

Sunday Announcements – October 2026

Flowers are placed in the Sanctuary today by Ellen Briggs and Betty Briggs Burns

Given to the Glory of God and In Loving memory of Jake and Corky Briggs

THANK YOU FOR SERVING

Liturgist: Zach Hedrick **Greeter:** Patti Lovell

Sound/Streaming Team: Jeremy Lovell

Nursery:

Ushers: Eddie Yates, DJ Huffman

Next Week:

Nursery: Karen Joyner

Greeters –

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, 10/18 Congregational Meal and Budget Meeting

9:30am..... Adult Bible Study – Parlor

9:30am..... Choir Practice – Choir Room

10:30am..... Worship Service - Sanctuary/YouTube

Following Worship, please join in the Fellowship Hall

for a meal and to vote on the plans and budget for 2027

11:00am..... Faith Forward Baptist Church – Chapel

4:30-5:30.... Middle School Youth

5:30-6:00.... Youth Group Meal, Middle & High School

6:00-7:00.... High School Youth

Monday, 10/19

4:00pm.....FRUCC Clothing Ministry

5:30pm..... Open Hands Meal

Thursday, 10/22

3:00pm..... JV Football Meal, Fellowship Hall

Saturday, 10/24 Lexington BBQ Festival

FRUCC will be parking cars. Please sign up to volunteer!

Please contact Eddie Yates to volunteer to help with parking cars during the festival. This is a yearly fundraiser.

NO Saturday Lunch Ministry

Sunday, 10/25

9:30am..... Adult Bible Study – Parlor

9:30am..... Choir Practice – Choir Room

10:00am..... Pick-up Choir Practice

10:30am..... Worship Service - Sanctuary/YouTube

Inquiry Class following Worship Service

11:00am..... Faith Forward Baptist Church – Chapel

4:00pm..... Intersections of Faith Bible Study, Parlor

Inquiry Class

Visiting and want to learn more about the church? Come learn about life at First Reformed UCC **Sunday, Oct 25, after worship.** Join Rev. Horton in the Parlor. We'll discuss ways to get involved in ministry and join the church. **Please let Rev. Horton know if you are interested.** ([336-972-8895](tel:336-972-8895) or elizabeth@frucc.org)

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



TODAY - Sunday, October 18, 2026

Looking Toward 2027 and Beyond

Congregational Meal and Proposed 2027 Budget

Join us as we gather to hear about the work God is doing through First Reformed and the vision our church leadership is shaping for the years ahead.

We'll explore the proposed 2027 budget, new opportunities for our endowments, and exciting plans to strengthen our ministry, welcome our neighbors, and grow together in faith and service. As Lexington continues to grow and change, we'll consider how First Reformed can faithfully respond to where God is leading us.

Come hear the vision, share in the conversation, and imagine with us what God has in store for First Reformed.

Menu

Chicken Pie, Green Beans, Corn, Creamed Potatoes

Rolls and Desserts Tea and Lemonade

Donations Appreciated

Up Coming

10/28 Women's Fellowship, 11:30am, Yarborough's Restaurant

10/30 BooBash from 6-9pm

11/1 **Homecoming Sunday and Meal**

11/8 **North Carolina A&T State University Choir at 4pm**
First Reformed UCC Sanctuary

Taking up Canned Corn for Pastor's Pantry

First Reformed is again collaborating with other churches and organizations to provide canned goods for Pastor's Pantry for their Holiday Boxes. These boxes provide a meal for seniors in our community that are food insecure.

Our church is collecting 500 cans of corn between October 4th and November 8th. Please bring on Sundays to the Sanctuary. Our Church has always met the 500 cans needed - let's do it again this year!

Homecoming, November 1, 2026

Join us for the Grand Finale of our 125th Anniversary and Homecoming! We will have an original composition by Bruce Tippet, an original poem by Christy Hamrick, and guest speaker Rev. Ray Nance Howell IV. We will have a wonderful Homecoming meal following the service.

Broasted Chicken, Baked Ham, and an Anniversary Cake

Please bring Covered Dish Sides

Our 10:30 service will also be a Memorial Service for members who have passed during the past year. Please invite family and friends to enjoy this day of music, food, and fellowship! Watch our weekly email announcements and bulletin for more details as we get closer to the date.



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.

The Worship of God

October 18, 2026

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

**Stand as you are able*

Congregation responds in **(BOLD)**

Please sign the attendance pad at end of your pew.

Prelude

***Chimes**

God of Grace and God of Glory

Bruce Tippet

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

Introit

God's Love Is Wide

Matthew and Rev. Emily Ratering-Youngberg

God's love is wide. It is a home. Sheltered in peace, we can be known.

God's love is wide. It has no walls; So come in side. There's room for all.

We are all so different. We are all the same.

We have all been gathered here to worship in God's name.

By ourselves we're lost for sure. By God's love we're found.

We can try to disappear, but Grace will chase us down.

***Call to Worship**

Zach Hedrick

Leader: We come before God with questions, uncertainty, and the choices of everyday life.

People: We come seeking wisdom for how to live faithfully.

Leader: Jesus reminds us to give to the world what belongs to the world.

People: And to give to God what belongs to God.

Leader: What, then, belongs to God?

People: Our lives, our love, our gifts, and our whole selves.

Leader: We are made in the image of God.

People: So we carry God's image into the world.

Leader: May our lives reflect the One whose image we bear.

People: May we embody love, justice, compassion, and grace.

Leader: Come, let us worship the God who calls us to live with courage and integrity.

All: We offer ourselves to God. Let us worship!

***Hymn**

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

Invocation

Zach Hedrick

Scripture Reading

Matthew 22: 15-22

Zach Hedrick

Prayer of Confession

God of truth, we confess we sometimes forget whose image we bear. Like the coin in Jesus’ hands, we carry the images of the things that claim our attention—success, status, money, approval, and power. We give ourselves to these things and forget that our deepest identity comes from you. Forgive us when we measure our worth by what we have, what we achieve, or how others see us. Remind us that we bear your image. Teach us to give our lives to what is truly yours: love, justice, mercy, and compassion. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

*Hymn

Just A Closer Walk With Thee

CLOSER WALK

Refrain Just a clos - er walk with thee, grant it, Je - sus, is my
1 I am weak, but thou art strong; Je - sus, keep me from all
2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who
3 When my fee - ble life is o’er, time for me will be no
plea, dai - ly walk - ing close to thee: let it
wrong; I’ll be sat - is - fied as long as I
cares? Who with me my bur - den shares? None but
more; guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o’er to thy
be, dear Lord, let it be.
walk, let me walk close to thee.
thee, dear Lord, none but thee.
shore, dear Lord, to thy shore.

Invitation to Give Offerings and Pass the Peace of Christ

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

*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.

OLD HUNDRETH

*Prayer of Dedication

Zach Hedrick

Choir Anthem

This Is the Day

by Jay Althouse

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

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

Exodus 32: 12-23

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

Sermon

Living A Legacy: Which Relative Do You Resemble?

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

*Hymn

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; naught be all
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word; I ev - er
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise; thou mine in -
4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won, may I reach
else to me, save that thou art; thou my best thought, by
with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my soul’s shel - ter, and
her - i - tance, now and al - ways; thou and thou on - ly,
heav - en’s joys, O bright heaven’s Sun! Heart of my own heart, what -
day or by night, wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy presence my light.
thou my high tower; raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.
first in my heart, High King of Heav - en, my treasure thou art.
ev - er be - fall, still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

*Benediction

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

Postlude

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Bruce Tippet

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for our Congregational Meal and Budget meeting.

Prayer Concerns

Lee Bouchard, Aurelia Smith, Christie Plummer, Sylvia Walser, June Grubb, Susan Odom

AT HOME

Marge Doty, 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

Paisley Phillips (9yr old) and her mother Britney, friends of Seth Poe), Linda Flowers (Aunt of Elizabeth Horton), Gary Peterson (Father of Jeremy Peterson), Our Saturday Lunch Guests, Students, Faculty, and Staff at CEES