SIGN UP THE CONGREGATIONAL MEAL

Yarborough's Restaurant will cater lunch for the February 9th Congregational Meal and Meeting. The menu includes: broasted chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, choice of layered or Italian salad, rolls, tea & lemonade.

WE ARE ASKING THOSE ATTENDING TO BRING A DESSERT TO SHARE.

The suggested donation for the meal is \$8.00 for adults and \$3.50 for children (11 and under).

To help with planning, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM AND PLACE IT IN THE OFFERING PLATE if you plan to attend. You may also contact the church office at 336-248-2617.

DEADLINE TO SIGN UP... WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5th

Name		
# Adults	# Children (11 and under)	I can bring a dessert

Following lunch, we will hold our Congregational Meeting: HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2019 AND SHOWCASING MINISTRIES FOR 2020 AND BEYOND.

ARE YOU READY FOR THE "SOUPER" BOWL?

TODAY IS "SOUPER" BOWL SUNDAY! Have your money ready after worship to drop in the soup pots. The Board of Community Outreach and our children and youth, will collect donations at the doors after worship for the SOUPER BOWL OF CARING. Contributions will go to Crisis Ministry of Davidson County.

TRIP TO THE CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM

On February 8, a trip to the Civil Rights Museum in Greensboro is planned. If you would like attend, please contact the church office by February 3. We will meet in the church parking lot at 8:30AM to carpool.

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES

It's Girl Scout Cookie time! Several Girl Scouts representing different troops are now attending our church and will be working together as a team to bring you your favorite cookies. They will be set up outside the Fellowship Hall during the Congregational Meal & Meeting on February 9. Cookies are \$4 per box.

HONORING LEE ANN PEELE

Join us for a reception in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, February 23 to honor Lee Ann for 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 years of service at First Reformed UCC!

CONVERSATIONS ON RACE AND FAITH CONTINUE

Beginning February 11, Collaborative Ministries will begin another six-week discussion group on Race and Faith. 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 parlor.

GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE!

First Reformed United Church of Christ will hold another AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE in our church Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, February 12 from 2:00-7:00PM. If you would like to sign up for a time to give, please contact Betty Barr at 336-239-5001 or barrpilotcar@amail.com.

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

FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

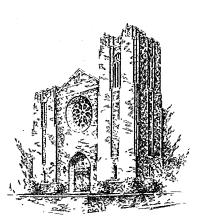
104 East Center Street, Lexington, NC 27292

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

Choir Director: Ellen Peterson Admin. Asst.: Carolyn Robbins (carolyn@frucc.org)

Organist: Lee Ann Peele Financial Secretary: Paula Lopp (paula@frucc.org) First Reformed **United Church of Christ**



The Worship of God

February 2, 2020 Holy Communion "SOUPER" Bowl Sunday

11:00AM

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

Gatherina

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

Prelude

*Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

"Open My Eyes, Lord"

Opening Chorus *Call to Worship

Sam West

When we seek justice for the other, when we love kindness more than ever,

We live as God asks us to live.

When we walk humbly through life, when we offer mercy to those who hurt us,

We are the blessing God hopes we will be.

When we are willing to look foolish by following Jesus, when we choose weakness rather than power.

We reflect the One who is in our midst.

*Hymn

"Be Thou My Vision"

p. 4 Sam West

Elizabeth Horton

*Invocation

Centering Micah 6: 1-8

(Page #850 in Pew Bible)

Sam West and Lisa Nelson

The People's Response

Scripture Reading

With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

Choral Response

"What Does the Lord Require of You?"

Silent time of Confession

Elizabeth Horton

Assurance of Pardon

*Passing the Peace

*Hymn

"Softly and Tenderly"

p. 5

Young Disciples

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

Prayers of the People

Elizabeth Horton

8

Anthem

"Come Find Forgiveness and Love"

Besig & Price

Come to the table, Jesus is there. Come to the banquet the Lord has prepared. Bring all your troubles, each worry and care. Come find forgiveness and love. Come to the table, Jesus is near. Come feel His presence surrounding you here. Lay down your burdens, your sorrow and fear. Come find forgiveness and love.

The bread has been broken, the cup has been poured, and now they are offered to you. The promise is spoken and hope is restored. You are redeemed. All is made new.

Come to the table all who believe. Come and remember, His grace makes you free. Cherish this moment, this gift you receive. Come find forgiveness and love.

Softly and tenderly Jesus invites us, touching each heart and each soul. Now, in communion, our Savior unites us, cleansing and making us whole. Come take the bread, come share the cup. Come find forgiveness and love.

Proclaiming

Scripture

Matthew 5: 1-12 (Page #880 in Pew Bible) Elizabeth Horton

Sermon

"The Promise of Blessing"

A Liturgy of Holy Communion*

God of mercy and justice, be with us. We lift our hearts to you, not because we have to, not because we are supposed to, but because it's how we respond to your unconditional love, because it feels good to know we are loved.

As long as there have been people to tell them, our ancestors in faith have shared stories of your mercy. of how you gave food to the poor, clothes to the naked, and shelter to the lost.

And as long as there have been people to tell them, our ancestors in faith have shared stories of your mercy. of how you gave freedom to the enslaved, opportunity to the outcast, and peace to the war-torn.

You acted with both mercy and justice, rescuing the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, providing them with manna when they were hungry. And your people acted with both mercy and justice, like the prophets who cried out to care for widow, orphan, and foreigner, and those who provided food, shelter, and community.

You have shared your mercy and justice with us, not only as gifts to be received from you, but as gifts that we are to share with the world. We see this gift most clearly in the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Jesus showed us what a life of mercy and justice looked like: In mercy, he gave food to the hungry.

In justice, he broke social custom and shared tables with the powerful and the lowly at once.

In mercy, he cared for the sick.

In justice, he broke religious custom and healed on the Sabbath.

In mercy, he had compassion for the poor.

In justice, he spoke out against the Empire that held them in poverty.

In mercy, he washed his disciples' feet.

In justice, he died without protest to expose a corrupt system.

On the night he was handed over... But that wasn't all.

God's mercy and justice burst forth when Jesus died, and his resurrection gave hope to all those who hunger for mercy and thirst for justice. God will always equip those who seek to share mercy and justice. Even death cannot stop God's incredible grace.

Praver

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

p. 6

(Sing twice)

Come forward to receive the Bread and the Cup. Please sing as you are able while communion is served.

Closing Prayer

Responding

*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

Sam West

Sending

*Call to Dedication

Sam West

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.

*Communion Liturgy adapted from the Rev. Chelsey Hillyer, Sr., Pastor of Union United Methodist Church, St. Louis.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING

LITURGIST:

USHER CHAIRPERSON: Jeff Hutchens

Sam West

PLATE ATTENDANT: ACOLYTE:

Clifford Lopp Lucas Peterson **SOUND TECHNICIAN: BIBLE STEWARD:**

Jeremy Peterson Ethan Lovell

USHERS:

James Gray (Captain), Henry Crouse, John Smith, Raeann Allred, Michell Winters, Jonathan Kepley (Youth Usher)

GREETERS: Billy & Stacey West

Be Thou My Vision

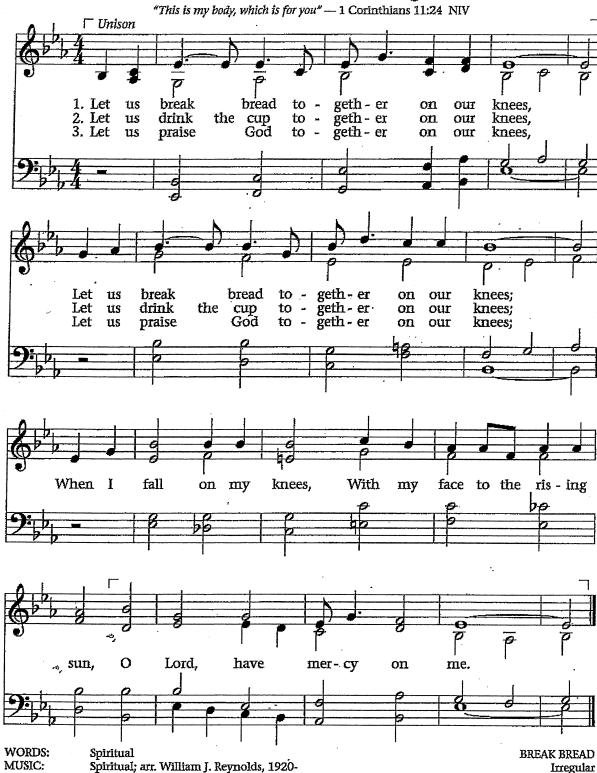


Words: Irish ca. 8th century, trans. Mary Elizabeth Byrne 1905, vers. Eleanor H. Hull 1912, alt. Music: Irish traditional melody SLANE 10 10 10 10 Softly and Tenderly



WORDS: Will L. Thompson, 1847-1909 MUSIC: Will L. Thompson, 1847-1909 THOMPSON Irregular

Let Us Break Bread Together



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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.

WELCOME TO FIRST REFORMED UCC

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

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 2

9:45AM **Adult Sunday School**

Book Study: "Trouble I've Seen"

led by Bonita Hooper and Stacey Sosebee-West

Youth and Children's Sunday School: Social Justice

Youth: Jeremy Lovell

Children: Renee Walsh & Travis White

10:30AM Church-wide First Sunday Social:

John & Susie Smith and Jonathan Kepley

11:00AM Worship in the Sanctuary

> Holy Communion "Souper" Bowl Sunday

Following Worship: Consistory

Monday, February 3

DEADLINE TO SIGN UP FOR CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM TRIP

5:30PM Clothing Closet {Basement} 6:30PM Open Hands Meal (FH)

Tuesday, February 4

10:45AM Willing Weavers

Trustee Meeting (Parlor)

6:30PM Bd. of Evangelism (Parlor)

6:30PM Children's Ministry Team Meeting

Wednesday, February 5

DEADLINE TO SIGN UP FOR CONGREGATIONAL MEAL

Youth Ministry (FH)

6:30PM Bell Choir

7:15PM Choir

Thursday, February 6

5:15PM Yoga Class (Dance Studio)

Saturday, February 8

8:30AM

Carpooling to Civil Rights Museum in Greensboro...lunch afterwards

Sunday, February 9

9:45AM **Adult Sunday School**

Book Study: "Trouble I've Seen"

led by Bonita Hooper and Stacey Sosebee-West

Youth and Children's Sunday School: Social Justice

Youth: Jeremy Lovell

Children: Renee Walsh & Travis White

Worship in the Sanctuary 11:00AM

Kids Club

Following Worship: Congregational Meal & Meeting

OUR CHURCH AT PRAYER

OUR MEMBERS:

*Myra Thompson and the Family of Lauren Thompson Gould, Susan Miller, Ellen Bouchard, Bill Walser

AT HOME AND IN CARE FACILITIES:

Peggy Bates, Janelle Bunn, Marzell Crotts, 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

*Judy Stanley (Robin Champion's mother), Family and Friends of Carol Swoope (friend of Ben Hale and John Maze), 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), Cpt. Kacie Allred, USAF (Raeann Allred's step-daughter), Beverly Ward (Ron Link's Sister-inlaw)

*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**

> > 7th

Haylee Hutcheson