

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.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING

Liturgists: John Maze
Sound Tech: James Gray
Acolyte: Lucas Peterson
Ushers: Ben Hale, Edgar Miller, Eddie Yates
Digital Media Tech: Kivi & Jianna Miller
Bible Steward: Ethan Lovell

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. June Grubb, Minister of Pastoral Care
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Rev. Elizabeth Parker Horton, Pastor
elizabeth@frucc.org
Chris Kiser, Organist/Pianist
chris@frucc.org
Jackie Mock, Church Administrator
jackie@frucc.org
Ellen Peterson, Choir Director
ellen@frucc.org
Rev. Evan Sieges, Director of Children & Youth Ministries
evan@frucc.org

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday,
9-1 Walk-ins Welcome
1 – 1:30 Closed for Lunch
1:30 – 5 Please call ahead or make an appointment

First Reformed United Church of Christ
104 East Center Street, Lexington NC 27292

Please visit our website: www.frucc.org

37 Let All Things Now Living

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks-giv - ing
2 By law God en - forc - es, the stars in their cours - es,

to God our Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise;
the sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;

who fash-ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us,
the hills and the moun-tains, the riv - ers and foun-tains,

by guid - ing us on to the end of our days.
the depths of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.

Harmony G E Am D
God's ban-ners are o'er us; pure light goes be - fore us,
We too should be voic - ing our love and re - joic - ing;

G Em D A7 D
a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night:
with glad ad - o - ra - tion, a song let us raise,

G D G Am D
till shad-ows have van - ished, all fear - ful - ness ban - ished,
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing:

G C G D G
as for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
to God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!



July 24, 2022
The Worship of God
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

* Please stand as you are able

Prelude It Is Well (arr. Min Hwan Kim) Christopher Kiser and Charley Shafer, violin

*Chiming of the Hour

Welcome Rev. Sieges

*Call to Worship John Maze
God comes into a world filled with uncertainties and darkness.
God seeks out the voids of belief and conviction.
God embraces the wounded and broken.
God knocks down the walls of division and strife.
God is the candle shining in the darkness of our days.
God is the light of our lives.
God is the one who makes all things new.
Praise be to God, now and forevermore!

*HYMN Let All Things Now Living Back pg.

*Invocation John Maze

Scripture Luke 11:1-10 John Maze
Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.” ² Jesus told them, “When you pray, say: ‘Father, uphold the holiness of your name. Bring in your kingdom. ³ Give us the bread we need for today. ⁴ Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who has wronged us. And don’t lead us into temptation.’”

⁵ He also said to them, “Imagine that one of you has a friend and you go to that friend in the middle of the night. Imagine saying, ‘Friend, loan me three loaves of bread ⁶ because a friend of mine on a journey has arrived and I have nothing to set before him.’ ⁷ Imagine further that he answers from within the house, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can’t get up to give you anything.’ ⁸ I assure you, even if he wouldn’t get up and help because of his friendship, he will get up and give his friend whatever he needs because of his friend’s brashness. ⁹ And I tell you: Ask and you will receive. Seek and you will find. Knock and the door will be opened to you. ¹⁰ Everyone who asks, receives. Whoever seeks, finds. To everyone who knocks, the door is opened.

Prayer of Confession
God of Salvation,
We are grateful for your love that keeps reaching out to us, calling us to you.
God, you care for us and love us in ways we cannot comprehend.
Forgive us when we forget how much you love us.
Forgive us for times we are unfaithful to you, times we fail to do as you’ve called.
Forgive us when we do not put our trust in you.
God, thank you for loving us in the most sacred and scandalous ways.
Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

*Hymn Seek Ye First Pg. 3

Young Disciples and Children’s Church Rev. Sieges

*Hymn What a Friend We Have in Jesus Insert

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Sieges

Special Music The Prayer Christopher Kiser and Charley Shafer, violin

Scripture Reading Genesis 18:20-32 Rev. Sieges

Then the Lord said, “How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me, and if not, I will know.”

So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Then Abraham came near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?” And the Lord said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake.” Abraham answered, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” Again, he spoke to him, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” Then he said, “Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” He said, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” Then he said, “Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.”

Sermon Surprise Compassion Rev. Sieges

The Call to Give and to Serve Rev. Sieges

If you would like to support the ministries of First Reformed, you’ll find offering plates in the narthex or you can give online at www.frucc.org/give.

*Prayer of Dedication John Maze

Doxology LASST UNSERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!
Praise God all creatures here below!
O praise God! Alleluia!
Praise, Holy Spirit, Comforter,
One God Triune whom we adore.
O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Benediction Rev. Sieges

Postlude Christopher Kiser and Charlie Shafer, violin

~ Please remain seated and enjoy the Postlude performed by Christopher Kiser and our guest instrumentalist Charlie Shafer~

Seek Ye First

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia,

1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God
2 Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you;
3 You shall not live by bread a - lone,

al - le - lu - ia,

and seek, its and righ - teous - ness,
but by you shall find;
ev - ery word

al - le - lu - ia,

and all these things shall be add - ed un - to you.
knock, and the door shall be o - pened un - to you.
that pro - ceeds from the mouth of God.

al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

CHARLES ENGLAND BACK-TO-SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Please donate for the 22-23 school year. Items such as pencils, notebooks, paper, crayons, spiral notebooks and highlighters are needed. Complete lists with donation boxes.



2CFAR 5th Sunday Worship Service
Interfaith Community Celebration

Breeden Insurance Amphitheater
Sunday, July 31st – 4 to 5:30 pm

Come join us as we celebrate our diversity in prayer, message and song

Event Sponsored by Crucial Conversations on Faith and Race (2CFAR)
Please bring your lawn chair or blanket and plan for fellowship after the service

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday 7/24	Sunday Worship
9:30am	Adult Sunday School
10:30am	Worship Service
6:00pm	Youth Group
Monday, 7/25	
7:00pm	NAMI Family Support Group (online)
Tuesday, 7/26	
12:00pm	Crucial Conversations on Faith and Race 2CFAR (online)
7:00pm	Adult Book Study (online) <u>His Truth is Marching On</u> by Jon Meacham
Thursday, 7/28	
4-6:00pm	Clothing Ministry Workday-Basement
Saturday, 7/30	
12:00pm	Saturday Lunch Ministry
Sunday, 7/31	Sunday Worship
9:30am	Adult Sunday School
10:30am	Worship Service
6:00pm	Youth Group

PRAYER CONCERNS

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

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

IN CARE FACILITIES: Vogen Everheart, Sherry Bonner, Marguerite Leonard, Patti Everhart

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), Jack Poetzinger (Susie Smiths Father), Larry Sink (Cousin of Paula Lopp)