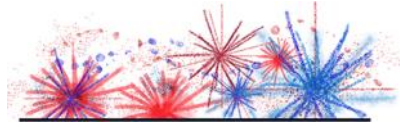


First UCC Focus

July 2021



Activities and meetings at the Church continue to be held via Zoom or Conference Call. At this time the only in-person gatherings are through Worship on Sunday mornings.

**Sundays at 11:00
In-Person and Online Worship**

<https://www.facebook.com/First.UCC.Salisbury>

JULY SCRIPTURES

July 4

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
Psalm 48
2 Corinthians 12:2-10
Mark 6:1-13

July 11

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19
Psalm 24
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29

July 18

2 Samuel 7:1-14a
Psalm 89:20-37
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 25

2 Samuel 11:1-15
Psalm 14
Ephesians 3:14-21
John 6:1-21



Please join us for online or in-person worship each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. If you are new to our services, **WELCOME**, if you are returning,



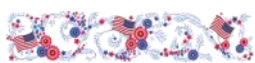
www.facebook.com/First.UCC.Salisbury/

Our facebook page contains news, announcements, events and weekly online worship services. You do not need to be a member of facebook to find the facebook page. Google First UCC Salisbury or put the web address in your search engine. It will ask you to sign in but you may bypass that sign in if you wish to proceed to the site.



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-5ySdEx2P5IbIN-EpWTOBQ>

Sermons will be available on YouTube on the Thursday following worship. You can also find the YouTube link on our website.



Have a safe and happy 4th of July weekend.



WWW.1STUCC.ORG

Did You Know ...

Our Website contains links to Bulletins and Newsletters, a link to send your offering to the Church through PayPal and other useful information. Check us out!



- 1 6:00 Celebration Committee Meeting via Zoom
- 4 11:00 **FOURTH OF JULY**
Online and In-Person Worship with Communion
Church Office Closed
- 5 6:00 Finance Committee Meeting
- 8 7:00 Mission Committee Meeting
- 11 11:00 **Little Red Wagon Sunday**
Online and In-Person Worship
- 14 5:30 EC Board Meeting
- 18 11:00 Online and In-Person Worship
- 12:15 **Congregational Meeting**
Church Council Meeting
- 25 11:00 **5-Alive Sunday**
Online and In-Person Worship
- 27 6:00 Task Force Meeting

Pastor Carol will be away from July 21-23.

Thursday Thoughts

If you haven't signed up for Thursday Thoughts, subscribe to our email list on our website or 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.

Information from our congregation is always a welcome addition to Thursday Thoughts. Please submit news to the office by Wednesday a.m.

CAROL'S CORNER

Friends,

<https://www.generalsynod.org/proposed-resolutions/> At this link you can find that various resolutions that will be discussed and acted upon by the UCC General Synod meeting this month. There will also be a vote on some necessary Constitution and by-law changes.

One that the Southern Conference has sent to General Synod is called, "A Resolution to Advocate and Act to Change the Cash Bail Bond System to Eliminate Racial and Social Injustices inherent in the present system.

These resolutions go to various committees made up of delegates from our churches. They look at, read, talk about maybe suggest and sometimes make changes to these resolutions. If everything goes smoothly then these are moved to the floor, where people can comment, debate, agree, disagree with them. Even on the floor changes might be made.

But Synod is not just about business, it's about worship too. Gathering together all the delegates and visitors in praise and worship we get to see the broad expression of the faith of our UCC churches.

But wait, there's more! There are speakers. One of them this year is Valerie Kaur, a social activist and film maker. She leads campaigns for civil and human rights. Her first film came out of a response to the killing of a Sikh Family friend murdered shortly after 9/11. It was a crime of hate. The other Key-note speaker is Rev. Adam Russell Taylor who is President of Sojourners. There will be 50 workshops available both pre-recorded and live. There are many opportunities to learn and grow and be challenged in faith.

There are videos and activities for children and youth as well. Check here <https://www.generalsynod.org/childrens-videos-resources/> for children's material. And here <https://www.generalsynod.org/youth/> for youth stuff.

Some of the content, including worship will be free. To register as a visitor is \$100. They are trying to get many of our members interested and involved and this is indeed a great opportunity to see the wider church in action. Check out more here <https://www.generalsynod.org/> including the lists of workshops.

See how God is still speaking in our churches and our world.

Peace,

Pastor Carol

July

Meetings...

Celebration Committee Meeting	Thursday, July 1 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom
Finance Committee Meeting:	Thursday, July 8 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom
Mission Committee Meeting:	Thursday, July 8 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom and in person
Property Committee Meeting:	Sunday, July 11 at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom
EC Board Meeting:	Wednesday, July 14 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom
Congregational Meeting:	Sunday, July 18 following Worship
Church Council Meeting:	Sunday, July 18 following Congregational Meeting
Task Force Meeting	Tuesday, July 27 at 6:00 p.m.

Dates To Remember!

Sunday, July 4	Independence Day
Monday, July 5	Independence Day Observed, Office Closed
Sunday, July 11	Little Red Wagon Sunday
Friday, July 16-Tuesday, July 20	33rd General Synod
Sunday, July 25	Five Alive Sunday

Notes and News...

The Church Office will be closed Monday, July 5.

Pastor Carol will be away from Wednesday, July 21 until Friday, July 23.

We are hoping to open the **nursery** on August 8 and are looking for volunteers to help during worship. Information will be shared on nursery protocols to those withing to help. For more information, please contact the Church office.

If you would like to reserve **altar flowers** in honor of or in memory of someone special or would like to see fresh flowers in the Church, please call or email the Church Office to reserve them. The cost for two bouquets is \$45. The flowers are yours to take after Worship.

If you are wanting to learn some new skills, if you are looking for ways to help at church, the **Tech Crew** might just be for you. Contact Jeff, Leslie or Mark for more information.



We will be starting a sermon series in August beginning on August 8 which is also backpack dedication Sunday. Our sermon series is called "Quest: Travel as a Spiritual Act". Travel in this series means both the physical travel of going somewhere (far away or close to home), and spiritual travel in which we grow to know ourselves better. I invite you to send to the office your travel pictures, close to home or far away, so that we can see where you have been and share them during the series. There will be field trips in this series too—yes we're inviting you to travel also, to explore something new and maybe get to know each other and ourselves better along the way.



There will be a **Patriotic Concert** on **Sunday, July 4** in the Family Life Center of Faith Lutheran Church. **Susan Trivette** and **Flo Peck** will be participating. The Concert will begin at 5:00 p.m. with a bluegrass band performing at 4:00. There is shuttle service to the Church from the back parking lot. Seating is limited so come early.

Bless These Stitches

Bless These Stitches group will meet on July 20 (1:00-3:00) in the downstairs room across from the Fellowship Hall. Would LOVE to have "YOU" join us. Lots of talk and fellowship available! If you have questions, please contact Caroly Cline or Susan Trivette.



From Calendar Sponsored by
Circles 2 and 4

July 1	Glenda Shrewsbury
July 2	Rodney Goodman
July 3	Nellie Brewer
July 4	Jennifer Paxton Elizabeth Schiemann
July 6	Brian Peck
July 7	Charlie Little
July 8	Donna Odrosky
July 9	David Nolen
July 10	Michelle Trivette
July 11	April Pittman Susan Legendre
July 12	Sean Walden
July 14	David Freeman Patty Marion
July 15	Nancy Hipp
July 16	Ted Cline
July 18	Richard Clegg
July 19	Watts Bolick
July 20	Kevin Leichman Jeff Smith
July 21	Rebekah Brown
July 23	Steve Bowles Cindy Graham Hunter Bernhardt Tyler Bernhardt
July 28	Gail Bruce
July 29	Jeff Bernhardt
July 30	Mark Shuping Ross Bolick
July 31	Chad Wood Joshua Schiemann Gretchen Bolick



FIVE-ALIVE HELPING FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY WATER ASSISTANCE

The client is a 31 year old single mother with 3 sons, ages 12, 11, & 8, and 2 daughters, ages 10 & 7. Her water could be disconnected at any time. She is out of work currently and has no help with the children who have been out of school due to COVID. She does receive child support and SSI for one son. The client was able to pay a portion of the bill. Rowan Helping Ministries issued a voucher to the City to keep the water connected.. The client was thankful for the help. Your contributions to our Five Alive Fund is always appreciated and 100% is used to help citizens of Rowan County or our Church family with unforeseen short term emergencies.

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From: Karen Taylor
Resource Development Assistant Rowan Helping Ministries: "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."

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Mary Austin, Mabel Barnhardt, Brenda Bernhardt, Meeta Bond (friend of Bobbie Troutman), Destony Bowles, Steve Bowles, Julia Callaway, Gerri D. Crummett (Donna Odrosky's sister), Gary Hauze (no visits or phone calls, please), Nancy Hipp, John & Dawn Isenberg, Anne Kennedy, Jasmine Kirby and son Noah (niece and great nephew of Don Whitfield), Johnnie Lippard (friend of Steve Bowles), Charlie Little, Diane Lockhart (Radell Lockhart's mother), Dan Morgan (friend of Steve Bowles), Jimmy Mullis (friend of Daniel Artz), Joseph Najarian (son of Dena & David Najarian), Pat Norris, Kim Profitt, Glenda Shrewsbury, Sarah Shuping, Claire Skinner, Nick Snipes, Mark Sokolowski, 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.***



From the Mission Committee ...

The Mission Committee met on Thursday, June 10, 2021. The Rowan Helping Ministries Drive-By Food Drive was held on Saturday and Sunday, June 12 and 13, along with food donations from The Little Red Wagon for May and June. A total of 290 pounds was delivered to Rowan Helping Ministries on Tuesday, June 15. A cash donation of \$60.00 was also received for the RHM Food Pantry. The Strengthen the Church Offering received in May totaled \$275.00. A special thanks to all who contributed to the RHM Food Drive and the Strengthen the Church Offering. The Mission Committee will explore preparing and serving a meal for the RHM Shelter one Saturday in July if volunteers are available. Please contact Pastor Carol if interested in donating food and volunteer service--time for the Shelter Meal. Date is yet to be determined. The anticipated mission project for August is the collection of school supplies for local teachers and schools.

A Note from April Spry, Granite Quarry Elementary School Principal to Pastor Carol and the Mission Committee:

"Thank you so much for treating our staff this week to doughnuts and a variety of healthy snacks! This year has certainly been challenging in many ways, but we are grateful for community partners who continue to care for us and help us provide the best possible school experience for the families and community we serve. Thank you for your kindness and generosity. It was appreciated more than you know!"

Everyone should look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. —Philippians 2:4

Task Force Committee:

The Task Force Committee met recently and has decided whenever the Sunday school classes are ready to return they are welcome to do so. The Committee is continuing to work on the nursery and are hoping to make it available by the 2nd Sunday in August. Other church-related groups and committees may return for meetings when they are ready.

CATAWBA COLLEGE

Scholarship. Character. Culture. Service.

Discover!

Catawba College hosts Discover! to give middle and high school students a space to reflect on their faith and sense of calling. This year the College is hosting its entire program on its beautiful campus from **July 11-16** for High schoolers and **July 25-30** for middle schoolers. Students can choose a practical theology track in worship music, sport management, or service and ministry leadership as an additional way to discern their calling. Thanks to grant funding the entire program costs each participant \$50. Please check out www.catawba.edu/discover or give the College a call at 704-637-4725. They look forward to talking with you!

Thank you to all who participated in last month's food drive to benefit the Rowan Helping Ministries Food Pantry. The Food Drive was organized by First UCC's Mission Committee and 290 pounds of food were delivered to RHM. Thank you Pastor Carol and Larry Bolick for delivering all this food to the Pantry.



First UCC Foundation By-Laws Revisions

There will be a congregational meeting on July 18 after Church to review and vote on revisions to the First UCC Foundation By-Laws. Here is a link to the proposed By-Laws. Areas of editing have been highlighted.

https://gcecees-my.sharepoint.com/:w/g/personal/sue_legendre_gcsagents.com/EbGMDBLsattPgQd0x8itmogB1x6biYvK9sbeR-HkeHAtoG?e=rh4VpZ

General Synod 33 – a fully virtual event, will be held from **July 16 to July 20**. Registration provides access to all aspects of General Synod, including worship, optional events, business, over 50 workshops, exhibit hall, keynote speakers and much more. **Pastor Carol will be participating from the Church and is offering to share some of her online time with you.** More information can be found at:

https://www.generalsynod.org/?inf_contact_key=33d8b3eeb6e5fe23ccac79ca297cf2907e470d92b8b75168d98a0b8cac0e9c09

