

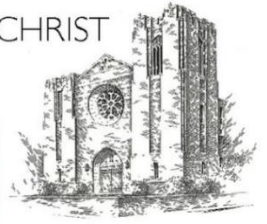
July 2022 Newsletter

Sunday, July 3rd
Charles England Elementary
Back to School Supply Drive
Kick - Off



First REFORMED

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Lexington, North Carolina



No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, expect extravagant welcomes here.

Join Sunday Worship on Youtube:

http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHfZFOjObXH_bR8E-UG_gTA

Welcoming Statement

If you are searching for a place to experience God's wonderful 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.

We affirm and celebrate the diversity of God's children as a blessing. We welcome you to First Reformed United Church of Christ.

A Message From

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

As we enter July, we long for a carefree summer, yet we know life is incredibly difficult for many in this season. We feel "on edge" wondering what will happen next...with our health, our job, our family, our government, our community, our church, and even our Faith.

We often assume that when our faith is on edge, we have waivered or fallen short. This is incorrect.

Throughout Scripture, we see our ancestors struggle with seasons of doubt, endure long nights when Fear, anger, and loss of hope take over.

On the Edge is our July sermon series on 3 prophets: Elisha, Amos, Hosea. The prophets show us that a life of faith is a life lived on the edge, always a bit out of place. They speak the uncomfortable truths we don't like to hear, which in turn, puts most folks on edge.

But those who are willing to listen, will also hear the prophets speaking words of hope and promise even to the ones who are living on the edge.

These prophets will take us places we don't want to go, yet places where God is calling us... For when we stand on the edge, we just might have a glimpse of the glory that awaits...

This summer, let us stand together On the Edge of Faith.

On the Edge of Faith Series

July 3	2 Kings 5:1-14	In need of Healing
July 10	Amos 7: 1-17	In need of Vision
July 17	Amos 8: 1-12	In need of Clarity
July 24	Rev. Evan Sieges Preaching	
July 31	Hosea 11: 1-11	In Need of
Perseverance		

**Join Elizabeth Wednesday
July 13 – From 11am-1pm
to volunteer with Y on Wheels.**

The YMCA delivers lunch and funtime to Lexington public housing neighborhoods not in walking distance of the YMCA.

They bring food, toys, games, and art supplies. The Bookmobile and Lexington Police Department are there. All we need to do is show up and help.

This is a wonderful way to build bridges in the community and do hands on ministry. Let Elizabeth know if you want to help!

elizabeth@frucc.org



the Y ON WHEELS

BRINGING THE YMCA TO YOU!

BUS WILL COME ON MONDAY
Pleasant Village 11:00-11:50 AM
Club Apartments Noon - 1:00 p.m.

BUS WILL COME ON WEDNESDAY
Helen Caple 11:00-11:50 AM
Terrance Lane Noon - 1:00 p.m.

FREE!!!!
LUNCH, GAMES, READING
AND A WHOLE LOT OF FUN!

Here are other ways to get connected in ministry at FRUCC this summer. Give one a try!

- Help plant or harvest in our Community Garden
- Join in helping in a Saturday lunch
- Fold, sort or give away in the Clothing Ministry
- Be a partner with Charles England elementary.
- Join in book study, even if it's already started
- Drop in on Crucial Conversations on Faith and Race
- visit or write cards to those on our prayer list
- Come in Person or Zoom to Sunday Bible Study
- Read in worship
- Help with children and youth
- Help others find their way as an Usher or greeter in worship service
- Stay in the balcony as a Sound Tech
- Play with the cameras and equipment as you help live stream
- Sing in Choir
- Attend the monthly Women's Fellowship gathering





VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

to work in the
First Reformed UCC Community Garden

If you would like to give of your time and green thumb to help in the garden, please contact:

Edgar Miller at 366-688-2651

SAVE THE DATE!

July 23rd from 10am to 12pm
Garden Workday

Saturday Free Lunch Ministry

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Contact: John Maze
Mazejmaze1@aol.com



First Reformed Clothing Ministry

Get involved - **VOLUNTEER**

The FRUCC Clothing Ministry reaches many people in need each and every week. Volunteer to help support this program that is growing by the day.

Volunteers needed for Saturdays during the Saturday Free Lunch hours.

Contact: Jerry Lovell

Charles England Elementary School



Making a Difference

First Reformed United Church of Christ is an amazing church. I believe God looks upon us and says with great passion, "Well done, good and faithful servants...". We are a very gifted community of faith, and we are using our gifts to serve God's realm and realize the everlasting design of our Creator

Here at First Reformed, we are seriously involved in missions that bring hope to many who would have much less if it were not for our talents and financial contributions. One of those missions is to the students of Charles England Elementary School. These third, fourth, and fifth grade children receive blessings in four ways from our church family. First, by our donations of non-perishable foods to the "Back-packing Ministry". Second, through our gifts of school supplies and medical needs. Third, when we take the time and the money to go to the store and buy special items of clothing that we take for granted but are so very important to students.

Finally, the most important blessing that we give is ourselves. Through our voluntary contributions, our time given to actually doing "hands of ministry", and interacting with the students, we make a difference in their lives. I have never heard one volunteer in my forty-five years of ministry, who has finished a project working with children, say that they were not blessed more than the blessing they gave.

Our Charles England Ministry needs you all year long. Please help when you are available and, you too, will make a difference.

Blessings for your journey,
Jay Whitley

Charles England Elementary School School Supply Drive Kick-off Sunday, July 3rd

**Every SUNDAY
throughout July to Mid-August
please bring your donations.**

Boxes will be in the back of the sanctuary each Sunday for dropping items off. You can also drop items off at the church office during the week. Thank you all in advance for your support of this mission!

Ben Hale and Jay Whitley

Classroom Needs:

Boxes of tissues
Hand sanitizer
Hand soap
Copy paper
(for printers)
Colored copy paper
Ink pens - any color
Pencils
Notebook paper

Backpack Supplies

Crayola Crayons
Crayola colored pencils
Composition books
Spiral Notebook (wide-ruled)
Spiral Notebook (college ruled)
Wide Ruled loose leaf paper
College ruled loose leaf paper
Ticonderoga pencils
Dry erase markers
Glue sticks
Kid scissors
Folders with and without prongs
(if possible plastic)
Highlighters
Index cards

Medical Cabinet Needs:

Band-Aids, all sizes
Hard Candy - peppermint
(for coughs)
Cotton balls or small round pads

Clothing Needs: (Ages 5 - 11) Items for both boys and girls

New or Very Gently used: Basketball shorts & sweatpants
New: tennis shoes, leggings (girls), and underwear boys & girls (packaged)



Women's Life Fellowship...

Ladies from Women's Life Fellowship and the Morning Glory Circle met together on June 29 for lunch at Yarborough's Restaurant. Paula Lopp called the meeting to order. Carolyn Robbins shared a devotional about "Holy Humor," the main idea being that we, as creatures of God, couldn't think things are funny without the whole idea of humor having come from God in the first place. Several examples from various scriptures supported the idea that God did, indeed, have a sense of humor.

Belinda Yates gave a treasurer's report, updating on purchases made to replace needed items in the kitchen. We were also reminded that a contribution for the Youth Work Camp sponsored by Journey Church would be made so snacks for the 80-100 youth may be purchased.

Tony Staley, President and CEO of Davidson County Lodge #97 of the Fraternal Order of Police, was introduced to our group. He share information about the work they do and they're various projects and holiday activities provided for children and seniors in our community. It was agreed that we would make a contribution to benefit their programs.

Paula shared that Rita Lohr, not able to attend today, had thanked members of Women's Life for inviting the Morning Glory Circle to join with them and create one fellowship group. Everyone agreed to continue lunch meetings on the fourth Wednesday of each month. As a new group, in the future we will be called **Women's Fellowship**.

We will revisit the idea of a salad and baked potato fundraiser at a later date, since we are aware of COVID cases on the rise again. It is hopeful that in the fall, we will be able to resume the pumpkin activity in October. This was always something popular with our children and youth.

Cathy Waitman volunteered to provide devotions at our next meeting. We also will elect new officers for our group. **Our next meeting will again be at Yarborough's Restaurant at 11:30 on Wednesday, July 27th.** Mark your calendars now. All women of the church are invited to join us. Contact Paula Lopp or Carolyn Robbins or any other member of our group if you are interested.

**A special thank you goes to June Grubb for sharing leftover birthday cake from her June 28 birthday for our dessert after lunch. (It was delicious!)

NAMI UPDATE

Submitted by Cathy Browder

We've been busy getting NAMI information out in the community! We had tables at the Lexington Multicultural Festival and at Lexington Pride 2022. We have been invited to work with the Davidson County Crisis Intervention Team Partnership. In August we will attend the Health Equity Conference sponsored by the City of Lexington. The work that began at FRUCC is impacting our community.

If you have any questions about NAMI or would like to participate in any activity please reach out to Cathy at 704-502-9095 or email NAMIDavidsoncounty1@gmail.com.



NAMI will not have our monthly Family Support Group on Monday, July 4 due to the holiday.

NAMI Family Support Group meetings for July will be:
Tues., July 12; Mon., July 18 and Tues., July 26.
Please email NAMIDavidsoncounty1@gmail.com
to receive a link to these meetings.

Sunday Morning Bible Study Series For July and August

Title of the series: *Prophet Margins*

We will dig into the prophets who stood on the margins. What might we learn if we took the risk to listen? If we took the risk to let these holy ones of God become our traveling companions on our summer journey? We might be troubled, and we will be, but we might also be lifted up. We might be challenged, but we might find reasons for hope, or we might find a renewed vision that inspires us for all the journeys we make. So, are you up for a journey this summer, a journey to the edge of our faith? Then, you are ready for "Prophet Margins." You may also note that Rev. Elizabeth's sermons tap into these same scripture passages. And, our bible study helps us prepare for worship. Come join us in the Church parlor at 9:30 a.m. Each Sunday of July and August.

Sunday, July 3rd

"Wash and Be Clean" Elisha
2 Kings 5:1-14, Psalm 30, Luke 10:1-11,
16-20

Facilitator: June Grubb

Sunday, July 10th

"What Do You See?"

Amos 7:7-17, Psalm 82, Luke 10:25-37

Facilitator: Cathy Whitley

Sunday, July 17th

"Living In A Bitter Day"

Amos:8:1-12, Psalm 52, Luke 10:38-42

Facilitator: Smithie Parrish

Sunday, July 24th

"Pity On The House"

Hosea1:2-10, Psalm 85, Luke 11:1-13

Facilitator: Smithie Parrish

Sunday, July 31st

"Cords of Kindness"

Hosea 11:1-11, Psalm 107:1-9, 43

Facilitator: June Grubb

Sunday, August 7th

"Learn To Do Good"

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20, Psalm 50:1-8,22-23,

Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16

Facilitator: Eulene Shepherd

Sunday, August 14th

"Yielding Wild Grapes"

Isaiah 5:1-7, Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19,

Luke 12:49-56

Facilitator: June Grubb

Sunday, August 21st

"I Knew You"

Jeremiah 1:4-10, Psalm 71:1-6,

Luke 13:10-17

Facilitator: Cathy Whitley

Sunday, August 28th

"Cracked Cisterns"

Jeremiah2:4-13m Psalm 81:1, 10-16,

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Facilitator: Eugenia Holste

Tuesday Night Book Study 7pm on Zoom

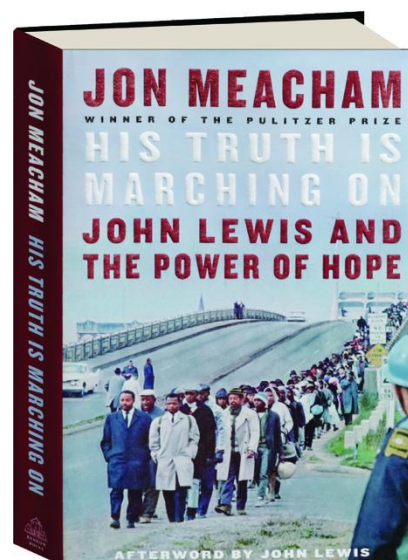
Meeting IDL 846 9163 5471

Passcode: Faith

Direct Zoom Link in Weekly Emails
and online Newsletter

Featured Book:

His Truth is Marching On
John Lewis and the Power of Hope



Celebrations –Thank You’s – Welcomes – Aniversaries

To my FRUCC Family: Thank you for all the cards, calls and visits on my 90th birthday! ~Peggy Bates~



Peggy Bates celebrated her 90th birthday June 22, 2022 with friends from FRUCC. They enjoyed cake and ice-cream!

Thank You
Heidi and Ron Hutcheson
For the Donations of:
Your time to help create Church Logo
Personalized Church Pencils
Pens and Magnets
Communication Cards in Pews
Yard signs for:
Saturday Lunch Ministry
Clothing Ministry
Be The Church Banner and...
Window Clings
We are so appreciative!



Margarite Leonard celebrates her 101st birthday July 3, 2022
Happy Birthday Margarite!!!



WELCOME TO NEW CHURCH MEMBERS OF FRUCC CAMILL & CASEY BALL And their daughter SELAH

The Ball family joined FRUCC Sunday, June 26th, 2022. Camill and Selah were both baptized and Casey transferred for Union Hill Baptist. Casey works for Stamey's BBQ in Tyro as a manager and Camill also works there as a lead waitress.

We are very happy to have you at First Reformed UCC



Happy 10th Anniversary to Ellen Peterson!

10 years ago First Reformed UCC made a wonderful decision to ask Ellen Peterson to direct the choir! Since then, she has helped this church grow in love and faith through music. Ellen not only directs the choir, but during COVID, she was instrumental in creating the digital worship service.

Ellen helps coordinate special music, is an integral part of leading worship, and makes the livestream accessible through YouTube. Not to mention she shares her beautiful voice in song!

Ellen's ministry in music is far reaching and she makes such a difference in the lives of many.

Ellen, we celebrate you and your amazing talents and gifts that you so freely share with the Congregation.

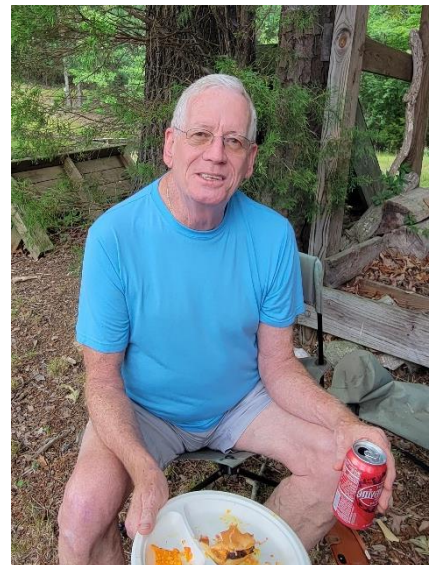


First Reformed Church Picnic

What a great time!!!

Sunday, June 14th, 80 people came to enjoy the FRUCC church picnic. Everyone joined in singing hymns accompanied by Ken Davis as well as enjoyed his music leading up to the outdoor worship service. Afterwards there were hamburgers and hotdogs, chips, drinks, and an ice-cream bar for dessert. Children and adults enjoyed tours of Wildcat Mountain and the story of the new totem pole. We are thankful to Steve Smith and his family for the letting FRUCC use their facility for the picnic. We are also thankful for the talents of Suzie Smith, who coordinated the event and gathered volunteers and family to assist in making this a great picnic for all!









**A GREAT
DAY
FOR A
CHURCH
PICNIC!**



Sunday, July 31, 2022

Scheduled for 3-5:00pm

(Time may change slightly – Watch in weekly emails)

Come join in a
Community Worship Service
At the Breeden Amphitheater!

This will be hosted by the local
Crucial Conversations on Faith and
Race (2CFAR)



The first and fourth Monday of each month, Open Hands provides a Meal, Music, and Message outdoor service. First Reformed Clothes Ministry is open during the service and provides clothing for those attending.

Open Hands Meal, Music & Message
The 1st and 4th Monday of each Month
Location: 100 East 1st Street
Lexington, NC
Call: 336-242-6142



Remember to visit First Reformed UCC's page of Davidson Local online. You can view or subscribe to their daily local email by going to www.davidsonlocal.com or search for their Facebook or Instagram accounts.

First Reformed has a banner at the top of the homepage that advertises our church. We are also able to include up to four stories per month that describe some of our outreach ministries. These stories, along with pictures and/or videos, will be included in their Saturday edition.

PRAYER CONCERNS

J.W. Bates, Jimbo Hinkle, Lynn McCarn, Bonita Hooper, Jeff Hutchens,
Steve Ketner (recent surgery), Lee & Ellen Bouchard

AT HOME: Peggy Bates, Ruth Essick, Gerri Hill,
Lib Hinkle, Myrtle Latimer, Deanna Michael, Carolyn Spivey

IN CARE FACILITIES: Vogen Everheart, Marguerite Leonard, Patti Everhart,
Sherry Bonner now at Grayson Creek, 6781 Old Hwy. 52, Lexington

OUR FRIENDS: Franklin Waters (Cathy Whitley's father), Yvonne Dobey (Frankie Hedrick's sister), Sarah Lovell Biggers (Jerry & Patti Lovell's daughter), Janice Mullineaux (Cathy Browder's mother), Marc Frye (friend of the congregation), Scott Mooney (cousin of Lee Ann Peele), Laura Turlington (Cousin of Cliff Lopp), Jerry Grubb (June Grubbs brother)

Consistory Highlights - June 2022

The Consistory met on Sunday, June 5, 2022.

Concerns of the Past:

Interfaith Power & Light Review of Recommendations:

- Raise temp 1 degree in the summer and lower temp by 1 degree in winter in sanctuary to save 3% on power.
- Replace fluorescent lights with LED bulbs.
- Programmable thermostats in different zones of both buildings.
- Solutions for HVAC problems in Education Building: John Roberts, Interfaith Power, met with Nathan Kuykendall to work on a plan.

Approval to prioritize pricing LED bulbs to replace fluorescent lights and programmable thermostats in sanctuary, fellowship hall and office.

- John Maze stated the chiller needs to be changed out. *The plan for HVAC solutions in Education Building is outlined in revised report from John Roberts. When Chiller goes down, replace the central system with individual units for each floor. It was advised to turnoff air unit in Chapel when not in use.*
- John Maze is still getting information and pricing for ADA compliance restrooms.

Concern of the Future:

- John Gray stated two challenges: (1) need significant capital improvements and (2) we have a budget and offerings that show concerns
- John Gray stated that with no meeting in July, we may need a called meeting or Executive Board meeting.
- *Rev. Horton shared that in strategizing ways to reconnect and reengage, she proposed new Framework for board meetings: Big Board Sunday starting September 18th. One Sunday per month all boards will meet after worship service. Children's activities and food will be provided. Each board will meet in separate areas in order to connect and create new ideas; standardize a time for boards to meet. She asked us to try this for 6 months.*
- *Jeremy Lovell shared idea of Boards' Fair in fellowship hall with information and visuals about the ministries of the boards.*
- *John Gray stated we need a motion to approve Big Board Sunday concept with steps of brainstorming, planning, holding a fair, and evaluating result. Motion was approved for Big Board Sunday, Sept. 18th*

*Consistory will meet August 14, 2022 in the Parlor

**A complete copy of the Consistory Meeting will be available on the bulletin board in the hallway of the education building

Memorials and Honorariums

In Memory of John Hudson
Jan Hudson Raper

In Memory of Ashley Thomson
Eulene Shepherd

In Memory of Drenda Poetzinger
(Susie Smith's Step Mother)
Eulene Shepherd

In Memory of Nolan Leonard
(Sylvia Walsers brother)
John and Victoria Gray

In Honor of Carolyn Robbins Retirement
Tony and Lee Ann Peele

In Honor of Paula Lopps Retirement
Tony and Lee Ann Peele



July Birthdays

7/1 Keri Hartle
7/2 Raeann Allred
Ron Link
Brad Robertson
7/3 Margurite Leonard 101!
7/5 Paula Lopp
7/7 Clara Odom
Cheryl Walser
Carolyn Yocum
7/9 Jacob Hartle
Mary Jo Jessup
7/11 Jonathan Odom
7/12 Elizabeth Sink
7/13 Lynn McCarn
Calvin Odom
Tracy Potts
Lindsay Sink
7/14 Travis White
7/16 Craig Coe
Johnny McCarn
7/18 Cathy Browder
7/20 Jasmin Bustante-Cruz
7/21 Jeremy Peterson
Michell Winters
7/23 Joe Browder
Anna Bell Callicutt
7/24 Mary Lloyd Callicutt
7/25 Melody Evans
7/27 Betty Link
7/28 Jeff Hutchens
7/30 Sam West

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

Music Director

Ellen Peterson ellen@frucc.org

Pianist / Organist

Christopher Kiser chris@frucc.org

Church Administrator

Jackie Mock jackie@frucc.org

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday

9:00am	Walkin's Welcome
1-1:30pm	Lunch
1:30 – 5pm	Please call ahead or make an appointment

Phone: 336-248-2617

104 East Center St., Lexington, NC 27292

Join us for worship Sunday's at 10:30am

July Anniversaries

7/8 Frank & Beth Calloicutt
7/12 Rich & Lena Johnson
7/27 Mark & Nicole Smith
7/30 Eddie & Belinda Yates



Join Us on Facebook:

facebook.com/firstreformeducc

July 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
						Saturday Lunch Ministry 12pm
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship 6pm No Youth Group	Independence Day Church Office Closed	No 2CFAR Meeting		FRUCC Clothes Ministry Workday 4-6pm		Saturday Lunch Ministry 12pm
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship 6pm Youth Group	FRUCC Clothes Ministry 6-7pm	2CFAR Zoom & Parlor 12pm Book Study Group Zoom 7pm	T Trustee Meeting Parlor 5pm Y on Wheels 11am-1pm	FRUCC Clothes Ministry Workday 4-6pm		Saturday Lunch Ministry 12pm
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship 6pm No Youth Group	FRUCC Clothes Ministry 6-7pm	2CFAR-12pm Zoom & Parlor Trustee Meeting Parlor 5pm Book Study Group Zoom 7pm		FRUCC Clothes Ministry Workday 4-6pm		Saturday Lunch Ministry 12pm Community Garden Workday 10am-12pm
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship 6pm Youth Group	FRUCC Clothes Ministry 6-7pm	2CFAR Zoom & Parlor 12pm Book Study Group Zoom 7pm	Women's Fellowship Group Yarborough's 11:30am	FRUCC Clothes Ministry Workday 4-6pm		Saturday Lunch Ministry 12pm
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship 6pm Youth Group 2CFAR event						