

**“What's the  
WORD?”**



FIRST CHRISTIAN  
UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

Beloved Church,

Be A Blessing has been our theme this summer, and last week I experienced blessings all around! For those of you that weren't aware, Last week I helped First Reformed UCC, our sister church, with their day camp.

14 children enjoyed games, music, stories, crafts, lunch, and of ice cream together all week. What a blessing to be able to hear the sound of children's laughter! Watching a child's face light up with joy when singing about our God! Seeing them running, playing, jumping, dancing, enjoying all of the wonderful experiences that day camp brings! An added bonus was being able to get to know Linnea, one of John & Judy Kipp's granddaughters better during the week! She had a blast at Day camp!

I had the pleasure of working besides wonderful folks from First Reformed and Macedonia Lutheran who dedicated their time to serve God and help the children grow in their faith and build community together! Elizabeth, the children's minister at First Reformed did an amazing job organizing and leading the camp alongside the wonderful camp staff from Agape.

This, my friends, is what the wider church should look like! We should be in community together, working together serving God and building the body of Christ. We are not alone in ministry! We have the wider church to be in relationship and service with. We can, and should, be active participants with one another as we continue Christ's mission in all the world. For we can do far more together than we ever could apart.

And so, as I finish up this letter, I hear the children coming down the stairs ready to continue to have fun, grow in their faith, and enjoy community! May you find laughter and joy as you go about your week "Being a Blessing" in our community and beyond!

Love & Light,

*Michelle*

## Prayer Concerns

Please keep these individuals/families in your prayers...

Patti Strange (June Seller's daughter) is having foot surgery on August 17<sup>th</sup>. It is expected to be a long recovery. Please add her to your prayers.

## Those remaining in our Prayers

Joy Ballard, Linda Cobb, Lewis & Vonnie Fowler, Ruth Ann George, Jim Horne, Troy Johnson, Maureen Kennedy, Michelle M., Julie Miller, Keith Miller, Shirley Perry, Rachel, Patti Strange, Joe Strickland, Nancy Thomas, Benji Terrell, Julie Miller, Carolyn Stubblefield, those hospitalized or in specialized care facilities and our homebound.



## Prayers of Gratitude & Joy

Evan Russell is headed to college on August 15<sup>th</sup>. Please keep him in your prayers as he starts his first semester at UNCW! Please pray for his Moms and Grandmother too as they watch him taking this next step in his journey!

## August Birthdays

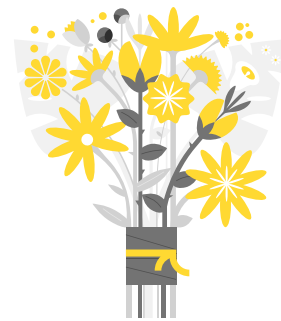
8/2 Cathy Andes  
 8/4 Sue Horne  
 8/4 Lola Pipes  
 8/7 Matt Terrell  
 8/10 Nancy Thomas  
 8/20 Michelle Funk  
 8/21 Evan Russell  
 8/23 Heather Williams  
 8/28 Dan Loy  
 8/28 Robert Price  
 8/31 Ken Pipes

## August Anniversaries

8/15 Harvey & Merle Sharpe  
 8/23 Mack & Elizabeth Painter

## Those serving in our Armed Forces

PFC Matthew Knight  
 1Lt Kirk Workman



## Upcoming Worship Services

Date	August 15th	August 22nd	August 29th	September 5th
Theme	"Encourage Others"  Teacher Appreciation	"Share Our Blessings"  Laity Sunday	"Be A Blessing"  Last Sunday of our summer worship series	Holy Communion  Labor Day
Scripture	Ecclesiastes 4:9-12	1 Corinthians 12:4-11	Philippians 2:12-18	TBD
Hymns	Joyful, Joyful  You Servants of God, Your Sovereign Proclaim	TBD	Glorious Things of You Are Spoken  Blessed Assurance	Draw Us In the Spirit's Tether

## Summer Worship Theme

Join us this summer as we explore what it means to "Be A Blessing"  
Lots of stories, scripture, music and more!

### Teacher Appreciation Sunday

THIS WEEK!

Sunday August 15<sup>th</sup> "Encourage Others"

Join us as we celebrate our Adult Sunday school teachers! We will bless their teaching ministry for the 2021-2022 season.

**BE A BLESSING**

LEAD WITH LOVE. PRAY OFTEN.

**PRACTICE PEACE.**

**GIVE THANKS.**

BE JOYFUL. BE KIND.

DO GOOD. HAVE COURAGE.

**WORK FOR JUSTICE.**

**BE THE LIGHT.**

**ENCOURAGE OTHERS.**



### July/August Mission Project

#### HOPE- Helping Others Prosper Everyday

Habert and Isaiah have had a dream to see that children with disabilities have access to quality education as any other child through inclusion. Regina and Gary Carroll have bought land for the school in Hoima, Uganda.

If you would like to contribute to this mission project, please write "HOPE Mission" in the memo area on your check. Thank you for your support of this wonderful mission that took much courage to begin! Please Pray for the school as they fulfill their dream and mission serving children with special needs!

### Laitiy Sunday

Sunday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>

Join us as we are led by members of the congregation!

"Be A Blessing... Share our gifts"

If you are willing to share in worship (speaking for 1-2 minutes) why you share your gifts/talents/time with others

Please talk with Pastor Michelle ASAP!

### **PASTORAL CARE**

Pastor Michelle:

Call or text: 336-505-9624

Email: [fcuccpastor@gmail.com](mailto:fcuccpastor@gmail.com)

\*Please note Friday & Saturday are her Sabbath days.

(With the exception of scheduled events.) She is available for emergencies only those days