

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21:

- 9:30AM Bible Study: In-Person & via Zoom**
From Worship to Discipleship: **Everyone Who Belongs**
John 18:33-37 (Facilitator: Eddie Yates)
- 10:30AM Worship Service** In-Person and Livestreamed Online ([YOUTUBE](#))
- 10:4AM Children's Church** (Theater Room)
- Following Worship:
Congregational Meeting to accept nominees for 2022 Consistory Prayer Circle
- 3:00PM DECORATING COMMITTEE: Decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas**
- 6:00PM Youth Group** (Fellowship Hall)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23:

- 12:00PM 2CFAR Crucial Conversations of Faith and Race** via Zoom
- 1:30PM Meals on Wheels Board Meeting** (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:00PM Book Study Group via Zoom: "Strangers No More"**

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24:

NO WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES ARE SCHEDULED FOR THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25: HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26: HOLIDAY

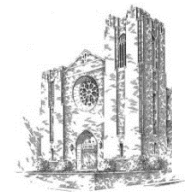
CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27:

- 12:30PM Carry-Out Lunch Ministry**

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28: FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 9:30AM Bible Study: In-Person & via Zoom**
- 10:30AM Worship Service** In-Person and Livestreamed Online ([YOUTUBE](#))
- 10:4AM Children's Church** (Theater Room) ASST. Smithie Parrish
- Following Worship:
Prayer Circle
- 6:00PM Youth Group** (Fellowship Hall)



First Reformed United Church of Christ

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

November 21, 2021

**The Worship of God
Reign of Christ Sunday**

Prelude

"Now Thank We All Our God"
[arr. Faye Lopez]

Christopher Kiser

*Ringing of the Chimes

Welcome

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

Invitation to Worship

Doris Sink

We have chosen to be here, where God remembers us.
God come to us, the One who was and is and is to come.
Like fallen leaves dancing in the wind:
God come to us, the One who was and is and is to come.
Like the first glimpses of the sun peeking over the horizon:
God come to us, the One who was and is and is to come.
Like the moon lighting our way on a cloudless, autumn night:
God come to us, the One who was and is and is to come.

Anthem

"Safe within Your Arms"
Arr. Mark Hayes

*Whether I'm right, or whether I'm wrong, whether I'm weak, or whether I'm strong,
Whether I'm sure, or maybe confused, feeling loved or feeling used.
I know a place where I can go; somewhere that winter winds don't blow.
There I am warmed by loving arms held with care, next to Your heart.
And I'm safe within Your arms Lord. I've become a child again.
I've come back to the source of love; where healing can begin.
Though the world would say I must be strong, and prove my worth by what I do,
I will rest assured in Your embrace and find my strength in You.
Whether I'm walking in the light, or whether I'm stumbling through the night,
You are a God whose promise endures, Your love is deep. Your love is sure.
When I am tempted to pursue plans that may lead me far away from You,
Gently You call, "My child, come home. I will never let go of one of my own."
And I'm safe within Your arms Lord. I've become a child again.
I've come back to the source of love; where healing can begin.
Though the world would say I must be strong, and prove my worth by what I do,
I will rest assured in Your embrace and find my strength in You, and find my strength in You.*

Opening Prayer

Doris Sink

Children's Church

Rev. Evan Sieges

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Horton

Sovereign God, You who rule over us with justice and care. We confess we have given our allegiance to idols of money, power, security, and comfort. We do not always participate in your reign of equity and integrity or follow the example you set forth. We beg your forgiveness, we who are broken and torn apart by our own doings and un-doings. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn

"We Gather Together"

Ellen Peterson

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. 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.

Gospel Reading

John 18: 33-37
(Common English Bible)

Rev. Horton

Pilate went back into the palace. He summoned Jesus and asked, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

Jesus answered, "Do you say this on your own or have others spoken to you about me?"

Pilate responded, "I'm not a Jew, am I? Your nation and its chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?"

Jesus replied, "My kingdom doesn't originate from this world. If it did, my guards would fight so that I wouldn't have been arrested by the Jewish leaders. My kingdom isn't from here."

"So you are a king?" Pilate said.

Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. I was born and came into the world for this reason: to testify to the truth. Whoever accepts the truth listens to my voice."

Sermon

"A Life that Matters: Courage"

Invitation to Give and Serve in the Life of the Church

*Benediction

Postlude

"Come, Thou Almighty King"
[arr. John Carter]

Christopher Kiser

Please remain seated for the Congregational meeting following the service

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

After the service, you are invited to join in the Prayer Circle in the front of the sanctuary.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

LITURGIST: Doris Sink

SOUND TECH: John Gray

ACOLYTE: Emma Hartle

DIGITAL MEDIA TECHNICIAN: Jeremy Peterson

USHERS: John Smith, Eddie Yates

BIBLE STEWARD: Jacob Hartle

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

OUR MEMBERS: *Edgar Miller (upcoming knee replacement surgery), *Marge Doty, Lee Ann Peele (recovering from surgery), Janette Neal, Ellen Bouchard, Jeff Hutchens

AT HOME AND IN CARE FACILITIES: Peggy Bates, Sherry Bonner, Ruth Essick, Pattie Everhart, Vogen Everhart, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Marguerite Leonard, Deanna Michael, Lib Sink, Carolyn Spivey, Adena Wall

OUR FRIENDS: Lacy Belcher (Cathy Waitman's aunt), Glenda Kiser (Christopher Kiser's mother), Nicole Holste (Alane Holste's sister-in-law), Joe Carpenter and Chuck Woodson (neighbors of Eugenia Holste), Mike Frick (friend of the church), Marc Frye (son of the late Doris Frye, Ashley Thomason (Ron & Heidi Hutcheson's daughter-in-law)

NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS:

21st...Vance Walser

22nd...Jo Hudson

23rd...Frank Leonard

24th...John Maze

25th...Webb Fulton

27th...James Gray...Ava Miller...Cathy Waitman

ANNIVERSARIES:

16th ...Pat & Amy Golden

23rd ...Stacey & Sarah Potts

In conjunction with the Saturday take-out lunch on Christmas Day, the Evangelism and Community Outreach Boards would like to distribute "Treat Bags" to those picking up meals. We'd like to include items such as socks, toboggans, gloves, etc. along with small lotions, candy canes, etc. **Hoping to fill 100 treat bags**, there is the need for donations. Please consider making a **monetary donation** to support this project **before December 13th**. Donation by cash or checks will be greatly appreciated. Please write "*Saturday Treat Bags*" on the memo line of checks. Pastor Evan, with our Youth and Children, will assemble the bags prior to Christmas Day, so this will, indeed, be an intergenerational First Reformed gift to the community!

MINISTERS: The Congregation of **FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

104 EAST CENTER STREET, LEXINGTON, NC 27292 PHONE: 336-248-2617 www.fruc.org

PASTOR: Rev. Elizabeth Horton (elizabeth@fruc.org, cell/text #336-972-8895)

MINISTER OF PASTORAL CARE: Rev. June Grubb (jgrubb3@triad.rr.com #336-248-5668)

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES: Rev. Evan Sieges (evan@fruc.org)

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Ellen Peterson (ellenrpeterson@gmail.com)

ORGANIST/PIANIST: Christopher Kiser (cdkiser94@gmail.com)

ADMIN ASST.: Carolyn Robbins (carolyn@fruc.org)

FINANCIAL ADMIN.: Paula Lopp (paula@fruc.org)