

Sunday Announcements – August 2026

THANK YOU FOR SERVING

Liturgist: Terry Bailey **Greeter:** Shannon Myers
Sound/Streaming Team: Kivi & Edgar Miller
Nursery: Karen Joyner, Lena Johnson
Ushers: Eddie Yates, DJ Huffman

Would You Like to Help with Communion?

We are looking to expand our Communion Prep Team! Please scan the QR code to learn more about how you can get involved.



Presentation on UCC Cuba Study

Sunday, August 30 at 1:30 pm (Fellowship Hall)

Rev. Dr. Tom Warren, ACM of the WNCA and Pastor of Peace UCC, speak about the **upcoming UCC Cuba Study Seminar**, will help us better understand what life is like for the people of Cuba, especially in Santiago, and update us on the relationship built over the years through the WNCA partnership.

Share your Backyard Blooms! Beautify the sanctuary by featuring flowers from your yard. Contact Smithie Parrish to choose a Sunday to bring in your flowers!
(sparrish116@gmail.com)

FRUCC Game Night, Friday Sept. 4th at 6pm – Fellowship Hall
All are welcome

Joint Worship Service – Sept. 13, 2026

As part of our 125th Anniversary Celebration, we will join St. Stephen UMC for worship at First Reformed on Sunday, September 13. Rev. Arnetta Beverly will bring a special message.

First Reformed UCC Youth Group

Starting Sept. 20th at 5:30pm

Future Youth Group meetings will be on the first and third Sunday of each month. 5:30pm

Blowing Rock Retreat – September 25-27

We still have 1 Room Available – Please see Glenyce Fulton if you are interested in attending by September 13. 336-250-8739

125th Anniversary Tee Shirts for Sale!

Deadline for orders is September 13th

Sizes XS – XL \$15.00 Sizes XXL and above \$17.00

See Dave Fulton to order yours today!

Thank you for giving to God through the ministries of the church! If you would like to give electronically, scan this QR code.



WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here. **Please fill out a Communication Card** if you are new, have a question or prayer request, and drop into the offering plate.

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.

JOINING THE CHURCH

If you feel led to become part of the mission and ministries of First Reformed UCC we hope you will consider joining this congregation. If you want to talk more about calling First Reformed your home, please fill out a Communication Card, or let one of the ushers or ministers know.

FIRST REFORMED UCC

104 East Center Street
Lexington, NC 27292
336-248-2617

www.frucc.org

facebook.com/firstreformeducc

First Reformed United Church of Christ

*The love of God, the power to love others,
and the ability to love ourselves.*



Worship of God

August 30, 2026

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**Stand as you are able*

Congregation responds in **(BOLD)**

Prelude

This is My Father’s World

arr. Bruce Tippet

*Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

Introit

Draw the Circle Wide

Congregation

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

No one stands alone, we’ll stand side by side.

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.

Let this be our song: no one stands alone.

Standing side by side,

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

*Call to Worship

Terry Bailey

One: Come, people of God. Come as you are! Bring your joys, your burdens, your questions, and your hope.

Many: We come to worship the One who calls us, shapes us, and sends us.

One: The Christian life is not a race to the finish, nor a checklist to complete.

Many: Discipleship is a way of living, practiced as we say “Yes” to God.

One: Moses came to a bush that burned but was not consumed. God called him to stop, listen, and pay attention.

Many: Jesus called his disciples to a path they did not expect. He asked them to let go of their own plans and follow.

Leader: Today we practice surrender. Not giving up, but giving ourselves to God.

People: Shape us, O God, into people who can let go and follow.

*Hymn #65 (Red Hymnal)

This Is My Father’s World

TERRA PATRIS

Invocation

Terry Bailey

Scripture Reading

Exodus 3: 1-15

(Pew Bible Page 49)

Terry Bailey

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, 8/30 Blessing of CEES School Supplies
9:30am..... Adult Bible Study – *Parlor*
9:30am..... Choir Practice – *Choir Room*
10:30am..... Worship Service - Sanctuary/YouTube
11:00am..... Faith Forward Baptist Church – *Chapel*
1:30pm..... UCC Cuba Study Seminar presentation by Rev. Tom Warren.

Monday, 8/31

4:00pm.....FRUCC Clothing Ministry
5:30pm.....Open Hands Ministry

Tuesday, 9/1

6:30pm.....Men’s Brotherhood Meeting
Yarborough’s Restaurant

Wednesday, 9/2

3:00pm..... Finance Meeting – Parlor

Thursday, 9/4

6:30pm..... Thriving Church Leadership Team - Zoom

Friday, 9/4

6:00pm.....FRUCC Game Night – Fellowship Hall

Saturday, 9/5

12-1:00pm..... Saturday Lunch Ministry

Sunday, 9/6

Holy Communion
9:30am..... Adult Bible Study – *Parlor*
9:30am..... Choir Practice – *Choir Room*
10:30am..... Worship Service - Sanctuary/YouTube
11:00am..... Faith Forward Baptist Church – *Chapel*

Prayer Concerns

Sylvia Walser, Robb Saunders, Aurelia Smith, June Grubb,
Susan Odom, MeLinda Mikaelson

AT HOME

Marge Doty, Lib Hinkle, Carolyn Spivey, Deanna Michael,
Pattie Everhart

IN CARE FACILITIES

Peggy Bates – Grayson Creek, Welcome
Gennie Lou Byerly – Abernethy Laurels, Newton
Myrtle Latimer – Countryside Village, Stokesdale
Eulene Shepherd – Piedmont Crossing, Thomasville

FRIENDS

Gary Peterson (Father of Jeremy Peterson), Our
Saturday Lunch Guests

Prayer of Confession

Terry Bailey

Leader: Holy God, you call us, but sometimes we are afraid to answer. We are afraid we aren’t enough or that we could get it wrong. We are afraid of what you might ask of us.

People: Forgive us, God, when fear keeps us from saying yes.

Leader: We confess the things we hold tightly— our plans, our expectations, our need to be in control.

People: Help us open our hands and trust you.

Leader: Like Moses, we are skeptical and ask, “*Who am I?*” But you remind us that we don’t have to do this alone.

People: When you call, help us remember that you are with us.

Leader: Give us the courage to slow down, notice your presence, and say:

All: “*Here I am, Lord. Send me.*” Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

*Hymn

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

SHOWALTER



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine,
2 O how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way,
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
lean - ing on the ev - er-last - ing arms; what a bless - ed-ness,
lean - ing on the ev - er-last - ing arms; O how bright the path
lean - ing on the ev - er-last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace
what a peace is mine,
grows from day to day, lean - ing on the ev - er-last - ing arms.
with my Lord so near,
Refrain
Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and secure from all a - larms;
lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er-last - ing arms.

Invitation to Give Tithes and Offerings

Doxology

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.

*Prayer of Dedication

Terry Bailey

Choir Anthem

Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

arr. Joel Raney

Blessing of School Supplies for Charles England Elementary

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 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

Scripture Reading

Matthew 16: 21-28

(Pew Bible Page 894)

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

Sermon

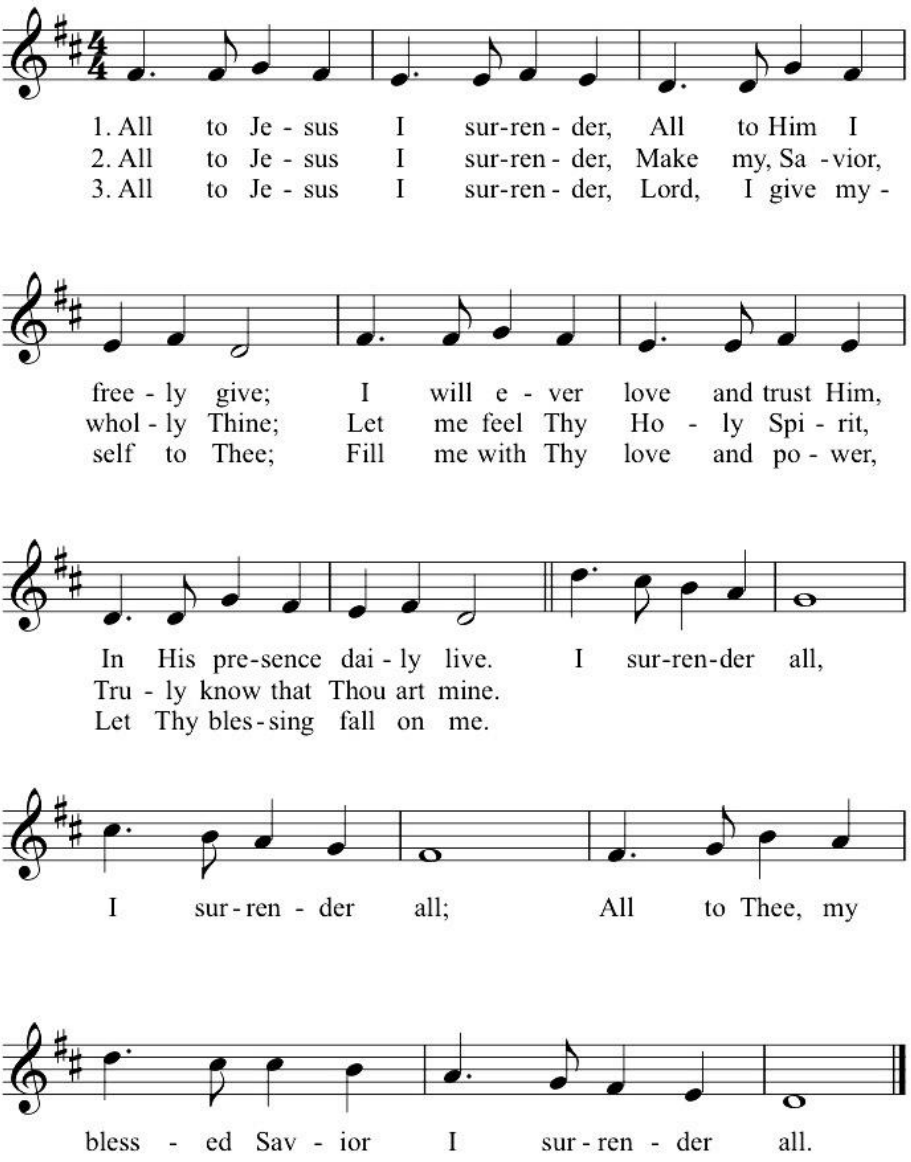
Circle of Practice: Shaped by Surrender

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

*Hymn

I Surrender All

SURRENDER



1. All to Je - sus I sur-ren - der, All to Him I
2. All to Je - sus I sur-ren - der, Make my, Sa - vior,
3. All to Je - sus I sur-ren - der, Lord, I give my -
free - ly give; I will e - ver love and trust Him,
whol - ly Thine; Let me feel Thy Ho - ly Spi - rit,
self to Thee; Fill me with Thy love and po - wer,
In His pre-sence dai - ly live. I sur-ren-der all,
Tru - ly know that Thou art mine.
Let Thy bles-sing fall on me.
I sur-ren - der all; All to Thee, my
bless - ed Sav - ior I sur - ren - der all.

*Benediction

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

Postlude

I Surrender All

arr. Bruce Tippet