

# FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Lexington, NC

**DECEMBER 2021**

## A MESSAGE FROM REV. HORTON



### Advent 2021: Close to Home

When something hits us "close to home," we feel it deeply. Throughout this year, collectively we have felt much suffering and sorrow. As we approach Christmas, many carry tremendous pain and grief, missing loved ones lost. The traumas of the pandemic are still with us. Many do not feel safe in their own homes due to poor living conditions or harmful family dynamics. Many feel alone and isolated at home. We all long for God to come close to us.

This year, journey with us in worship as we take steps to move closer to the home God envisions for us -- a home filled with hope, peace, love and joy.

We journey through Luke's Gospel, where the stories are tender and heavy with emotion:

- John the Baptist prophesies about the One who is to come, but reminds us we

are still wandering far from God's promised day;

- After receiving the angel's news, Mary retreats to Elizabeth's home, to seek refuge and safety.
- Emmanuel, God with us, comes into the world through a scandalous couple who is told there is no room for them.

In these scriptures, home is something we seek **and** something we are called to build. Ultimately, God is our home and resting place. With the birth of Jesus, God draws near and makes a home on earth.

This Advent...

- May we be comforted by the One who dwells intimately with us.
- May we expand safety and sanctuary for everyone wandering far from home.
- May we find our home in God, wherever it may be — to live fully with joy, hope, and courage.

Are we there yet? No. But with God's help, we can get closer everyday.

Grateful for you and for this Advent Season.

Elizabeth



### **HOMESICK, NOVEMBER 28**

LUKE 21: 25-36

### **LAYING THE FOUNDATION, DECEMBER 5**

LUKE 1: 57-80

### **A HOME FOR ALL, DECEMBER 11**

LUKE 3: 1-18

### **SEEKING SANCTUARY, DECEMBER 19**

LUKE 1: 39-55

### **INVITED HOME, DECEMBER 24**

LUKE 2: 1-20

## WELCOMING STATEMENT

If you are searching for a place to experience God's wondrous and inclusive love, we invite you to join us at First Reformed United Church of Christ in Lexington, NC.

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.

### NOVEMBER MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

#### IN MEMORY OF MARY BERRIER

Sylvia Walser

#### IN MEMORY OF JANELLE BUNN

Frank Leonard  
Gerald Smith  
Sylvia Walser

#### IN MEMORY OF MARZELL CROTTS

Sylvia Walser

#### IN MEMORY OF MARGOT EVERHART

Frank Leonard  
Sylvia Walser

#### IN MEMORY OF RUTH HUNEYCUTT

(BETTY BARR'S MOTHER)

John & Vicky Gray  
Cliff & Paula Lopp  
Bill & Carolyn Robbins  
Cathy & Steve Waitman  
Sylvia Walser

#### IN MEMORY OF BOB SHAAK

Mary (Sally) Davis  
Frank Leonard  
Ramona Phelps  
Sylvia Walser

### PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Edgar Miller (recovering from surgery at home), Lee Ann Peele (recovering from surgery at home), Marge Doty

#### HOME/CARE FACILITIES:

Peggy Bates, Sherry Bonner, Lee & Ellen Bouchard, Ruth Essick, Pattie Everhart, Vogen Everhart, Gerri Hill, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Merle Hodges, Jeff Hutchens, Myrtle Latimer, Marguerite Leonard, Deanna Michael, John Potts & Janette Neal, Lib Sink, Carolyn Spivey, Adena Wall, Carolyn Yocum

#### 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)

## A SPECIAL REQUEST FROM THE EVANGELISM AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH BOARDS

Help the Boards of Evangelism and Community Outreach fill **100 "Treat Bags"** to send out on Christmas Day along with the Take-out Lunch Program. There are two ways to donate.

- Make a **monetary donation** to the church. (Donate cash in envelopes marked "Treat Bags"), online through the church website, or by check with "Treat Bags" on the memo line.
- **Bring socks, gloves, toboggans, scarves and gloves** to the baskets in the sanctuary beginning November 28<sup>th</sup>. (This is part of the Advent Prayer walk December 15-17.)

**Donate by December 17<sup>th</sup>.** Pastor Evan, with our Youth and Children, will assemble the bags prior to Christmas Day.

## TAKE-OUT LUNCH WITH A PERSONAL TOUCH FOR CHRISTMAS DAY!

John Maze

Saturday Lunch falls on Christmas Day this year! While we have many nice surprises for those in need in our community, we would also like to have the congregation get involved, if you choose to do so.

Many people are not comfortable volunteering to work in the kitchen with COVID still not under control. Everyone in the congregation is invited to prepare and contribute a special dish or dessert to add to the lunch menu. Your dish might only feed 8 or 20, but a cumulative number of dishes should make for a unique and tasty Christmas lunch! We received 12 hams through a special donation, so this ensures there will be plenty of meat for the lunch.

Mashed potatoes are always a hit for the holidays. Deviled eggs, cookies, pies, green bean casserole, and corn pudding are just a few suggestions of other items that could be in the Christmas lunch. If anyone is interested in dropping a dish off, please put

it into a disposable tray or container. Contact John Maze at 704-524-6462 or by email [majejmaze1@aol.com](mailto:mazejmaze1@aol.com) with any questions.

John will be at the Fellowship Hall from 3:30-5:00PM on Christmas Eve to take in dishes. He will be there at 9:00AM Christmas Day to ensure any remaining dishes are accepted. The goal is to have all food items in **no later than 10:00AM on Christmas Day** to plan and prepare during the remaining two hours before serving lunch. If you are unable to drop a dish at the times above, give John a call to make arrangements.

We hope this will be a lot of fun for our congregation to "share the love" with some of your favorite dishes or desserts!

**Happy Holidays to everyone!** We look forward to our last lunch of the year being a memorable one for our congregation and our community friends in need!



## BREEZEWAY ANGEL TREE



*Place an Angel on our  
Angel Tree*

Again, this year you may place an angel on our Angel Tree in memory or honor of someone. To place an angel on the tree, donations can be made that will be used for our church benevolences. Acknowledgements will be sent from the office and names for the "angels" along with names of those who donated will be listed in the January 2022 Newsletter.

To place an angel on the tree, fill out the form that will be included in the church bulletins and on page 12 of this newsletter, or contact the church office. Angel Tree donations should be made by Wednesday, December 22, 2021.



## DECK THE HALLS!

I am amazed every year at how beautiful our sanctuary looks decked out in its Christmas finery! Although you may notice some differences this year, you must admit the decorations are beautiful! The Chrismon trees...the advent wreath...the candles and greenery on the windowsills...the wreaths on the doors. Thank you to the Decorating Committee and others for your hard work and your talents! The following group worked skillfully on Sunday, November 21st to get our church ready for the Advent Season:

Chairperson: Keri Hartle

Lynn Brown

June Grubb

Mike Hooper

Elizabeth Horton

Chris Kiser

Camille Morgan

Smithie Parrish

Mike Price

Casey, Jacob & Emma Hartle

Paula & Cliff Lopp

Clifton & Harriette Murphy





# LEXINGTON CHORAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL CONCERT



Our own Ellen Peterson is the director for Lexington Choral Society's **Welcome to December** concert. Some of our church's choir members are also a part of this group. Come join Ellen, Walter Hoffman, Christopher Kiser, Mike Price and Carolyn Robbins for some beautiful music that will certainly get you in the Christmas spirit!

## NEW BIBLE STUDY BEGINNING WITH ADVENT

The gospel of Luke will provide the text for the adult Sunday morning Bible study on the theme "Come Home for Christmas." The new study begins with Advent and continues through Epiphany.

### WEEKLY TOPICS

#### November 28th

"The Day is Surely Coming"  
Luke 21: 25-36

Facilitator: Smithie Parrish

#### December 5th

"The Fear of Home"  
Luke 3: 1-6

Facilitators: Jay and Cathy Whitley

#### December 12th

"The Joy of Home"  
Luke 3: 7-18  
Facilitator: TBD

#### December 19th

"The Blessing of Home"  
Luke 1:3 9-45  
Facilitator: June Grubb

#### December 26th

"Lost at Home"  
Luke 2: 41-52  
Facilitator: TBD

#### January 2nd

"The Light of Home"  
John 1:1-9, 10-18  
Facilitator: Eulene Shepherd

## BOOK STUDY GROUP TAKES A BREAK

The book group has completed their study of Valarie Kaur's book "See No Stranger." The group will take a break during the month of December and will begin a new study in January. All members of the congregation are encouraged to participate in the Advent Devotional booklet "Close to Home," as well as find a time to experience the Advent Prayer Walk, which will be in the Sanctuary the week of December 12 (actual days for the walk are Wednesday, December 15th through Friday, December 17th from 4:00-7:00PM and Saturday, December 18th from 10:00AM-12:00PM.)

# DECEMBER CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

## A Uniquely Joyful Season

Rev. Evan Sieges

When I was growing up, I looked forward to Christmas in my church every single year. Regardless of where my family and I worshipped, there was always a sense of wonder and magic that accompanied the season that filled me with feelings of profound joy and anticipation. Whether it was hearing Christmas music during services, participating in a yearly Christmas pageant, or something else, church always had a way of making the joy of the Christmas season become more and more real.

This year, I'm excited to share that the youth, with some help from our children, will be performing their very own, original Christmas pageant play. After meeting with the youth in early November, they all agreed that it would be a really fun idea to write an original play, and perform it for the church! The play is called "*Christmas Collision*" and is about Santa Claus' quest to discover the true meaning of Christmas. In order to accomplish this, Santa has to call upon several beloved holiday characters in order to discover what Christmas is all about. He'll meet characters such as Ralphie and Randy from "*A Christmas Story*" (played by Patrick and Parker Horton), the Grinch (played by Bryson Gentry), Ebenezer Scrooge (played by Bella Gentry), Buddy the Elf (played by Ethan Lovell), George Bailey (played by Sam West), and many more. **The play will take place Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00PM in the Fellowship Hall with refreshments following.**

It's our hope that this little play can help to add some laughs, joy, and meaning to the Christmas season for you and your family. We are grateful to you for your support, and can't wait to celebrate with

you all as we welcome Jesus into the world. Blessings to you all.



Rev. Evan teaches preschool through 6th grade children during Children's Church on Sunday, November 14. (Pictured from top left: Parker Horton, Ethan Lovell, Lucas Peterson, Kyndell Lovell, Caroline White and Wesley Gould)



# SATURDAY TAKE-OUT LUNCH MINISTRY: A VOLUNTEER'S REFLECTION

Stacy Sosebee-West

My time volunteering with Open Hands' Saturday lunch ministry has come to be a tremendous blessing in my life. Initially I started volunteering to become more involved with serving others. I knew this service filled a void that wasn't present in our community on Saturdays. Because I serve on the board, I also wanted to become more active in Open Hands' organization. Additionally, it's an incredibly worthy cause. What I didn't realize is how much I would immediately receive back from this work.

My son, Sam, and I volunteer together. Once your children start high school, time spent with them seems more precious and fleeting. I love having a regular activity that Sam and I do together. I love the uninterrupted time where cellphones, school, friends, and video games don't interfere. We have fun preparing and serving the meal together. I will be incredibly sad in a couple of years when he will be away at school, and we won't have this time

together.

I think I have enjoyed the fellowship volunteering better than any other activity in which I have participated. Sam and I both have come to adore working with John Maze. There have been many times we have stayed after we had cleaned up, just to share stories. We always have the opportunity to volunteer with someone we didn't know as well. One Saturday, Sam was fascinated with Marge Doty's tales of her Peace Corps days and international travel. I feel like we always both learn a lot from the people we volunteer with. Without volunteering, we wouldn't have the opportunity to have such interesting fellowship.

I hope others will consider joining us. First Reformed UCC has so many dedicated and interesting members. Selfishly, I would love the opportunity for Sam and me to get to know you better and to learn from you. Just as I have, I think you might find it a blessing for yourself.

## FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Alternative Gift Giving

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

IF YOU WISH TO MAKE A DONATION TO ASSIST WITH BENEVOLENCES BUT HAVE NO PREFERENCE WHICH ORGANIZATION IT BENEFITS, PLEASE PUT THE DOLLAR AMOUNT UNDER UNDESIGNATED BENEVOLENT DONATION.

	Donation	# Cards
<b>Undesignated Benevolent Donation</b>		
<b>Southern Conference</b>		
Blowing Rock Conference Center		
Elon Homes for Children		
Johns River Valley Camp		
Lancaster Seminary (WNCA Scholarship Fund)		
Nazareth Children's Home		
Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM)		
UCC Retirement Home (Trust Fund - Piedmont Crossing)		
<b>Local</b>		
Communities in Schools		
Community Garden		
Community Outreach (Charles England, Etc.)		
Crisis Ministries		
Davidson Medical Ministries		
Davidson Prison Ministry		
Family Services of Davidson County		
Girl Scout Troup #2160		
GLAMA - Crisis Fund		
Habitat for Humanity		
Hospice of Davidson County		
Lexington Housing CDC		
Pastor's Discretionary Fund		
Pastor's Pantry		
Pathway of Hope		
Salvation Army		
<b>***TOTAL DUE</b>		

## ALTERNATIVE GIFTS

The holiday season is quickly approaching. Have you thought about what to buy for family and friends? Why not give to a local charity in their honor? You may donate to any of the church benevolences and send a card to the person to whom you would like to honor with your gift. You may pick up forms, like the one to the left, from Narthex or the church office and return them to the church along with your donation. You may also give online [HERE](#) and pick up acknowledgment cards from the office to complete and drop in the mail. This is such a meaningful way to honor someone on your gift list, benefit those in need and help our church meet its benevolences for the year.

## CLOTHES CLOSET

Jerry Lovell

As we head into the Christmas season, it is hard to turn on a television without seeing a commercial or movie about the joy of sharing the happy holiday spirit. This spirit of joy and goodwill happens every month with the Clothing Ministry here at First Reformed.

We receive "lists" from our neighbors in need about items of clothing they could use, and we continue to **fill about 100 orders a month!** None of these requests could be met without the donations of our First Reformed UCC family and the community.

We work with other churches to provide for our members of our community who are less fortunate than ourselves. Like always, it's about more than just pants or shoes or coats. Filling the clothing orders is only a part of what this ministry is about. Volunteers and those being served share a bond of time and energy, creating a special sense of friendship, almost like family. This happens every Monday, Wednesday and Friday when Macedonia Methodist serves free breakfasts at St. Stephen Methodist and every Saturday when First Reformed serves free lunches and every Sunday when Grace Episcopal serves a free noon meal.

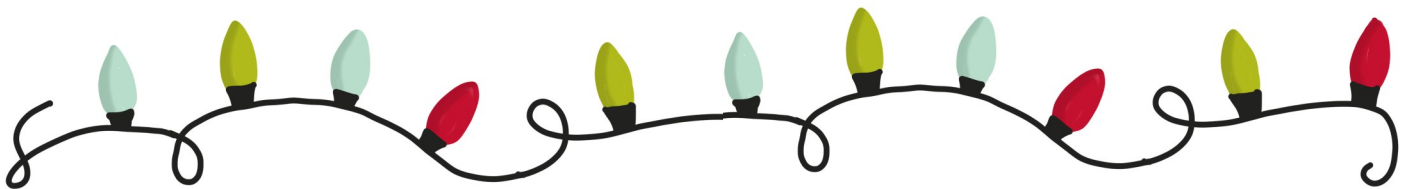
The faces become familiar, and you can feel the love and appreciation between the

volunteers and these special friends. This spirit of goodwill and caring means so very much to those who may feel forgotten and seldom get a smile or words spoken kindly to them. The gratitude for a meal or a much-needed coat is very evident. Food and clothing can't fix everything, though.

We can see the hurt of a parent who can't provide for their child. We can sense the desperation of someone who feels there is nowhere else to turn. Showing respect for people regardless of their situation is so very important in the food and clothing ministries. For these folks, volunteers can offer an ear to listen, give a pat on the back, or supply tissues to dry tears. Doing simple things such as that, offer hope and love like we would offer to a friend or family member.

Our volunteers live every part of First Reformed's *Welcoming Statement*. We meet our neighbors where they are in life. We work to share joy in their good times (like getting a job) or help carry their sorrow in a bad situation (like losing a grandparent). We hope to make the world, at least our part of it, a better place.

God bless you and Merry Christmas to each of you and those you love!



## THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Church Family,

Thank you to First Reformed United Church of Christ for the phone calls, visits, cards, food and prayers. God has been by my side and has answered so many prayers. Lee and I love you all!

Ellen & Lee Bouchard



# THE CHRISTMAS FUND

## (THE VETERANS OF THE CROSS AND THE EMERGENCY FUND)

*“Good news. . . Great joy. . . All the people!”  
Luke 2:10*

**Offering for this UCC outreach program will be collected on date December 19, 2021**

The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas “Thank You” gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees.

United Church of Christ congregations and members have blessed the Christmas Fund with their generosity for many years. This year, your care and compassion will be especially appreciated by those servants of the church who are facing a time of need. Thank you!



**VOLUNTEER  
BELL RINGERS  
NEEDED!**

*Ring a bell...help change a life*

We still have volunteer slots to fill for the Salvation Army Kettle Bell on Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. Two volunteers are needed for each time slot. Please review the available options and sign up using the Sign-up Genius link below or contact the church office if you'd like to help. **The location is Lanier's Ace Hardware at the back entrance on North State Street in Lexington.**

**<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D49A5AA28A7FBCE9-salvation>**

LOCATION: LANIER'S ACE HARDWARE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2021	
9:00-10:00	Betty Barr
10:00-11:00	Walter & Ann Hoffman
11:00-12:00	John & Vicky Gray
12:00-1:00	Steve Smith
LOCATION: LANIER'S ACE HARDWARE TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2021	
9:00-10:00	Buddy Lohr
10:00-11:00	
11:00-12:00	
12:00-1:00	
1:00-2:00	
2:00-3:00	James & Alice Gray
3:00-4:00	
4:00-5:00	Bella & Bryson Gentry
5:00-6:00	Johnny & Lynn McCarn

# CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS...NOVEMBER 2021

Consistory members met Sunday, November 14, 2021 in the church Fellowship Hall and virtually via Zoom.

## Board Reports

**Evangelism**.....Dave Fulton

- Weekly Attendance Average for **September 2021: 43**
- Weekly Attendance Average for **October 2021: 52** (does not include All Hallows Eve service)

**Board of Worship and Sacrament**.....

Lisa Nelson and Kivi Miller

- Digital Media: Kivi Miller reported that Jeremy trained Royal on how to do live streaming, so we have a third streamer available.

**Board of Property Management**.....John Smith &

John Maze

- Painting and flooring in the Parlor are done. Shudders for the windows are the final phase to complete the first phase of the project. Delivery to be the end of February.
- More lighting at the basement alley way will be added. This will be a dusk-to-dawn light.
- Thanks to all that took care of clearing out the Parlor to get rid of old furniture.
- Nathan switched the air to heat and corrected a problem with a loud noise.
- Property and Parlor Committee met and discussed furniture and layout of the new, refurbished room. It was a good meeting and discussion about how the room should look and the uses. More meetings and planning are in the near future.

**Board of Business Management & Stewardship:**

.....Harriette Murphy

- Finance & Budget Report for **October 2021**
- Average Weekly offering: **\$5482** (Average weekly offering needed to meet the budget **\$5,889**)
- All bills are current
- Benevolences will be paid at the end of this quarter

## NEW BUSINESS

- During employee reviews it was revealed there was not a job description for the Minister of Pastoral Care. One was written and approved to add to the church's Operating Manual.
- John Maze requested congregational participation for the Christmas Day Saturday take-out lunch. He requested members share a covered dish or dessert to be served. Information will be in the December newsletter.
- On behalf of the nominating committee, a request was made and approved to lift the by-law restriction of spouses serving on Consistory back-to-back terms without a year off in between. This exception can be made based on the needs of the congregation.

## **Next Consistory Meeting:**

- The next scheduled meeting will be **December 5.**

## **CARDS FOR OUR MEMBERS AT HOME & IN CARE FACILITIES**

As we have done for the past several Christmases, we will again send Christmas cards to our members at home and in care facilities. This is such a simple way to share Christmas wishes to each member on this list.

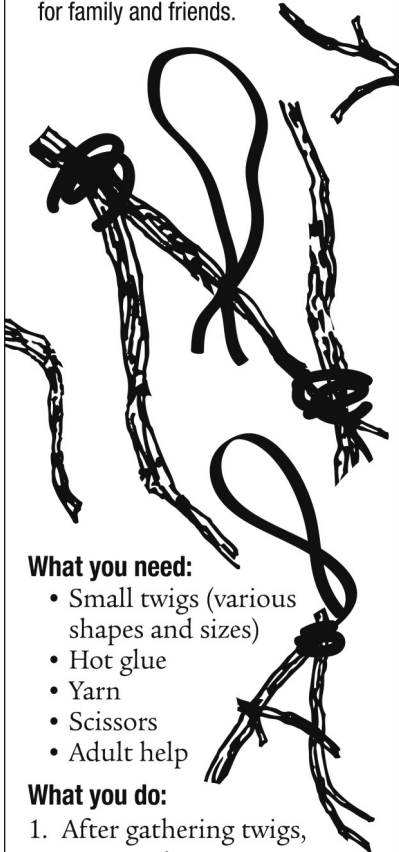
You do not have to add addresses. You only need names on the front of the envelopes, but this is not required. Just bring 18 cards to be placed into prepared bags that will be on the back pew of the sanctuary from November 28th until December 19th. The bags of cards will be distributed to these members along with fruit baskets.

You can find the names in The Prayer List on **page 2** of this newsletter and in our weekly bulletins.



## SIMPLE SYMBOLS

Create personalized initial ornaments for family and friends.



### What you need:

- Small twigs (various shapes and sizes)
- Hot glue
- Yarn
- Scissors
- Adult help

### What you do:

1. After gathering twigs, arrange them to create uppercase letter shapes. Cross, bend and break twigs, as needed.
2. Glue "letters" together at the intersections.
3. Cut an arm-length of yarn and wind it around twigs to add color to each letter.
4. Create a loop of yarn and tie it to the top of the ornament for hanging.



## A measure of love

Jesus says one golden rule sums up the law.

*Directions: Match the word parts from the ruler to the incomplete words in the first three Bible verses. Then add the bolded letters (in order) to Matthew 7:12 to complete that verse.*

Do not seek **re**\_\_\_\_\_ or bear a grudge against anyone among your \_\_\_\_\_ople, but **love** your **neig**\_\_\_\_\_ as yourself.

LEVITICUS 19:18, NIV

Learn to do **right**; seek jus\_\_\_\_\_. **Defend** the \_\_\_\_\_pressed. Take up the cause of the \_\_\_\_\_less; plead the \_\_\_\_\_e of the widow.

ISAIAH 1:17, NIV

He has shown **you**, O mortal, what is go\_\_\_\_. ...

To act **justly** and to **love** me\_\_\_\_\_ and **to** walk \_\_\_\_\_ly with your God.

MICAH 6:8, NIV

_____	father_____
_____	pe_____
_____	_____venge
_____	_____od
_____	_____rcy
_____	op_____
_____	_____hbor
_____	humb_____
_____	cas_____
_____	_____tice

So in \_\_\_\_\_ything, do to ot \_\_\_\_\_ what you would \_\_\_\_\_ve them  
d \_\_\_\_\_ to you, for this s \_\_\_\_\_ms up the \_\_\_\_\_w and the Proph \_\_\_\_\_s.

MATTHEW 7:12, NIV



# THANK YOU, BETTY BARR!

These beautiful figures were donated to the church by Betty Barr in loving memory of her mother, Ruth Huneycutt. This picture shows only part of the set. There is also a baby Jesus and another animal, which will be added later. These belonged to her mother but had never been used. They are designed by Robert Kincaid and worthy of a special place in the Narthex of the Sanctuary. To give you an idea of the size, Joseph is about two-feet tall. Be sure to stop by the next time you enter from the front of the sanctuary and get a closer look at the fine details. Thank you, Betty, for such a special gift.



**PLACE AN ANGEL ON THE ANGEL TREE BY MAKING A DONATION TO OUR BENEVOLENCES**

**IN MEMORY OF...** \_\_\_\_\_

**IN HONOR OR...** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLACED BY...** \_\_\_\_\_

# DECEMBER 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			<b>1</b> 5:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 Choir Practice Children's Fun & Games Youth Study	<b>2</b> 4-6:00 Clothes Closet Work Day	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 12:30 Carry-Out Lunch Ministry
<b>5</b> 2nd Sunday of Advent Holy Communion  9:30 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship 10:45 Children's Church 11:45 Prayer Circle Consistory 6:00 Youth Group	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 12:00 2CFAR (via Zoom)	<b>8</b> 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 Choir Practice Children's Fun & Games Youth Study	<b>9</b> 4-6:00 Clothes Closet Work Day	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 12:30 Carry-Out Lunch Ministry
<b>12</b> 3rd Sunday of Advent  9:30 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship 10:45 Children's Church 11:45 Prayer Circle 6:00 Youth Group	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 12:00 2CFAR (via Zoom)	<b>15</b> 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 Choir Practice Children's Fun & Games Youth Study	<b>16</b> 4-6:00 Clothes Closet Work Day  6:30 PFLAG Meeting (in-person & via Zoom)	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 12:30 Carry-Out Lunch Ministry  2:00 Youth & Children Program Practice
<div> <div>←</div> <div>ADVENT PRAYER WALK</div> <div>→</div> </div>						
<b>19</b> 4th Sunday of Advent "Veterans of the Cross" Christmas Fund Offering 9:30 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship 10:45 Children's Church 11:45 Prayer Circle 6:00 Youth & Children Christmas Program 	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 12:00 2CFAR (via Zoom)	<b>22</b> 6:30 Choir Practice 6:30 Choir Practice Children's Fun & Games Youth Study	<b>23</b> 4-6:00 Clothes Closet Work Day	<b>24</b> 8:00 Candlelight Service  	<b>25</b>   12:30 Christmas Carry-Out Lunch Ministry
<b>26</b> 1st Sunday after Christmas  9:30 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship 10:45 Children's Church 11:45 Prayer Circle 6:00 Youth Group	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 12:00 2CFAR (via Zoom)	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 4-6:00 Clothes Closet Work Day	<b>31</b>	

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Ann Johnson Crandell  
Buddy Lohr  
Jerry Smith
- 2 Beverly Sandifer
- 3 Brandi McCarn Gerew  
Keri Lovell
- 7 Ruth Essick (104 years!)
- 12 Donna Coe
- 14 Marge Doty  
Merle Hodges
- 16 Clayton Leonard
- 17 Christina Grzech
- 19 Maxx Clark
- 23 Parker Horton
- 24 Bella Gentry  
Bryson Gentry  
Tim Potts  
Jay Whitley
- 27 Renee White
- 28 Walter Hoffman  
Susan Miller
- 30 Keith Johnson  
Belinda Yates
- 31 Camill Freeman  
Myrtle Latimer

## DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

12th  
Susan Morris & Charyl Clark

18th  
Doug & Barbara Sink

19th  
Lee & Mary Jo Jessup

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE IN DECEMBER

### LITURGISTS:

#### December 5

Joe Browder

#### December 12

Rev. June Grubb

#### December 19

Joe Browder

#### December 26

Rev. June Grubb

### SOUND TECHNICIAN:

Dave Fulton

### DIGITAL MEDIA TECH:

#### December 5

Kivi & Jia Miller

#### December 12, 19, 26

Jeremy Peterson

### ACOLYTE:

Lucas Peterson

### BIBLE STEWARD:

Ethan Lovell

### USHERS:

#### December 5

Ann Hoffman

*More Volunteers Needed*

#### December 12

Ann Hoffman

Doris Sink

*More Volunteers Needed*

#### December 19

Ann Hoffman

Rich Johnson

Doris Sink

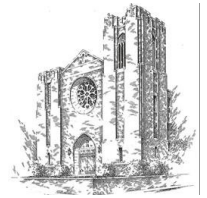
#### December 26

Ann Hoffman

Rich Johnson

Doris Sink

## First Reformed United Church of Christ



**All Are Welcome Here!**

**Where People Discover...**

*The Love of God  
The Power to Love Others  
The Ability to Love Ourselves*

104 East Center Street  
Lexington, NC 27292  
(336) 248-2617

email: church@frucc.org  
website: www.frucc.org

### 10:30 SUNDAY WORSHIP

**Livestreamed VIA YOU TUBE**

### NEW OFFICE HOURS

**Monday - Wednesday - Friday  
800am to 12:00pm**



Join Us on Facebook:

[facebook.com/firstreformeducc](https://facebook.com/firstreformeducc)

## Church Staff:

### Pastor: Rev. Elizabeth Horton

elizabeth@frucc.org  
336-972-8895

### Minister of Congregational Care

Rev. June Grubb  
336-248-5668

### Director of Children & Youth Ministries

Rev. Evan Sieges  
evan@frucc.org

### Administrative Assistant

Carolyn Robbins  
carolyn@frucc.org

### Financial Administrator

Paula Lopp  
paula@frucc.org

### Music Director

Ellen Peterson  
ellenrpeterson@gmail.com

### Pianist / Organist

Christopher Kiser  
cdkiser94@gmail.com