



July Newsletter

2022

Pastor's Pondering

Summer means different things to different people depending on the stage of life they are in. Summer in NC means we get to enjoy sunshine and amazing sunsets, longer nights, gathering opportunities, connections in our local communities, and don't forget vacations. But in the life cycle of a church, summer is also a clear pathway into the fall. Fall is a season of renewal. The old things are making way for the new.

Some say that summer is a challenging season for church revitalization. I don't know about that. I have a passion for church starts and church revitalization in any season. What if you looked at this summer not as something miserable and hot to get through but as a time to work together through something?

Summer is not a time to sit still and coast away. It's a time to activate and engage. What if it was possible to re-vision and renew our church this summer?

When I was a kid, I loved the feeling when school was out because I had three months of freedom. That feeling was both crazy and amazing. When I was in elementary school, I had three months to ride my bike, swim, go out on the boat, and go to BBQs with my family. When I was in junior high, it meant I could do whatever I wanted. When I was in high school, it meant working all summer and earning my own spending money. Now, it means something different. As a pastor, it means leading you to maximize our revitalizing opportunities and gear up for the fall.

When you think of revitalizing and re-visioning this summer, I want you to think of the word F.U.N. **F** - Forming new connection opportunities (with each other, with Elon Community UCC, and with FRUCC and more) And, encouraging one another throughout the process. I don't think we can give each other enough praise for what we do. Even those of you who are unable to come in person are holding us up in prayer and we are grateful that the Spirit connects us together. **U** is for understand that this particular summer more than others is a time for us to plan and train for the fall. Where will we be in the new season of our church's life? **N**-navigate. Let's create our MAP (ministry action plan)! Where are we going? What will we take with us and how will we get there? **WE** must stay connected to our GPS (God's protective Spirit). Summer is a time to grow and give. People tend to have better and more relaxed attitudes in the summer, and things are poised to grow. So, let's have a FUN summer! Many Blessings to you all,

Pastor Joy



Our Church Family

Those remaining in our Prayers...

*Elsie Bolick
Troy Johnson
Amber Massey
Rachel
Buster Freeman
The Family of Sandy
Chapman*

*Mark Garrison
Bobbye Mebane
Randy Sellars
Lewis & Vonnie
Fowler
Marci Nanny
Joe Strickland*

*The Family of Shirley
Perry
Frances Morgan
Ken & Lola Pipes
The Family of Cindy
Allen
John Kipp*

Change of Address

Change of address? Please let us know by contacting the church office via email, office@firstchristianucc.org or phone, 336-226-7428.

Birthdays

Mary Newsome 7/1
Darla Bray 7/3
John Kipp 7/4
Troy Johnson 7/8
Norma Simons 7/10
Nancey Simmons 7/19
Catie Massey 7/21
Lucius Wilson 7/23
Margaret Turner 7/25

Anniversaries

Judy & John Kipp 7/1/1967
Deborah Williams & Lucius Wilson 7/17/1992
Nell & David Allred 7/19/1959



Tentative Worship Liturgists & Themes

Date	Liturgist	Scripture	Theme	Extra Info
7/3/22	Dotti Davis	Psalm 66:10-14	Praise	Rev. Joy Allridge
7/10/22	Peggy Johnson	Colossians 1:1-14	“Have we fruit?”	Rev. Joy Allridge
7/17/22	Cindy Sharpe	Gen. 18:1-10a	Anything is Possible	Rev. Joy Allridge
7/24/22	Sandra Greene	Luke 11: 1-13	The Lord’s Prayer	Rev. Joy Allridge
7/31/22	n/a	Service held at First Reformed at 512 West Front Street “Christmas in July”		Rev. Deborah Seuss



Events

Women's Circle Meetings

Margaret Lightborne Circle starts again after summer

Centennial Circle meets on the second Tuesday
at 5:30 pm at The Cutting Board

Adult Faith Formation Class

Lila B. Sellers Adult Sunday School meets weekly on Sundays at
9:30 am. The classroom is located in the Library at Elon
Community U.C.C... All are welcome to join in.

Living The Questions

The 12 week Spiritual Growth and Outreach Study
Coming this Fall has been **POST-PONED**

Summer Symposium

The Symposium coming this July has been **POST-PONED**

Visioning Committee

Begins meeting weekly starting August 17th, 2022 at 6pm

Prayer Sessions

Tuesday July 5th at FCUCC Sanctuary – Centering Prayer

Thursday July 7th at FCUCC Sanctuary – Centering Prayer

Monday July 11th at Bray Hall – Prayer

Wednesday July 13th at FCUCC Sanctuary – Commendation of
building back to God



WORSHIP SCHEDULE



DATE	TIME	SCHEDULE
6/26/22	10:30AM	WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION WITH A RECEPTION AFTERWARD
7/3/22	10:30AM	BLESSING OF MISSIONARIES TO UGANDA (DOTTI DAVIS AND MATT RICE) DURING WORSHIP
7/10/22	8:45AM	WORSHIP AT ECUCC SANCTUARY
7/17/22	8:45AM	WORSHIP AT ECUCC SANCTUARY
7/24/22	8:45AM	WORSHIP AT ECUCC SANCTUARY
7/31/22	11AM	WORSHIP AT FRUCC (CHRISTMAS IN JULY)
8/7/22	8:45AM	WORSHIP AT ECUCC SANCTUARY
8/14/22	11AM	WORSHIP DONE JOINTLY BY BOTH PASTORS HELD AT FRUCC
8/21/22	8:45AM	WORSHIP AT ECUCC SANCTUARY
8/28/22	10:30AM	WORSHIP AT ECUCC 10:30AM IN THE COMMUNITY LIFE CENTER (CLC)

NOTES

**CONTINUED WORSHIP AT ECUCC IN THE CLC
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE AT 10:30AM.**

**PLEASE SUBMIT ANY NEEDS FOR THE MEETING ROOM (LIBRARY)
BY THE END OF THE MONTH FOR NEXT 3 MONTHS.**



First Christian UCC Mission Statement

We affirm our faith in Jesus Christ and in the Church that he has calling into being which, by his grace and mercy, welcomes all. We encourage all who join us and confess Jesus Christ - regardless of gender, race, sexual orientation, social, economic, physical or mental condition - to share fully in all aspects of our church life and leadership. We believe relationships between individuals, groups, and nations must be based on love, justice, commitment, and mutual respect; and we strive toward such relationships in our church, homes, and community.

~Approved by FCUCC congregation 2011

OUR MINISTRY SUPPORT TEAM

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 am - 12 pm

Office is closed on Fridays

CHURCH OFFICERS

President: Mr. Troy Johnson

Vice President: Mr. Jamie Fonville

Treasurer: Mr. Ken Little

Church Secretary: Ms. Nancey Simmons

Acting Church Secretary: Peggy Johnson

FIRST CHRISTIAN UCC STAFF

Interim Pastor: Rev. Joy Allridge

Minister of Music: Mr. Matt Rice

