

First UCC Focus January 2021



Church Council has cancelled all activities, gatherings and meetings at the time of publishing. Meetings scheduled at this time are for zoom, email or conference call only.

11:00 Online Worship Sundays
<https://www.facebook.com/First.UCC.Salisbury>

JANUARY SCRIPTURE

January 3

Isaiah 60:1-6
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

January 10

Genesis 1:1-5
Acts 19:1-7
Mark 1:4-11

January 17

1 Samuel 3:1-10
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
1 Corinthians 6:12-20
John 1:43-51

January 24

John 3:1-5, 10
Mark 1:14-20

January 31

Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Psalm 111
1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Mark 1:21-28



While the church building itself is closed we know that it is important to gather and stay connected during this time. We hope you will be able to join us for online worship on Sundays at 11:00. The link to our facebook page is:

www.facebook.com/First.UCC.Salisbury/

If you are unable to join us live, you can watch any of our worship services, concerts or storytimes by visiting the Church's page.

Thursday Thoughts

If you haven't signed up for Thursday Thoughts, subscribe to our email list on our website or just call the office with your email address. Thursday Thoughts contain special messages from Pastor Carol, First UCC news, links to meetings and notices of upcoming concerts and events.



NEW YEAR'S DAY	
3	11:00 Online Worship & Communion
5	Online Storytime with Pastor Carol
6	6:30 Online Bible Study
7	7:00 Task Force Meeting
10	11:00 Online Worship
	4:00 Property Committee Meeting
12	Online Storytime with Pastor Carol
13	5:30 EC Board Meeting
	6:30 Online Bible Study
14	6:00 Finance Committee Meeting
	7:00 Mission Committee Meeting
17	11:00 Online Worship
	12:30 Church Council Meeting
19	Online Storytime with Pastor Carol
20	6:30 Online Bible Study
24	FIVE ALIVE SUNDAY
	11:00 Online Worship
26	Online Storytime with Pastor Carol
27	6:30 Online Bible Study
31	11:00 Online Worship

MEETINGS BY CONFERENCE CALL OR ZOOM. TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Bible Study...

Please join us as we continue to study the Book of Psalms via Zoom each Wednesday night at 6:30. A link and study passage will be emailed prior to each Wednesday session.



First United Church of
Christ-Salisbury

Website:

WWW.1STUCC.ORG





CAROL'S CORNER



Friends,

The New Year dawns...soon 2020 will be over and 2021 arrives. Out with the old, in with the new. I wonder what this New Year will bring.

So what are the signs
The portents
As we stand on the cusp
of 2021
As we bid a (not so)
Fond farewell to 2020

While several vaccines
Are rolling out
The infected cases
Keep growing
Deaths keep mounting
Tears keep falling
Mountains of tears
Enough to fill the lakes
And the oceans

Doctors, nurses, aids
Are tired
Tossed and torn
Everyday lives
Disrupted
Routines shattered
Life forever transformed

So what are the signs
The portents
As we stand on the precipice
Fearfully looking
towards 2021

Can we take the lessons
Of 2020
And learn from them
Can we find a way
To work together
To rebuild our communities
To celebrate our families
To encourage our friends

I don't know what 2021
Holds for us
What I do know is that
If Christmas has anything to
Say about it
Then whatever 2021 brings
We are not alone
On the journey
We walk with
Each other
And we walk
With Emmanuel
God is with us
Always
Ever present
In the best of times
And even (especially)
In the worst

See you in 2021!

Happy New Year!

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor Carol



Thank you from the First UCC Church Staff for the gifts and cards, thoughts and prayers this holiday season.

Pastor Carol,

Susan Trivette

Phillip Burgess

Susan Legendre

Patty & Mark Shuping



Thank you to those who brought by gifts of hats, mittens, scarves, socks and gloves for Rowan Helping Ministries and the Family Crisis Council on Christmas Eve. Our manger was overflowing. We will continue to collect donations until our next Mission Committee Meeting.



First UCC Church Family,

Thank you to our "church family" for all the many blessings that have been given to us throughout such a challenging year.

We miss and appreciate you each so very much.

Susan & Waylon Ward



With great appreciation to all those who have made this Advent/Christmas Season possible.

... To all who helped decorate the sanctuary and outside of the church for Advent/Christmas.

... To those families who lit advent wreath candles or participated in our Advent services.

... To those behind-the scenes people too numerous to mention who make our church productions possible, who make the gardens beautiful and whose patience and support have helped us move on-ward through this pandemic.



FIVE ALIVE: HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS HELP THEMSELVES!

EVICITION

A client came to Rowan Helping Ministries seeking help to stay in her home. The client is 62 years old. She lost her job in late July and has been drawing unemployment. She has started drawing Social Security. The landlord agreed to waive the late fee if the client can pay \$110.00 and will accept a voucher from RHM for the balance in order to stop eviction. The client provided RHM with a copy of the receipt for the payment of \$110.00. Rowan Helping Ministries granted her a voucher for the balance of the rent due. She was grateful to know she will be able to stay in her home.

100% of your contribution goes to help citizens of the Salisbury/Rowan area and our church family with unexpected, short term emergencies.



Thank you Mark & Patty Shuping and family for their donation of the poinsettias in the sanctuary.



In Our Thoughts and Prayers



Mary Austin, Mabel Barnhardt, Brenda Bernhardt, Betty Bowles (mother of Steve Bowles), Destony Bowles, Julia Callaway, Gerri D. Crummett (Donna Odrosky's sister), Sarah Hall (friend of Bobbie Troutman), Gary Hauze (no visits or phone calls, please), Harry & Nancy Hipp, Dawn Isenberg, Anne Kennedy, Johnnie Lippard (friend of Steve Bowles), Diane Lockhart (Radell Lockhart's mother), Dan Morgan (friend of Steve Bowles), Joseph Najarian (son of Dena & David Najarian), Pat Norris, Donna Odrosky, Flo Peck, Savannah Price (Larry Bolick's nephew's granddaughter), Glenda Shrewsbury, Sarah Shuping, Claire Skinner, Crystal Smith (niece of Bobbie Troutman), Nick Snipes, family of Shirley Trexler, Donnie Troutman, Jeff Watson (Larry Bolick's nephew), John and Sandy Wagoner, Waylon Ward.

If you know of anyone who should be added or deleted from our prayer list, be sure and let the office know. If you have prayer concerns, please text, call or email Pastor Carol.