

**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: Camille Morgan
Acolyte: Emma Hartle
Bible Steward: Caroline White
Ushers: Doris Sink, Eddie Yates, Dave Fulton



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



September 4, 2022
The Worship of God
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Communion

** Please stand as you are able*

Prelude Let Us Break Bread Together arr. Marianne Kim Christopher Kiser

***Chiming of the Hour**

Introit Change My Heart, O Lord Ellen Peterson

Welcome Rev. Horton

***Call to Worship** Rev. Evan Sieges

We gather in the presence of God:
who knows us when we wake up and when we go to sleep, and in all the moments in between.

We gather to be the people of God:
who appeals to us to follow in love, in faith, in service.

We gather to worship God:
who shapes us and seeks us when we wander far from home.
Praise be to God!

***HYMN** My Lord What a Morning

Refrain



My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn-ing; oh,
my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be-gin to fall.

1 You will hear the trum-pet sound,
2 You will hear the sin-ner cry, to wake the na-tions un-der -
3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,

Refrain
ground, look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

***Invocation** Camille Morgan

Young Disciples

Rev. Evan Sieges

Scripture Reading

Luke 14: 1, 7-14

Rev. Don Morgan

...Jesus said, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Unison Prayer for Forgiveness

We are uncomfortable when you notice how we want to sit in the seats of honor. We can be so self-righteous, that it is easy to imagine we are superior to the poor. We are so busy completing our 'To Do' list each day, that we forget to do good when we have the chance.

Forgive us, we pray. Fill us with humility. Help us to spend our lives alongside Jesus, our Lord and Savior, throwing a party for the poor, the damaged, the prisoner, the lost, the oppressed. Amen

Assurance of Forgiveness

***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.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Anthem

He Leadeth Me

Pick-up Choir

Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 18: 1-11

Rev. Horton

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: "Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Then the word of the Lord came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.

Sermon

A Work in Progress: Being Shaped

Rev. Horton

Sharing in Holy Communion

The Potter of life be with you.

And also with you.

People of God, lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the One who reshapes them into grace.

People of God, give thanks to the Lord our God.

We praise the One who has shaped us for love and service.

...Giver of breath, shaper of words, all the living find voice to praise you, as we celebrate with the people of every time and place, singing to your glory:

Holy, holy, holy are you, God who shapes us with hands of grace and hope.

Your wonder works of creation praise your name.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes, appealing to us on the basis of love.

Hosanna in the highest!

So, as we come to the Table of grace and hope, we remember that mystery we call faith:

Christ died, having counted the cost.

Christ was raised, the foundation of resurrection being set in place.

Christ will come, refreshing our hearts for all eternity.

Communion Prayer

Then, here at the Table and beyond;
here in this moment, and through eternity:

remind us that we are always with you,

God of all places and times,

Christ of those who suffer,

Spirit of justice and hope:

God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

MUSIC

Come to the Table of Grace

Ellen Peterson

Please come forward to receive the bread and the cup.

You are invited to bring your offering as well.

Prayer of Dedication

Camille Morgan

***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**

Postlude

Tocatta No. 4 (Holy Manna) arr. Joel Raney

Christopher Kiser

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

CHARLES ENGLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Do you have some extra time during the week to Volunteer at Charles England School? If so, please contact

Jay Whitley.

Jay: cathyw.whitley@gmail.com



WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, 9/4	9:30am	Adult Sunday School
	10:30am	Worship Service – Holy Communion
	6:00pm	Youth Group
Monday, 9/5		Church Office Closed – Labor Day NO FRUCC Clothes Ministry
Tuesday, 9/6	12:00pm	Crucial Conversations on Faith and Race 2CFAR Parlor
	7:00pm	Adult Book Study (online) Rooted & Rising: Voices of Courage in a Time of Climate Change
Wednesday 9/7	6:30pm	Youth Group and Children's Ministry
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
Thursday, 9/8	2-8:00pm	American Red Cross Blood Drive
	4-6:00pm	Clothing Ministry Workday-Basement
Saturday, 9/10	12:00pm	Saturday Lunch Ministry & Clothing
Sunday, 9/11	9:30am	Adult Sunday School
	10:30am	Worship Service – Hymn Sing & Reception for Ellen Peterson's 10 th Anniversary Consistory
	6:00pm	Youth Group

PRAYER CONCERNS

Bill Robbins, Brian McKerlie, John Smith, J.W. Bates, Jimbo Hinkle, Lynn McCarn, Bonita Hooper, Jeff Hutchens, Steve & Charm Ketner, Lee & Ellen Bouchard, Kathleen Danze,

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 Lovell's daughter), Scott Mooney (cousin of Lee Ann Peele), Laura Turlington (Cousin of Cliff Lopp), Jack Poetzinger (Susie Smith's Father), Larry Sink (Cousin of Paula Lopp), Earl Parker (Rev. Horton's Father), Judy Stanley (Mother of Robin Champion)