

Chili Cook-Off

Sunday, March 15th after Church

Come out and help support our youth by participating in this Johns River Valley Camp Fundraiser. Voting for the **BEST CHILI** will be measured in monetary donations. The pot that receives the most money wins a prize and title for **"FIRST REFORMED UCC'S CHILI CHAMPION!"** Please help in as many ways as possible by completing the list below, and returning it to the office by Sunday, March 8.

NAME _____

ATTENDING MEAL _____

(Please check all that apply.) I can help by...

- _____ making a **pot of Chili** for the contest
(Please bring in a Slow-cooker to keep warm)
- _____ helping with **set up**
- _____ helping with **clean up**
- _____ bringing a **dessert**
- _____ **attending** the fundraiser
- _____ bringing **Cornbread or Crackers**
- _____ bringing **Cheese**
- _____ bringing **Sour Cream**

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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)

Associate Pastor of Congregational Care: Rev. June Grubb (jgrubb3@triad.rr.com #336-248-5668)

Associate Pastor of Faith Formation: Rev. Susan Morris (susan@frucc.org cell #276-525-2810)

Choir Director: Ellen Peterson

Organist: Lee Ann Peele

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

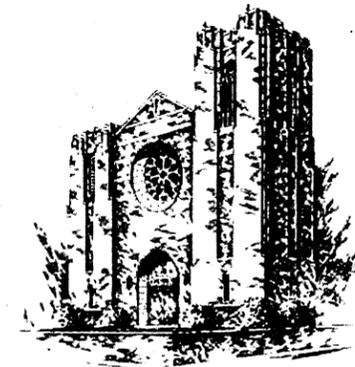
Financial Secretary: Paula Lopp (paula@frucc.org)

First Reformed United Church of Christ

The Worship of God

February 16, 2020

11:00AM



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 and Announcements

Opening Chorus

*Call to Worship

"Open My Eyes, Lord"

Elizabeth Horton

Camille Morgan

God speaks to us here again today.

We gather bringing with us our messy lives and unclear futures.

The Lord puts before us the way to a full life.

Following our Savior often seems too hard...too much.

Yet it is the way of living water and never-ending life.

Let us choose and follow the Lord today and always.

*Hymn

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

p. 3

*Invocation

Camille Morgan

Centering

Scripture Reading

Matthew 5: 21-26
(Page #880 in Pew Bible)

Camille Morgan

Prayer of Confession

Elizabeth Horton

Loving God,

You call us into community, and teach us your ways,

Yet we turn aside to follow other paths:

we take the easy way out,

we quarrel with one another,

we hold on to our resentments,

we toss about harmful words.

How often we make the wrong choices. Have mercy on us, God who is

everywhere. May we set aside our quarreling natures to be united in

common worship, common service, and a common purpose, as we follow

Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Assurance of Pardon

*Passing the Peace

*Hymn

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

p. 4

Young Disciples

(All children, Pre-K through 5th Grade are invited to join in this worship at the front.)

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

"Heavenly Home"

arr. Mary McDonald

No more hunger, no more thirsting, no more weeping, no more tears;
No more sin, no more temptation, no more doubting, no more fears.
In that home, the Lamb shall find them; He shall lead them on their way,
Where the living fount is flowing and shall wipe all tears away.

Heavenly home, happy home; never sigh or sorrow come. "Alleluia", songs we raise, joys eternal, endless praise.

No more longing for the morning, no more watching for the day;
No more groping in the darkness, no more mists to clear away.
Morning splendors are eternal, for in heaven there is no night, no night.
All unknown are mists and shadows, for the Lamb, He is the Light, the Light.

No more weariness for pilgrims, no more restless tossings there;
No more sorrow, no more sighing, no more watching, no more prayer.
Ended every pilgrim's journey, they have entered into rest.
Joys eternal, endless praises in that homeland of the blest.

Proclaiming

Scripture

Deuteronomy 30: 15-20
(Page #185 in Pew Bible)

Elizabeth Horton

Sermon

"The Promise of Freedom"

Responding

*Hymn

"Oh Jesus, I Have Promised"

p. 5

*Invitation to Receive Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Christ, all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia.

Praise God with all the hosts above. Praise God in wonder, joy and love.

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*Prayer of Dedication

Camille Morgan

Sending

*Call to Dedication

Camille Morgan

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

"Standing on the Promises"

*Postlude

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

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given by granddaughters Rhonnie and Merle to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. Jacob Calvin Leonard, Sr., founding pastor of First Reformed UCC.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING

LITURGIST: Camille Morgan **PLATE ATTENDANT:** Clifford Lopp **SOUND TECHNICIAN:** Jeremy Peterson
USHER CHAIRPERSON: Jeff Hutchens **ACOLYTE:** Lucas Peterson **BIBLE STEWARD:** Ethan Lovell
USHERS: James Gray (Captain), Henry Crouse, John Smith, Raeann Allred, Michell Winters, Jonathan Kepley (Youth Usher)
GREETERS: James & Alice Gray

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

His compassions never fail. They are new every morning. Lam. 3:22-23

1. Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther, there is no
2. Sum-mer and win-ter, and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon and
3. Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thy own dear

shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-
stars in their cours-es a-bove join with all na-ture in
pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright

pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been thou for-ev-er wilt be.
man-i-fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy and love.
hope for to-mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

Refrain

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness!

Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy

hand hath pro-vid-ed- great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me!

WORDS: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923
MUSIC: William M. Runyan, 1923
Copyright 1923. Renewal 1951 Hope Publishing Company

FAITHFULNESS
11.10.11.10.Ref.

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

He goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him . . . Jn. 10:4

1. Sav - ior, like a Shep-herd lead us, much we need thy ten - der care;
 2. We are thine, do thou be - friend us, be the guard - ian of our way;
 3. Thou hast prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4. Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us do thy will;

in thy pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use thy folds pre -
 keep thy flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a -
 thou hast mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with thy love our bos - oms

pare: Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast bought us, thine we
 stray: Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear, O hear us when we
 free: Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to
 fill: Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast loved us, love us

are; bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast bought us, thine we are.
 pray; bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear, O hear us when we pray.
 thee; bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to thee.
 still; bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast loved us, love us still.

WORDS: *Hymns for the Young*, 1836; attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp
 MUSIC: William B. Bradbury, 1859

BRADBURY
 8.7.8.7.D.

O Jesus, I Have Promised

Whoever serves me must follow me . . . Jn. 12:26

1. O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end; be
 2. O let me feel thee near me, the world is ev - er near; I
 3. O let me hear thee speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still, a -
 4. O Je - sus, thou hast prom - ised to all who fol - low thee, that

thou for - ev - er near me, my Mas - ter and my Friend: I
 see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear: my
 bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will. O
 where thou art in glo - ry, there shall thy serv - ant be; and,

shall not fear the bat - tle if thou art by my side, nor
 foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in; but,
 speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol; O
 Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end; O

wan - der from the path - way if thou wilt be my guide.
 Je - sus, draw thou near - er, and shield my soul from sin.
 speak, and make me lis - ten, thou guard - ian of my soul.
 give me grace to fol - low, my Mas - ter and my Friend.

WORDS: John E. Bode, 1866
 MUSIC: Arthur H. Mann, 1881

ANGELS STORY
 7.6.7.6.D.

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.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, February 16
9:45AM Sunday School
Adults: Book Study: "Trouble I've Seen"
 Leaders: Bonita Hooper & Stacy Sosebee-West
Youth & Children: Social Justice
 Youth: Raeann Allred
 Children: Renee Walsh & Travis White
11:00AM Worship in the Sanctuary
3:00PM A Service of Commemoration, Committal and Laying of Wreath at the Slave Grave Site in Lexington City Cemetery

Monday, February 17
5:30PM Clothing Closet {Basement}
6:30PM Open Hands Meal {FH}

Tuesday, February 18
10:45AM Willing Weavers
12:00PM Conversations on Race and Faith {FH}

Wednesday, February 19
6-7:15PM Youth Ministry
6:30PM Bell Choir
7:15PM Choir

Thursday, February 20
5:15PM Yoga Class {Dance Studio}
7:00PM Square Dancing {FH}

Sunday, February 23
9:45AM Sunday School
Adults: Book Study: "Trouble I've Seen"
 Leaders: Bonita Hooper & Stacy Sosebee-West
Youth & Children: Social Justice
 Youth: Jeremy Lovell
 Children: Renee Walsh & Travis White
11:00AM Worship in the Sanctuary
 Children's Church: Keri Hartle, Keri Lovell & Susan Morris
 Honoring Lee Ann Peele
2-4:00PM Reception for Lee Ann Peele
 With remarks at 3:00 {FH}

OUR CHURCH AT PRAYER

We extend Sympathy to and share Christian Hope with Camille Morgan on the loss of her friend, Roland Eller.

OUR MEMBERS:

Myra Thompson, Susan Miller, Ellen Bouchard, Bill Walsler

AT HOME AND IN CARE FACILITIES:

Peggy Bates, Janelle Bunn, Marzell Crofts, Ruth Essick, Margot Everhart, Vogen Everhart, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Marguerite Leonard, Bob Shaak, Lib Sink, Katherine Skipper, Carolyn Spivey, Adena Wall

Brookdale: Hoyle Potts

Piedmont Crossing: Mary Berrier, Doris Flynt

OUR FRIENDS:

*Bob Sheehan (Eddie Yates' brother-in law), Gina Decelle (friend of Renee Walsh), Jack Frank (friend of John Potts & Janette Neal), Bobby Conrad (friend of John & Susie Smith), Bonnie & Jerry Broh-Khan (Marge Doty's sister and brother-in-law), Judy Stanley (Robin Champion's mother), Jerry Byrd (friend of John & Susie Smith), The Family of Shelia Hanes (friend of Alane Holste), The Family of Myra Hepler (friend of Alane Holste)

**Indicates newly added. Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks. 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).*

~FEBRUARY~

BIRTHDAYS

17th

Lee Bouchard
Amy Hedrick

18th

Kalyssa Hutchens

19th

Susan Morris

20th

Frank Callicutt
Janette Neal

ANNIVERSARIES

20th

Larry & Betty Link

A SERVICE OF COMMEMORATION, COMMITTAL AND LAYING OF WREATH

Today at 3:00PM, you are invited to join St. Stephen United Methodist Church at the Slave Grave Site in the Lexington City Cemetery on North State Street for a service of Commemoration, Committal and Laying of Wreath, led by Rev. Dr. Arnetta Beverly.

CONVERSATIONS ON RACE AND FAITH CONTINUE

Collaborative Ministries has begun their six-week discussion on Race and Faith. You are welcome to join at any time. You may bring your own lunch for the meetings that begin at **12:00 each Wednesday through March 17**. The group will meet in the church Fellowship Hall.

YOUTH MINISTRY GROUP

The Youth (grades 6-12) meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays each month from 6-7:15PM. The group is led by Rev. Susan Morris. A snack supper is provided each week. All youth in this age group are welcome to attend.

TOUCHING DAVIDSON COUNTY WITH LOVE

Touching Davidson County with Love is set for Saturday, April 4, 2020. A variety of projects will be scheduled that will suit different skill sets and ability levels. Final projects have not been decided yet. If you have a project you'd like to be considered or would like to volunteer to help, please contact Jerry Lovell as soon as possible.

(336-746-6493 or 336-309-9302 or plovell53@yahoo.com)

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES

WHEN:

12:00PM on Wednesdays
February 26 - April 1

Services led by different denominations each week

WHERE:

First United Methodist Church

A soup, sandwich, dessert and beverage lunch will be served. Donations are appreciated.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

An Ash Wednesday service will be held in our church sanctuary on February 26 at 6:30PM. We will be joined by the congregations of St. Stephen United Methodist and Shady Side Presbyterian churches. Rev. Dr. Arnetta Beverly will deliver the message.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 1: First Sunday in Lent

March 8: Girl Scout Sunday

March 15: Chili Cook-off (see back page for details)

March 22: One Great Hour of Sharing

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO GAVE BLOOD!

Thank you for coming to give blood on Wednesday for the American Red Cross Blood Drive. This was the fourth one we have had at our church. Fourteen pints were collected Wednesday, which brings our total to 67 pints in all. Our next scheduled blood drive is Wednesday, May 27, 2020 from 2:30-7:00PM. Thank you Betty Barr for helping organize each of these blood drives.

HONORING LEE ANN PEELE

Join us for a reception in the Fellowship Hall next Sunday, February 23 to honor Lee Ann for almost 29 years of service as our church organist. She is retiring, and this will be her last Sunday as our organist. The reception is from 2-4:00 with remarks at 3:00. Save the date so you will be sure to join us in celebrating Lee Ann's dedicated service at First Reformed UCC!

ATTENTION ALL LADIES...RUBIES AND PEARLS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CEES

Rubies and Pearls is a program developed to help young girls grow in social skills. Volunteers are needed to serve as mentors for a small group of 5th grade girls once a month for a 30-minute period of time. If you have questions or are interested in volunteering, please contact Rev. Horton.

ACCOMODATING MEALS ON WHEELS WITH PARKING

Please be reminded that friends who help deliver meals each weekday are here from approximately 10-11:00AM. It is helpful if the parking spaces closest to the building are left vacant for these folks. If you are at the church during that time, please try to leave these spaces open for them.

ON-GOING COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECTS

- **CLOTHES CLOSET**
Please continue to bring donations to the table across from the office or contact Jerry Lovell (336-309-9302). If you'd like to volunteer to help out in the Clothes Closet, please contact Jerry.
- **FOOD ITEMS FOR CEES BACKPACK PROGRAM:**
Please continue to bring requested food items for Charles England Elementary School to the large box in the Narthex or the table outside the church office.

Juice Boxes	Spaghetti-Os	Breakfast Bars
Ramen Noodles	Applesauce Cups	Canned Soup
Cheese Crackers	Beanie Weenies	Canned Tuna
Canned Vegetables	Vienna Sausages	Gallon Ziploc Bags