



First UCC Focus May 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>

MAY SCRIPTURES

May 2

Acts 8:26-40
Psalm 22:25-31
1 John 4:7-21
John 15:1-8

May 9

Acts 10:44-48
Psalm 98
1 John 5:1-6
John 15:9-17

May 16

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
Psalm 1
1 John 5:9-13
John 17:6-19

May 23

Acts 2:1-21 or
Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:22-27
Acts 2:1-21
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

May 30

Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 29
Romans 8:12-17
John 3:1-17



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

Our facebook page contains news, announcements upcoming events and prior week's 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.



- 2 11:00 Online and In-Person
Worship with Communion
- 9 11:00 **MOTHER'S DAY**
Graduate Recognition
Sunday, Online and
In-Person Worship
- 13 6:00 Finance Committee Meeting
- 16 11:00 Online and In-Person
Worship with guest pastor
Rev. Dr. Kenneth Clapp
Church Council Meeting
12:30 Church Council Meeting
- 23 11:00 **Pentecost Sunday**
5-Alive Sunday
Strengthen the Church
Offering Received
Online and In-Person
Worship
- 30 11:00 Worship
12:30 Church Council Meeting
- 31 **MEMORIAL DAY**
Office Closed

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.

Sunday May 9 is Mother's Day

Many are not mothers but we all have or have had a mother. Remember her in thoughts and prayers not just on Mother's Day, but any day...



WWW.1STUCC.ORG



May 31 is Memorial Day

Remember those who served or continue to serve.

CAROL'S CORNER

Friends,

Spring is always a hopeful time for me. It's hopeful because the whole world seems to brighten. As trees' leaf out and flowers bloom it always reminds me that things change. It's the season of Easter and the empty tomb, it's the season of the world waking up to new possibilities. It is in this vain that I share this piece of poetry with you regarding spring.

Springing Forth

April showers
Bring May flowers
Daffodils first
Bravely defiant
Against the last frost

Graceful tulips follow
Stand tall
Until they don't
Next comes
Showy lacy
Iris
In riotous colors

Leaves on trees
Begin to unfurl
Blossoms begin
To shine
Dogwoods, Pears,
Magnolias, and Cherry
Trees
Gracefully
Reflect the sun

Next bushes
And shrubs
Forsythia, Azalea
And Rhododendron
Round out the
Colors of spring

The birds begin
To chirp and chase
Building nests
For the next gen
Bunnies
hopping everywhere

Spring brings
New life
Nature reminds us
That even
When things seem
Darkest that
Hope lives deep
Within the soil
Of the earth
And the heart

When conditions
Are right
The seed, the bulb,
Becomes the flower
The caterpillar
Becomes the butterfly

And life returns
Different
But filled
With possibilities
Not yet seen

Blessings and peace,

Pastor Carol





Meetings...

Congregational Fellowship Online Wednesday, May 5 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom
Finance Committee Meeting: Thursday, May 13 at 6:00 p.m.
Church Council Meeting: Sunday, May 16 at 12:30 p.m.

Dates Worth Remembering!

Thursday, May 6	National Day of Prayer
Sunday, May 9	Mother's Day
Sunday, May 9	Graduate Recognition during worship
May 10-16	Pastor Carol will be away
Thursday, May 13	Ascension Day
Sunday, May 16	Worship with Guest Pastor Rev. Dr. Kenneth Clapp
Sunday, May 23	Pentecost Sunday, 5-Alive Sunday and Offering for Strengthen the Church Wear red whether worshipping at home or in person
Monday, May 31	Memorial Day (The Church Office will be closed.)

Notes and News...

Karen Alexander has been nominated and selected to serve the next year as President of the North Carolina League of Municipalities after six years of serving in various roles. The League of Municipalities provides numerous services to municipality members, including legal counsel, advocacy, education, consulting and training to improve leadership practices. To read more, here is a link to an article published in last Sunday's Salisbury Post, www.salisburypost.com/2021/04/25/salisburys-alexander-elected-president-of-nc-league-of-municipalities/

Thank you to **Phillip Burgess** who has been providing beautiful altar flower arrangements for Sunday services.

Two of our Catawba scholars, **Alana Cooper** and **Destiny Hunter**, will be having a **Senior Voice Recital** on **Monday May 3** at the Chapel at Catawba College at 5:00 p.m. **Susan Trivette** will serve as accompanist for the recital. If you have received your vaccine you are welcome to come and listen. Please make sure you wear a mask and remain socially distant during the recital.

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.

The **Upper Room** booklets have arrived for May and June. Some copies have been mailed, some have been picked up. If you would like a copy and have not received it yet, please call the Church Office.

On **Sunday, May 9**, worship will include the recognition of 2021 graduates. Those included will be **Stephen Leichman, Nicholas Snipes, Alana Cooper, and Destiny Hunter**. Please be sure to call the Church for seating reservations if you wish to attend the service. You may call the office from Monday to Thursday at noon (704-633-2723), call Pastor Carol after Thursday noon (301-263-4121) or email the Church office.

Pastor Carol will be away from May 10-16. The **Rev. Dr. Kenneth Clapp** will be First UCC's guest pastor on **Sunday, May 16**.

Congratulations to **Radell Lockhart** and **Leslie Dent** on their wedding on **May 15**. Pastor Carol will be officiating.

The **Strengthen the Church Offering** will be received on **Pentecost Sunday, May 23**. The offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. Funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations.

The **Salisbury-Rowan CWU Virtual May Friendship Day** will be held on **Friday, May 7 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.** If you would like to participate, a link is available from Flo Peck.

The **Rowan County Literacy Council** is looking for volunteers to participate in upcoming programs to support Youth Literacy in Rowan County. Please email youthprogram@rcliteracy.org or call 704-216-8266 for more information. Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age



VOCAL RECITAL

On Monday, May 3rd at 5:00pm in Omwake-Dearborn Chapel on the campus of Catawba College, two of our Catawba Choral Scholars will present their Senior Vocal Recitals.

Sharing the one-hour program will be Ms. Alana Cooper and Ms. Destiny Hunter. Their program includes selections from all genres of music with many varying styles.

Ms. Susan Trivette, Catawba's Collaborative Pianist, will serve as the accompanist for the recital.

Persons who are not members of the campus community but have been fully vaccinated for Covid-19 are free to attend without a recent test.

Persons not vaccinated are asked to present themselves to Public Safety (clearly marked as you enter the campus) and take a "quick test."

Audience members are asked to wear a mask at all times in the building and remain socially distanced.

Congrats to our May 2021 Grads

Stephen Leichman, son of Kevin and Stephanie Leichman, will graduate from North Rowan High School. An A-Honor Roll student and Crosby Scholar, Stephen also participated in All County Band, the National Tech Honor Society, Men's Tennis Team, Robotics Club and the NRHS Marching Band, where he was Captain of the Percussion Section. Nutrition Class and Marching Band were his favorite activities. Stephen's future plans are to attend North Carolina Central University where he has been selected to be a part of the Percussion Line. Stephen plans to major in English Literature.

Nicholas Snipes, son of Brent Snipes and Kelly Freeze, will graduate from South Rowan High School. Nick, like his dad, has been active in the Scouting Program and was presented his Eagle Scout Award in 2019 at our church. He previously received the God and Country Award. At South Nick has received some Raider team and ROTC awards. His favorite classes have been ROTC and all the science ones. Nick's favorite activities are Scouts and church youth. Nick plans to attend RCCC and very soon begin the EMT training class.

Alana Cooper, Soprano Catawba College Choral Scholar Student for two years, will graduate May 15th with a BA in Music Education and a minor in Worship Arts. Alana has received the David Hoyle Award for Outstanding Service in Student Activities. She is a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success as well as Captain of the Catawba Dance Team. Alana's favorite classes are Choir, Music in Elementary and Music History. Her favorite activities are Dance Team, Delphi and Wigwam. Alana's future plans are to teach music in an elementary school, teach private voice lessons and become a worship music leader in a church. Alana is from Mount Pleasant, NC. We have enjoyed her solo work as well as her special virtual appearance in Time with Our Children on Palm Sunday to help all of us learn about the upcoming events of Holy Week.

Destiny Hunter, Alto Catawba College Choral Scholar Student this year, will graduate May 15th with a BA in Music Education and a minor in Special Subjects (K-12). Destiny is also from Cabarrus County and her honors include membership in Kappa Delta Pi and the National Society of Leadership and Success. Her favorite classes include the Catawba Singers and Music History. Destiny's favorite activity is the Catawba Dance Team in which she performed at football and basketball games. Her future plans include working as a General Music Teacher in elementary school. We have enjoyed all her awesome solos especially during the Advent Season.

May Birthdays From Calendar Sponsored by Circles 2 and 4

- May 1 Hayley Michaels
- May 2 Cathy Robbins
George Blossey
- May 4 Kat White
- May 5 Grayce Pittman
Sally Blossey
- May 6 Nancy Knight
- May 11 Radell Lockhart
- May 12 Rodney Callaway
- May 17 Anelise Roy
- May 20 Laney Payne
- May 24 David Pittman
Dottie Dees
- May 28 Phyllis Little
Bobbie Troutman
Diane Paxton
- May 30 Susan Ward
Johnny Trexler
- May 31 Henry Alexander



In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Mary Austin, Mabel Barnhardt, Brenda Bernhardt, Betty Bowles (mother of Steve Bowles), Destony Bowles, Julia Callaway, Alana Cooper, Gerri D. Crummett (Donna Odrosky's sister), Sarah Hall (friend of Bobbie Troutman), Gary Hauze (no visits or phone calls, please), Nancy Hipp, John & 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, Liam Pockock (Pat Norris' grandson), Savannah Price (Larry Bolick's nephew's granddaughter), Glenda Shrewsbury, Sarah Shuping, Claire Skinner, Crystal Smith (niece of Bobbie Troutman), Nick Snipes, 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.*

From the Mission Committee ...

The Mission Committee met on Thursday, April 8 via Zoom and finalized plans for serving a meal on Saturday, April 10 to Rowan Helping Ministries overnight guests. Millie Campbell, coordinated the meal and prepared food, along with volunteers providing cakes. A special thanks to all the volunteers who served the meal and those who provided cakes and especially to Millie who coordinated and prepared the food. The offering for One Great Hour of Sharing will be received through April. To date, \$1187.83 has been received for emergency disaster relief thru OGHS. Thanks to all who participated in this Annual 1 for 5 Offerings of the UCC. The next annual Offering will be on Pentecost Sunday, May 23 for Strengthen the Church Offering for local church mission grants, including the Pandemic COVID-19 grants to local churches and Conferences. The next Rowan Helping Ministries Drive-By Collection at the Fellowship Door will be Saturday, June 12 from 10-12 noon and Sunday, June 13 from 1-3 pm. Plans are still being explored to honor local elementary school teachers, which will be funded through our annual Mission Budget. There will be a polling of when the next meal will be served at RHM Shelter, probably in July depending upon volunteers and availability. There will not be a meeting in May.

Below is a link to a poll for dates that RHM needs volunteers to help make and serve supper. If you are interested in helping, please let us know. The time is not exact, I think most people come at 6PM but the dates are what we are trying to figure out right now. If we have an overwhelming number of volunteers we may do multiple dates or we might choose those who were not able to help last time. Thank you for taking the time to take the poll.

https://doodle.com/poll/cm99txr545yvrvc?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link

When you click on the above link you will be taken to a screen that looks like the one on the right. You just need to fill it in and check the “Send” button at the bottom.

RHM Dinner
by Pastor Carol • 8 minutes ago • Print

Rowan Helping Ministries

All times displayed in **America / New York**

Table Calendar

	Jul 3	Jul 4	Jul 11	Jul 17	Jul 24
	SAT	SUN	SUN	SAT	SAT
	5:30 PM 6:30 PM	5:30 PM 6:30 PM	5:30 PM 6:30 PM	5:30 PM 6:30 PM	5:30 PM 6:30 PM
0 participants	✓ 0	✓ 0	✓ 0	✓ 0	✓ 0
+	Enter your name	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



The Strengthen the Church offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill on its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities.

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Our congregation will receive the offering on Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2021.