

# First UCC Focus

## July, 2019



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
God is still speaking.

**9:45 Sunday School**  
**11:00 Worship**

### JULY SCRIPTURE

#### July 7

2 Kings 5:1-14  
Psalm 30  
Galatians 6:1-16  
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

#### July 14

Amos 7:7-17  
Psalm 82  
Colossians 1:1-14  
Luke 10:25-37

#### July 21

Amos 8:1-12  
Psalm 52  
Colossians 1:15-28  
Luke 10:38-42

#### July 28

Genesis 18:20-32  
Psalm 138  
Colossians 2:6-19  
Luke 11:1-13

*July is often a "slow" month in many churches. But it's a good time to seek avenues for spiritual growth, either on your own or in a small group. Study a specific book of the Bible, the history of Christianity, an area of Christian theology, or learn more about other religions such as Hinduism or Islam. Volunteer to do mission work in your local community or in other cities, states or countries.*

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A reminder to like and share the various activities that get put on facebook. This enables friends to see them if you share them.

### JULY USHERS

Tony Hoty  
Phyllis Little  
Brent Snipes  
Bobbie Troutman  
Rebecca Schiemann Wrights

### JULY GREETERS

#### July 7 & 14

Rodney Callaway

#### July 21 & 28

Jeff Smith

### JULY LAY READERS

#### July 7 & 14:

Phyllis Little

#### July 21 & 28:

Weston Henderson



The items you brought for the **Little Red Wagon** in June have been taken to Rowan Helping Ministries. Donations totaled 35 pounds. Thank you for your generosity.



[WWW.1STUCC.ORG](http://WWW.1STUCC.ORG)



Pastor Carol will be away until July 11

#### 4 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

7 9:45 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship & Communion  
Rev. Kenneth Clapp, Officiant

9 10:30 Meals on Wheels  
6:30 Families First

#### 14 LITTLE RED WAGON SUNDAY

9:45 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship  
4:00 Property Committee Meeting

16 1:00 Bless These Stitches  
6:30 Families First

#### 20 Vacation Bible School

#### 21 Joint Worship with At The Cross

9:45 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship  
Picnic Following Worship

23 10:30 Meals on Wheels  
6:30 Families First

25 6:00 PFLAG Meeting

#### 28 FIVE ALIVE SUNDAY

9:45 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship

#### 29 AUGUST NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

30 10:30 Meals on Wheels  
6:30 Families First



## CAROL'S CORNER

Dear Friends,

As we move into summer we also move liturgically into what the church calls "Ordinary Time". In ordinary time there aren't special holy days, like Advent, Christ, Lent, or Easter. It is just what we call it, ordinary. It is a reminder that we live our day to day lives in-between the already and the not yet. We live after Jesus life, death and resurrection but before the completing of it all when scripture tells us that Jesus will come again. Ordinary time is basically how we live out each day of our lives. With families, community, jobs, school, vacations.... how in the midst of it all do we choose to live out our faith? This is the question of ordinary time. What are the choices we make, the actions we take each day? I've written the following for us to ponder as we move into "Ordinary Time". You might say that it is based on a scripture from Ecclesiastes or a song by The Byrds!

There is a season	There is a time
A season for all things	To slow down
Under heaven	Pouring out
And on the earth	Wisdom and grace
	Upon the ones
There is a time	Who follow
Of birth	
All things new	There is a time
The sweet smells	For pain
Of flowers	Loss grief
And rain	Sorrow it
	Means that you
There is a time	Have loved
To journey	And been loved
To travel and learn	
To grow and change	There is a time
To become who	To die
We are created	To let go
To become	Release the breath
	Of life
There is a time	Trusting in
For rest	God's presence
Refuel reinvent	To lead you
Recall remake	Home
Re-energize	
For the long haul	

This is the season many travel and take vacations so keep safe while you are away. Know that we will be here when you get back and if you are in town, hope to see you all in church!

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor Carol

**Pastor Carol will be away until July 10th. In case of an emergency, contact the church office. Rev. James Cook and Rev. Ken Clapp will be on call for emergencies.**

Next Sunday's worship, **July 7**, will be officiated by the Rev. Dr. Kenneth Clapp. We hope to see you there.

Vacation Bible School will be held at the Church on **Saturday, July 20**. It will again be combined with At The Cross Ministries. On **Sunday, July 21**, there will be a joint fellowship service at First UCC with At The Cross Ministries. Worship will be followed by a picnic lunch.

Church Council welcomes new council members **Robert Propst, Lucy Bennett, April Pittman, Frances Wensil** and **Flo Peck**. On **August 4** there will be an installation of new council members followed by an orientation and planning meeting. More details to follow.

Mark your calendars for **August 18 and August 25**. For two Sundays we will have a joint worship with Catawba to allow us to worship with new students. On **Sunday, August 18**, worship will be at the college with lunch following in the cafeteria. On **Sunday, August 25**, Catawba College will worship at First UCC. There will be a covered dish meal following worship on the 25th and music will be provided by the Websters. Watch for more information.

During the months of June and July the Mission Committee will be collecting kid-friendly food contributions for Rowan Helping Ministries. Contributions may be placed in the room adjacent to the vestibule.



- No Choir
- No Circle 2 Meeting
- No Circle 4 Meeting
- No Circle 6 Meeting
- No Circle 7 Meeting
- No Primetimers
- No Church Women's Board
- No Council Meeting (or EC Board Meeting)
- No Mission Committee

**YES Sunday School and Worship!**  
**YES Vacation Bible School!**

#### **Five Alive: A Thank-You Note from Rowan Helping Ministries**

The following is a copy of a letter with eye opening numbers from Rowan Helping Ministries thanking us for our continued support through our Five Alive Fund and the Little Red Wagon programs.

*Because of your generous heart, basic needs will be provided, hope will be renewed and lives will be changed!*

In the first nine months of our fiscal year, our kind and caring donors, like donors (including our own **Five-Alive and Little Red Wagon programs**) and volunteers made these things possible:

- 2,757 individuals received \$277,493 in financial assistance for rent, utilities, medicine and other critical needs for survival;
- 722 different guests were provided a safe place to spend the night in our shelter;
- 62,594 meals were served to the hungry in Jeannie's Kitchen (**Our Mission Committee is helping with this program**)
- 2,924 household visited our Food Pantry, where 540,778 pounds of groceries were distributed;
- 4,292 individuals received new or gently-used clothing from our Clothing Center;
- 21,686 Food for Thought food bags were given to Rowan County children each week, so they would have enough to eat on weekends.

Through your donations, you have allowed your heart to lead you in helping your neighbors in need. You are helping us feed the hungry, house the homeless and give hope to those working to build better lives.

Sincerely,

Karen Taylor

Resource Development Assistant



Javis Arey, Mary Austin, Mabel Barnhardt, Kay Bassinger (Linda Thompson's mother), Gene Beck (Weston Henderson's grandfather), Robin Blackwell (Daughter of Sara

Jean Propst), Rebecca Blosssey (granddaughter of Ted & Carolyn Cline), Julia Callaway, Jim Clary, Marie Cuthrell, the family of Jean Dagenhart, Marvin Feezor (friend of Henry Alexander), Joyce Harris (friend of Martha Hann), Martha Hann, Gary Hauze (no visits or phone calls, please), Harry & Nancy Hipp, Elender Morgan (friend of Jeff Smith), Joseph Najarian (son of Dena & David Najarian), Pat Norris, Eleanor Peeler, Rev. Don Scott, Pat Shoe, Paul & Glenda Shrewsbury, Patty Shuping and family, Zach Shuping, Waylon & Susan Ward. **If you know of anyone who should be added or deleted from our prayer list, be sure and let the office**



Black Lake is in need of lawnmowers and weed trimmers. If you have one to donate, contact the Church office or Glenda Shrewsbury.

# First UCC

*Be on the lookout for youth mission activities for late July and early August. These will be local activities that can be done in a series of a couple of days.*

*We are in the process of creating some family-oriented activities for the fall on a monthly basis. A short questionnaire will be circulated during the summer months to pinpoint what times and/or activities might generate the most interest.*

*Youth Spotlight: Patty Shuping will continue to focus on one of our youths to introduce to our readers so that we may get to know our young members better. Patty will be contacting you to collect information about your children.*

VBS 2019

Star Date 07.20.19



Hosts: First UCC-Salisbury & At the Cross Ministries  
Launchpad: 1<sup>st</sup> UCC 207 W Horah St.  
0900-1500 hours followed by ice cream sundaes



All Things Bright and Beautiful Music & Arts Camp is being held at St. John's Lutheran Church from July 29-August 2. First UCC will be providing refreshments for the camp on July 30. If you would like to help to serve the refreshments that day, please contact Sarah Scheimann.

CATAWBA



Sr. High Youth:  
July 7-12 OR July 14-19  
Jr. High Youth:  
July 21-26

Discover is a summer program for middle and high school students to engage in a week of theological study, careful reflection, and spiritual growth. This summer's theme is "Story." What stories are we telling, sharing, and living? How do these stories impact who we are and how we live out our faith? Contact Weston Henderson for more information.

**Below are Statements of Faith written by Grayce Pittman and Maggie Leichman**

**Statement of Faith  
By: Grayce Pittman  
June 9, 2019**

**I believe God** is the maker of all creation including the heaven and the earth. God made all people in his own image. I believe all things are possible to those who believe in God.

**I believe Jesus** is the son of God who was born as our Savior. During his life he taught people about God. He died on a cross and resurrected so people could live. I believed Jesus died to save us from our own sins.

**I believe The Holy Spirit** is the third person of the Trinity church. The Holy Spirit comes in many different ways. I believe the Holy Spirit is in all of us. It creates, nurtures and helps us use our gifts and talents so we can help others.

**I believe God wants me** to follow the ten commandments and love all people. He wants me to treat others like I would want to be treated.

**I believe I could** help make the world a better place by being a good example to my friends and teach my peers about God. Also, I am willing to volunteer my time and talents to assist others.

**Statement of Faith  
By: Maggie Leichman**

I believe God created everybody in his own image.  
He created the earth, along with everything else.  
He forgives us for our sins.  
He gives each and every one of us a purpose in life.

I believe in the Holy Spirit.  
I believe that the Holy Spirit persuades us to take the right directions through our life and helps us through our journeys.

I believe in Jesus Christ.  
Jesus came to earth in human form and suffered.  
He knew what it is like to be human.  
No matter where we go, he will always be with us.

I believe God wants me to be one of his disciples.  
I believe I should always resist evil.  
I will try my best to help others around me and show my love and justice.  
I should always show my faith to others.

**SRCWU Human Rights Celebration  
Friday, August 2nd, from 7 - 9 pm  
First Calvary Baptist Church  
400 South Long Street, Salisbury  
Action Focus: School Supplies for  
Communities in Schools**

**Salisbury Pride Festival  
June 22, 2019**

**Our church was well represented and well received at the Salisbury Pride Festival. The crowd was very large and many people stopped by our booth. We gave away all 500 of our custom water bottles! We continuously provided cold water by filling and re-filling these water bottles. Plus, we provided cold water for pets. There were four other churches displaying. It was a successful day and good exposure for our church. Thanks to all who participated.**

**If you have ideas for other events or festivals for our church to attend, please share with a Celebration Committee member.**

**FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST FOUNDATION  
207 WEST HORAH STREET  
SALISBURY, NC 28144  
704-633-2723**

June 13, 2019

Dear Friends of First United Church of Christ:

The First United Church of Christ Foundation has begun the selection process for awarding the annual distribution of funds. An application for your organization to use in applying for funds is attached. We respectfully request that you complete and return this form to the Foundation by August 16, 2019. Applications may be emailed to [office@1stucc.org](mailto:office@1stucc.org) (**\*please note this is a new email for the church**) or by regular mail, but must be postmarked on or before this date to be considered for the 2019 distribution of funds.

If your organization is selected to receive a distribution, you will be notified by September 20, 2019. It is essential that you have a representative attend the eleven o'clock worship service at First United Church of Christ at a date to be decided on in October 2019, to participate in the presentation ceremony.

We look forward to receiving your application form soon.

Have a blessed day.

Sincerely,



Greg Alcorn, FUCC Foundation Chairman