

**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.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! If you are new here or have a prayer request, please fill out a Communication Card found in the back of the pew. Drop it into the offering plate so we can connect with you.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING
Acolyte & Bible Steward: Alane & Eugenia Holste
Ushers: Eddie Yates, John Smith, Doris Sink, Ann Hoffman
Sound Tech: John Gray
Media Tech: Jianna & Kivi Miller

CHURCH STAFF
Rev. Elizabeth Parker Horton. Pastor
elizabeth@frucc.org
Rev. June Grubb, Minister of Pastoral Care
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Jackie Mock, Church Administrator
jackie@frucc.org
Ellen Peterson, Choir Director
ellen@frucc.org

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS Monday – Friday
9-1 Walk-ins Welcome
1 – 2pm Closed for Lunch
2 – 5pm 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

Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

1 Glo - rious things of you are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God;
2 See! the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e - ter - nal Love,
3 'Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - ering, see the cloud and fire ap - pear
4 Sav - ior, if of Zi-on's cit - y we through grace a part may claim,

One whose word can - not be bro - ken formed you for a blessed a - bode.
Well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters, and all fear of want re - move.
For a glo - ry and a cov - ering, show - ing that their God is near!
Let the world de - ride or pit - y, we will glo - ry in your name.

On the Rock of A - ges found - ed, what can shake your sure re - pose?
Who can faint, while such a riv - er ev - er will their thirst as - suage:
Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,
Fad - ing is all world - ly plea - sure, all earth's boast - ed pomp and show;

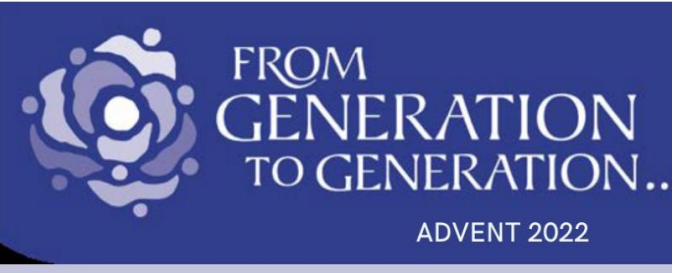
With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, you may smile at all your foes.
Grace which, like our God, the Giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age?
Safe they feed up - on the man - na which God gives them when they pray.
Sol - id joys and last - ing trea - sures, none but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

Alternative Gift Giving

The holiday season is at our doorsteps and this is the time that we begin thinking about what to give our families and friends. Have you thought about giving to a local charity in their honor? You may donate to any of the church benevolences and send a card to the person to whom you would like to honor with your gift.

Forms can be picked up in the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings along with a donation envelope. These may also be picked up from the church office Monday - Friday. Return the form to the church along with your donation and pick up the number of acknowledgment cards you need. *(If you give on-line, stop by the office and collect your cards)*

This is such a meaningful way to honor someone on your gift list, benefit those in need, and help our church meet its benevolences for the year.



December 4, 2022
The Worship of God
Second Sunday of Advent
Communion

Prelude **Improvisation on PICARDY** ***Stand as you are able**
Bruce Tippette

***Chiming of the Hour**

Welcome Rev. Horton

***Call to Worship** Rev. Horton

***Hymn** **Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken** back pg.

Liturgy for the Advent Wreath *Lighting the Candle of Peace*
Alane and Eugenia Holste

Sung Response **From Generation to Generation**

From gen - er - a - tion to gen - er - a - tion, we have shared the Christ - mas sto - ry

of a ba - by in a man - ger, who was born in Beth - le - hem.

Hope is wing - ing, Peace now ring - ing, Joy we're sing - ing, Love he's bring - ing.

1. There is room for ev - 'ry sto - ry. There is hope through God's great glory.
2. God will meet you in your fear. And bring peace both far and near.
3. We can choose a bet - ter way. And find joy in ev - 'ry day.
4. We see God in one an - oth - er. As we learn to love each other.

Prayer of Confession

Patient God, you know just how often we make decisions from a place of fear rather than love. You know just how often we allow fear to take the place of logic, fanning unhealthy fires in our lives. You know just how often we tuck your words, “Do not be afraid” on dusty shelves and in the back of closets, stubbornly holding onto our own point of view. Forgive us for feeding our fears. Help us to Silence the voices which spark so much of our fear, to re-center us in love. With hope we pray, Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Rev. Horton

Young Disciples

Rev. Horton

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 11: 1-10

...The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed[b] together, and a little child shall lead them. 7 The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder’s den. 9 They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea..

*Hymn

People Look East

Pg. 3

Affirmation of Faith

Rev. Horton

We believe in a God who knows our fears.
We believe in a God who says, “Be not afraid.”
We believe in a God who wades into the muck of our lives with us.
We believe in a God who hemmed stars into the night sky so that we can find our way home, and who sends us friends with open doors, so we can find our way to love.
We believe in a God who finds us in our fear and does not leave us alone.
Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

Prayer of the People and The 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.

Anthem

Still, Still, Still (arrg. Cindy Berry)

Choir

New Testament Reading Luke 1: 26-38

...The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. 36 And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

Sermon From Generation to Generation: God meets us in our Fear

Rev. Horton

Liturgy of Holy Communion

Invitation to Give and Serve

Offering is our chance to practice our faith in action, to share with others. We have reinstated "Passing of the Plates" on Sundays or you can give online at www.frucc.org/give

Music

Here I Am Lord

Ellen Peterson

Prayer of Dedication

(Liturgist)

*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

People Look East

Bruce Tippette

People Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the
2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more
3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the
4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more
5 An - gels, an-nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who

crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are
seed is plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to
nest that must be filled. E - ven the hour when wings are
light the bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y
brings new life to earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley

Peo - ple, look
a - ble; trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.
nour - ish, that in course the flower may flour - ish.
fro - zen God for fledg - ing time has cho - sen.
weath - er, bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.
hum - ming with the word, the Lord is com - ing.

east and sing to - day:
Peo - ple, look east: Love, the Guest, is on the way.
Love, the Rose, is on the way.
Love, the Bird, is on the way.
Love, the Star, is on the way.
Love, the Lord, is on the way.
Peo - ple, look east: (Love is on the way.)



Place an Angel on our Angel Tree

Place an angel on our Angel Tree in memory or in honor of someone.

To place an angel on the Angel Tree: Fill out the form that will be available on Sundays along with the donation envelope, or pick up both from the church office. Place form and donation in the envelop. These may be placed in the offering plate or returned to the church office. All donations for the Angel Tree need to be in by December, 21, 2022.

Acknowledgements will be sent from the office. Names for the "angels", along with names of those who donated, will be listed in the January 2023 Newsletter.

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, 12/4 – Second Sunday of Advent
9:30amAdult Sunday School
10:30am.....Worship Service – Communion
Monday, 12/5
5:00pm.....FRUCC Clothes Ministry Open
5:00pm.....Open Hands Meal & Service in Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, 12/6
12:00pm.....2CFAR in Parlor
6:00pm.....FRUCC Men’s Brotherhood at Yarborough’s
7:00pmBook Club via Zoom
7:00pm.....NAMI via Zoom

Thursday, 12/8
4-6:00pm.....Clothing Ministry Workday

Saturday, 12/10
12:00pm.....Saturday Lunch Ministry
5:00pm.....Lexington Choral Society Concert - First United Methodist Church

Sunday, 12/2711 Third Sunday in Advent
9:30amAdult Sunday School
10:30am..... Worship Service
3:00pm.....Center Street Saxophone Quartet Christmas Concert at FRUCC

PRAYER CONCERNS
DeeJay Huffman, Sylvia Walser, Mary Jo Jessup
AT HOME: Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, J.W. Bates, Peggy Bates, Ruth Essick, Gerri Hill, Myrtle Latimer, Deanna Michael, Carolyn Spivey, John Potts & Janette Neal, Adena Wall

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

OUR FRIENDS: Sarah Lovell Biggers (Jerry & Patti Lovell’s daughter), Ray White, (Step-father to Travis White), Rena Y. Curia (sister to Cheryl Walser), Charles Hines (Friend of Alane Holste), Carter Dorley (request from community), Diane Womack (Nina Smiths mother), John Ray Ward (Patti Lovell’s, Brother in Law),