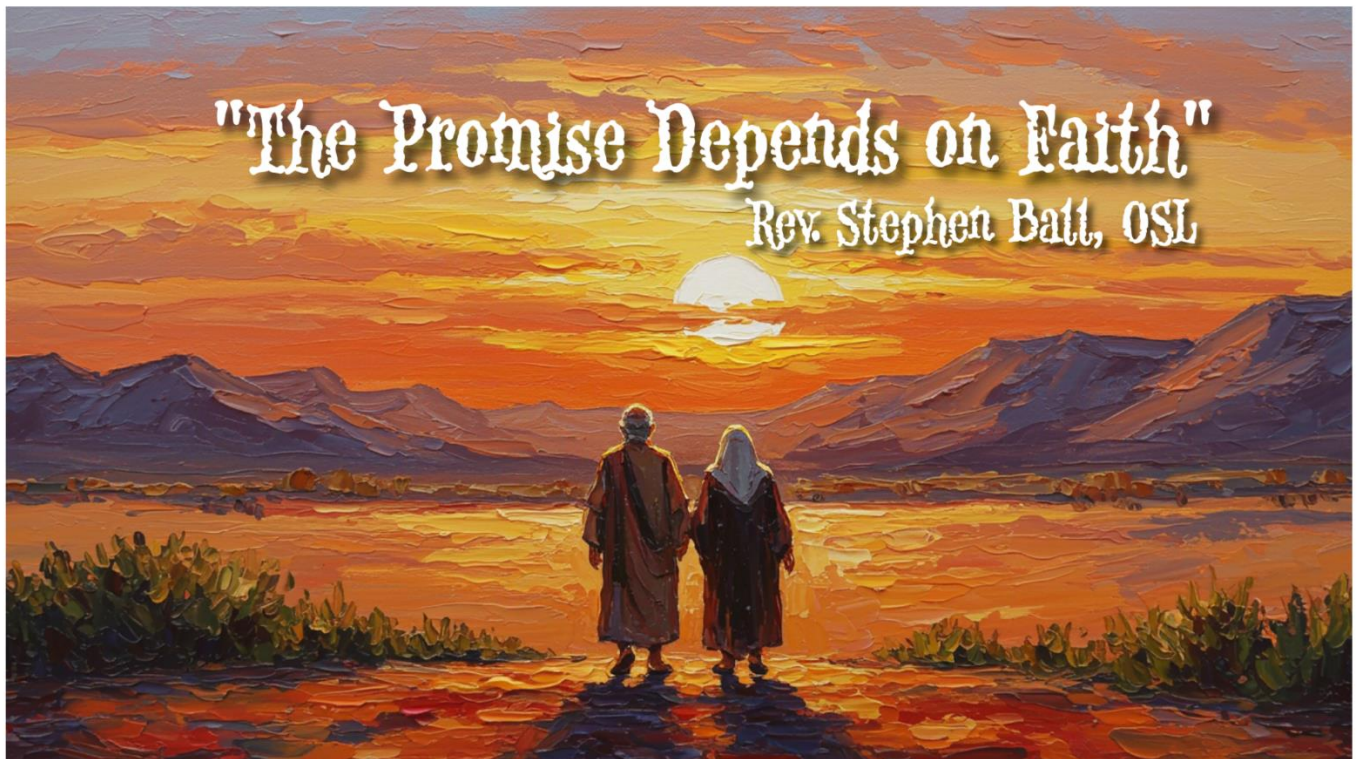


# Sunday, June 7, 2026

The Second Sunday after Pentecost



# **WELCOME**

First Christian United Church of Christ Mission Statement  
(Revised February 4, 2024)

First Christian United Church of Christ in Burlington, North Carolina opens wide its doors to all who hunger for God and God's righteousness. It seeks to provide rest for weary spirits, comfort for troubled hearts, and to inspire all to follow Jesus Christ in unselfish service to humankind. We, in the spirit of Jesus' great commandments, commit to love God and our neighbors as ourselves (Mark 12:28-34) and follow Paul's teaching of acceptance of one another (Romans 14:1-15: 13).

We believe that all people are created in God's image and are blessed and loved equally by God. We welcome with respect, and nurture with intention, the gifts of all who come to us on the journey of faith and seek eternal salvation under the New Covenant of Jesus Christ. We welcome everyone to join us in the life and leadership of our family of faith, and in our ongoing commitment as an Open and Affirming Congregation. The people of First Christian United Church of Christ are dedicated to always being a welcoming and loving church; a "House of Christian Fellowship for ALL people."

## **To All God's beloved...who are called to be saints... -Romans 1.7**

To be a saint is to be sanctified;  
set apart for a sacred purpose.  
That would be you.  
Every breath of your life is for a sacred purpose:  
to shed light, to radiate God's love.  
You don't have to be influential,  
or pious, virtuous or pure.  
You have to be yourself.  
The You of you is what God has made holy.  
You are God's beloved.  
All you have to do is act like it.  
Everything you do today is an opportunity  
to embody God's love,  
not by your effort or skill,  
but by the love you embody.  
The light of God is in you.  
Be transparent to it.

*Steve Garnaas-Holmes  
Unfolding Light*

# The Second Sunday after Pentecost

First Christian United Church of Christ, Burlington, NC

June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 10:30 am

*Rev. Stephen Ball, OSL*

## **THE COMMUNITY GATHERS**

CENTERING CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The voice of the Divine echoes in the quiet of the morning.

**People: It calls us from the familiar into the unknown.**

Leader: It whispers of a land we have not seen and a future we cannot yet grasp.

**People: We come, following the promise, even when the path is obscured.**

Leader: Let us worship the God of the journey, the God of the open road.

**People: We gather to seek the blessing and to become a blessing.**

*\*HYMN OF PRAISE: "When In Our Music God Is Glorified"*

*The New Century Hymnal #561*

ACT OF CONTRITION

Leader: We are a people who love our maps. We like our GPS coordinates locked in and our destinations guaranteed. But faith, as Abram discovered, rarely provides a brochure. We confess the times we have stayed put out of fear, or demanded certainty before we would take a single step. Let us bring our hesitations before the One who calls us.

**People: God of the Great Trek, we admit that we are often paralyzed by the comfort of our own place. You tell us to "go," and we reply with a list of "buts." We confess that we prefer the safety of what we can see over the brilliance of what You have promised. We have clung to our possessions and our status, fearing that if we leave them behind, we will be nothing. Forgive our lack of imagination. Forgive our refusal to trust that Your hand is on the horizon. Remind us that the promise does not depend on our perfection, but on Your faithfulness.**

Leader: The promise was never earned; it was given. While we were still packing our bags and second-guessing the route, God had already declared us blessed. In the name of the One who walks beside us: You are forgiven. You are free.

## ***THE COMMUNITY LISTENS TO THE WORD***

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 12:1-9

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSIVE PSALM

GLORIA PATRI: (#759 NCH)

**All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

ANTHEM *How Can I Keep From Singing*

*Arr. M. McDonald*

SCRIPTURE: Romans 4:13-25

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

SERMON: *"The Promise Depends on Faith"*

Rev. Stephen Ball, OSL

## ***THE COMMUNITY GATHERS AT THE TABLE***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(Leader: "God, in your mercy...")

**People: "...hear our prayer." )**

THE MINISTRY OF GENEROSITY

DOXOLOGY

***ALL: Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE COMMUNION PRAYER (*see insert*)

THE PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

One: Let us pray as Christ our Savior has taught us.

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,**

**As we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Pastor: Come, the table is prepared.

*(The congregation, as they are able, proceeds to the table to commune by intinction. Those who are unable to walk will be served at their seats.)*

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Our Savior Jesus Christ keep and preserve you to everlasting life.

Let us pray:

**All: We thank you, God for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## ***THE COMMUNITY GOES INTO THE WORLD***

*\*HYMN OF DEDICATION: "Forward through the Ages"*

*The New Century Hymnal #377*

\*BENEDICTION

EXTROIT

POSTLUDE

*The Altar flowers are given in Celebration of  
Faye Strickland's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday.*

*Love Benji, Matt & Lauren*

# Announcements

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>**  
Official Board Meeting at 6:00 pm

**Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>**  
BINGO at 6:30 pm (*time change*)  
In Bray Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>**  
Father's Day

**Tuesday, June 30<sup>th</sup>**  
Deacons Meeting at 6:00 pm

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Regular Office Hours**  
Monday - 9am – 12pm  
Tuesday – 9am – 12pm  
Wednesday - 9am – 12pm  
Thursday - 9am – 12pm  
Friday - closed

# Serving in our Armed Forces

*CPT Kirk Workman*

*James Barnwell*

*Dalton Anthony Jones, Ensign US Navy  
(Family of June & Dotti)*

## Notes

Inspired by something said in the word or sung in a song today? Take a moment to write it here to remember later.

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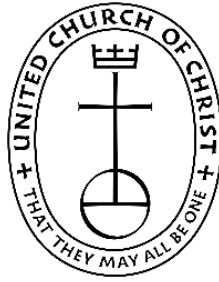
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## Our Love and Prayers

Please remember all our sick, at home members, others in need of our prayers, and those in our area hospitals in your prayers this week.

Buster Freeman  
Nell Allred  
Amber Massey  
Joe Strickland  
Ross Strange Sr.  
Trisha Shelly  
Ray Palyok  
*(Matt's Step-Father)*  
Lewis Fowler  
Carolyn Wolley / Family  
Dave Smudski / Family

Brenda Grogan  
Rodney Paul Sr.  
Holly Bent  
Nanci Isley  
*(Friend of Sherry Massey)*  
Curtis Foster  
Jon & Judy Kipp  
Betty King & Roger King  
Troy Marquardt  
Blake Jones  
June Sellars



## **Church Officers**

President: Jamie Fonville  
Vice President: Cindy Sharpe  
Treasurer: Judy Kipp  
Assistant Treasurer: Julie Miller  
Secretary: Matt Rice

## **Church Staff**

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Ball, OSL  
pastorfcucc@gmail.com / 336-276-0374  
Organist/Choir Director: Matt Rice  
Custodian: Rodney Paul  
Office Administrator: Debbie Norris  
*(Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 9 -12pm)*

## **Worship Participants**

Liturgist: Judy Kipp  
Hymn Leaders & Anthem: Choir  
Greeters: Benjie Terrell & David Hodges  
Ushers: Benjie Terrell, Julie Miller, Charlie Vitou, Eleanor Lovgren