

**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: Clifton Murphy
Sound Tech: James Gray
Acolyte: Lucas Peterson
Ushers: Jerry Lovell, Edgar Miller, John Gray
Digital Media Tech: Kivi & Jianna Miller
Bible Steward: Ethan Lovell



CHURCH STAFF

Rev. June Grubb, *Minister of Pastoral Care*
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Ellen Peterson, *Choir Director*
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Rev. Evan Sieges, *Director of Children & Youth Ministries*
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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

God Whose Giving Knows No Ending

Capo 3: (D) (Bm) (G)
F Dm Bb

1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and
2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of
3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your

(D) (Bm)
F Dm

end - less store, na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly
Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es
grace con - ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to

(G) (D) (A)
Bb F C

cross, grave's shat - tered door: gift - ed by you, we turn
joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly
spread the gos - pel word. O - pen wide our hands in

(Bm) (F#m) (Bm) (G) (A) (D)
Dm Am Dm Bb C F

to you, of - fering up our - selves in praise; thank - ful song shall
la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone. Born with tal - ents,
shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing,

(Bm) (G) (D)
Dm Bb F

rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.



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

July 31, 2022
The Worship of God
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

** Please stand as you are able*

Prelude Blessed Assurance (arr. Dan Miller) Christopher Kiser

***Chiming of the Hour**

Welcome Rev. Horton

***Call to Worship** Rev. Sieges

God of the past who whispered in the prophets' ears;
who rescued us from sin's slavery:
we are here to thank you.
God of the future, who is tearing down the old world,
and building your kingdom in our midst:
we are here because we trust you.
God of the present who, in the giftedness of our diversity,
creates us to be one people:
we are here to praise you.
God of life that surprises us when we find it within us:
we celebrate your grace.

***HYMN** God Whose Giving Knows No Ending Back pg.

***Invocation** Clifton Murphy

Scripture Luke 12:12-31 Clifton Murphy

Someone from the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me."

Jesus said to him, "Man, who appointed me as judge or referee between you and your brother?"

Then Jesus said to them, "Watch out! Guard yourself against all kinds of greed. After all, one's life isn't determined by one's possessions, even when someone is very wealthy." Then he told them a parable: "A certain rich man's land produced a bountiful crop. He said to himself, What will I do? I have no place to store my harvest! Then he thought, Here's what I'll do. I'll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. That's where I'll store all my grain and goods. I'll say to myself, You have stored up plenty of goods, enough for several years. Take it easy! Eat, drink, and enjoy yourself. But God said to him, 'Fool, tonight you will die. Now who will get the things you have prepared for yourself?' This is the way it will be for those who hoard things for themselves and aren't rich toward God."

Prayer of Confession

We come before you God to ask forgiveness and mercy. We have failed to care for our neighbors with the love of Jesus. We have acted impatiently and selfish with our loved ones.

In our excesses we have consumed more than our share while others go without. We have been blinded by our affluence and consumed with ourselves, while overlooking the needs of others. We beseech your forgiveness and your mercy. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

*Hymn I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me Pg. 3

Young Disciples and Children's Church Rev. Sieges

*Hymn Just a Closer Walk with Thee Insert

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Horton

Anthem Mike Price

Scripture Reading Hosea 11:1-11 Rev. Horton

When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. The more I called them, the further they went from me; they kept sacrificing to the Baals, and they burned incense to idols. Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk; I took them up in my arms, but they did not know that I healed them. I led them with bands of human kindness, with cords of love. I treated them like those who lift infants to their cheeks; I bent down to them and fed them. They will return to the land of Egypt, and Assyria will be their king, because they have refused to return to me. The sword will strike wildly in their cities; it will consume the bars of their gates and will take everything because of their schemes. My people are bent on turning away from me; and though they cry out to the Most High, he will not raise them up. How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart winces within me; my compassion grows warm and tender. I won't act on the heat of my anger; I won't return to destroy Ephraim; for I am God and not a human being, the holy one in your midst; I won't come in harsh judgment. They will walk after the LORD, who roars like a lion. When he roars, his children will come trembling from the west. They will come trembling like a bird, and like a dove from the land of Assyria; and I will return them to their homes, says the LORD. Ephraim has surrounded me with lies, the house of Israel with faithless acts; but Judah still walks with God, and is faithful to the holy one.

Sermon On The Edge of Our Faith: Taking a Risk Rev. Horton

The Call to Give and to Serve Rev. Horton

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 Clifton Murphy

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. Horton

Postlude Down By The Riverside (arr. Marianne Kim) Christopher Kiser

~ You are invited to remain seated and enjoy the Postlude ~

700 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

1 I'm gon-na live so (live so)
2 I'm gon-na work so (work so) God can use me an - y -
3 I'm gon-na pray so (pray so)
4 I'm gon-na sing so (sing so)

where, Lord, an - y - time! I'm gon-na
(an - y - time!) I'm gon-na
I'm gon-na

live so (live so)
work so (work so) God can use me an - y -
pray so (pray so)
sing so (sing so)

where, Lord, an - y - time!
(my Lord,) (an - y - time!)
I'm gon-na

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
and
Interfaith Community Celebration
Breedon Insurance Amphitheater
Sunday, July 31st - 4 to 5:30 pm
Come join us as we celebrate our diversity in prayer, message and song

Featuring Speakers:

Bishop Derek Kelly,
New Faith Full Gospel Fellowship

Dr. Ray Nance Howell, III,
First Baptist,
3rd Ave.

Minister, Toni R. McCullough,
Files Chapel Baptist

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

- Sunday 7/31**
9:30am Adult Sunday School
10:30am Worship Service
4:00pm Community Worship
6:00pm Youth Group
- Monday, 8/1**
7:00pm NAMI Family Support Group (online)
- Tuesday, 8/2**
12:00pm Crucial Conversations on Faith and Race
2CFAR (online)
7:00pm Adult Book Study (online)
His Truth is Marching On by Jon Meacham
- Thursday, 8/4**
4-6:00pm Clothing Ministry Workday-Basement
- Saturday, 8/6**
12:00pm Saturday Lunch Ministry
- Sunday, 8/7**
9:30am Adult Sunday School
10:30am Worship Service-Communion
Sandwich Making (following 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), Earl Parker (Rev. Hortons Father)