

**OUR CHURCH AT PRAYER**

**PRAYER CONCERNS:**

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).

**OUR MEMBERS AT HOME:** Peggy Bates, Janelle Bunn, Marzell Crofts, Ruth Essick, Margie & Vogen Everhart, Margot Everhart, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Carolyn Spivey, Adena Wall

**OUR MEMBERS IN CARE FACILITIES:**

Brookdale: Hoyle Potts  
Lexington Health Care: Jo Hudson, Valerie Price  
Piedmont Crossing: Mary Berrier, Doris Flynt, Rita Tussey  
Westchester Manor: James Everhart

**OUR FRIENDS:** Leonard Prevette (Bill Walser's cousin), Janice Tritt (Friend of Lisa Nelson), Susan Wilkerson (Carolyn Robbins' cousin), George Urwick (Eulene Shepherd's neighbor), Sarah Stapler (Friend of Janette Neal), Michael R. Owen (Bill & Carolyn Robbins' daughter), Jacob Little (Cynthia Crowell Little's son)

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

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Sunday, April 28 EARTH DAY**  
**9:45AM SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
 {Downstairs} **All Youth:** Earth Day Project  
 {Fellowship Hall} **Adults:** Edgar Miller – “Environmental Justice and Creation Care”

**11:00AM WORSHIP EARTH DAY**  
 YOUTH SERVICE PROJECT: COOKIES FOR FIREFIGHTERS  
 SILENT OFFERING: LLAMAS FOR LENT

**Monday, April 29**  
**6:30PM** Open Hands Ministry Meal {FH}

**Tuesday, April 30**  
**10:00AM** Willing Weavers {Rm 3}  
**6:30PM** Planning Meeting for Adult Spiritual Growth Ministries {Parlor}

**Wednesday, May 1**  
**11:00AM** Morning Glory Circle {Parlor}  
**7:00PM** Choir {Chapel Annex}

**Thursday, May 2**  
**5:30PM** Yoga {Dance Studio}  
**7:00PM** Square Dancing {FH}

**Sunday, May 5**  
**9:45AM SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
 {Downstairs} Younger Children  
 Older Children  
 Teens  
 {Parlor} Adults: “Love Wins” book study

**11:00AM WORSHIP**  
 KIDS CLUB: TREAT BAGS FOR TEACHERS

<b>Anniversaries and Birthdays</b>	
April 28-May 4	
<b>ANNIVERSARIES</b>	<b>BIRTHDAYS</b>
	<b>April 28<sup>th</sup></b> Emma Hartle Pam Sink
	<b>29<sup>th</sup></b> Kay Crouse Katherine Skipper
	<b>May 4<sup>th</sup></b> Tammy Rhodes Lily Robertson Aurelia Smith Jones Walser

**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  
**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)  
**Director of Spiritual Growth and Renewal:** Cathy Waitman (cathy@frucc.org)  
**Choir Director:** Ellen Peterson **Organist:** Lee Ann Peele  
**Admin. Asst.:** Carolyn Robbins (carolyn@frucc.org) **Financial Secretary:** Paula Lopp (paula@frucc.org)

**First Reformed  
 United Church of Christ**

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



**The Worship of God  
 Earth Day**

April 28, 2019  
 11:00AM

**Gathering**

(\*Please stand as you are able  
 “BOLD” indicates congregational response

Prelude  
 \*Chiming of the Hour  
 \*Choral Opening *“Morning Has Broken”* Jianna Miller  
 Call to Worship  
 Come, let us dwell in God's shelter.  
 Let us dwell in God's work of art.  
 Come, because the Earth is the Lord's,  
 And God's Earth is our home.  
**We live in God's World; we are not alone.**  
**We share this life with the heavens and the earth,**  
**With the waters and the land,**  
**With trees and grasses,**  
**With fish, birds, and animals,**  
**With minerals and creatures of every form,**  
**And with all our brothers and sisters.**  
 God is good and everything God makes is good.  
 God is love and everything God makes is love's fruit.  
**Let us worship God!**  
 \*Hymn *“All Creatures of Our God and King”* p. 4  
 \*Invocation Elizabeth Horton  
 Welcome

**Centering**

Call to Confession *from Hosea 4:1-3* Jianna Miller  
 There is no loyalty or faithfulness, and no knowledge of God in the land. Swearing stealing, lying, murder and adultery break out; bloodshed follows bloodshed. The land mourns, and all who live in it languish; together with the wild animals and the birds of the air, even the fish of the sea are perishing.

Prayer of Confession

Elizabeth Horton

**Merciful God, we confess our own sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is risen from the grave and has shattered the power of death, we are still held captive by fear and doubt. We hold on to suspicions and jealousies that set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We have neglected the poor and the hungry. In our pursuit of the "good life" we have gone along with injustice; we have ignored the cries of the oppressed. We pursue profits and pleasures that harm the land and pollute the waters. We have squandered the Earth's gifts on technologies of destruction. Have mercy on us, O God. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we and all your creatures may know the joy of life abundant, given through Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

\*Passing the Peace

\*Hymn

*"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"*

p. 5

Young Disciples

Silent Offering for Llamas for Lent

*(All youth are invited to join Cathy in the Fellowship Hall for a Youth Service Project.)*

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Elizabeth Horton

**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

*"For the Beauty of the Earth"*

John Rutter

*For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth  
Over and around us lies, over and around us lies;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise, this our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale and tree and flower,  
Sun and moon and stars of light; sun and moon and stars of light;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise, this our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,  
Friends on earth and friends above,  
For all gentle thoughts and mild, for all gentle thoughts and mild;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise, this our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely given,  
Graces human and divine,  
Flowers of earth and buds of heaven, flowers of earth and buds of heaven;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise  
This our joyful hymn of praise.*

## Proclaiming

Scripture

from Genesis 2 and Job 12

Elizabeth Horton

Sermon

*"Tilling and Keeping"*

## Responding

\*Hymn

*"Touch the Earth Lightly"*

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Invitation to Receive Offerings

Elizabeth Horton

Offertory

\*Offertory Response

*"How Great Thou Art"*

**O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder, consider all the worlds Thy hands have made.  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy power throughout the universe displayed**

[Refrain]

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee. How great Thou art, how great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee. How great Thou art, how great Thou art!**

**When through the woods, and forest glades I wander, and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.  
When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur, and see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze**

[Refrain]

\*Prayer of Dedication

Jianna Miller

## Sending

\*Call to Discipleship

Jianna Miller

Liturgist: And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send to go and care for the Earth?"  
**People: Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."**

\*Benediction

Elizabeth Horton

\*Choral Benediction

*"In the Bulb There Is a Flower"*

\*Postlude

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

# All Creatures of Our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN LM with alleluias

Francis of Assisi, 1225  
Trans. and para. William Henry Draper, c. 1910; alt.

Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623; alt.  
Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Unison

1. All crea-tures of our God and King, Lift up your voice  
2. Thou rush-ing wind that art so strong, Ye clouds that sail  
3. Thou flow-ing wa - ter, pure and clear, Make mu - sic for  
4. Thou fer - tile earth, that day by day Un - fold - est bless -

Harmony

and with us sing, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
in heaven a - long, O sing ye! Al - le - lu - ia!  
thy Lord to hear, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
ings on your way, O sing ye! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison

Thou burn - ing sun with gold - en beam, Thou sil - ver moon with  
Thou ris - ing morn, in praise re - joice, Ye lights of eve - ning,  
Thou fire so mas - ter - ful and bright, That giv - est us both  
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow, Let them God's glo - ry

Harmony

soft - er gleam,  
find a voice! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
warmth and light,  
al - so show!

Unison

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

# I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Ps. 136:5-9; James 1:17

Isaac Watts, 1715; alt.

1 I sing the might-y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,  
2 I sing the good-ness of our God that filled the earth with food;  
3 On earth there's not a plant or flower but makes your glo - ry known.

That spread the flow-ing seas a - broad, and built the loft - y skies.  
God formed the crea-tures with a word, and then pro - nounced them good.  
The clouds a - rise and spread their showers by or - der from your throne.

I sing the wis-dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;  
Oh, how your won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye:  
All life is but a gift from you and ev - er in your care;

The moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o - bey.  
If I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!  
Wher - ev - er peo-ple gath - er, you, O God, are pres-ent there.

The tune Ellacombe was named for a place in Devonshire, England. It was first published in a collection of tunes used in the private chapel of the Duke of Wirtemberg, and was possibly sung with the text "Ave Maria, klärer."

Tune: ELLACOMBE C.M.D.  
Gesangbuch der herzoglichen  
Wirtembergischen katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784  
Descant, The New Century Hymnal, 1993

# Touch the Earth Lightly

Unison  
Brightly

Shirley Erena Murray, 1992

1 Touch the earth light - ly, use the earth gent - ly,  
 \* 2 We who en - dan - ger, who cre - ate hun - ger,  
 3 Let there be green - ing, birth from the burn - ing,  
 4 God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,

\*The second verse only may be sung in A minor, omitting the sharps except where indicated in parentheses.

nour-ish the life of the world in our care:  
 a - gents of death for all crea - tures that live,  
 wa - ter that bless - es, and air that is sweet,  
 God of the seed - ling, the snow, and the sun,

Gift of great won - der, ours to sur - ren - der,  
 We who would fos - ter clouds of dis - as - ter—  
 Health in God's gar - den, hope in God's chil - dren,  
 Teach us, de - flect us, Christ re - con - nect us,

trust for the chil - dren to - mor - row will bear.  
 God of our plan - et, fore - stall and for - give!  
 re - gen - er - a - tion that peace will com - plete.  
 us - ing us gent - ly, and mak - ing us one.

Shirley Erena Murray's notes on this hymn state that the title line is borrowed from an Australian Aboriginal saying. The "clouds of disaster" mentioned in stanza 2 refer to nuclear testing by France, which New Zealand has protested at the United Nations many times.

Tune: TENDERNESS 5.5.10.D.  
Colin Gibson, 1992

## 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 PEDASTAL

**TODAY** are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Lee and Ellen Bouchard's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; given by Amy Hedrick.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH MINISTRIES

There will be a planning meeting on **April 30 at 6:30 in the parlor** for our Adult Spiritual Growth Ministries. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. The results of the recent survey will be reviewed.

### LET'S GO OUT TO THE BALL GAME!

If you are interested in attending the Winston Salem Dash Game Friday evening, June 7<sup>th</sup>, please sign up either on the bulletin board in the Education Building or in the Narthex. You may also contact Cathy at [cathy@frucc.org](mailto:cathy@frucc.org). Tickets are \$13.00 each and the time will be announced later. **The deadline to sign up Sunday, May 5**

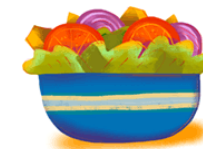
### SEND-A-KID-TO-CAMP

We have several children and teens who are planning to attend Johns River Valley Camp this summer. If you would like to contribute to the fund for Send-a-Kid-to-Camp, please put a check in the offering plate and mark on the memo line "JRVC."

### LUNCH & LEARN BIBLE STUDY "A Conversation on Race and Faith"

Collaborative Ministries will hold another **Lunch & Learn Bible Study EACH TUESDAY IN MAY** from 12:00-1:00pm in our church Parlor.

Each meeting will begin with lunch (**BRING YOUR OWN BAG LUNCH**) and will be led by Rev. Dr. Arnetta Beverly, Rev. Elizabeth Horton and Rev. Jim Luck. This bible study is open to anyone who would like to attend. No special preparation is required.



### SALAD BAR & SANDWICH LUNCHEON MAY 19 FOLLOWING WORSHIP

**Menu:**  
Salad bar and Sandwiches  
(pimento cheese, chicken salad or PB&J)  
Dessert & Drink



**DONATIONS WILL ASSIST YOUTH GOING TO JOHNS RIVER VALLEY CAMP**

### SIGN UP BY WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

# ATTENDING \_\_\_\_\_

*You may place this slip in the offering plate when passed or call the office to put your name on the list. (336,248-2617)*

### THANK YOU FOR SERVING

<b>LITURGIST:</b> Jianna Miller	<b>PLATE ATTENDANT:</b> Dave Fulton	<b>GREETERS:</b> Dave & Glenyce Fulton
<b>USHER CHAIRPERSON:</b> Jeff Hutchens	<b>SOUND TECHNICIAN:</b> Calvin Odom	<b>NURSERY:</b> Jeremy Peterson
<b>USHERS:</b> John Gray (Captain), Linda Sink, Bonita Hooper, Bill Robbins		

A wall unit changing table is located in our handicapped restroom (through left door at the chancel.)  
A comfort area with rocking chair, monitor and speaker is available if you need to leave the sanctuary to calm or soothe a baby or young child