



November

NEWSLETTER 2026

Devotion

One of my favorite activities at home is to sit on the back porch and watch the birds. We have a small bird feeder which has attracted an energetic population of mostly unidentified species (I'm no ornithologist!). As entertaining as these little creatures are up close, a more awe-inspiring experience comes in the evening, when the starlings arrive.

Starlings are the glossy, iridescent birds which announce their arrival with an enthusiastic cacophony as they fly in intricate, ever-changing swirls, eventually lighting in the tall trees. I sit and watch the birds as they flit from branch to branch and tree to tree, all the while singing a constant song. They seem to keep arriving endlessly until I think the trees can hold no more.



My favorite moment is when the birds have settled into their chosen roosts high in the branches and the noise gradually dies until there is calm. A quiet expectancy falls over the field, as if the birds are just waiting for some signal. And then that mysterious signal arrives and thousands of wings beat the air and great spirals of birds explode into the sky. The sound of their launch is like a great intake of breath.

Devotion

November feels like that moment. The calendar of activities slowly settles into a noisy rhythm in preparation for the holidays until, before you know it, Advent arrives and our lives are launched into the frenzy of a new church year! May you be energized as you experience the holy busy-ness of November and remember to pause and listen for the wind through the wings of the Spirit.

Breath of God, send the wind of Your presence into our midst. Bear us up so that we might be expressions of Your grace and beauty in a world preoccupied with the mundane.

Grant that we, as Your children, might dance and twirl through the air of Your Creation — responding in unity to the currents of Your will.

Through Christ we pray, amen.

Pastor Stephen

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Birthdays

Sherrie Linton 11/2	Phil Bray 11/19
Roger King 11/7	Sandy Stone 11/19
Brooke Manning 11/9	Trish Ball 11/24
Merle Sharpe 11/12	Keith Miller 11/27

Those Remaining in Our Prayers

The Family of Buster Freeman	Brenda Grogan
Nell Allred	Holly Bent
Amber Massey	Nanci Isley
Joe Strickland	Jon & Judy Kipp
Ross Strange Sr.	Betty & Roger King
Trisha Shelly	Blake Jones
Ray Palyok	June Sellars
Lewis Fowler	Nancy Hughs
Darla Bray	Eleanor Lovgren
Dana Matherly	Shawn Hooks
Joy McPhail	The Family of Jane Pate
The K Family	Pete Pate
Carol Fonville	Anthony Kline
	Ken Little

Prayers

If you need prayers or know someone that does please let us know.
You can call the office or call your Deacon.
We are here to assist in anyway that's helpful.

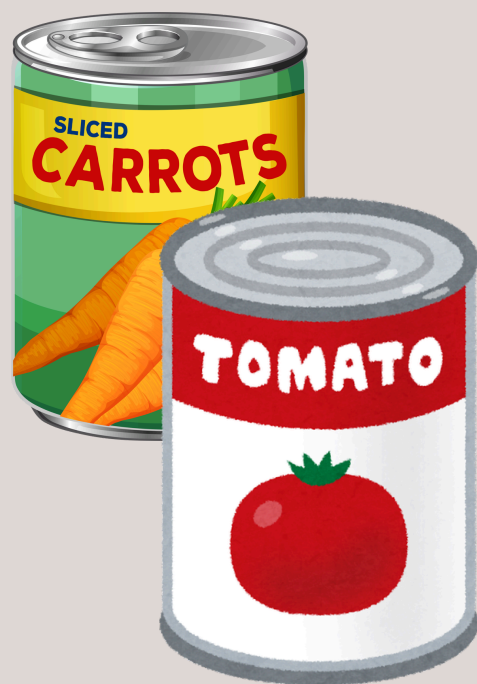
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- **Sunday November 1st**
 - *All Saints Day*
 - *Daylight Savings “Fall Back”*
- **Monday, November 2nd**
 - *Margaret Lightbourne Circle at 11:00 am*
- **Wednesday, November 4th**
 - *Finance Meeting at 11:00 am*
- **Sunday, November 8th**
 - *UCC Neighbors in Need Offering*
- **Monday, November 9th**
 - *Official Board Meeting at 6:00 pm*
- **Tuesday, November 10th**
 - *Centennial Circle at 5:30 pm*
- **Sunday, November 15th**
 - *Turkey Day! (lunch and fellowship after worship)*
- **Sunday, November 22nd**
 - *Guest Preacher Rev. Deborah Suess*
- **Tuesday, November 24th**
 - *Deacons Meeting at 6:00 pm*
- **Thursday, November 26th**
 - *Thanksgiving Day! (The office is closed)*
- **Sunday, November 29th**
 - *First Day of Advent & Hanging of the Greens*

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Blessed Sacrament Food Pantry

Blessed Sacrament Food Distribution will be moving their location to their building on our block. We have agreed to allow them to use our parking lot for their distribution lines.



2nd Mondays from 10:30 - 1:30 pm

4th Mondays from 1:30 - 3:30 pm

(Exceptions are May and December)

Alamance Strings Performance Save the Date!

December 5th at 1:00 pm in the Sanctuary

All are welcome to come enjoy a night of music
by Alamance Strings.



Morrowtown Community Gala

November 7th at 5:30 pm at First Baptist Church

\$55 per ticket

An evening of food provided by Lola's Kitchen, entertainment, and guest speaker Mayor Beth Kennett *(Former FCUCC Supply Pastor)*.

(See the Flyer on the next page)



MORROWTOWN

— COMMUNITY GROUP 2026 GALA —



TICKETS

\$55

PER TICKET



WHEN

NOVEMBER 7, 2026



WHERE

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF BURLINGTON
ON BROAD ST.
400 South Broad Street, Burlington, NC 27215



TIME

6:00 PM
DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM



DINNER

CATERED BY LOLA'S



MC

SHEREA BURNETT
(UNITED WAY OF ALAMANCE COUNTY)



SPEAKER

BETH KENNETT
(MAYOR OF BURLINGTON NC)



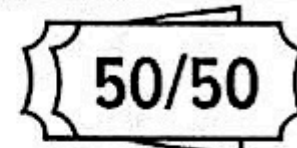
Scan to purchase tickets



ENTERTAINMENT
RECONCILED BAND



SILENT AUCTION



50/50 DRAWING

Together, we build a stronger community.

FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT
galamcg2026@gmail.com

EDUCATE ★ EMPOWER ★ ENCOURAGE

THEMES & LITURGISTS

Communion

Mary Newsome & Judy Hodges 11/1

Greeter

Carol Fonville

Ushers

Benji Terrell (head)

Julie Miller, Eleanor Lovgren, Charlie Vitou

Liturgists

November 1st - Julie Miller

November 8th - Sandra Greene

November 15th - Nancey Simmons

November 22nd - Jamie Fonville

November 29th - Beth Painter

Receptions

Please join us in the parlor for fellowship and light refreshments after
Worship on Sundays.

CHURCH INFORMATION

Mission Statement

(Revised 2/4/24)

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."

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 am - 12 pm

Church Officers

President: Jamie Fonville

Vice President: Cindy Sharpe

Treasurer: Vacant (Julie Miller acting Treasurer)

Assistant Treasurer: Julie Miller

Secretary: Matt Rice

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Ball, OSL

Organist / Choir Director: Matt Rice

Custodian: Rodney Paul Sr.

Office Administrator: Debbie Norris