

# *First UCC News*

## *October 2025*



### First UCC Mission Statement

*"To grow in faith, love and fellowship  
as we serve God and all of our community."*

### Worship

Sundays at 11:00  
Rev. Anne Tambling  
Intentional Interim Minister

October 5, 12, 19  
207 W. Horah Street  
Salisbury, NC 28144

October 26  
Catawba Homecoming Worship  
Omwake-Dearborn Chapel  
Catawba Campus

### OCTOBER SCRIPTURES

#### October 5

Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4  
Psalm 37:1-9  
2 Timothy 1:1-14  
Luke 17:5-10

#### October 12

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7  
Psalm 66:1-12  
2 Timothy 2:8-15  
Luke 17:11-19

#### October 19

Jeremiah 31:27-34  
Psalm 119:97-104  
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5  
Luke 18:1-8

#### October 26

Joel 2:23-32  
Psalm 65  
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18  
Luke 18:9-14



### OCTOBER

- |           |            |   |
|-----------|------------|---|
| <b>1</b>  | 5:30 p.m.  | WOW Wednesday Bible Study                                       |
|           | 7:00 p.m.  | Choir Rehearsal   |
| <b>5</b>  | 11:00 a.m. | Worship with Communion  |
|           | 4:00 p.m.  | Concert at Catawba College                                      |
| <b>6</b>  | 6:00 p.m.  | Circle 7 Meeting  |
| <b>7</b>  | 6:30 p.m.  | Circle 6 Meeting  |
| <b>8</b>  | 11:30 a.m. | <b>Primetimers (Wednesday)</b>                                  |
|           | 5:30 p.m.  | WOW Wednesday Bible Study                                       |
|           | 7:00 p.m.  | Choir Rehearsal   |
| <b>9</b>  | 6:00 p.m.  | <b>Assembly of CWS Kits</b>                                     |
| <b>12</b> | 11:00 a.m. | Worship   |
|           | 12:00 p.m. | First UCC Annual Meeting  |
|           | 4:00 p.m.  | Property Committee Meeting                                      |
| <b>14</b> | 10:30 a.m. | Meals on Wheels Deliveries                                      |
| <b>15</b> | 5:30 p.m.  | WOW Wednesday   |
|           | 7:00 p.m.  | Choir Rehearsal   |
| <b>19</b> | 11:00 a.m. | Worship   |
|           | 12:00 p.m. | Feasting on the 3rd   |
| <b>21</b> | 1:00 p.m.  | Bless These Stitches  |
| <b>22</b> | 5:30 p.m.  | WOW Wednesday   |
|           | 7:00 p.m.  | Choir Rehearsal   |
| <b>26</b> | 10:00 a.m. | <b>Catawba Homecoming Worship<br/>at Omwake-Dearborn Chapel</b> |
| <b>28</b> | 10:30 a.m. | Meals on Wheels Deliveries                                      |
| <b>29</b> | 5:30 p.m.  | WOW Wednesday   |
|           | 7:00 p.m.  | Choir Rehearsal   |

## ***From the Desk of Rev. Anne Tambling ...***

Grace and peace to you!

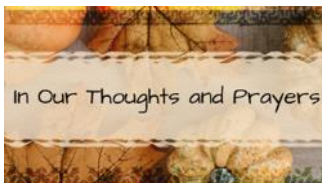
It is a joyful and hopeful season at First Church! As of this writing, we have approved the Pilot Program for worship at Catawba, and our first service will be held in the Omwake-Dearborn Chapel on Sunday, October 26. That day is also Catawba College's Homecoming, as they celebrate 100 years in Salisbury. *For that Sunday only*, worship will begin at 10:00 a.m., followed by a reception. Rev. Kendra Joyner-Miller will be preaching. After that, worship will begin at its normal time at 11:00.

It feels especially fitting to begin this new chapter on a day filled with celebration. First Church and Catawba share a long and meaningful history, and many of you hold warm memories of worshipping in that sacred space. Those memories can become the foundation for the next step in our life together. As we honor the past, we also look ahead with joy—imagining how this relationship can grow and how new memories will be made.

Because worship at Catawba begins on the fourth Sunday, Feasting on the Fourth will move to October 19. We'll gather for a potluck meal that day, so bring a favorite dish to share! It will be wonderful to spend time together at the table as we begin this journey.

In the weeks ahead, our committees will continue refining the details for worship this fall. Through it all, we trust that God is leading us into a new future, and we hold fast to the promise that God will be with us every step of the way. Thanks be to God!

Pastor Anne



Desiree Artz, Brenda Bernhardt, Tyler Bernhardt, Rev. David Crook, Gerri D. Crummett (Donna Odrosky's sister), Maggie Derby (great granddaughter of Jim Weaver), John Drye (Ann Teague's cousin), Emily Faust, Jim & Bettie Lyerly, John Marion, Shirley McNeil, Eddie Meeker, Evan Moreno, Dan Morgan, Patsy Paxton, Paul Paxton, Cathy Robbins, Glenda Shrewsbury, Patty & Mark Shuping and family, Tom Troutman, Barbara Waller, Waylon Ward, Don Whitfield, Janette Yost.

***If you know of anyone who should be added or removed from our prayer list, let the office know.***



Gifts to Neighbors in Need support the United Church of Christ's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). The other two-thirds of the offering support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, direct service projects, and grants. Neighbors in Need grants are annually awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities.

First UCC will receive the Neighbors in Need Offering on Sunday, October 5.

## October Primetimers

Join us for some of Rev. Clapp's cooking from his own recipes published in his recently released book "Food for Body and Soul." Lunch will be held at Rev. Clapp's home. Please let the Church Office or Larry Bolick know if you plan to attend.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**OCTOBER 8**  
**11:30 A.M.**



Next Sunday, October 5, Catawba College's Shuford School of Performing Arts presents a **Catawba Choral Concert, "Seasons and Times"** under the direction of **Dr. Phillip Burgess** and accompanied by **Susan Trivette, Teresa Greene, River McGehee** and **Grayce Pittman** will be participating in the Concert. The concert begins at 4:00 p.m. at the Omwake-Dearborn Chapel on the Catawba Campus. The concert is free to the public.



## CATAWBA HOMECOMING WEEKEND WORSHIP

Sunday,  
October 26, 10:00 a.m.  
Omwake-Dearborn Chapel

Please join us there!

If you have any questions or suggestions for the Transition Team, we invite you to contact one of the members below. Concerns and suggestions are welcome at any time.

Greg Alcorn  
Don Whitfield  
Phyllis Little  
Ken Clapp  
Carolyn Cline  
Lynn Bernhardt  
Robert Propst  
Dan Mikkelsen  
Mark Schiemann  
Larry Bolick  
Kimberly Nelson  
Rev. Anne Tambling

## **Feasting on the 3rd** **Sunday, October 19** **After Worship**



Join us to tell some stories,  
talk about the traditions of the Church  
and share the history of this church family!





## Key Dates



October 12	Annual Meeting
October 26	Catawba Homecoming Joint Service
November 2	First UCC Initial Worship at Catawba Chapel
November 9	Foundation Sunday at Catawba Chapel
November 30	First Sunday of Advent at Catawba Chapel
December 7	Final 2025 Worship Service at Catawba Chapel
	Second Sunday of Advent
December 14	Return to First UCC for Third Sunday of Advent
December 21	Fourth Sunday of Advent at First UCC
December 24	Christmas Eve Service at First UCC

## WOW Wednesday Bible Study ... All are Welcome!

WOW Wednesday Bible Study continues through October with a study on Acts of the Apostles using the study book "ACTS Catching Up with the Spirit" by Matthew L. Skinner. This study is a call to action in which disciples find ways to put faith into action. Recently we have been discussing the sermons of Pastor Anne from the previous Sunday as they have been related to our study.

WOW Wednesday Bible Study meets from

5:30-5:45 pm to share food together;

5:45-6:00 pm discussion of Pastor Anne Tambling's Sermon from the previous Sunday

6:00-6:45 pm the Study of "ACTS: Catching Up with the Spirit"

Participants are invited to bring food to share and a canned food item for the Blessing Pantry.

Dates in October:

October 8 Acts 14:8-28 Paul and Barnabas's Missionary Efforts in Lystra

October 15 Acts 16:16-39 Paul and Silas's Missionary Efforts in Philippi

October 22 Acts 19:23-41 Missionary Efforts in Ephesus

October 29 Summary of Acts Study



## First UCC 5-Alive Fund



No matter a person's beliefs, there is always the potential to find important lessons in the Bible. A major message of the New Testament and Jesus Christ is that humanity should do all that it can to help the poor and those in need. Jesus tells us in Matthew 25 that whatever we do or don't do for our brothers, we do or don't do for Him.

Your contributions to the 5-Alive Fund help us help others in our church and in the greater community.



## ***Primetimers***

The Primetimers met on Thursday, September 11 with a Complimentary Meal, honoring Joyce Trexler upon her Birthday by friend and caterer Debbie Suggs. Rev. Anne Tambling led a devotional message on "Pilgrimage" as we are going on a journey through transition. An excellent program was presented on the 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment. Action was taken to give \$288 to pay for Church World Service shipping cost for 144 CWS Hygiene Kits. Thank you notes were read from Sarah Schiemann regarding Memorial Gifts in memory of her parents Romas and Sarah Shuping, and also a "Thank you" from Nazareth Child and Family Connection for a gift of \$100 for summer activities for students.

The Primetimers will meet on Wednesday, October 8 at 11:30 am at the home of Dr. Ken Clapp, 231 Confederate Ave., Salisbury in the Barn behind his home. Drive to the right of the house through the gate to the back of the property and park. He will be serving dishes from recipes for Catawba College Student Retreats printed in his recent cookbook, "Food For Body and Soul." He will also share a program on his new book that includes prayers he wrote for public Catawba College events during the 33 years he served as College Chaplain. This year 2025 is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Catawba College opening in Salisbury. Founded in 1851, Old Catawba College was located on South College Avenue, Newton, NC, closed in 1923 and reopened in Salisbury in 1925 at its present location. Also to celebrate the Catawba/Salisbury connection, the J. P. Clapp President's Home at Catawba College will be on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Historic Tour of Homes on October 11-12.

## ***Mission Committee***

The Mission Committee continues to supply The Blessing Pantry. Linda Hauze has been stocking the Pantry during September and Larry Bolick will do so in October. The WOW Bible Study participants have been bringing food items for the Blessing Pantry on Wednesday evenings. Thanks to all who have contributed to this outreach ministry.

Linda Hauze shared her recent experience of placing items in The Pantry, when an elderly man walking by greeted her, "So you are the one who puts food in the box." She replied, "Yes, along with our church." He continued, "This is on my daily walk, and I will take something for myself and an elderly friend of mine. Thank you for what you do! My name is John." "My name is Linda," as they exchanged names and goodwill for each other.

The Mission Committee is coordinating Church World Service Assembly Party on Thursday, October 9 from 6-8 pm in the Fellowship Hall with church members and Catawba College Students as our guests. Church members are invited to bring desserts to share at the close of the Party with our Catawba guests. A special "Thank you" for the financial support of First Foundation Grant, Circles 6 and 7, UCC Global Ministries Grant, and Primetimers to make possible the purchase of 6 cases of CWS Hygiene Kits to be assembled in 144 Kits and returned to the Distribution Center.

The Little Red Wagon will resume "Food for Thought" Backpack Program through Rowan Helping Ministries from September—December. In August 47 pounds were delivered to RHM Food Pantry and in July \$300 given to RHM Food Pantry. Thank you for your continued food donations.

## ***Bless These Stitches***

Those in the Bless These Stitches group have been working not just at our meetings but at home as well. There are lots of knitted and crocheted items on the shelf outside the office that are ready to go to their new homes. If you know someone who would benefit from this mission, who needs to know that someone is thinking of them and praying for them, take a comfort item and deliver it to them as an extension of our ministry. If you need something for your personal use or for a gift, a donation is appreciated. There is a suggested price list posted in the area. Donations are used to purchase more yarn to further the ministry.

If you knit or crochet, want to learn, or just want to share fellowship with other needleworkers, join us on the third Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m.!

The next meeting will be on October 21.

## ***Take a Blessing, Leave a Blessing, Be a Blessing***

A Blessing Pantry has been placed on our church property as an outreach to the neighboring community. It is located near the driveway into the parking lot on Church Street, just north of Monroe Street.

Members of the Mission Committee continue to monitor the box and add items at least once a week, but demand is great and it is usually emptied in a couple of days.

Popular items include:

- Canned meats (chicken, tuna, ham, Spam)
- Healthy soups
- Beef stew
- Chef Boyardee canned meals
- Pop Tarts are appreciated
- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Peanut butter
- Dehydrated foods like noodles, cereals, and dry beans
- Personal care products, including baby wipes
- Inexpensive can openers for cans without pop-tops



Excluded items include those in glass packaging and fresh items that are perishable in the weather conditions.

How can you help?

Bring your contributions to the church and place them in the box provided in the Narthex. This bin will distinguish items intended for the Blessing Box from donations for the Little Red Wagon and Rowan Helping Ministries.

You can also add items directly to the box.

Or make a monetary contribution to help the Mission Committee to keep the pantry supplied.

Thank you in advance for supporting this important effort to be an active presence in our neighborhood every day of the week!

—Linda Hauze for the Mission Committee

## ***Little Red Wagon***

The ***Little Red Wagon*** is collecting items for the Rowan Helping Ministries Food for Thought Backpack Program. A reminder about the what the program is: On Fridays, backpacks are sent home with children filled with items that are easy for a child to open and prepare during the week-end. On Mondays, the backpacks are returned to the school to be filled for the following weekend. We will be collecting non-perishable food items that a child is able prepare as a meal or eat as a snack. .

Suggestions include:

- Mac & Cheese cups
- Canned ravioli or franks & beans
- Cereal cups (individual serving size)
- Oatmeal
- Pudding cups
- Fruit cups
- Granola bars

You may drop off your donations at the Church anytime during office hours or on any Sunday morning!



Your offering is a critical part of the Church's ability to function. Offerings can be dropped off at the Church during the week or mailed to the Church at:

First United Church of Christ  
207 W. Horah St.  
Salisbury, NC 28144

There is a link on our website to donate online to First UCC. You may also donate directly through PayPal.



You can scan this QR Code with your camera to donate to First UCC.



**YOUR GIVING  
MATTERS!**

