

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Sunday, March 20: Third Sunday of Lent

9:30AM **Adult Bible Study in-Person** (Parlor)
"It Bears Fruit" Luke 13:1-9 (Facilitator: June Grubb)
Three different stories that encourage us to live with purpose and urgency

10:30AM **Worship Service** (in person and via YouTube)

10:45AM **Children's Worship:** Rev. Sieges & Cathy Browder (Theater Room)

Following Worship: Prayer Circle

2:00PM **Celebration of Life Service for Elizabeth "Lib" Zimmerman Sink**

6:00PM **Youth Meeting:** Rev. Sieges & **Volunteer Needed** (Youth Room)

Tuesday, March 22

12:00PM **2CFAR (via Zoom)**

7:00PM **Book Study "The Book of Joy"** (via Zoom)

Wednesday, March 23

1:00PM **Meeting: Board of Evangelism Committee on Church Promotion** (Parlor)

6:00PM **Supper in the Fellowship Hall (Please bring Your Own Meal)**

6:30-7:30PM **Mid-Week Lenten Bible Study** (Parlor)

6:30PM **Choir**

Children's Fun & Activities: Patti Lovell & **Volunteer Needed**

Youth Study: Rev. Sieges & Cathy Browder

Thursday, March 24:

4-6:00PM **Clothing Ministry Workday**

Friday, March 25:

NOON **Due date for any items for the April Newsletter**

Saturday, March 26

12:30PM **Lunch Ministry** (Kitchen)

Sunday, March 27: Fourth Sunday of Lent...One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

9:30AM **Adult Bible Study in-Person** (Parlor)
"Lost and Found" Luke 15:1-3;11b-32 (Facilitator: Eugenia Holste)
The parable of the prodigal son

10:30AM **Worship Service** (in person and via YouTube)

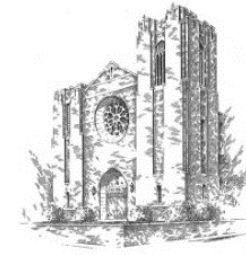
10:45AM **Children's Worship:** Rev. Sieges & Cathy Browder (Theater Room)

Following Worship:

Prayer Circle

Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

6:00PM **Youth Meeting:** Rev. Sieges & Cathy Browder (Youth Room)



First Reformed United Church of Christ

Where People Discover...

The Love of God...

The Power to Love Others...

The Ability to Love Ourselves

March 20, 2022

The Worship of God

Third Sunday of Lent

*Please stand as you are able

Prelude

*Chiming of the Hour

Anthem

"Savior, More than Life to Me"

arr. Stan Pethel

Savior, more than life to me, I am clinging close to Thee;
Let the precious blood applied, keep me ever near Thy side.
Every day, every hour, let me feel Thy cleansing power;
May Thy tender love to me, bind me closer, Lord, to Thee.

Through this changing world below, lead me gently as I go;
Trusting Thee, I cannot stray, I can never lose my way.

Every day, every hour, let me feel Thy cleansing power;
May Thy tender love to me, bind me closer, Lord, to Thee.

Let me love Thee more and more, 'til this fleeting life is o'er;
'til my soul is lost in love, in a brighter world above.

Every day, every hour, let me feel Thy cleansing power;
May Thy tender love to me, bind me closer, Lord, to Thee.

May Thy tender love to me, bind me closer, closer, Lord, to Thee, closer to Thee.

Words of Welcome

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

*Responsive Call to Worship

Out of a world of cut-throat competition, winners and losers, and too many left behind,

We come together. The world's ways are not our ways.

Out of a world of hatred and violence, individualism and hunger for power,

We come together. The world's ways are not Christ's ways.

Come, all you who thirst—drink deeply from the river of life.

Come, all you who are weary—come rest in God's love.

For God is here among us, washing away the dust and grime of our lives, and pouring out the Spirit on all who thirst.

Come, let us Worship.

*Hymn

"Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy"

Insert

*Invocation

Camille Morgan

Young Disciples

Rev. Evan Sieges & Cathy Browder

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 55:1-9
(Common English Bible)

Camille Morgan

All of you who are thirsty, come to the water! Whoever has no money, come, buy food and eat! Without money, at no cost, buy wine and milk! Why spend money for what isn't food, and your earnings for what doesn't satisfy. Listen carefully to me and eat what is good; enjoy the richest of feasts. Listen and come to me; listen, and you will live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful loyalty to David. Look, I made him a witness to the peoples, a prince and commander of peoples. Look, you will call a nation you don't know, a nation you don't know will run to you because of the LORD your God, the holy one of Israel, who has glorified you. Seek the LORD when he can still be found; call him while he is yet near. Let the wicked abandon their ways and the sinful their schemes. Let them return to the LORD so that he may have mercy on them, to our God, because he is generous with forgiveness. My plans aren't your

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plans, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. Just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my plans than your plans.

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer of Confession Rev. Horton
God of Compassion, have mercy upon us. We are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have spent our money on that which is not Food. We have squandered our time on that which is not Life. We have offered our hearts to that which is not Love. We have pledged our allegiance to that which is not God, and the whole earth suffers for it. Forgive us, God, and free us from our illusions. Reveal to us the things that matter, and lead us into life everlasting. Amen.

Moment of Silence

Response in Song Ellen Peterson
"Fill My Cup, Lord"

Assurance of Forgiveness

Reception of New Member: Rev. Don Morgan Rev. Horton

Prayers of the People 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.

***Hymn** Insert
"Just As I Am, Without One Plea"

Scripture Rev. Horton
Luke 13: 1-9
Common English Bible

Some who were present on that occasion told Jesus about the Galileans whom Pilate had killed while they were offering sacrifices. He replied, "Do you think the suffering of these Galileans proves that they were more sinful than all the other Galileans? No, I tell you, but unless you change your hearts and lives, you will die just as they did. What about those eighteen people who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them? Do you think that they were more guilty of wrongdoing than everyone else who lives in Jerusalem? No, I tell you, but unless you change your hearts and lives, you will die just as they did."

Jesus told this parable: "A man owned a fig tree planted in his vineyard. He came looking for fruit on it and found none. He said to his gardener, 'Look, I've come looking for fruit on this fig tree for the past three years, and I've never found any. Cut it down! Why should it continue depleting the soil's nutrients?' The gardener responded, 'Lord, give it one more year, and I will dig around it and give it fertilizer. Maybe it will produce fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.'"

Sermon "Here You Are: Ground Zero"

Call to Serve and to Give Rev. Horton

Prayer of Dedication Camille Morgan

***Benediction** Rev. Horton

***Congregational Response in Song** Tune: "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

**The world behind me, the cross before me. The world behind me, the cross before me.
The world behind me, the cross before me. No turning back, no turning back.**

Postlude Christopher Kiser

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

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

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...

*Bill Robbins and Family (on the death of his sister, Wendi Greene), Family of Elizabeth "Lib" Sink, Bonita Hooper (recovering at home), Cheryl Walser, Jeff Hutchens, Lee Bouchard, Joyce Phillips, Tony Peele, Tammy Rhodes, Myrtle Latimer

MEMBERS AT HOME AND IN CARE FACILITIES:

Peggy Bates, Sherry Bonner, Ellen Bouchard, Ruth Essick, Pattie Everhart, Vogen Everhart, Gerri Hill, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Marguerite Leonard, Deanna Michael, John Potts & Janette Neal, Carolyn Spivey, Adena Wall

OUR FRIENDS:

*Sarah Lovell Biggers (Jerry & Patti Lovell's daughter), Cindy Tatum (friend of Jerry & Patti Lovell), Marc Frye (friend of the congregation)

CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE FOR ELIZABETH "LIB" ZIMMERMAN SINK

You are invited to join the family of Elizabeth "Lib" Sink for the service at 2:00 this afternoon in the Sanctuary. You may join the family in the Memorial Garden following the service for the Prayer of Committal and Inurnment. Visitation will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

LITURGIST: Camille Morgan	CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Cathy Browder
DIGITAL MEDIA TECH: Kivi & Jia Miller	SOUND TECH: Dave Fulton
ACOLYTE: Lucas Peterson	BIBLE STEWARD: Ethan Lovell
USHERS: Vicky Gray, Lisa Nelson, John Smith, Michell Winters	

CELEBRATIONS

MARCH BIRTHDAYS:	20th... Ted Smith	23rd... Mike Perry
	...Kiaya Plummer	
	...Josh Sink	
	...Billy West	

SUPPORT GROUPS OFFERED BY NAMI

Beginning in **April, on the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 7:00PM**, Cathy Browder will co-facilitate a Family Support Group via Zoom. This is a meeting where people can talk to each other about experiences with a loved one who has a mental health diagnosis. Please contact Cathy at cmbrowder@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like to join the current meetings.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER PARTNERS

Intercessory Prayer is a powerful ministry. Praying for another person helps us connect more deeply to each other and amplify needs before God. While we pray together on Sundays, emergencies and unexpected circumstances happen during the week. In these cases, would you volunteer to be part of an **Intercessory Prayer Partner Ministry?** Like a prayer chain, this begins by calling one of our ministers, the church office, or Patti Lovell with your prayer request. It will then be shared immediately with volunteers who have **made a commitment to offer intercessory prayer immediately when they receive the message.** Communication will be either text or phone call. If you would like be on the list as an **Intercessory Prayer Partner, please call or text Patti Lovell at (336) 309-9302.** We'd like to have the list completed by Easter Sunday.

VERNON GASTON (V.G.) PRICE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS! Applications are due to the church office by March 31. You can contact the church office for an application.

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

RESTORATION

Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need - y,
Come, ye thirst - y, come, and wel - come,
Come, ye wea - ry, heav - y - la - den,
Let not con - science make you lin - ger,

3
weak and wound - ed, sick and sore; Je - sus read - y stands to save you,
God's free boun - ty glo - ri - fy; True be - lief and true re - pen - tance,
Lost and ru - ined by the fall; If you tar - ry till you're bet - ter,
Nor of fit - ness fond - ly dream; All the fit - ness He re - quir - eth

7 *Refrain*
full of pit - y, love, and power. I will a - rise and go to Je - sus,
Ev - ery grace that brings you nigh.
You will nev - er come at all.
Is to feel your need of Him.

11
He will em - brace me in His arms; In the arms of my dear Sav - ior,

15
O there are ten thou - sand charms.

Just as I Am, Without One Plea

WOODWORTH LM

Charlotte Elliott, 1834

William Batchelder Bradbury, 1849
Harm. *The Hymnbook*, 1955

1. Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy
2. Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a
3. Just as I am, Thou wilt re - ceive, Wilt wel - come,
4. Just as I am, Thy love un - known Has bro - ken

blood was shed for me, And that Thou biddest me
con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with -
par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; Be - cause Thy prom - ise
ev - ery bar - rier down; Now to be Thine, yea,

come to Thee,
in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
I be - lieve, Thine a - lone,
Thine a - lone,

Music: Harmonization copyright, MCMLV, by John Ribble; renewed 1983; from *The Hymnbook*, published by Westminster Press.