve Days of Christmas"

Special Visitor

December 16

11:00 Choir Cantata

"Rhapsody in Bluegrass"

December 21

5:30 Christmas Caroling for All

Church members and friends meet at
church to go caroling

**7:00 Return to church for pizza, cookies,
and hot chocolate**

(Sign-ups requested to help with planning)

December 24

8:00 Candlelight Service @ 8:00

The "***Gifts for the Foster Care Children Project***" was extremely successful thanks to your generous donations! Our church members provided gifts for 35 of the 181 children in Davidson County Foster Care. Wouldn't you love to see the children's eyes light up and the happy smiles on their faces when they find their gifts on Christmas morning? Our church responds in many ways all year to help people in our community, but the gifts for children at Christmas seem to get the best response every year! Thank you for being such a loving and caring congregation!

The children painted and constructed their own Advent wreaths during Sunday school in November. A Family Devotions pamphlet accompanies the wreath so the children and their parents can discuss the meaning of the wreath's candles.

A SPECIAL REQUEST

We need around three dozen egg cartons (not the cardboard ones) for paint containers. If you have cartons you would like to donate, put them on the table outside of the office. Thanks!

I wish all of you a peaceful, loving, joyous Christmas! Remember Baby Jesus is the reason for our celebration. Take time out of your busy days to think about Mary's and Joseph 's predicament and the humble birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Shine your light so that all the world will see Baby Jesus in your heart!

PLACE AN ANGEL ON THE TREE

The **Tree of "Angels"** will be placed in the breezeway of the Education Building again this year. Make a donation (your discretion) to place an angel on the tree in memory or honor of someone. Donations will assist with year-end benevolences. Please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate or contact the church office. All donations are due by December 24th.

In Memory of: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Give THANKS

Write one reason you are thankful for this church...

- Friends
- The church calling me and my family
- A place to renew, learn and be with friends
- The community garden
- Comforting and peaceful feeling like home
- Helping hands
- Warmth
- For the love of my brothers and sisters...for we are all children of God
- For the leadership and guidance of our minister, Elizabeth
- Choir and organist
- Great hospitality
- Music
- Care and concern all members give to each other
- Wonderful friends
- Our new Open & Affirming Welcoming Statement
- Great sermons and loving people
- This church teaches you to be a good, kind person to others each day of the week
- Wonderful place to worship and feel the wonderful presence of God
- Our dedicated staff
- Members who serve on boards
- Embracement
- Inspiration and fellowship
- Loving community
- Caring
- Community outreach
- I Because of all the kindness I've been shown
- Prayer and love
- First Reformed's heart for social justice
- For the many ministries of this church
- Feeling very welcome
- Sharing out blessings with the community
- Support
- Acceptance of all
- FRUCC gave me roots and faith and faith. I'm so blessed to have had a family in this House of God since the early 1900s
- My church leading the way in our community to be Open and Affirming and a safe place for all people
- For the love we feel when we walk through the door.
- Friends, especially Paula & Cliff
- Compassion of members
- Open-minded & service-minded people
- Acceptance
- For the children & youth of FRUCC and their parents
- Spiritual
- Friendship and service to those in need

**DON'T FORGET TO CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE BY DECEMBER 12th
TO PURCHASE OR RESERVE YOUR TICKET
FOR A SMOKED PORK LOIN JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS!**

**THE LOINS WILL BE SMOKED SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22nd.
YOU HAVE TWO OPTIONS FOR PICK UP TIME... 11-12:00 AND 4-5:00**

**TICKETS ARE \$40.00 AND INCLUDE THE PORK LOIN
AND A QUART OF BBQ DIP!**

MEN'S BROTHERHOOD

~submitted by Cliff Lopp

The First Reformed UCC Men's Brotherhood met on Tuesday, November 13th for dinner and a meeting. Thank you to Mike Brown, John Potts, Buddy Lohr, Clifton Murphy and Rich Johnson for preparing the food. Women's Life Fellowship members joined the men for dinner prior to their meeting. A delicious meal was enjoyed by all.

The Brotherhood will be selling tickets for the purchase of pork loins for the holiday. The loins will be smoked Saturday, December 22nd. Tickets are \$40.00 and include the pork loin and a quart of BBQ dip. The last day to purchase your ticket is December 12th.

The Brotherhood will not meet in December. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 6pm in the church fellowship hall. On Time Catering will provide the meal. This will be a Christmas gathering of Men's Brotherhood and Women's Life Fellowship members and spouses.

KIDS CLUB ~ submitted by Alice Gray

Kids Club met on November 18. A special **THANK YOU** to Lena Johnson for leading the children in the morning's activity. The children decorated beautiful cloth bags, handmade by Lena, that will be used to collect Christmas cards for our church members at home or in nursing homes. Each child also made a bird ornament for their own Christmas trees.

WOMEN'S LIFE FELLOWSHIP

~submitted by Glenyce Fulton

WLF met with the Men's Brotherhood on November 13th for a wonderful dinner and devotions. Thank you for inviting us. Afterward, WLF members had their business meeting.

We have had a wonderful response from the congregation for memorials and honorariums for the purchase of Chrismons. We have collected enough to cover the cost of the new ones we will place on the Chrismon Tree this year and will order additional ones for next year. Thank you.

Also, we would like to thank everyone who donated goodies for our bake sale and those of you who purchased items.

Rev. Horton reported that she and Belinda Yates each have a group of 5 girls they are mentoring at Charles England School in the Rubies and Pearls Program.

We will not have a meeting in December. Our wish to you is to have a Merry Christmas and thank you for supporting our activities.

MORNING GLORY CIRCLE

~submitted by Susan Miller

Morning Glory Circle met November 6, 2018 in the church parlor. Rita Lohr opened the meeting with updates on our sick and homebound. She gave short program in regards of Thanksgiving and all we have to be thankful for. Our next meeting will be at Yarborough's for our Christmas gathering.

ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2nd AFTER WORSHIP



Fifteen to twenty cooks will provide the main part of this meal. A small salad, cornbread, drinks and desserts will also be provided. There is no cost for the meal, but bring plenty of \$1 bills to vote for your favorite chilis. This will be how the winner of the cook-off is determined. The winner will be announced at 1:00, so be sure to hang around to find out whose name gets added to the winners list this year!

CHILDREN'S SABBATH...Sunday, October 28th





O come, let us adore Him!

Christ, the Savior, Is Born

Children's Christmas Program

December 9, 2018 at 11:00am

~~~~~

Catered Luncheon at 12:00

(sign up by December 5 for lunch)

**"The Twelve Days of Christmas"  
Presentation  
and a  
Special Visitor!**

**CATERED CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON...Sunday, December 9 at 12:00...Fellowship Hall**

**SIGN UP BY DECEMBER 5TH TO HELP WITH PLANNING!**

Menu: baked ham, mac & cheese, green beans, buttered corn, baked apples, dessert & drink

Adults—\$8.50

Children (11 and under) - \$4.25

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**# ADULTS @ \$8.50** \_\_\_\_\_

**# CHILDREN UNDER 11 @ \$4.25** \_\_\_\_\_

# Caroling Party



## CHRISTMAS CAROLING

All church members and friends are invited!

**Friday, December 21 at 5:30pm**

Return to church for pizza,

cookies and hot chocolate

around 7:00pm

**Please sign up by Wednesday, December 19th**

To help with planning, please use the form below to sign up, or the form in the bulletin, on the bulletin board or call the church office to help with planning.

I plan to attend Caroling and Pizza

Name \_\_\_\_\_ # Attending \_\_\_\_\_

## SERVING OTHERS

### ON THANKSGIVING DAY!



Our church Fellowship Hall was open for serving those in our community a Thanksgiving Day meal. Over 200 were served from 1-3:00 that afternoon. The meat was prepared by Margaret Martin Allen and organized by Tina Royal. Members of our church, along with others in their family and some friends, were on hand to help set up, serve and clean up. Thank you John and Susie Smith, Jonathan Kepley, Lindsay Sink, Jerry Lovell, John Maze and Kelly Greathouse.



## WORLD AIDS DAY

The East Lexington Collaborative Ministries (First Reformed UCC, Second UCC, Shady Side Presbyterian Church, and St. Stephen UMC) invites the community to a worship service in recognition of World Aids Day. **The worship service will be held at Files Chapel Baptist Church, 912 Dixie Street, Lexington, NC on December 1, 2018 at 7 pm.** The East Lexington Collaborative Ministries Group is grateful to Rev. John W. Cade, Files Chapel Baptist Church and its choir for sharing their sanctuary for this community worship service.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, World Aids Day is an opportunity to unite in our efforts to stop new HIV infections, support those affected by HIV, and remember those who lost their lives to HIV-related diseases.

In 2017, an estimated 36.7 million people are living with HIV worldwide. Since the peak of the epidemic in 2005, annual AIDS-related deaths have declined by 48%. In the US, an estimated 1.1 million people are living with HIV, and 1 in 7 take advantage of the lifesaving treatment that could keep them healthy and protect their partners.

Our guest speaker for this service will be Ms. Alicia Diggs, CEO and Founder of *I Will Live*. Ms. Diggs has a Bachelor's degree in Social Work, a Master's degree in Public Health, and is currently working on her PhD in Public Health. She became an HIV/AIDS Activist, Educator and Speaker in 2004. She is currently a board member of North Carolina AIDS Action Network, a member of the UNC Center for AIDS Research's Community Advisory Board, the Wake Forest Baptist Community Advisory Board and the National Community Advisory Board for the Women's Interagency HIV Study. She is a Medical Case Manager working with persons living with HIV. She became a published author in 2017 with an autobiography entitled "Standing on My Healing: From Tainted to Chosen".



Also speaking at this service will be Mrs. Sophia Hall, Executive Director of Positive Wellness Alliance, Inc. Positive Wellness Alliance is a community-based AIDS service organization serving Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Iredell, Rowan, Stokes, Surry and Yadkin counties. The mission of Positive Wellness Alliance is to provide services and support to people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS through medical case management, housing, outreach and preventative education in the above counties.

Edward C. Smith Civic Center  
presents live and onstage:

## *A Holiday Cabaret*

Join us this holiday season for a night of entertainment to help support The Smith Civic Center. Our singers and musicians will perform holiday favorites during this festive cabaret.

## *Amahl & The Night Visitors*

An opera in one act by Gian Carlo Menotti

Inspired by the tale of three wise men and a kingdom built on love, Amahl offers his own gift to the Christ child and a miracle happens.

Evening Performance

**Saturday, December 15th, 2018**

Doors open at 7:00 PM  
Show starts at 7:30 PM

Matinee Performance

**Sunday, December 16th, 2018**

Doors open at 2:00 PM  
Show starts at 2:30 PM

**Tickets: Adults - \$15 Children 12 and under - \$10**

Tickets available online at [www.smithciviccenter.org](http://www.smithciviccenter.org)  
or at the Civic Center office, or by calling **336-249-7875**

*Holiday treats will be served during this festive event*

## DECEMBER STEWARDS

### Liturgists:

**Lisa Nelson**  
(December 2 & 9)  
**Rev. June Grubb**  
(December 16 & 23)  
**Carolyn Robbins**  
(December 30)

**Usher Chairperson:**      **Usher Captain:**  
Jeff Hutchens                      Rich Johnson

### Ushers:

Frank Callicutt, Doris Sink,  
Ron Hutcheson, John McCarn

### Youth Usher:

Mary Lloyd Callicutt

### Plate Attendant:

John Potts

**Acolyte:**                              **Bible Steward:**  
Abbie Callicutt                      Annabell Callicutt

## DECEMBER VOLUNTEERS

### Greeters:

**December 2:** Mike & Lynn Brown  
**December 9:** Edgar Miller & family  
**December 16:** Mike & Bonita Hooper  
**December 23:** Jeremy Lovell & family  
**December 30:** Buddy & Rita Lohr

### Nursery:

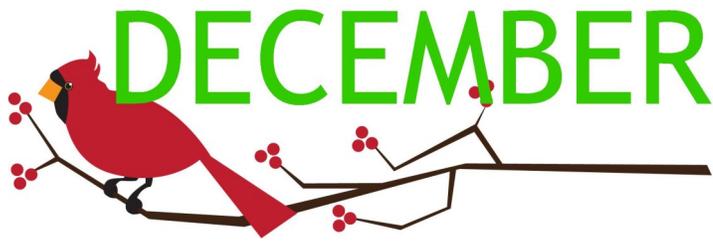
**December 2:**  
Keri Hartle & Ashlee Snider  
**December 9:**  
John Smith & Joy Walser  
**December 16:**  
NO NURSERY (re: Cantata)  
**December 23:**  
Anne Bevan & Cheryl Walser  
**December 30:**  
Heidi Hutcheson & Kivi Miller



**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 Ben Hale (benjaminhale08@comcast.net or 704-772-6908) or call the church office (336-248-2617).

**CHURCH MEMBERS:** Bill, Walser, Janelle Bunn, Kelly Greathouse, Vogen Everhart, Deanna Michael, Peggy Bates, Margot Everhart, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Adena Wall, Marzell Crotts, Valerie Price, Ruth Fritts, Jo Hudson, Rita Tussey, Hoyle Potts, Doris Flynt, James Everhart

**HOMEBOUND MEMBERS: OUR FRIENDS:** Harold Holste (Alane Holste's father), Boyd & Bonnie Perry (Friends of Frankie Hedrick), Kathe Everhart (Frankie Hedrick's sister-in-law), 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), David Combs (Friend of Open Hands), Noriko Shaw and the Family of Heather & Joe Surret (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), Jonelle Parker (Friend of Frank Leonard); 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)



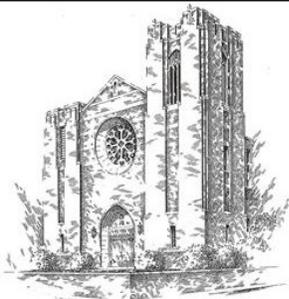
# 2018

| SUN                                                                                                                                                                                                           | MON                                                                                                                        | TUE                                                                        | WED                                                                                                                               | THU                                                                    | FRI                                                                                                        | SAT                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                            |                                                                            |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                        |                                                                                                            | <b>1</b> 11:00<br>Chili Cook-Off<br>set up {FH}<br><br>7:00<br>World Aids Day<br>Service<br>Files Chapel   |
| <b>2</b> 9:45<br>Youth: Practice {FH}<br>Adults: Romans Series<br><br>11:00<br>Worship: Advent #1 &<br>Holy Communion<br><br>12:15<br>Chili Cook-Off<br><br>Consistory                                        | <b>3</b> 11:00<br>Staff Meeting                                                                                            | <b>4</b> 6:30<br>Bd. of Evangelism {P}<br><br>6:30<br>Open Hands Meal {FH} | <b>5</b> 11:00<br>Morning Glory<br>Circle {P}<br><br>6:30<br>Bell Choir<br>{Bell Room}<br><br>7:15<br>Choir<br>{Chapel Annex}     | <b>6</b> 5:30<br>Yoga Class {P}                                        | <b>7</b>                                                                                                   | <b>8</b>                                                                                                   |
| <b>9</b> 9:45<br>Youth: Practice {S}<br>Adults: Romans Series<br><br>11:00<br>Worship: Advent #2<br>Children's Christmas<br>Story<br><br>12:00<br>Congregational Meal<br>Christmas Program<br>Special Visitor | <b>10</b> 6:30<br>Open Hands Meal {FH}                                                                                     | <b>11</b> 10:00<br>Collaborative<br>Ministries {P}                         | <b>12 LAST DAY<br/>TO ORDER PORK<br/>LOIN TICKETS</b><br>6:30<br>Bell Choir<br>{Bell Room}<br><br>7:15<br>Choir<br>{Chapel Annex} | <b>13</b> 5:30<br>Yoga Class {P}<br><br>7:00<br>Square Dancing<br>{FH} | <b>14 ALL DAY</b><br>Bell Ringing<br>for Salva-<br>tion Army                                               | <b>15 ALL DAY</b><br>Bell Ringing for<br>Salvation Army<br><br>10:00<br>CANTATA<br>PRACTICE<br>{Sanctuary} |
| <b>16</b> 9:45<br>Youth: Christmas Lesson<br>Adults: Romans Series<br>11:00<br>Worship<br>Advent #3<br>Choir Cantata<br>"Rhapsody in Bluegrass"<br>Annual Christmas Fund                                      | <b>17</b> 6:30<br>Open Hands Meal {FH}                                                                                     | <b>18</b>                                                                  | <b>19</b> 6:30<br>Bell Choir<br>{Bell Room}<br><br>7:15<br>Choir<br>{Chapel Annex}                                                | <b>20</b> 5:30<br>Yoga Class {P}<br><br>7:00<br>Square Dancing<br>{FH} | <b>21</b> 9-3:00<br>Health<br>Dept.<br>Christmas<br>Luncheon<br>5:30<br>Christmas<br>Caroling<br>and Pizza | <b>22 PORK LOIN<br/>FUNDRAISER</b><br><br>PICK UP<br>TIMES<br>11-12:00 &<br>4-5:00                         |
| <b>23</b> 9:45<br>Youth: Christmas Lesson<br>Adults: Romans Series<br>11:00<br>Worship:<br>Advent #4                                                                                                          | <b>24 *HOLIDAY*</b><br>Church Office Closed<br>8:00<br>Candlelight Service &<br>Holy Communion<br>Advent #5<br>{Sanctuary} | <b>25 *HOLIDAY*</b><br>Church Office Closed                                | <b>26</b>                                                                                                                         | <b>27</b> 5:30<br>Yoga Class {P}<br><br>7:00<br>Square Dancing<br>{FH} | <b>28</b>                                                                                                  | <b>29</b>                                                                                                  |
| <b>30</b><br><br>NO SUNDAY<br>SCHOOL<br><br>11:00<br>Worship & Baptism<br>In the Pulpit:<br>Rev. Mike Hooper<br>Advent #6                                                                                     | <b>31</b>                                                                                                                  |                                                                            |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                        |                                                                                                            |                                                                                                            |

**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, January 29**  
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:  
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**Church Staff**

**Pastor:** Rev. Elizabeth Horton  
(email: elizabeth@frucc.org) (cell: 336-972-8895)

**Minister of Pastoral Care**  
Rev. June Grubb (cell: 336-240-2503)

**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

**December**  
**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

**BIRTHDAYS**

**1**  
Ann Johnson Crandell  
Buddy Lohr  
Jerry Smith

**2**  
Beverly Sandifer

**3**  
Brandi McCarn Gerew  
Keri Lovell

**7**  
Ruth Essick

**12**  
Donna Coe

**14**  
Merle Hodges

**15**  
Janelle Bunn

**18**  
Ruth Fritts

**23**  
Parker Horton

**24**  
Bryson Gentry  
Isabella Gentry  
Tim Potts

**27**  
Renee Walsh

**28**  
Walter Hoffman  
Susan Miller

**30**  
Keith Johnson  
Belinda Yates

**31**  
Camill Freeman  
Myrtle Latimer

**ANNIVERSARIES**

**15**  
Vogen & Margie Everhart

**18**  
Doug & Barbara Sink

**19**  
Lee & Mary Jo Jessup

**ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS GIFTS IDEAS**



Again this year, the Board of Community Outreach is offering an opportunity to purchase alternative gifts. Make a donation to one of our benevolences in honor of teachers, family members, friends, co-workers, etc. We will provide an acknowledgement card and envelope for you to mail. Stop by the church office to see suggestions of some of our benevolences and make your donation.