

2022



# MAY *newsletter*

FIRST CHRISTIAN UNITED  
CHURCH OF CHRIST





## **Welcome Pastor Joy Allridge**

It is with a grateful heart that I begin my journey with you here at First Christian UCC. My name is Rev. Joy Alford Allridge but just Joy or Pastor Joy is totally fine. I'm from a small town in Eastern N.C. I went to high school at a small private school and studied some in Europe then I went to East Carolina University. I received a degree in Social Work and began working with special needs right away. I have always served in volunteer ministry but I knew early on I should be in ministry as a vocation.

So, later, in life, I went back for an MDiv at what I like to call a *mini-Duke Divinity*. It is a United Methodist Seminary, United Theological in the Dayton area of Ohio. I pursued ordination and started a UCC. I am passionate about church re-vitalization and church starts. I am currently Vice-President of the Eastern North Carolina Association Board of Directors and chair of the education task force there. I have always worked in mental health and had a focus on special needs. I was a regional director of residential facilities for special needs adults and children for years before federally regulating the same type of facilities. I coached special olympic sports for fun. I love to sail. I used to live on the water and sailed every day after work. I still enjoy taking our family out on our stingray (no wind for sailing here.) I spend a lot of time with family. We love the mountains as much as the beach. I met my spouse in seminary and we are both ordained in the UCC and have three kids, 2 small dogs and my mom nearby. I also enjoy biking, writing, studying and leading studies, listening to music and various arts. I am honored to serve you here at First Christian UCC.

Please expect a call or email from me after May 2, 2022, when I officially begin in the office. I really want to schedule time to sit down with each of you and just get to know you all. I look forward to that. I see your gifts of love and kindness already.

Thanks and many blessings to you and your families.



# Our Church Family

Those remaining in our Prayers...

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

*Mark Garrison  
Bobbie Mebane  
Randy Sellars  
Lewis & Vonnie  
Fowler  
Marci Nanny*

*Joe Strickland  
Shirley Perry  
Frances Morgan*

## Change of Address

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

Mary Leighton Sellers  
The Village at Brookwood  
1840 Brookwood Ave Rm 250  
Burlington, NC 27215



## Birthdays

Iris Workman 5/8  
Carol Fonville 5/17  
Betty Loy 5/22  
Matt Rice 5/23  
Carolyn Stubblefield 5/26  
Isaac Aning 5/26  
Steve Reeder 5/27  
Gayle Watson 5/31

## Anniversaries in April

Alan & Harriet Sowinski 5/8  
Ken & Helen Little 5/25  
Spanky & Mary Newsome 5/28



## Worship Services for May 2022



Date	Liturgist	Scripture	Theme	Extra Info
5/1/22	Julie Miller	John 20: 1-19	Beyond the Fish	Rev. Joy Allridge
5/8/22	Kathy Russell	TBD	TBD	Rev. Joy Allridge
5/15/22	Judy Kipp	TBD	TBD	Rev. Joy Allridge
5/22/22	Brooke Manning	TBD	TBD	Rev. Joy Allridge
5/29/22	Peggy Johnson	TBD	TBD	Rev. Joy Allridge

### May Events

#### Women's Circle Meetings

Margaret Lightborne Circle meets on the first Monday of every month at 11:00am in the Bray Hall

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 Christian Education building, just over the breezeway from the sanctuary. All are welcome to join in.

# Community Updates

Here are a few pictures from our Easter Sunrise Service and Breakfast.



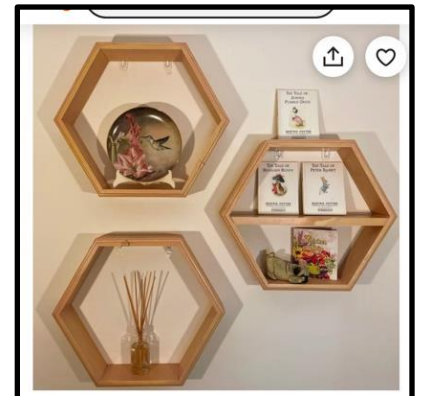
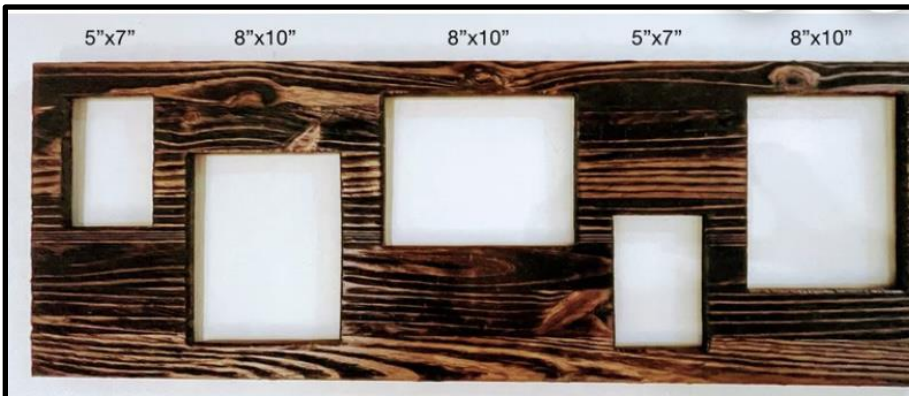
## Alamance Strings

Spring Solo Recital  
Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup> at 3pm and 5pm  
In the Sanctuary



## Casey and Jerri are getting married!

Casey and Jerri Ann are making plans for their September wedding. Casey is making wooden shadowboxes/wall cases to help raise money for their wedding. If you are interested in purchasing some of Casey's handworks, listed below is a link to his Etsy shop and also to their wedding registry. Hand delivery is available.



ETSY Shop

<https://www.etsy.com/shop/RivetingPine>

Wedding Registry

<https://www.theknot.com/us/jerri-ann-sullivan-and-casey-lynn-howe-sep-2022/registry>

## **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**

Senior Pastor: Rev. Joy Allridge  
Minister of Music: Mr. Matt Rice  
Office Administrator: Debbie Norris  
Custodian: Mr. Rodney Paul

