

STAYING CONNECTED

Over the next few days, our Deacons and Elders will be calling church members to check in. Please let them know of needs or concerns you may have during this time. Also, let them know if you have ideas for how we might better stay connected.

EASTER LILY ORDERING CANCELLED

Because of the uncertainty of plans for our church beyond the end of March, Easter Lilies will not be ordered this year. Instead, if you'd like to make a donation to the church's general fund for Easter in memory or in honor of a loved one, these names will be listed in the bulletin as we would lily orders. You may contact the church office to add a name to the list, mail your donation to the church office, visit our church website at www.frucc.org and give online. **The deadline for donations is April 6th.**

For those who have already purchased a lily, you may change this order to an honor or memorial gift to the church's general fund or contact Paula Lopp, our church's financial secretary, for other options.

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES CANCELLED

The remaining Community Lenten Services scheduled to be held at First United Methodist Church on **March 25th and April 1st have been cancelled.**

V.G. PRICE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE BY MARCH 31, 2020

The scholarship is open to any member of First Reformed United Church of Christ, or student from the Lexington City or Davidson County School Systems. **The application and attachments are due MARCH 31st.** The recipient will be chosen by May 1st of his/her senior year in high school. The recipient must maintain at least a 2.5 GPA throughout his/her junior and senior years in high school, demonstrate good citizenship, and be an active member of a church. Scholarship applications are available in the church office.

REMINDER: PLEASE RETURN DVDS

If you borrow DVDs from the church for Sundays you are unable to attend, please remember to return them to the church office. These are DVD + RW, which means we can use them to record more than once. This helps keep costs down for this ministry. Thank you for your help.

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: Robert Wilson

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

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

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

March 22nd is **One Great Hour of Sharing**. Your contributions will be an investment in communities world-wide to help provide education to girls and boys, empower communities through vocational training, support microcredit lending and see people through to self-sufficiency, empower families with skills to support themselves and their neighbors, and participate in sustainable solutions that offer dignity to all. These are just a few ways your OGHs offering will help God's children. It will also help with disaster relief and refugee initiatives. Help make the world a better place through your giving. **You may make a donation through the mail or visit our church website at www.frucc.org and give online.**

REMINDER: YOU CAN GIVE ON-LINE

On-line giving is available through our church website. Visit <https://frucc.org> and click on the link at the top of the page titled "ON-LINE GIVING."

CHANGE IN PLANS FOR TOUCHING DAVIDSON COUNTY WITH LOVE

TDCWL will not occur on April 4 this year. It is too soon to predict whether this is a postponement or cancellation, but everything possible to come up with a plan that allows TDCWL to help residents of Davidson County will be done. TDCWL wants to fulfill their goal to honor God by helping our neighbors.

THE CLOTHES CLOSET

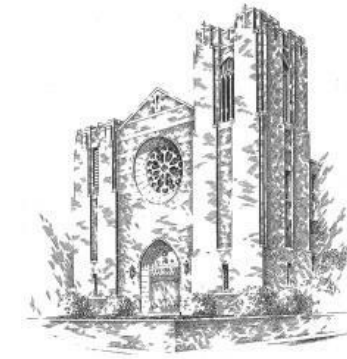
Our Clothes Closet **will close temporarily**. We will announce when it reopens. Contact Jerry Lovell with any questions. (336-746-6493 or 336-309-9302 or plovell53@yahoo.com)

ON-GOING COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECT

FOOD ITEMS FOR CEES BACKPACK PROGRAM:

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

First Reformed United Church of Christ



The Worship of God

4th Sunday of Lent
One Great Hour of Sharing

March 22, 2020
11:00AM

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

Gathering

"BOLD" indicates congregational response

Please let us know if you are watching live by commenting on Facebook.
What are you grateful for this week?

Welcome

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

Call to Worship

"Let Your Spirit Come"
Let your Spirit come, fall upon me now.
Let your Spirit come, fall upon us now.
Let your rain fall down, pour upon our souls.
Come and wash us now, come and make us whole.
Let your Spirit come, fall upon me now.
Let your Spirit come, fall upon us now.

Ellen Peterson

Opening Prayer

Centering

A Litany of Confession

Rev. Horton

O God, as we walk through this time of shadows we confess that we are fearful and anxious. We have been blind to the needs of others, preoccupied with our own agenda. Pause

We fear we will run out of food and basic necessities. We fear we will not have enough money. We fear that our anxiety will get the best of us. We fear we and others we love will get sick. Pause

Forgive us when we become so self-consumed that we only focus on the dire situation. Forgive us when we fail to pay attention to the still, small voice in our lives and fail to see goodness around us. Pause

For harsh words spoken during this tense time, for love withheld from our neighbors, today we pray that you will lead us to a still place where we can feel and know your presence. Pause

For our choices this week that haven't contributed to the greater love and mercy in the world. We pray that your promise is true, that you constantly pursue us with goodness and love, and that we are never alone. Amen.

Congregational Response

"Fill My Cup, Lord"

**Fill my cup, Lord, I lift it up, Lord,
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul.
Bread of heaven feed me till I want no more,
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole.**

Assurance of Pardon

A Psalm of David
The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside still waters;
He restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff— they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

Passing the Peace

Message for Young Disciples

Invitation of Offerings (You may give online at www.fruc.org)

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

Proclaiming

Scripture Reading from John 9: 1-41

Sermon "Training for the Body" A time to Redefine"

Responding

Hymn "Amazing Grace"

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me,
 I once was lost, but now I am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.
 How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come,
 'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years bright shining as the sun,
 We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we've first begun.

Sending

Benediction

Notes on the Service:
 Prayer of Confession adapted from Rev. Kathy Dwyer and "A Pouring Confession"
 from Fall 2012 Advent-Epiphany Resources on the Leader website.
 "Fill my Cup Lord" reprinted from CCLI License
 "Amazing Grace," Public Domain

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.

A Message from Rev. Horton...

Dear First Reformed Family,

The Consistory met Tuesday, March 17th and decided Worship Services in the sanctuary will be cancelled for March 22 and March 29. Through the end of March, there will be **no activities in the church building**, except for Meals-on-Wheels and Open Hands Monday Night (which will be carry-out only). The Consistory will re-evaluate this status at the end of March.

Carolyn Robbins, Admin Asst. will continue work in the church office Monday-Friday 8:30-12:30, unless something unforeseen occurs. Paula Lopp, Financial Secretary, will also keep her church hours on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9-12.

We will worship online the 22nd and 29th. The platform will be Facebook Live. I will send a link for those who do not use Facebook so you may access the service. Please stay tuned to your email for further updates about the life and ministry at First Reformed.

Let us remember the promise of God to the Israelites, who wondered in the wilderness, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day." Exodus 16

God will give you what you need for today. Hold tight to this promise (and wash your hands).

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, March 22
11:00AM **Worship online via Facebook**
 4th Sunday of Lent...One Great Hour of Sharing
 (You may give online at www.fruc.org)

Monday, March 23
6:30PM Open Hands Ministry Meal **{take out only}**

Sunday, March 29
11:00AM **Worship online via Facebook**
 5th Sunday of Lent

OUR CHURCH AT PRAYER

OUR MEMBERS:

The Family of Hoyle Potts, Susan Miller, Bill Walser

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

Piedmont Crossing: Mary Berrier, Doris Flynt

OUR FRIENDS:

*Renee Sink (sister-in law of Lindsay Sink and Sherry Bonner), *Farel Hunt (Carolyn Yocum's brother), The Family of Rev. Bill Sosebee, Bob Sheehan (Eddie Yates' brother-in law), Debra Peterson (mother of Renee Walsh), Amy Burkhart-Smith Dave & Glenyce Fulton's neighbor), Becky Poetzinger (Susie Smith's mother), Ken Halik (friend of Michell Winters)

**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).*

~MARCH~

BIRTHDAYS

23rd
 Mike Perry
 Kiaya Plummer
 Josh Sink
 Billy West

27th
 Jonathan Kepley

28th
 Elizabeth Horton

ANNIVERSARIES

27th
 Mark & Karla Loper
 Cliff & Paula Lopp
 Steve & Cathy Waitman