

# First UCC Focus



2018

UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
God is still speaking.

9:45 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship



## Circle #2 Mission Project-Summer

School will be ending soon and many children count on receiving their meals at school. Items you may want to give during the summer include; Healthy Snack or Juice Boxes, Fruit Cups, Mac and Cheese, Crackers, Pudding Cups, Pop Tarts. We would like to ask each member to bring food to make the "Little Red Wagon squeak LOUDER" for the month of June and through the summer months. Each Sunday lists a specific food or, you can bring what you want. Thank you for your donations! Thank you for your generosity!

June 3: Spaghetti pasta & a can of sauce  
June 10: Dried Beans/Peanut Butter & Jelly  
June 17: Cereal, Oatmeal, Breakfast Items  
June 24: Can Goods, Vegetables

## JUNE USHERS

Jeff Bernhardt (*Captain*)  
Tyler Bernhardt  
Rodney Callaway  
Rebecca Wrights  
Sandy Wagoner

## JUNE GREETERS

3 & 10-John and Lucy  
Robinson  
17 & 24-Patty and Steven  
Shuping

## Seminary Recognition for 1<sup>st</sup> Church Foundation

Hood Theological Seminary provides an Annual Bishop James Walker Hood award every year. For this Fourteenth year, our 1<sup>st</sup> UCC Foundation was selected.

The award included a proclamation that can be displayed at the church. Dr. Vergel Lattimore, President of Hood made the announcement. The award was received by Dr. Karen Alexander and Missie and Greg Alcorn. It was mentioned that our Foundation had provided a grant distribution to Hood for each of the last ten years. Dr. Andre Resner spoke for the faculty and said that "our stewardship made their stewardship possible".

Members of First UCC,

Thank you SO MUCH for all the cards and flowers you sent to honor Juanita during her illness and death. Your messages, visits, thoughts and prayers helped her get through many days and months of difficult times and struggles. She kept a smile on her face to remind each of us that smiles are good for you -- as well as contagious and uplifting to others. She considered all of you to be her family!

With grateful appreciation,  
*Carolyn Cline and J.C. Ludwig*

## JUNE LAY READERS

3 & 10-Karen Alexander  
17-Dan Mikkelson  
24-Leslie Dent

*Primetimers* will meet for the final meeting of the year on June 14 at 11:00 in the Fellowship Hall. A short business meeting will be followed by a fun-filled program. We will end with the annual Herb and Janet Rhodes picnic. Side dishes and desserts will be appreciated.

## Christian Sympathy to:

Weston Henderson in the death of his grandfather, Walter Henderson on May 23.

## Carol's Corner

Dear Friends,

"I think it is necessary for us to realize that we have moved from the era of civil rights to the era of human rights...[W]hen we see that there must be a radical redistribution of economic and political power, then we see that for the last twelve years we have been in a reform movement...That after Selma and the Voting Rights Bill, we moved into a new era, which must be an era of revolution...In short, we have moved into an era where we are called upon to raise certain basic questions about the whole society." This is a quote from Martin Luther King Jr. at the Southern Christian Conference Leadership retreat a year before his assassination. It is also the beginnings of the Poor People's Campaign.



Rev. Carol Hallman

Indeed, his assassination and the assassination of Senator Robert Kennedy, a proponent of the campaign caused disarray and confusion and much of the agenda was never completed. King emphasized the need for poor whites, Blacks, Latinos, Asians, and Native Americans to unite. He asserted that the Poor People's Campaign would only be successful if the poor could come together.

Recently several leaders have been gathering and re-igniting this campaign. They have a list of fundamental principles and I'd like to lift up a couple.

"We believe that people should not live in or die from poverty in the richest nation ever to exist. Blaming the poor and claiming that the United States does not have an abundance of resources to overcome poverty are false narratives used to perpetuate economic exploitation, exclusion, and deep inequality"

Often, it appears to me we fall for this narrative of scarcity in our country and even in our world. God promises us abundance. We are called to love one another, to care for one another and we have hungry people in our cities, our towns and even in the most rural of areas. We have homeless men, women and children, who are struggling to find a way back. Yes, some of them are struggling with mental illness, others might have addictions but as God's people we are called to love them and to look for ways to be there for them.

Another principle of the current campaign is this:

"We aim to shift the distorted moral narrative often promoted by religious extremists in the nation from issues like prayer in school, abortion, and gun rights to one that is concerned with how our society treats the poor, those on the margins, the least of these, women, LGBTQIA folks, workers, immigrants, the disabled and the sick; equality and representation under the law; and the desire for peace, love and harmony within and among nations."

This one, to me sounds a lot like Jesus' ministry. He spent most of his time among the least of these. He welcomed the poor, tax collectors, women, the ones on the margins as followers.

In John's gospel in the farewell discourse he tells his disciples, "love one another, as I have loved you." Asked by the lawyer about the most important commandment he said, "Love God, love your neighbor" and when the lawyer asked, just who is my neighbor, Jesus said basically "anyone who has a need".

I don't know where this campaign is going but I believe strongly that God loves and cares for all of creation. I also believe it is our job to live out God's love in the world, welcoming all, caring for all and seeing each person we meet as God's beloved child.

As we move into summer open your eyes and see the world around you. Be willing to listen to the stories of those you meet. Open your hearts to God's love which guides us all. Finally, look for ways to live the gospel. Remember that you may be the only Jesus someone ever sees.

Hope to see you in church!

Blessings and peace,

Pastor Carol

# What's Happening In Our Church

## FIVE ALIVE: HELPING NEIGHBORS HELP THEMSELVES!

A client came into Rowan Helping Ministries seeking assistance because his water was going to be disconnected. The household consists of the client and his sister. They are both on a fixed income.

There was a leak that the landlord fixed. This caused a larger than normal water bill that was difficult to pay on their fixed incomes. The client had to pay part of the bill and return to RHM with the receipt before a voucher would be given to him. He brought in the receipt and Rowan Helping Ministries wrote the voucher to keep his water from being disconnected.

The Five Alive Program is a non-budgeted mission of our Church and relies on your financial support each month. Thank you for your continued support!

**Church Women** will be collecting clothing items for a project for *Rowan One Church One Child*. Items needed are *underwear for little girls, shampoo and body wash* all age appropriate. There is a basket in the narthex to collect these items.



Rowan Helping Ministries are in need of washcloths. They can be placed in The Little Red Wagon or you may take them to Rowan Helping Ministries.

## Celebrations Committee News

We are focusing on becoming more present in the community and plan to have tables and members at various Salisbury events. Our first event comes up in June; Salisbury Pride Day. We invite you to stop by our table on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 11:00-5:00 at the Salisbury PRIDE Festival downtown.

**Church Women's Board Meeting:**  
Monday, June 18 at 6:30.

## ATTENDANCE

### May

6	66
13	76
20	74

## JUNE SCRIPTURE

- 3-1 Sam 3:1-10 (11-20)  
Deut 5:12-15  
Mark 2:23-3:6
- 10-1 Sam 8:4-11 (12-15),  
16-20  
Gen 3:8-15  
Mark 3:20-35
- 17-1 Sam 15:34-16:13  
Ezek 17:22-24  
Mark 4:26-34
- 24-1 Sam 17: (1a, 4-11,  
19-23), 32-49  
Mark 4:35-41



Gene Beck  
Weston Henderson's  
grandfather)

Gina Mitchell  
(Surgery June 1)



## *Welcome Weston Henderson; Youth Director*

Weston comes to us from Churchland Baptist Church in Lexington NC where he served as Youth Leader for two years. During this time he lead youth meetings, planned activities and was involved in Worship services. Weston is honored to be serving with this community of faith. Some facts: Weston is a soon to be senior at Catawba College. He graduated from Ledford High in 2015. Weston is on the football team at Catawba. His extra-curricular activities include the Philomathean Society, Lily Fellow and Religious Life. Golf and cooking are his two favorite hobbies. If anyone in the congregation would like to go golfing, give Weston a date and a time and he will be there! Weston feels very thankful that God has brought him together with First UCC and looks forward to a future with us.

### Weston's Word

First off I just wanted to thank all of you for making my first two weeks at 1<sup>st</sup> UCC an absolute joy. Everywhere and every person that I have encountered has shown me plenty of grace and love. I've always been told growing up in a Baptist Church and then serving a Baptist Church that Baptist could cook the best. That was proven false at our Pentecost lunch. There are some absolute good cooks at 1<sup>st</sup> Church. I am very pleased with the food but even more impressed with the loving kindness of this congregation.

I am thrilled to learn more and more from our youth. We have a very good group of kids here at 1<sup>st</sup> UCC. They have a wide range of interest with all of them having a great personality. My goals to accomplish in the near future are focus on learning more about them as well as learning from them. There are plenty of opportunities for this to take place. Most notably our mission trip that will take place July 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>. The trip will take place in Asheboro at Black Lake Retreat Center. Cost is TBD. More details about this trip will be released in the near future. If there are any thoughts, information or ideas please let me know. I would like to hear what the members of the youth as well as the congregation has to say regarding this trip.

I would like to share a story with you about my vacation to Cape Hatteras this May. One of the days that we were there we took a chartered deep sea fishing trip for the day about 40 miles off the island. Six of us went, all members of my family. In order to determine the order of who angled we drew straws. Of course, I drew the shortest. About two hours later it was my turn. When it was my turn, I saw Matthew 20:16 come to real life as the last to reel in. As I reeled in I noticed that I had a huge fish and it took much longer for me to reel in than the rest of my family. As the fish got close to us the first mate told me that he could not bring the fish in the boat. The reason that the fish could not be brought into the boat is because it was a 55 inch White Marlin!

It was proven to me that the last will be first as the Matthew scripture tells us. Sometimes it is the hardest thing in life for us to patiently wait while everyone else is having fun. Sometimes we get ill with having to wait and feel that we may miss out. But then sometimes we get the prized fish because we had to go last. There are so many times where God tells us to be patient and wait for what is in store for us. It sounds simple but, the hardest thing for us in our human nature is to wait on the prized fish. Sometimes drawing a straw is the only thing that forces us to wait on those gift and it upsets us, but it sure is a great feeling when we catch a big one.

-Weston



## ***Congratulations First UCC 2017-18 Graduates:***

**Eleanor Alcorn**, daughter of Greg and Missie Alcorn from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a major in Economics and a minor in Entrepreneurship. Eleanor will be working in Charlotte for a consulting firm in risk and compliance.

**Christian Shuping**, son of Mark and Patty Shuping from Appalachian State University with a degree in Prelaw/Criminal Justice. Christian will be working with a firm in Charlotte.

**Sam Reeder**, bass Choral Scholar, cum laude from Catawba College with a major in Political Science, concentrating in Public Administration and a minor in Business. Sam will be attending graduate school at American University.

**Ethan Chirico** from Catawba College with a BA in International Affairs and Economics. Ethan received the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award. Ethan will be a firefighter for the City of Salisbury.

Special recognition of **Katie Zobel**, soprano Choral Scholar, who served as a Junior Marshall at Catawba for the year 2017-18.

### ***Other Notable Catawba Happenings:***

**Leslie Dent**, a preceptor in the Catawba Athletic Training Education Program, honored with the Louise Tucker Staff Council Award; **Dr. Philip Burgess**, associate chairman of the Catawba Music Department, director of vocal-choral activities, and 1st UCC Choir Director, honored with the Kenneth Clapp Tri-Delta Award.

Thanks for your participation in the community of 1st UCC, and may God bless you all the rest of your days.

## **First United Church of Christ & At the Cross Ministries**

**VBS-July 14 9:30 am - 3:00 pm.**

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

### **What you need to know:**

- Light breakfast served (9:00-9:30)
- Lunch will be served
- Children need to wear play clothes and sturdy shoes
- Groups are made up of Kindergarten through those just completing 5th grade
- Groups provide for Preschool Children (starting with 2 year olds)
- Families are invited to attend the ice cream sundae party at 3:00 pm

### **How can you be part of the best Saturday of the summer?**

Registration forms are available at both churches

First United Church of Christ 704-633-2723

At the Cross Ministries 704-433-6662

For more information please call:

Sarah Schiemann at 704-637-3131 or 980-234-2571

Visit us online at [1stucc.org](http://1stucc.org)



Facebook: First United Church of Christ-Salisbury



# 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Gina out for surgery	2
3 9:45 SS 11:00 Worship/ Communion Pasta & Sauce Gina out for surgery	4 <i>Pastor Carol Vacation</i> 5:00 Founda- tion Committee Meeting Gina out for surgery	5 11:30-Circle #4 2:00-Circle #2 6:30-Circle #6 Gina out for surgery	6 Gina out for surgery	7 <i>Pastor Carol Returns</i> Gina out for surgery	8 3:00 Memorial Service for Marjorie Karabatsos	9
10 9:45 SS 11:00 Worship Congregational Meet- ing Dried Beans/PB & J Little Red Wagon 4:00 Property Comm.	11 Gina out for surgery	12 10:30 Meals on Wheels 6:30 Families First Gina out for surgery	13 5:00 Executive Council Gina out for surgery	14 11:00 Primetimers Gina out for sur- gery 10:30-4:00 WNCA Committee On Ministry Meeting	15	16
17 <b>FATHER'S DAY</b> 9:45 SS 11:00 Worship Cereal, Oatmeal, Breakfast Items	18 6:30 Church Women's Board Newsletter Deadline <i>Gina Vacation</i>	19 1:00 Bless These Stitches 6:00 Council 6:30 Families First	20	21 Southern Conference Annual Meeting Greensboro First Day of Summer	22 Southern Conference Annual Meet- ing Greensboro	23 Salisbury Pride 11:00-5:00 Southern Conference Annual Meeting Greensboro
24 9:45 SS 11:00 Worship Can goods/Vegetables  Five Alive	25 <i>Gina Returns</i>	26 10:30 Meals on Wheels 6:30 Families First	27	28	29	30



Location: 135 Mocksville Avenue, Suite 2  
Mailing Address: Salisbury, NC 28144

Telephone: 704-630-0481 Fax: 704-630-9930  
Email: info@families-1st.org  
Website: www.familiesfirst-ncinc.org

Officers  
and  
Board of Directors

May 10, 2018

Capt. Melonie Thompson  
President

Joyce Goodwin  
Treasurer

Natalie Murphy  
Secretary

- Greg Alcorn
- Miriam Basso
- Elijah Belton
- Amanda Bosch
- Dr. Lyn Boulter
- Elizabeth Brown
- Rev. Carol Hallman
- Luke Hamaty
- Carmen Wilder-Harper
- Dr. Jennifer Hudson
- Monsieoh Johnson
- Lisa Markham
- James Morgan
- Rebecca Schiemann Wrights
- Esther Atkins Smith
- Judge Christy Wilhelm
- Dr. Gayle Yatawara

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

Dear Rev. Hallman & Congregation,

Mrs. Edith Alcorn was a woman who always kept her head up high and had the stamina, beauty, and courage that one would admire. Even the love and happiness one inspires, she was a woman that one could always count on and a woman who saw no wrong. You can still see her hard work flourishing with the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program through Families First NC- INC.

Mrs. Edith knew that there was a need here in her community. She saw a voice-less demographic with little guidance and knowledge, embarking on a path that they are not ready for. Seeing that need, she fulfilled it, with the help of Dr. Goodwin and other members of the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Council. The Family life/ Teen Pregnancy Prevention Curriculum was created and implemented. Unknowingly, by working closely with the schools and being active in her church, the First United Church of Christ, Ms. Edith created a legacy through her approach and service.

Her intelligence, wisdom, and hard work are not surprising, she was genuinely a caring woman, and she is loved and cherished by our organization. The Adolescent Parenting Program would like to give First United Church of Christ a donation of love in remembrance of our Founding Mother, Mrs. Edith Alcorn. Without her efforts and love from you, First United Church of Christ, the APP program could not thrive and accomplish our goals like she intended.



Thank You & God Bless You.  
Happy Mother's Day,

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative

Deja Garlin  
Program Manager



*First United Church of Christ*  
207 West Horah Street  
Salisbury, NC 28144

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**Resident Pastor:** Rev. Carol Hallman  
**Organist:** Susan Trivette  
**Choir Director:** Dr. Phillip Burgess  
**Youth Director :** Weston Henderson

**Church Office:** (704) 633-2723 **Website:** [1stucc.org](http://1stucc.org)  
**Facebook:** First United Church of Christ-Salisbury  
**Sunday Worship:** 9:45 Sunday School / 11:00 Worship

