

Service of Divine Worship

Third Sunday After Pentecost

Liturgist: Doug Sink

June 13, 2010

Silent Meditations *I am an invisible man. People choose not to see me.*

—Ralph Ellison, *The Invisible Man*.

The Bible is busy creating a new world. John Calvin called scripture the “lens” through which Christians view the world. As with a new pair of glasses, this new lens of the Bible brings into focus things we had not noticed before. Other things that once were special to us fade out of focus. Jesus was forever taking things that the world considered inconsequential—a widow’s coin, a lost sheep, a lost boy—and forcing us to see these seemingly small and unimportant things as God sees them, as cherished, beloved creatures of the Creator.

—Bishop William Willimon

Preparation for Worship

Prelude

*Chimes Sounding the Hour

*Time of Greeting

Announcements

Choral Call to Worship

Solemn Declaration - - Amen Sung

Praise to God

*Hymn

“God of Change and Glory”

God of change and glory, God of time and space, when we fear the future,
give to us your grace. In the midst of changing ways give us still the grace to praise.

Refrain

God of many colors, God of many signs, you have made us different,
blessing many kinds. As the old ways disappear, let your love cast out our fear.

Refrain

Freshness of the morning, newness of each night, you are still creating
endless love and light. This we see, as shadows part, many gifts from one great heart.

Refrain:

Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many ways.

In our difference is blessing, from diversity we praise

One Giver, one Word, one Spirit, one God known in many ways,
hallowing our days. For the Giver, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!

*Responsive Call to Worship

Liturgist: Riches I need not nor life’s empty praise,

People: You, my inheritance, now and always;

Liturgist: You and You only are first in my heart,

People: great God, my treasure, may we never part.

*Gloria Patri

Unison Opening Prayer

Liturgist

Gracious God, You are our Vision, the Lord of our hearts. Grant today that we may continue to make the great exchange of vision that our faith requires of us: that we may exchange our supposed clarity of vision of the world and our myopic vision of your Kingdom to become our actual clarity of vision of your Kingdom and our resulting enhanced vision of the world, that what is yours may also become ours in a new way, the way of graceful healing, loving transformation and authentic renewal. Amen.

Confession of Sin

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer for the Confession of Sin

Liturgist

Merciful and gracious God, we confess that the world, at times, has so bedazzled us that our gaze is transfixed upon it: the amazing acquisition of wealth that our capitalistic economy makes possible even for ordinary people who are shrewd enough to discern emerging opportunities; the extraordinary powers that our technical skills bestow upon us in so many ways, powers of communication, powers of life-extension and enhancement, powers of accomplishing many complex actions with a few strokes on our keyboards; powers of energy production which makes us think that we can indeed do anything we want to do. Dear Lord, for all the genuinely good things that these worldly powers make possible, help us to be humbly grateful. But grant us also Your powers of discernment, that we may become sensitive to the fog that worldly powers can spin about us and within us, distorting our desires and vision, distancing us from You and each other, and from our own selves in our illusions of autonomy and independence. Wean us away from these seductive aspects of our worldly visions, Lord, that our hearts may beat to the rhythm of Your heart, that we may feel, see and discern in the ways our Lord Jesus did and does, that we may become at last His eyes, ears and hands in this broken world, made even worse, at times, by our alleged progress; in His Name we pray. Amen.

The Kyrie and Assurance of Pardon - - - Amen Sung

Witness of Faith

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer *[we pray debts]*

Children's Moment

Anthem

"Precious Lord Take My Hand"

Dorsey

Proclamation of the Word

The New Testament Reading

Luke 7:36 - 8:3 (Page #941 of Pew Bible)

Sermon

"WHO IS THIS WHO EVEN FORGIVES SINS?"

*THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND

Response Through Dedication

Invitation to Give

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory

*The Doxology and Offertory Prayer (Unison)

Liturgist

Thank You, gracious Lord, for being our Vision. Help us to see our very gifts as You see them. Help us to be open to the miracles they will provide among us and beyond us. Help us to feel our collective strength as being within Your Body, our Lord Jesus Christ, both now and always. Amen.

Preparation for Obedience in the World

*Hymn

"Be Thou My Vision"

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me,
save that thou art. Thou my best thought,
by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee
and thou with me, Lord; thou and thou only,
first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Great God of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys,
O bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart,
whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*Responsive Call to Dedication

Liturgist: And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"

People: Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

*The Benediction

*Postlude

WE WELCOME VISITORS who are attending our service of worship today. **EVERYONE** is requested to sign the attendance pad found at the end of each pew. We request visitors also to note their addresses and telephone numbers.

Western North Carolina Association Celebration

You are invited to a celebration honoring the ministry of **Reverend Larry Walser**, Associate Conference Minister for the Western North Carolina Association, and the services of Mrs. Libby Parker, Western NC Association Secretary.

This celebration will be held on **Sunday, June 27, 2010 at First United Church of Christ, 207 West Horah Street, Salisbury, NC from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

This event is being sponsored by the Board of Directors of the Western NC Association for Reverend Larry Walser who will be retiring as our area minister on June 30, 2010. This is a time when church members and ministers may gather to thank Larry for his ministry among us and extend best wishes to Larry and his wife, Sandy, as they enter their retirement together.

Also, Mrs. Libby Parker will be recognized for her faithful service to the WNCA as office secretary. We are grateful for the friendly, dependable service she has provided to us throughout Reverend Walser's ministry as our Associate Conference Minister.

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

Sunday, June 27th

First Reformed UCC will welcome new members Sunday, June 27th.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO A WELCOMING LUNCHEON!

EVERYONE is invited to attend a luncheon, provided by Yarborough's Restaurant, in the fellowship hall immediately after the worship service. There is no charge for the catered meal, but donations will be accepted (church cost is \$7.00 plus tax). Please come get to know our new members and enjoy Sunday lunch with your church family.



Father's Day Pamphlet Order Form

Women's Life Fellowship is sponsoring a **Father's Day Honorarium/Memorial Pamphlet** that will be provided to the congregation next Sunday on Father's Day. You can place your loved one's name, (father, uncle, special friend, etc.) along with a comment ("To the best dad in the world, thank you for everything you do!") for a suggested price of \$10.00 per name; any donated amount will be appreciated. **DEADLINE TO ORDER IS JUNE 13, 2010.**

In Honor of _____ *By* _____

COMMENT: _____

In Loving Memory of _____ *By* _____

COMMENT: _____

Annual Church Picnic

The theme this year is...
"Balloons and Bubbles"

The First Reformed United Church of Christ annual church picnic is scheduled ---

TODAY, June 13, 2010

Finch Park --- Shelter #1 (4 – 7 p.m.)

Bring Yard Chairs



Sunday school classes are responsible for providing the following...

- Men's Bible Class..... Grill, Hamburger/Hotdogs, Cooking Expertise
- Willing Workers Class Assorted Sides (Fruit, Potato/Pasta Salads, Baked Beans)
- New Way Class Lettuce, Tomatoes, Onions, Cheese, Desserts
- Seekers Class Chips, Mayo, Mustard, Ketchup

We are looking forward to a large turnout. Finch Park has much to offer so come early and enjoy walking, playing on the playground, or just visiting with friends. There will be plenty of food, fun, and fellowship for all! **NOTE: Picnic will go on—rain or shine. If weather doesn't cooperate we will still have the picnic in the church fellowship hall.**

CAR WASH



**Youth Car Wash
Reeds UMC**

Saturday, June 19th

8 a.m.-Noon

Help support our youth as they raise funds for the Youth Workcamp, July 11th – 17th.

FLOWERS on the altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of the June 7th birthday of Mary Crouse by her family.

USHERS: Clifford Lopp, Larry Berrier, Eddie Yates, Robert Danze and Harrison Danze

PLATE ATTENDANT: Cheryl Walser

ACOLYTES: Kaitlyn McNeill and Kalyssa Hutchens

GREETERS: Lib Sink and Gladys Snider

NURSERY {Birth through 6 years-old}: Alice Gray

PRAYER CONCERNS: Mary Rhodes, Catherine Leonard, Jeanne Trexler, Eloise Lopp, Ronnie Durham, Ernie Bonner, Sadie Bailey, Velna Swing, Elmer Morgan, Willie Ruth Leonard, Arlene Swing, Jacqueline Leonard, Frances Leonard, Juanita and Henry Beck, Ernestine and Henry Kennedy, Steve Waitman (Cathy's Husband), Jules Bliss (Banks & Eulene's Grandson), Paul Stevens (Lisa Nelson's Cousin), Van "Buster" Conrad (Gray Family). Please remember our men and women serving in the Armed Forces. To add a name for prayer, contact Adena Wall at 249-1904 or the church office.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, June 13 9:45 a.m. ----- Joint Sunday School Class {Lesson: Men's Bible Class}
10:20 a.m. ----- Sunday School Social {Hosts: Lynn & Mike Brown & Lynn Klopp}
11:00 a.m. ----- Worship Service
4-7 p.m. ----- **CHURCH PICNIC**
6-8 p.m. ----- Community Youth Meeting {at Picnic}

Thursday, June 17 5:30 p.m. ----- YOGA Class {Parlor}

Saturday, June 19 8 a.m. – Noon ---- **YOUTH CAR WASH (WORKCAMP FUNDRAISER) REEDS UMC**

Sunday, June 20 9:45 a.m. ----- Sunday School Classes for Everyone
11:00 a.m. ----- **WORSHIP SERVICE & FATHER'S DAY (SURPRISE!) RECOGNITIONS**

Tuesday, June 22 6:30 p.m. ----- Search Committee Meeting (Parlor)

Wednesday, June 23 Noon ----- FRIENDSHIP CLUB COVERED DISH PICNIC (June Grubb's House)

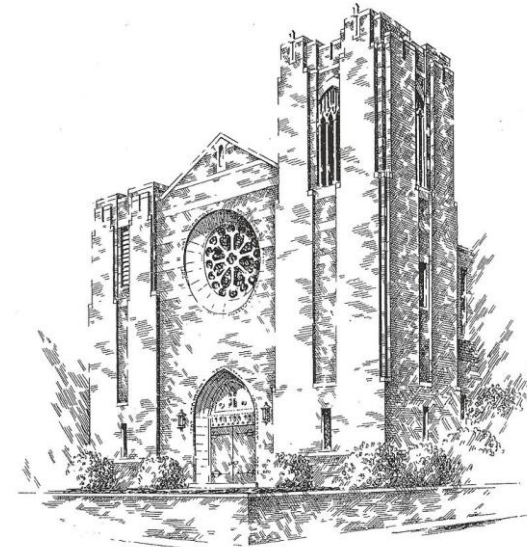
June 6, 2010 Attendance (Worship 59 – Church Retreat 39) Offering Received \$4,276.00
June 7, 2009 Attendance (Worship 93 – Church Retreat 35) Needed each Sunday to meet Budget \$5,581.00

Church Staff

Reverend Walter Patten, Ph.D., Intentional Interim Minister
Cathy Waitman, Interim Director of Christian Education
Lee Ann Peele, Organist

(Cell #336-420-2728 Home #336-632-1985)
Paul Freeman, Choir Director
Paula Lopp, Administrative Asst

First Reformed United Church of Christ



*Where People Discover - - -
The Love of God
The Power to Love Others
The Ability to Love Ourselves*

*104 East Center Street
Lexington, NC 27292
Website www.frucc.org*

*Office (336) 248-2617
Fax (336) 248-6163
email – church@frucc.org*

June 13, 2010