



First Reformed United Church of Christ

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

July 18, 2021
The Worship of God
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

(*Please stand as you are able.

Prelude	"Holy, Holy, Holy" by John B. Dykes arr. Jerry Ray	Bruce Tippet
*Ringing of the Chimes		Lucas Peterson
Welcome to Worship Hymn	"Come to Jesus"	Rev. Elizabeth Horton Ellen Peterson
Opening Prayer		Rev. Horton
Scripture	Mark 6: 30-34, 53-56	
<p>The apostles gathered around Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.</p> <p>When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.</p>		
Sermon	"Identify Yourself: Living Off the Grid"	
Special Music	"Lord of the Dance"	Ellen Peterson
*Benediction		Rev. Horton
Postlude	"Racktata" by Michael Valenti	Bruce Tippet

***Please remain seated until the ushers direct you to exit.**

WE WELCOME BRUCE W. TIPPETTE AS PIANIST TODAY. He is a composer, performer, and educator. He holds a Master of Music from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts in music composition and a Bachelor of Music in both music composition/theory and music education from Appalachian State University. His published compositions for chorus, concert band, orchestra, handbells, and solo/small ensembles have been performed internationally. Tippet has composed for choreographers, film, and has co-composed music for a children's musical. His work Unconquered, written for orchestra, won the 2012 Mary Starling Composition Competition, and the Winston-Salem Symphony performed it four subsequent times. Additionally, he was chosen in 2012, 2013 and 2014 to compose five new works as part of an experimental collaboration with Cirque du Soleil and the University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

Tippet is a North Carolina Teaching Fellow and received the Lynn Freeman Olson Composition Award for his piano solo Dance of Fire. As an educator, he teaches music composition, theory, piano, and voice at the Community Music School of the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, and he is the Youth Music and Handbell Director at Augsburg Lutheran Church. He works as a collaborative pianist in the School of Drama at UNCSA, a freelance engraver for The Leupold Foundation, a publisher of organ music, and is a frequently sought-after rehearsal accompanist. He resides in Winston-Salem, North Carolina with his wife and frequent collaborator, Elizabeth, and their son and daughter.

First Reformed United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming congregation. 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.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE: DIGITAL MEDIA TECH: Jeremy Peterson
USHERS: John Gray, Clifton Murphy, Doris Sink, Eddie Yates

SOUND TECH: James Gray

Urgent Request: Ushers are needed for the remainder of July and for August. If you can serve, please sign up through the church's weekly email or contact Eddie Yates (bbqman46@gamil.com).

JULY CELEBRATIONS: BIRTHDAYS

18th...Cathy Browder
20th...Jasmine Bustante-Cruz
21st...Jeremy Peterson...Michell Winters
23rd...Joe Browder...Annabell Callicutt
24th...Mary Lloyd Callicutt

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

OUR MEMBERS: Peggy Bates, Lee Bouchard, Jeff Hutchens, Deanna Michael

AT HOME AND IN CARE FACILITIES: Sherry Bonner (Brookdale, Rm. 208, 161 Young Drive, Lexington, NC 27292 Phone: 336-237-9897), Ruth Essick, Pattie Everhart, Vogen Everhart (Brookdale), Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Marguerite Leonard, Bob Shaak, Lib Sink, Carolyn Spivey, Adena Wall

OUR FRIENDS: Charm Ketner, Cora Mae Atkinson (Beverly Lovell's grandmother), Nancy Burton (Mother of a friend of Patti and Jerry Lovell), Beverly & Dave Ward (Ron Link's sister and brother-in-law), Marc Frye (son of the late Doris Frye)

*Indicates newly added. Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks. To add a name to the prayer list please call the church office.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, July 18: Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30AM **IN-PERSON** Bible Study (Parlor)
Sessions 1 & 2 (Facilitator: June Grubb)
"Setting Our Hope" (Ephesians 1:3-14) and "He Is Our Peace" (Ephesians 2:11-22)

10:30AM Worship Service In-Person and Livestreamed Online (YOUTUBE)

Following Worship

Faith Formation Search Committee meeting in the Sanctuary

MONDAY, JULY 19-SUNDAY JULY 25:

Rev. Horton will be on vacation. Please contact Rev. June Grubb (336-248-5668) or the church office if you need assistance during this time.

THURSDAY, July 22:

1:30-2:30PM Clothes Closet Workday assisted by Kidz Dreamz Klub

SATURDAY, July 24

12:30PM Saturday Carry-Out Lunch Ministry

SUNDAY, July 25: Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30AM **IN-PERSON** Bible Study (Parlor)
Session 3 "Rooted and Grounded in Love" (Ephesians 3:14-21)

10:30AM Worship Service In-Person and Livestreamed Online (YOUTUBE)
In the Pulpit: Rev. June Grubb

For details on all our ministries, contact Carolyn in the church office to subscribe to our weekly email.

Ministers: The Congregation of

FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, 104 EAST CENTER STREET, LEXINGTON, NC 27292

PHONE: 336-248-2617 www.frucc.org

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)

Choir Director: Ellen Peterson (ellenrpeteron@gmail.com) **Organist/Pianist:** Christopher Kiser (cdkiser94@gmail.com)

Administrative Asst.: Carolyn Robbins (carolyn@frucc.org) **Financial Administrator:** Paula Lopp (paula@frucc.org)

WEEKLY EMAIL from FIRST REFORMED UCC July 16, 2021

**IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICE BEGINNING AT 10:30AM
LIVESTREAMED ONLY ON OUR YOUTUBE PAGE**

**You may also view past services on this same page
Service will be uploaded to view later on our Facebook page.**

**SUNDAY, JULY 18, 2021: "Identify Yourself: Living Off the Grid"
Scripture: Mark 6: 30-34, 53-56**

COVID PRECAUTIONS

In light of the new CDC recommendations, the Consistory approved these guidelines for us to gather:

- If you have been completely vaccinated, you may remove your mask while you are seated if you wish.
- If you have NOT been completely vaccinated, please leave your mask on at all times as usual.

We ALL will continue to:

- Wear masks upon arriving to church
- Receive temperature checks
- Take attendance
- Socially distance

LOOKING TOWARD SUNDAY: A MESSAGE FROM REV. HORTON

Dear Beloved Community,

Thank you for your gracious welcome of Rev. Lester Smith as I was on vacation. I am so glad he had the chance to be with you! I have a tremendous amount of respect for Rev. Smith and am grateful for the ways we have been able to minister together locally.

I will be back in the pulpit this Sunday, but then will be leaving that afternoon for a 2nd week of vacation. Our covenant together provides 4 weeks of vacation and I am thankful for that as part of part of my call package.



Currently, I am serving as Southern Conference delegate for the virtual UCC General Synod 2021. Synod occurs every 2 years and a gathering of UCC folks to worship, learn, elect leaders and conduct business. Part of the church business is voting upon resolutions brought forth by various groups or members of the UCC. This year we have 11 resolutions up for a vote. When passed by the delegates, resolutions are intended to be a witness are to be shared with local churches for engagement, teaching and discussion. The Synod is to speak to the local churches but not for the local churches. The United Church of Christ has a robust history of boldly engaging matters of justice and faith.

NEW OPPORTUNITY TO MINISTER AND SERVE IN OUR COMMUNITY

At lunch time on Mondays and Wednesdays, the J. Smith Young YMCA takes Summer Camp to the kids in the city who live too far to walk. As an added bonus, Lexington Police Department AND Lexington Fire

Department and Davidson County Public Library Bookmobile join in as well! I have attended several times and feel like this is a good way to collaborate in service. All ages welcome to serve. Would you like to join in? The Y provides all the logistics, we just need to show up, be ready to play, give out lunch, and meet our fellow citizens.

Let me know if you want more details.

I give thanks to God for the ways the Holy Spirit is leading us in new directions, bringing us together with unexpected people, and Breathing Resurrected Life into the Body of Christ at First Reformed UCC.

In Love and Faith,
Elizabeth

URGENT REQUEST FOR USHERS

Ushers are needed for the remainder of July and for August. If you are able to serve, please sign up at from our weekly email or you may contact Eddie Yates at (bbaman46@gamil.com).

NEW IN-PERSON BIBLE STUDY BEGINS SUNDAY

On Sunday, July 18th an adult Bible study will be offered **"in person" in the church Parlor at 9:30 a.m.** We are continuing with the Lectionary series provided through the United Methodist Church. The **seven-week series, entitled "Geared Up for Life,"** takes a walk through the Epistle to the Ephesians. This epistle divides neatly into two halves - the first half, Chapters 1-3, provides a theological foundation for the faith in some of the most beautiful language in the Epistles. The second half, Chapters 4-6, focuses on the ethical dimensions of the faith: How do we live it out? This second half reminds us that faith isn't simply about believing, but about living. The series themes follow:

Sunday, July 18th we combine Sessions 1 & 2 (Facilitator: June Grubb)

"Setting Our Hope" Ephesians 1:3-14

"He Is Our Peace" Ephesians 2:11-22

Sunday, July 25th

"Rooted and Grounded in Love" Ephesians 3:14-21

Sunday, August 1st

"A Life Worthy" Ephesians 4:1-16

Sunday August 8th

"Speaking Truth" Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Sunday, August 15th

"Giving Thanks" Ephesians 5:15-20

Sunday, August 22nd

"Armored" Ephesians 6:10-20

BOOK STUDY MEETING

The Tuesday Adult Book Study group will resume online August 3rd. Look for details to come next week.

MONTHLY PFLAG MEETINGS

Every 3rd Thursday, PFLAG meetings will be held in the church Fellowship Hall. The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, August 19th at 6:30PM**. For more info, you may contact confidentially: 646-221-2442 or pflaglexingtonnc@gmail.com

NEXT NAMI MEETING

The next NAMI (National Alliance of Mental Illness/North Carolina) meeting will be held via Zoom on Monday, **August 2, 2021 at 6:00PM**. This meeting continues discussions on creating a NAMI Chapter in Davidson County. Anyone interested may join.

VISITS TO OUR MEMBERS AT HOME AND IN CARE FACILITIES

As restrictions are being lifted, would you like to make occasional visits to our homebound members and those in care facilities. Please let me know at elizabeth@frucc.org

BOOK DISCUSSION PLANNED



Take July and August to read ***Blessed Are the Crazy: Breaking the Silence about Mental Illness, Family & Church*** for a planned discussion on August 24th. All are welcome to take part in this **"IN PERSON"** discussion about author Sarah Griffith Lund's "raw, honest look at her father's battle with bipolar disorder, the helpless sense of déjà vu as her brother struggles with his own mental illness, and serving as spiritual advisor for her cousin, a mentally ill man executed for murder."

Several copies are available in the office for sharing (**please remember to return borrowed copies so that others may borrow**), or you may purchase your own copy at your location of preference. More information will be shared closer to the meeting date.

MEALS ON WHEELS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Alisa Johnson needs volunteers to help for cover routes for meal delivery. If you are willing to help one morning of the week or more, please contact Alisa at [336-357-0648](tel:336-357-0648) or alisajohnson912@gmail.com.

PIANO LESSONS AVAILABLE

Are you interested in piano lessons? Christopher Kiser, our church organist/pianist, is opening up his piano studio for enrollment! Lessons are given individually and will begin in August/September.

If you or someone you know may be interested in taking piano lessons, please contact Chris by email or phone. ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!

Email: cdkiser94@gmail.com

Phone: (336) 469-4716

PLUS-SIZE CLOTHING NEEDED FOR OUR CLOTHES CLOSET

Our Clothes Closet partners with Meals on Wheels recipients who are mostly homebound. Several have need for 2X, 3X, and 4X clothes, men's or women's. Items such as T-Shirts, elastic shorts, legging type pants are particularly useful. If you have gently used clothing or can find a bargain at a discount store in plus sizes, **please consider donating to this ministry**. Our Church Office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9-12:00.

WORKING OUR WAY BACK TO REGULAR CHOIR PRACTICES

It has been a long time since our choir has practiced together and sung for Sunday worship services AND WE HAVE MISSED IT! We are starting some short practice sessions beginning in August following Sunday worship, just to get used to singing together again before regular choir practices begin on September 22nd.

If you are a regular choir member, we look forward to singing with you again. If you would like to be a part of the choir, join us on the Sundays listed below. Ask anyone who is a member...we have a lot of fun and get to sing some beautiful music together under Ellen's direction!

Add these dates to your calendar...

Sunday practices in the sanctuary following worship from 11:30-12:30:

August 22 and 29

September 5, and 12

REGULAR CHOIR PRACTICE RESUMES ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 AT 7:00PM