

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: Jerry Lovell
Sound Tech: John Gray
Acolyte: Lucas Peterson
Bible Steward: Ethan Lovell
Ushers: Doris Sink, James Gray, Eddie Yates
Digital Media Tech: Kivi & Jianna Miller

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. June Grubb, Minister of Pastoral Care
june@frucc.org
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

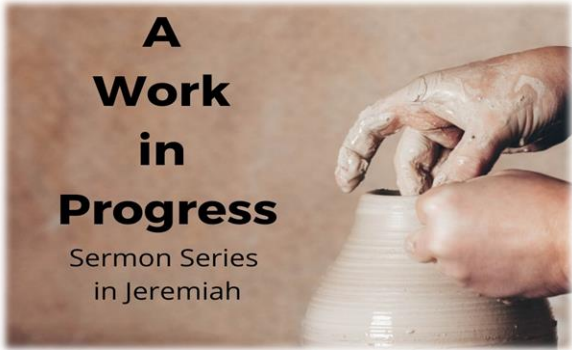
463 How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the
2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis -
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to

Lord, is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent
mayed, for I am thy God, and will still give thee
go, the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver -

Word! What more can be said than to you God hath
aid; I'll strength-en thee, help thee, and cause thee to
flow; for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to

said, to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
stand, up - held by my righ-teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
bless, and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep-est dis - tress.



August 28, 2022
The Worship of God
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Back to School Blessing

* Please stand as you are able

Prelude El dia que me quieras arr. Têhô (Alto Sax)
Christopher Kiser and Taiki Azuma

*Chiming of the Hour

Introit Change My Heart, O God Ellen Peterson

Welcome Rev. Horton

*Call to Worship Rev. Evan Sieges

One: We gather as a people who hunger and thirst not only to know more but to do better.
ALL: Let us worship together, the young and the old.
ONE: The good news is proclaimed in God's words,
ALL: And also with crayons, silly songs, snacks, and rest time.
ONE: We come together with different abilities and disabilities, learning in a rainbow of ways and styles.
ALL: Let us worship together, for all are welcome in the arms of Christ
ONE: The One who proclaimed, "Let the children come!"
ALL: Let us worship together, united in the name of the Source of Wisdom and Truth.

*HYMN How Firm a Foundation Back pg.

*Invocation Jerry Lovell

A Prayer for Beginnings Jerry Lovell

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

Leader: It is the beginning of a new school year, and God is a God of new beginnings and new creations. In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth, new life, blessed it and called it good.

People: We give thanks for a new year and for new beginnings. We give thanks that you call us good.

Leader: In the beginning, the heavens shone forth a star when our Savior was born. In the beginning of his ministry, the heavens opened up and called him God's beloved.

People: We give thanks that you know our pathways and what it means to be human. We give thanks that you call us your beloved children.

O God of new beginnings, new life, and new journeys, you sent Abraham and Sarah into a new land; you led Moses, Aaron and Miriam out of Egypt and into liberation; you led your Son our Savior to earth, to the cross, and into resurrection. Walk with us, we pray, as we enter into a new year, a new path, new opportunities. *Amen.*

BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING Rev. Evan Sieges

A Prayer for the Tough Times Rev. Horton

Leader: We will get overwhelmed by tests, homework, and activities, and we will wonder how we will make it through.

People: Grant us quiet confidence and calm, bear our stress with us, help us to ask for help when it gets to be too much.

Leader: Our teachers, parents, and friends will make us angry and frustrate us. They will be unfair, they will hurt us, and they just won't get what we're going through.

People: Give us peace and rest in the midst of the storms raging around us and inside us.

Leader: We will be measured, tested, and judged, and we will be asked to measure our worth in how well we perform, the grades we make, and the friends we have.

People: Comfort us in the knowledge that you have already judged us and found us to be good, made us worthy, and called us by name.

Leader: We will be tempted to despair and see ourselves as worthless and unlovable.

People: When we cannot find our way, remind us that, to you, O God, the darkness is not dark, the night is as light as day, and no matter where we go, you will be beside us.

Leader: We will see darkness. We will see it in injustice, hate, exploitation, mean-spiritedness. We will be tempted to join in.

People: Give us courage to resist and empower us to be your beloved people: loving others and standing up for the oppressed.

Leader: We will want popularity: we will want to fit in, even at the expense of others and we will wish to be people other than ourselves, the people you created us to be.

People: Remind us our identity, given in baptism, to be your sons and daughters.

Leader: We will want to hold grudges, gripe, and gossip when we are wounded.

People: Empower us by your grace to forgive as you have forgiven.

Response in Song Strong, Gentle Children Ellen Peterson

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer Rev. Horton

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.

Special Music La Flute de Pan, mvmt 1 by Mouquet (Flute) Taiki Azuma

Scripture Jeremiah 2:4-13 Rev. Horton

This is what the Lord says:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me that made them wander so far?
They pursued what was worthless and became worthless.
They didn’t ask, “Where’s the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us through the wilderness, in a land of deserts and ravines, in a land of drought and darkness, in a land of no return, where no one survives?”
I brought you into a land of plenty, to enjoy its gifts and goodness, but you ruined my land; you disgraced my heritage.

***Hymn** Have Thine Own Way Lord

Have thine own way Lord! Have thine own way!
Thou art the potter, I am the clay!
Mold me and make me after Thy will,
After I’m waiting, yielding and still.

Sermon A Work in Progress: In Need of a Do Over Rev. Horton

***Hymn**

This is a Day of New Beginnings

Unison

1 This is a day of new be - gin - nings, time to re -
2 For by the life and death of Je - sus, God's might - y
3 Then let us, with the Spir - it's dar - ing, step from the

mem - ber and move on, time to be - lieve what love is
Spir - it, now as then, can make for us a world of
past and leave be - hind our dis - ap - point - ment, guilt, and

bring - ing, lay - ing to rest the pain that's gone.
dif - ference, as faith and hope are born a - gain.
griev - ing, seek - ing new paths, and sure to find.

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 Jerry Lovell

***Doxology** OLD HUNDRETH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host. Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen

***Benediction** Rev. Horton

Postlude Fantaisiestucke, mvmt 3 by Schumann (Soprano Sax)
Christopher Kiser and Taiki Azuma

~ Please stay seated for a time of reflection as the worship service and enjoy the music of Christopher Kiser and our guest instrumentalist Taiki Azuma ~

CHARLES ENGLAND SCHOOL

Do you have some extra time during the week to Volunteer at Charles England School, or to Participate in event's hosted by FRUCC? If so, please contact Ben Hale or Jay Whitley.

Ben: benjaminhale08@comcast.net
Jay: cathyw.whitley@gmail.com

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR	
Sunday, 8/28	Back to School Blessing
9:30am	Adult Sunday School
10:30am	Worship Service
6:00pm	Youth Group & Parent Meeting with Back to School Ice Cream Social
Monday, 8/29	
6:00pm	FRUCC Clothes Ministry
Tuesday, 8/30	
12:00pm	Crucial Conversations on Faith and Race 2CFAR (online)
7:00pm	Adult Book Study (online) Rooted & Rising: Voices of Courage in a Time of Climate Change
Thursday, 9/1	
4-6:00pm	Clothing Ministry Workday-Basement
Saturday, 9/2	
12:00pm	Saturday Lunch Ministry & Clothing
Sunday, 9/3	
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 & Charm Ketner, Lee & Ellen Bouchard, Kathleen Danze, Brian McKerlie, John Smith

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: Sarah Lovell Biggers (Jerry & Patti Lovells daughter), 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), Judy Stanley (Mother of Robin Champion)

