

FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Lexington, NC

APRIL 2022

A MESSAGE FROM REV. HORTON

Dear Beloved Community,

The trees and flowers show us the beautiful signs of new life all around us; A much needed reminder that God, even in the dormant days, is ever present, bringing forth a new thing!

At the beginning of the year, when Paula Lopp and Carolyn Robbins both announced their retirement within a few weeks of each other, I admit my first reaction was to panic just a bit. This dynamic duo as Financial Secretary and Administrative Assistant has provided such a solid foundation for this church... professional, diligent, gracious, helpful.

What would we do?

The next step needed in the Church Office was a new position to combine the growing needs in communication, office management, and finance... A Church Administrator. The Consistory formed a Search Committee of John Gray, Walter Hoffman, Rita Lohr, Clifton Murphy, Renee White, and Smithie Parrish. Together we set to work!

After receiving a good number of applications and going through several interviews, **we are so very excited to announce that Jackie Mock will come on board as the Church Administrator of First Reformed UCC!**

Jackie Mock has a strong background in Business Administration and graduated from Salem College with degrees in both Philosophy and World Religions. She has lived in Davie County for the past 36 years and has three grown children and four grandchildren. For the past eight years she has worked within the UCC and has enjoyed serving a Winston-Salem church and its congregation. Having had such a wonderful experience with the United Church of Christ over the past years, she is excited to continue her journey with First Reformed UCC. Jackie feels that this new direction in her life's path is a blessed gift, and she looks forward to serving



supporting our church and congregation.

After Easter, Jackie will spend about 2 weeks in the church office getting acclimated with Paula and Carolyn. Then, Beginning May 2, she will assume a full-time position as Church Administrator.

I commented the other day, this process is moving much more smoothly than I ever imagined. God indeed is preparing the way for the next step of First Reformed's ministry.

Even though Paula and Carolyn's service as staff members will be complete at the end of April, thankfully, they both will remain members of this church and our beloved sisters in Christ.

Now that I am over my panic, I am excited to see what God is calling them to do in this next chapter of their lives.

To God be the Glory!
Elizabeth

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Bonita Hooper, Jeff Hutchens, Lee Bouchard, 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:

*Janice Mullineaux (Cathy Browder's mother), *Charm & Steve Ketner, Sarah Lovell Biggers (Jerry & Patti Lovell's daughter), Marc Frye (friend of the congregation)

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear First Reformed UCC,

Thanks to all the First Reformed UCC Family that assisted with the Celebration of Life Service for Lib Sink. She dearly loved our church, and you returned that love with your honor and remembrance, making it a beautiful celebration.

Irvin Sink

**AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF APPRECIATION
HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE FOLLOWING
BENEVOLENCE:**

SALVATION ARMY

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Larry Link
Ashlee Snider
- 5 Caroline Hooper
- 7 Mike Brown
- 8 John Potts
- 9 Wesley Gould
Eulene Shepherd
- 11 Clifton Murphy
- 12 Kyle Winters
- 15 Chris Fulton
- 18 Amy Smith Golden
- 20 Cynthia Crowell Little
- 22 Nadia Freeman
- 24 Becca McKerlie
- 26 Hense Walser
Sylvia Walser
- 28 Emma Hartle
Pam Sink
- 29 Kay Crouse

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 2nd
Joe & Cathy Browder
- 10th
Jeremy & Ellen Peterson
- 13th
Lee & Ellen Bouchard
- 14th
Brian McKerlie & Mike Price
- 17th
Mike & Laura Perry
- 21st
Casey & Keri Hartle
- 22nd
Edgar & Kivi Miller
- 24th
Travis & Renee White

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE IN APRIL

LITURGISTS:

- APRIL 3: Paula Lopp
APRIL 10: Marge Doty
APRIL 17: Rev. June Grubb
APRIL 24: Clifton Murphy

SOUND TECHNICIAN:

James Gray

DIGITAL MEDIA TECH:

April 3
Kivi & Jianna Miller

April 10
Kivi & Ava Miller

April 17 & 24
Jeremy Peterson

ACOLYTES:

April 6
Lucas Peterson

April 13, 20 & 27
Emma Hartle

BIBLE STEWARD:

April 6
Ethan Lovell

April, 13, 20 & 27
Jacob Hartle

USHERS:

APRIL 3
Lisa Nelson, Ted Smith,
Michell Winters

APRIL 10
Ted Smith

APRIL 14 (Maundy Thursday)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

APRIL 17
Lisa Nelson, John Smith,
Michell Winters

APRIL 24
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

APRIL CHILDREN & YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

SUNDAY CHILDREN'S CHURCH
(volunteer [HERE](#)) (Theater Room)

- 3: **Volunteer Needed**
10: Cathy Browder
17: Jeremy Lovell
24: **Volunteer Needed**

SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP
(volunteer [HERE](#)) (Youth Room)

- 3: **Volunteer Needed**
10: **Jeremy Lovell**
17: **Volunteer Needed**
24: **Volunteer Needed**

WEDNESDAY NIGHT
CHILDREN'S FUN & GAMES
(volunteer [HERE](#)) (Fellowship Hall)

- 6: **2 Volunteers Needed**
13: **Jeremy Lovell**
Volunteer Needed
20: **Marge Doty**
Volunteer Needed
27: **Rev. Evan Sieges**
Volunteer Needed

WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH
(volunteer [HERE](#)) (Youth Room)

- 6: Stacy Sosebee-West
Evan Sieges
13: David Fulton
Evan Sieges
20: June Grubb
Evan Sieges
27: **2 Volunteers Needed**

STAFF ANNIVERSARY

Carolyn Robbins
April 24th
(5 Years)

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES IN APRIL

Rev. June Grubb

The season of Lent began with Ash Wednesday. The season is both rich and scary. Rich because we are invited to dig deep into our faith practices and determine if we are on the right path to becoming disciples of Jesus Christ. We are encouraged to look at our whole lives and then lay them alongside of the life of Christ and see how we measure up. That is where the scary part comes in.

Being honest with ourselves is a difficult exercise; that's part of why we need forty days to do it. It takes diligence and discipline and a whole lot of grace to see ourselves as we truly are.

The Sunday morning Bible study that began in March has as its guiding image Jesus' own words. In Luke 13:34 Jesus tells us how he wants "to gather us up, like a mother hen gathers her brood."

The Season of Lent is a time to learn in our self-examination that we are what might be most in need of transformation. We might find that

what we might need to grow in faith and discipleship is the church, and that the transformation of the world begins with building bridges and gathering up rather than condemnation. So, as this Lenten season continues, we will continue to seek to be "**GATHERED UP IN JESUS.**"

Sunday morning bible study continues in person at 9:30AM in the church parlor.

April 3rd Fifth Sunday in Lent

Filled with the Fragrance

John 12:1-8

Mary anoints Jesus with perfume

April 10th Palm Sunday

Stations of Holy Week

April 17th Easter Sunday

No Sunday School

April 24th

No Sunday School

HOLY WEEK 2022

PALM AND PASSION SUNDAY

10:30am Worship

(In-person and livestreamed via YouTube and Facebook)

STATIONS OF HOLY WEEK

Visitors of all ages can participate in a walk-through, multisensory worship experience in our church sanctuary beginning Maundy Thursday, April 14 through Saturday, April 16. Travel the path Jesus walked the last night of His life. Holy Communion will be served.

(SEE NEXT PAGE FOR A SCHEDULE)

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Join us in the sanctuary for Maundy Thursday worship. We hope you can join us at 7:00PM for a meaningful service about The Last Supper. Holy Communion will be served.

FLOWERS FOR THE CROSS

Bring flowers or potted plants any time during Stations of Holy Week or Easter Sunday to leave at the Easter Cross.

EASTER SUNDAY

10:30am Worship

In-person worship in the sanctuary and livestreamed via YouTube and Facebook. (Hopefully, we will have butterflies again this year to release following worship.)

Stations of Holy Week

*A walk-through, multisensory
Worship Experience for All Ages*

**The Sanctuary
First Reformed UCC
22 East Center Street
Lexington, NC**

Thursday, April 14, 4-7:00

Friday, April 15, 4-7:00

Saturday, April 16 10-12:00

*Travel the path Jesus walked
the last night of His life.*

Holy Communion served.



MARCH MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

IN MEMORY OF MARY BERRIER

First Reformed UCC
Friendship Club

IN MEMORY OF KITTY ANDERSON (KATHLEEN DANZE'S MOTHER)

Jerry & Aurelia Smith
Eddie & Belinda Yates

IN MEMORY OF WENDI GREENE (BILL ROBBINS' SISTER)

John & Vicky Gray
Cliff & Paula Lopp
Tony & Lee Ann Peele
Jerry & Aurelia Smith
Cathy & Steve Waitman

IN MEMORY OF BARBARA MILLER (EDDIE YATES' MOTHER)

Jerry & Aurelia Smith

IN MEMORY OF ASHLEY THOMASON (RON & HEIDI HUTCHESON'S DAUGHTER-IN-LAW)

Jerry & Aurelia Smith
Eddie & Belinda Yates

IN MEMORY OF JIMMY WAITMAN (CATHY WAITMAN'S BROTHER-IN-LAW)

Cliff & Paula Lopp
Tony & Lee Ann Peele
Bill & Carolyn Robbins

IN MEMORY OF RONALD YATES (EDDIE YATES' FATHER)

Jerry & Aurelia Smith

IN MEMORY OF ELIZABETH "LIB" SINK

J. W. Bates
Steven & Karen Beck
Anne Bevan
Glenn & Kenna Bullard
Bunce Building, Beth Bunce
Craig & Robin Cagle

Davidson County
Senior Chorus
First Reformed UCC Choir

First Reformed UCC
Friendship Club
First Reformed UCC Morning
Glory Circle

First National Bank,
Welcome Branch

John & Vicky Gray
Gerri Hill
Merle & Jerry Hodges
Rob & Beverly Holton
Steve & Charm Ketner
Frank Leonard
Marguerite Leonard
Buddy & Rita Lohr
Phillip Lohr
Cliff & Paula Lopp
Thomas McInnis
Deanna Michael

Pete & Martha Moore
& Family

Rick & Chris Motsinger
Mountcastle Insurance

Craig Napolliello
Calvin & Susan Odom
Tony & Lee Ann Peele
Kent & Sherri Phillips
Thomas & Joyce Phillips

IN MEMORY OF ELIZABETH "LIB" SINK

John Potts & Janette Neal
Bill & Carolyn Robbins
Jerry & Aurelia Smith
John & Susie Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Smith
Reida & Robert Snider
Mick & Myra Spach
Carolyn & Carroll Spivey
Tony & Carolyn Townsend
Charles R. Underwood
Karen Vasquez
Cathy & Steve Waitman
Sylvia & Joni Walser
Sam & Karen Watford
Eddie & Belinda Yates

Irvin's Golf Buddies
Hicks & Jan Beam
Sonny & Karen Biesecker
Max & Libby Carrick
Jerry & Cathy Chipman
Barry & Rose Fitzgerald
Tommy & Judy Grubbs
Jerry & Tricia Laws
Mike & Ruffin Morgan
Marvin & Carol Sandifer
Greg & Ashlei Wilder

SPECIAL EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH

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 to 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.



SPREAD THE NEWS



Sherry Bonner, a resident of Brookdale Assisted Living, was asked to help bring music to residents in the Alzheimer and Memory Care Unit of the facility. As a long-time member of First Reformed's choir, this was a request she willingly accepted. After working with these residents only for a short time, it was evident how quickly they reacted to the music and singing, and it touched her heart.

She needs a little help building a music library. Someone has already donated a CD player to her, but she needs CDs to play.

If you have CDs you are willing to donate to her for this worthwhile purpose, you can drop them off at the office, and we'll get them to her. It doesn't matter the genre or the year. Oldie Goldies will be great, too!

MARCH BLOOD DRIVE

Alice and James Gray reported sixteen units of blood were collected at the Red Cross Blood Drive on March 16. Special thanks to Eddie Yates for his assistance during the event. **The next drive is scheduled for Thursday, May 26.** If you are able, please consider donating blood at that time.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

The Lexington chapter of PFLAG is offering three \$2000 scholarships to seniors in the Davidson County School System (including Lexington & Thomasville City). Applications are available at all of the high schools or you may obtain more information on our Facebook page or email info@pflaglexingtonnc.org. Please share this information with family and friends with high school seniors. **(More information about each scholarship can be found on page 8.)**

WOMEN'S LIFE FELLOWSHIP IS GETTING BACK TOGETHER AGAIN

On Monday, March 14, members of Women's Life Fellowship met in the kitchen to help prepare the meal for the Crisis Ministry Shelter. The ladies prepared a delicious meal of baked ham, macaroni and cheese, green beans and corn, rolls, brownies and ice tea. Thank you, Mike Brown, for baking the hams and Lena Johnson, for the homemade yeast rolls. Glenyce Fulton, June Grubb, Paula Lopp, Harriette Murphy, Smithie Parrish, Carolyn Robbins, Cathy Waitman and Belinda Yates were all present to make sure everything was cooked just right. Bonita Hooper was unable to attend, but contributed monetarily to the meal. We served approximately 50 people at the shelter.

While together in the kitchen, the ladies discussed getting back together again for our monthly meetings. Our first meeting will be held at 6:30 on April 25th at the home of Paula Lopp. We are having a SALAD POT LUCK...so bring your favorite **salad recipes** to share. (This can be any type of salad: tossed, layered., fruit, pasta, chicken, green bean, three bean, Jell-O™...) If you are interested in attending, Paula's address is in the church directory, or you may contact the church office for details.

We are all anxious to get back together for some good food and Christian fellowship after so much time apart. As Rev. Horton says quite often, "Where two or three are gathered..." [Matthew 18: 20]

CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS...MARCH 2022

Consistory met on Sunday, March 6, 2022 at 11:45 AM both in-person and via Zoom.

BOARD REPORTS:

Board of Evangelism.....Dave Fulton

The subcommittee on Church Promotions is partnering with Davidson Local, an online local news and events resource. We can submit four stories per month and be able to link to our church website and Facebook page. Also, a new "Be the Church" sign has been ordered, as well as Saturday Lunch Ministry signs.

Board of Property ManagementJohn Smith

Pine needles for the church grounds and additional electrical outlets for the parlor are planned.

Board of Worship and Sacrament.....Lisa Nelson

New dollies for the pianos in the sanctuary and fellowship hall are being considered.

Board of Business Management & StewardshipAlane Holste

Average weekly offering deposited in February 2022: **\$4,100** (Average weekly offering needed to meet the budget: **\$6,149**) Offering was up from January, even though February was a short month, because we missed a couple Sunday's in January due to inclement weather. However, we are still below what we need to budget.

Pastor's Report.....Rev. Horton Don Morgan, retired minister, Massachusetts Conference, has requested transfer of membership to FRUCC.

OLD BUSINESS:

Setting Up Boards

Board chairpersons continue to finalize committees and members.

Review Covid Protocols

The new church policy for Covid Protocols:

- masks are optional
- encourage social distancing
- encourage small group meetings of 25 or less in the Fellowship Hall

Saturday Lunch Ministry.....John Maze

We continue to work on a place to store supplies in the church. The application to partner with Second Harvest Food Bank revealed too many restrictions to benefit the church. We can get a pallet of food from a local ministry. We will try this and continue to network with Macedonia Church and Grace Episcopal Church.

Update on Parlor: Moving Forward

The cabinets and countertops are on order. A decision will be made about electrical outlets. A Parlor Dedication is being planned.

NEW BUSINESS:

A request from Jianna Miller to use Fellowship Hall on June 4 in connection with your Girl Scout Gold Award project was approved.

Update on Interviews Office Staff

The Executive Board and others held meetings and interviews regarding the Church Administrator position. Second-round interviews are planned for next week.

Upcoming Calendar Events

Events for the remainder of March and plans for April, especially the Easter season and Family Support through NAMI, were reviewed.

Use of nametags for church members will be discussed by the Board of Congregational Life.

Greening of the Church: A NC Chapter of Interfaith Power and Light can survey the church buildings for reduction of carbon footprint to determine if the church can save money with utilities.

Next Consistory Meeting: April 10, 2022 to be held in the Fellowship Hall & via Zoom

NEWS FROM THE BOARD OF EVANGELISM

Dave Fulton

Beginning in April, First Reformed will begin a new relationship with **Davidson Local** for six months. Davidson Local is an "electronic newspaper" that runs local Davidson County news articles. They have between 40,000-50,000 views per month. So, we think that this is a great way to get our name out in the community. You can view/subscribe to their daily local email by going to www.davidsonlocal.com or search for their Facebook or Instagram accounts.

We will have a banner at the top of their home page that advertises our church. We will also be able to include up to four stories per month that describe some of

the ministries of our church. These stories will be included in their Saturday edition. Along with the stories, we will also be able to include pictures with these articles.

We need your permission to use your or your families' pictures in any of our printed or electronic platforms. Below is a permission slip for you to either agree or disagree to have your pictures placed in any of the church's social media or printed material. Please return this permission slip to the church office as soon as possible.

These permission slips will be available in Sunday bulletins and weekly emails. Copies will also be available in the office.

First Reformed United Church of Christ

104 East Center Street
Lexington, NC 27292

PHOTO & VIDEO PERMISSION FORM

Participation in church activities may involve snapshots and videos. These pictures may be used on social media and for other resources.

I give my permission (circle one) **YES** **NO** to use photographs/videos of me at church activities on social media or other platforms.

Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

CLOTHES MINISTRY

Jerry Lovell

The Clothing Ministry is moving into the spring season and we're experiencing changes in our needs. The demand for heavy winter coats no longer exists. There is an increased need for boys and girls clothing in all sizes, because the number of families being served has increased. There are the ever-present continued requests for jeans, sweatpants, sweatshirts, and waterproof jackets. As Covid restrictions are being lifted, we are just beginning to explore ways to reopen our Clothes Closet.

We would like for folks to be able to come inside and shop for themselves. Establishing

store hours, limiting the number of shoppers inside at one time, and asking shoppers to wear masks are some of the guidelines that need to be discussed and determined. Orders would continue to be accepted and filled from Meals on Wheels recipients.

We believe that the needs of the community would be better addressed with possible revisions. Thank you for your continued support in making a difference!

(See below a copy of a thank-you note received from someone who was helped with items from our Clothes Ministry.)

To MR JERRY LOVELL, And the People For the Clothing Closet From the Church, My Daughter And I WANT This Morning, To SAY THANK YOU SO MUCH, For the CARE And the CONSIDERATION, THAT WAS GIVEN TO US BY The MEMBERS OF THIS CHURCH FOR THE WONDERFUL THINGS THAT WERE GIVEN TO US. WE JUST WANT TO SAY A PERSONAL THANK YOU TO YOU ALL, For your help TO US, And AS A RESULT OF WHAT WAS GIVEN TO US IT HAS ENABLED US TO BE ABLE TO LOOK FOR EMPLOYMENT And now we're being considered for JOB POSITIONS with SEVERAL DIFFERENT COMPANIES, WHICH HAS MADE US SO HAPPY. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR EVERY GOD BLESS YOU And this wonderful Church, Anselm And her Daughter Shamara (Aldine)

SUPPORT GROUPS OFFERED BY NAMI



Families in Davidson County living with mental illness now have access to support groups offered by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI.) Davidson County is partnering with NW Piedmont NAMI, which already serves Forsyth, Davie and Stokes Counties.

Family Support Group meetings are held via Zoom on the 1st and 3rd Mondays and the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. **Peer-to-Peer Support Group meetings** are held via Zoom on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Joe and Cathy Browder are co-facilitating the Monday Family Support Group meetings. These meetings offer a **safe** and **confidential**

environment where people can talk with each other about experiences with a loved one who has a mental health diagnosis. Attendees offer support and lessons learned to each other. The Monday meetings are currently held via Zoom, from 7:00 - 8:30pm. When COVID restrictions are lifted, at least one of the Mondays each month will be held in person at First Reformed United Church of Christ (FRUCC) at 104 East Center Street, Lexington.

Please contact Cathy if you have any questions or would like to join any of the meetings. (namidavidsoncounty1@gmail.com)

WNCA Spring Educational Forum

APRIL 2, 2022 | 9 AM - 12 PM | Zoom

**SPRING EDUCATIONAL FORUM:
"MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES
DURING AND AFTER THE COVID PANDEMIC"**

PART OF THE WNCA W.I.S.E. COMMITMENT

Keynote Speaker:
Rev. Sarah Griffith Lund, United Church of Christ Minister for Disabilities and Mental Health Justice; Author of "Blessed are the Crazy" and "Blessed Youth"

The second half of the morning will include a panel discussion.
We recommend reading Rev. Lund's book "Blessed are the Crazy".

Tickets \$10 | Free for Youth (under 18)

Western North Carolina Association
of the Southern Conference of the United Church of Christ

Join us for the annual WNCA Spring Educational Forum as we focus on "Mental Health challenges during and after the COVID Pandemic" as part of our commitment to being a W.I.S.E Association.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Rev. Sarah Griffith Lund
Rev. Sarah Griffith Lund serves on the National Staff of The United Church of Christ as the Minister for Disabili-

ties and Mental Health Justice. She is also an ex-officio member of the UCC Mental Health Network Board. An ordained minister with standing in the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church Disciples of Christ, she currently serves as the Senior Pastor at First Congregational United Church of Christ in Indianapolis, Indiana. She is an active community volunteer and serves locally on the board of the Faith and Action Project at Christian Theological Seminary to end poverty. She is the UCC Denominational Representative for Bread for the World Indiana Chapter. She serves nationally as a Trustee of Piedmont University, and as Director of Bethany Fellows, Mental Health America, and as Executive Committee for Pathways to Promise. She is the Open and Affirming LGBTQ Consultant and a member of the Mental Health Ministry Team for the Indiana-Kentucky Conference UCC. She is the past President of the Southeast Association of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference UCC.

RECOMMENDED READING: [Blessed are the Crazy: Breaking the silence about mental illness, family, and the church](#) by Sarah Griffith Lund, originally published in 2014 by chalice press. Rev. Lund's keynote will be based on her book.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

LEXINGTON GARDEN CLUB AWARDS COMMUNITY GARDEN \$1,000 GRANT

Edgar Miller

The Lexington Garden Club continues its strong support for the First Reformed UCC Community Garden thanks to the work of Aurelia Smith and Sylvia Walser. The Club granted the Garden \$1,000 to be used for adding two raised metal beds, purchasing plants and compost, and repairing the irrigation system. 2022 will be a year of rebuilding and renovation in the Garden as rotting boards need to be replaced, soil replenished and paths mulched. We'll still be planting a few beds during the renovation and are looking for church members to volunteer time to assist in the Garden. Please contact Edgar Miller (edgarmiller@gmail.com), Garden Coordinator, if you are interested in volunteering or if you know of anyone who might need some extra cash and would be willing to help in the Garden this summer.



Davidson County Cooperative Extension is developing a planting guide for the Garden. The Kidz Dreamz Klub will be helping out again this year and will be gardening in the raised metal beds. Potatoes will have been planted by the time you read this and hopefully we were able to do that without disturbing a nest of baby bunnies in the bed where we plan to plant them. Momma Bunny knew there would be plenty veggies for them to eat in Garden!



Catawba College Presidential Endowed Scholarship Luncheon

June Grubb

Eugenia Holste and Rev. June Grubb attended the Presidential Endowed Scholarship Luncheon at Catawba College on Tuesday, March 15th. First Reformed UCC shares its endowed scholarship with the Theodore P. and Jacqueline C. Leonard Scholarship.

The recipient this year is Kayla N. Hendrickson. Kayla was unable to attend the luncheon, so they were unable to meet her.

This annual Scholarship Luncheon recognizes the donors and honors the recipients. Each of these endowed scholarships are at or above one million dollars. Last year six new endowed scholarships were added. There were over 125 recipients this year.

What a great honor it is for First Reformed UCC to be a part of this Endowed Scholarship Program that provides financial aid to so many Catawba College students.

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FOR MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS



Discover 2022 ... Catawba College Youth Theological Institute

Register NOW. Registration is now open at www.catawba.edu/discover

High School Session: July 10-15

Middle School: Session: July 17-22

Catawba College will welcome middle and high school students to participate in its Youth Theology Institute for the eighth year this July. Check out our website at www.catawba.edu/discover or email us at discover@catawba.edu.

DISCOVER is a program that challenges youth during this formative time in their lives to engage in careful theological and moral reflection and activity, enabling them to discover God in new ways, especially as incarnational and interactive; discover who they are as children of God; discover how to live out their faith; and discover what they are called to do vocationally.

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS GRADES 4-12



Johns River Valley Camp is making plans to provide Outdoor Ministry opportunities during the summer of 2022. COVID protocols are still being determined but we will put Camper safety first. Camps will be provided for Campers grades 4-12. Church youth groups and others are asked to inquire about our "Hospitality Model" in which you work with our staff to plan and provide a retreat experience which meets your group's unique needs. We also continue to invite groups to plan Mission Camps involving meaningful projects and ministry opportunities. Please use [THIS LINK](#) for a copy of the flyer for 2022 Johns River Valley Camps for the summer. With [THIS LINK](#) you will find more information about the camps and can register online.

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR COLUMBARIUM CARETAKER: RICH JOHNSON

The First Reformed columbarium was established over thirty years ago. Since then, this memorial garden has been a place of solitude and solace for the many families whose loved ones reside here for eternal rest.

Each niche in the columbarium can hold two small urns. To be ready for an inurnment service takes quite a bit of preparation. For many years Rich Johnson has done the “behind the scenes” work, so that one’s ashes can be placed in the niche.

Rich removes a cover and chisels out the bricks in order to get the niche ready for the inurnment ceremony.

After the urn is placed into the niche, Rich makes sure the space is sealed up tight and installs the memorial marker.

No matter the weather, Rich shows up before the family arrives and remains until they leave...always discrete and always dependable! We depend on Rich for this ministry we might not always notice, but that is essential.

Rich, Thank you so much for caring for our Columbarium. You make a difference!



PLEASE JOIN US ONLINE
FOR WORSHIP
SUNDAYS AT 10:30AM
ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE
(<https://www.facebook.com/firstreformeducc>)
OR YOUTUBE PAGE
([https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UChfZFOjObXH_bR8E-UG_gTA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChfZFOjObXH_bR8E-UG_gTA))

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

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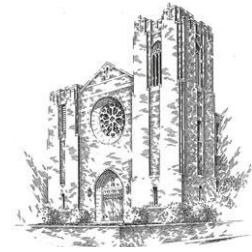
Music Director

Ellen Peterson ellenpeterson@gmail.com

Pianist / Organist

Christopher Kiser cdkiser94@gmail.com

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 YOUTUBE

AND FACEBOOK

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday

8:00am to 12:00pm



Join Us on Facebook:

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

Rejoice
in Easter

APRIL 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 12:30 Saturday Lunch Ministry
3 Holy Communion 5th Sunday of Lent 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship 10:45 Children's Worship 11:45 Prayer Circle Choir Practice 6:00 Youth Group	4 7:00 NAMI Family Support Group (via Zoom)	5 12:00 2CFAR (via Zoom) 7:00 Book Study (via Zoom)	6 6:00 Supper (Parlor) 6:30 Bible Study (Parlor) NO Choir Practice Children's Fun & Games Youth Study	7 4-6:00 Clothes Ministry Work Day	8	9 12:30 Saturday Lunch Ministry
HOLY WEEK						
10 Palm Sunday 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship 10:45 Children's Worship 11:45 Prayer Circle Consistory 6:00 Youth Group	11	12 12:00 2CFAR (via Zoom) 7:00 Book Study (via Zoom)	13 6:00 Supper (Parlor) 6:30 Bible Study (Parlor) Choir Practice Children's Fun & Games Youth Study	14 MAUNDY THURSDAY 4-6:00 Clothes Ministry Work Day 7:00 MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE	15 GOOD FRIDAY	16 12:30 Saturday Lunch Ministry
STATIONS OF HOLY WEEK WALK-THRU MULTI-SENSORY EXPERIENCE (SANCTUARY)				4-7:00	4-7:00	10-12:00
17 EASTER SUNDAY 10:30 Worship 10:45 Children's Worship 11:45 Prayer Circle 6:00 Youth Group	18 7:00 NAMI Family Support Group (via Zoom)	19 12:00 2CFAR (via Zoom) 7:00 Book Study (via Zoom)	20 6:30 NO Choir Practice Children's Fun & Games Youth Study	21 4-6:00 Clothes Ministry Work Day 6:30 PFLAG (FH)	22	23 12:30 Saturday Lunch Ministry (WEDDING)
24 EARTH DAY 10:30 Worship 10:45 Children's Worship 11:45 Prayer Circle 6:00 Youth Group	25 6:30 Women's Life Fellowship (salad potluck meal at Paula's house) ITEMS FOR MAY NEWSLETTER DUE	26 12:00 2CFAR (via Zoom) 7:00 Book Study (via Zoom)	27 6:30 Choir Practice Children's Fun & Games Youth Study	28 4-6:00 Clothes Ministry Work Day	29	30 12:30 Saturday Lunch Ministry



Puzzle!

Using the code, complete this passage based on Ezekiel 34.

CODE
 ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
 ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIHGFEDCBA

"As a _____ looks after his
 H S V K S V I W

_____ when _____ is
 H X Z G G V I V W U O L X P S V

_____ them, so will I _____ after my _____
 D R G S O L L P H S V V K

I will _____ them and _____ them.
 I V H X F V K Z H G F I V

I will _____ for the _____ and bring back
 H V Z I X S O L H G

the _____ I will _____ up the _____
 H G I Z B H Y R M W R M Q F I V W

and _____ the _____. You are my
 H G I V M T G S V M D V Z P

_____ ... and I am your _____."
 H S V V K T L W



PUZZLE

Resurrection refresher

All four gospels confirm Jesus' resurrection, and each one offers important details.

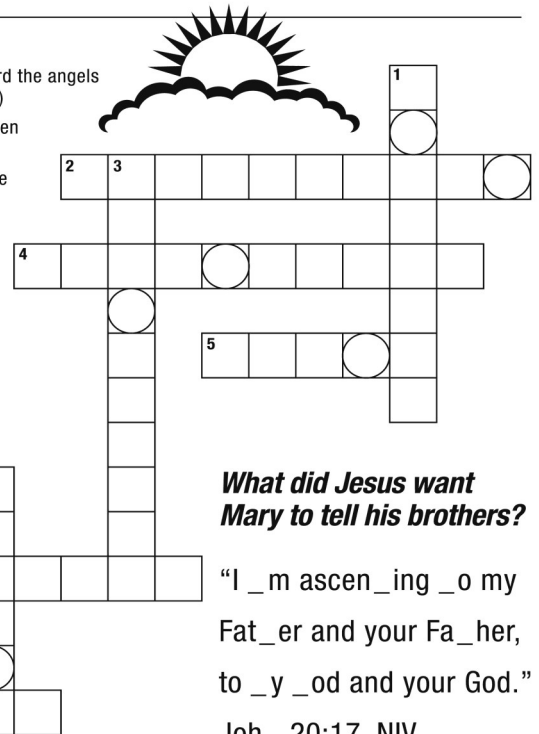
Directions: Complete the crossword. Then insert the circled letters (in order of the clue numbers) to complete John 20:17 below.

ACROSS

- The women did this when they heard the angels talk about Jesus' death. (Luke 24:8)
- The women at the tomb did this when they saw Jesus. (Matthew 28:9)
- The man in Jesus' empty tomb wore this color robe. (Mark 16:5)
- Jesus instructed his brothers to go here. (Matthew 28:10)
- Peter saw strips of this in the tomb. (Luke 24:12)

DOWN

- At first, Mary thought Jesus was this person. (John 20:15)
- As an angel came from heaven, this happened. (Matthew 28:2)
- She went with Mary to anoint Jesus' body. (Mark 16:1)



What did Jesus want Mary to tell his brothers?

"I _ m ascen _ ing _ o my
 Fat _ er and your Fa _ her,
 to _ y _ od and your God."
 Joh _ 20:17, NIV

Egg Hunt Bouquet

Transform an egg carton into a Mother's Day keepsake.

What you need:

- Clean cardboard egg carton
- Scissors
- Acrylic paint and paintbrush
- Flat cardboard
- Photo, drawing or note
- Small pom-poms
- Hot glue
- Adult help

What you do:

- Bend, stretch and cut the carton cups to make 3-D flower shapes. Also cut leaf shapes from the carton top.
- Paint the flowers and leaves. Let dry.
- Cut the flat cardboard to a size and shape you desire. Leave a border at least 2 inches larger than your photo, drawing or note.
- With hot glue, attach the photo, drawing or note to the cardboard.
- Arrange and glue flowers and leaves around the border. Attach pom-poms for more color and texture.
- Present the gift to your mom or a special woman in your life.