

We THANK the following for serving during our worship service:
Acolyte: Cate Hill
Lay Reader: Beverly Smith

PRAYER REQUEST CARDS in the pews may be placed in the offering or in the Prayer Request Boxes in the Reading Area and the Narthex, or you may email the Prayer Ministry Team at prayer@frontstreetumc.org. We thank team member Kathy Cecil, who will be in the Prayer Room on our behalf at noon to pray for requests given on the Prayer Request Cards.

FOOD COLLECTION FOR EASTLAWN BACKPACK MINISTRY
In October we will collect canned meat, packs of oatmeal or grits, cups of ramen or soup, and rice (1 lb. or 2 lb. bags). Thank you for your continued support.

HELP NEEDED WITH EASTLAWN BACKPACK MINISTRY
If you would like to be part of the team delivering the backpack meals to Eastlawn on Friday mornings beginning in October, contact Ms. Melissa.

DAVID’S GRAPE SODA CLUB WALK FOR LEWY BODY DEMENTIA ASSOCIATION
Join the Merrill family this **afternoon from 2–4 p.m. in Aldersgate Hall** for a walk supporting the Lewy Body Dementia Association in honor of David Merrill. Their team, David’s Grape Soda Club, welcomes everyone for an afternoon of support and fellowship. Donate or learn more through their team at https://shorturl.at/lcp6R.

FALL DISCIPLESHIP BOOK CLUB | FIRST UMC GRAHAM
SEPTEMBER 27, OCTOBER 4 & 11 | 3:00–4:30 P.M.
Join United Methodists from the Corridor District and Alamance County for a four-week study of *Building Beloved Community: The Courage to Love in the Face of Tyranny*. We'll explore how love, rather than fear, can be a response to division, injustice, and authoritarianism. Questions? Contact Daniel Polito.

ASK THE EXPERTS: GETTING OUR DUCKS IN A ROW
Our last session will take place on **September 29 (Downsizing & Relocation Tips) at 10:00 a.m. in Room 404** and will include time for questions and answers with experienced local professionals.

CROP WALK, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3 AT TRINITY WORSHIP CENTER
Come join Alamance County to walk for global hunger and disaster relief. Registration is at 8:30 a.m. and the walk kicks off at 9:00 a.m. Stop by the Welcome Center today to learn more.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY OFFERING, OCTOBER 4
The World Communion Sunday offering provides scholarships and leadership development opportunities for international students and U.S. racial-ethnic students who are pursuing advanced degrees. Pew envelopes may be used for your donation. Please include on the check in the memo section, “World Communion Offering.”

CEREAL SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4
Next Sunday is Cereal Sunday. Please bring cereal or canned/dry goods to help stock the food pantry at The Salvation Army. Thank you.

CYNTHIA POWELL WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY
The Tuesday morning Cynthia Powell Women’s Bible Study will again offer Bible study for women this fall. Our Fall session **will begin October 6**. Our focus will be the book of First Corinthians and we will meet each Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in Room 401. Study books are available in the church office. Please plan to join us! If you have questions, please contact Kathy Adams at 336-339-4872.

FIREFIGHTERS APPRECIATION BREAKFAST
In recognition of Fire Prevention Week, we will once again honor our next door firefighters and first responders. Members of Front Street UMC will serve breakfast to each shift change the mornings of **October 6, 7, and 8 beginning at 8 a.m.** This breakfast is funded entirely by donations. **To make a financial contribution, please contact Reft Davis at rdavis133jd@gmail.com.**

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY
Women are invited to a 7-week study of Ruth: Loss, Love & Legacy by Kelly Minter. Through This study will encourage us to trust God’s providence, recognize His faithfulness, and discover how He rescues, revives, and restores. The study begins **Wednesday, October 7**, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 401. Visit frontstreetumc.org/events to learn more.

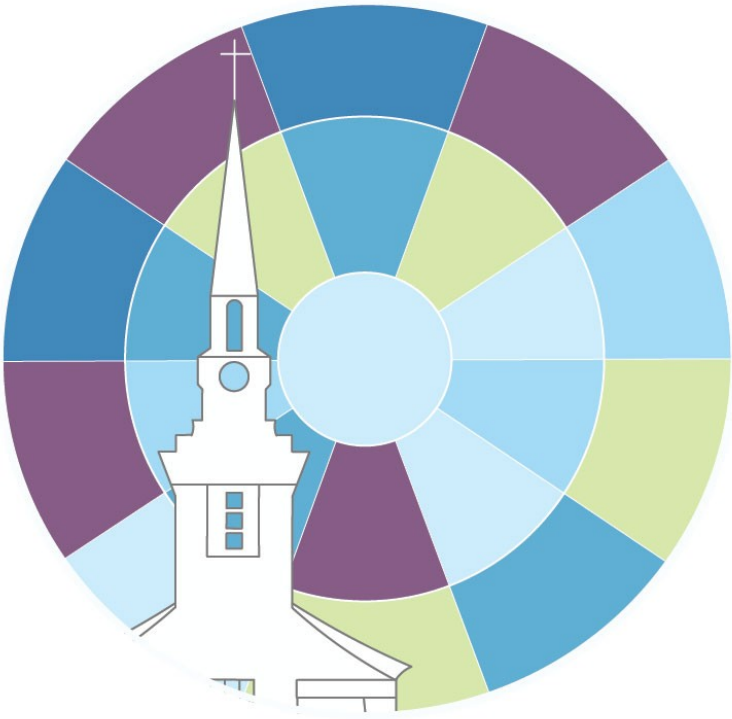
SEE BACK OF BULLETIN FOR MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2026		
<u>Sunday, September 27</u>		
9:00	Aldersgate Contemporary Worship	Aldersgate Hall
10:00	Adult & Children's Sunday School	Classrooms
11:00	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary
2:00	David's Grape Soda Club Walk	Aldersgate Hall
3:00	Fall Discipleship Book Club	First UMC, Graham
5:30	Youth Group	Aldersgate Hall
<u>Tuesday, September 29</u>		
8:00	Men's Breakfast Bible Study Group	Heritage Center
10:00	Ask the Experts: Aging Well Workshop	Room 404
6:00	SPRC Meeting	John Wesley Room
7:00	Handbell Rehearsal	Bell Room
<u>Wednesday, September 30</u>		
8:00	Youth Breakfast Club	Biscuitville, 669 Huffman Mill Rd
7:00	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
<u>Thursday, October 1</u>		
9:30	Prayer Team	John Wesley Room
10:00	Creating for Christ Group	Room 405
<u>Saturday, October 3</u>		
9:00	CROP Walk	Trinity Worship Center
<u>Sunday, October 4</u>		
9:00	Aldersgate Contemporary Worship	Aldersgate Hall
10:00	Adult & Children's Sunday School	Classrooms
11:00	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary
3:00	Fall Discipleship Book Club	First UMC, Graham
5:30	Youth Group	Aldersgate Hall

Front Street Kids: Pumpkin Patch Fun
Join Front Street Kids for a fun fall morning at the farm at Camp Chestnut Ridge on **Saturday, October 10, from 10 a.m.–Noon!** Kids of all ages are invited to enjoy games, a craft, a hayride, and picking out their own pumpkin from the pumpkin patch. **Important:** The farm address is **2902 Mt. Willing Road, Efland, NC**. To RSVP or with questions, contact Ms. Melissa at melissa@frontstreetumc.org.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
Front Street will host a blood drive on **Saturday, October 17**, 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. in Aldersgate Hall. Donors can sign up online at www.redcrossblood.org (sponsor code Front Street). Also, donors may text or call Gene Fonville at 336-260-8114 (cell) for more information or to schedule your appointment.

MARKET FOR MISSIONS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Help with set-up and clean-up for Market for Missions on **November 14**. Set-up opportunities are also available in the days leading up to the event for those who can't help on the day itself. Sign up online to lend a hand! Visit frontstreetumc.org/M4M for details or contact Nancy Wilson at 336-675-2119.



Front Street United Methodist Church

Our Mission:
Knowing Christ • Growing in Christ • Sharing Christ

Pastor
Rev. Ray Warren

Director of Music Ministry
Dr. Matt Estes

Associate Pastor
Rev. Daniel Polito

Visitation Minister
Leslie B. Peavy

Children’s Minister
Melissa Miller

PO Box 2597 Burlington, NC 27216 Church Office: 336-227-6263

www.frontstreetumc.org

Follow Us



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Welcome to worship at Front Street! Please fill out the attendance pad found at the end of each pew. You can receive a digital worship kit by texting "Worship" to 833-337-8517. During the worship service we invite you to stand as you are able (indicated by *) and join your voice in reading, singing, or praying the **bold** text.

All children are invited to remain in the service to participate in worship. The nursery in Room 308 is open for children up to age 5.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK

GATHERING AND COMMUNITY MATTERS

PRELUDE **How Deep the Father's Love for Us** Larry Shackley

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Come, all who are chosen and blessed by God.

People: We come just as we are, carrying our joys and our heavy burdens.

Leader: Come, all who feel broken by the weights of this world—by grief, regret, and hidden wounds.

People: We bring our fragments to the One who calls us Beloved.

Leader: For God does not reject our brokenness; instead, God meets us in it, pours out grace, and prepares us to be given for the world.

All: Let us worship the God who loves us, holds us, and transforms us. Amen.

*** OPENING HYMN UMH No. 529 How Firm a Foundation**
FOUNDATION

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we admit that we are experts at hiding. We cover our wounds with forced smiles and pretend we have everything together. We confess that we carry deep regrets, unspoken grief, and broken relationships that we try to fix in our own strength. Forgive us for believing the lie that our brokenness cancels out our belovedness. Forgive us for the times we have hurt others out of our own pain, saying things we wish we could take back. Remind us in this quiet moment that your grace surrounds us. Quiet our fears, heal our hidden hurts, and help us trust that we are safe in your hands. Ground us so deeply in your love that we are no longer afraid of our imperfections. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

* THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;**

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

* GLORIA PATRI UMH No. 70

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen. Amen.**

* PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

MISSION MOMENT **Stephen Ministry** Mike Mitchell

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, Your Word reminds us that we hold the treasure of your Gospel in clay jars—ordinary, fragile, and imperfect vessels. As Scripture is read and proclaimed today, open our hearts to hear your voice. Break through our distractions and our defenses. May your Holy Spirit illuminate these words, reminding us that nothing in all creation can separate us from your love, and empowering us to be broken and given for the sake of the world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING **Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16** CEB

(Please read the bold aloud with the lay speaker.)

Listen, my people, to my teaching; tilt your ears toward the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth with a proverb. I'll declare riddles from days long gone—ones that we've heard and learned about, ones that our ancestors told us. We won't hide them from their descendants; we'll tell the next generation all about the praise due the Lord and his strength—the wondrous works God has done....."But God performed wonders in their

UMH No. 881

ancestors 'presence—in the land of Egypt....**God split the sea and led them through, making the waters stand up like a wall. God led them with the cloud by day; by the lightning all through the night.** God split rocks open in the wilderness, gave them plenty to drink—as if from the deep itself! God made streams flow from the rock, made water run like rivers."

SCRIPTURE READING **II Corinthians 4:7-12** NT Page 180

SERMON **"You Are Broken, Yet Beloved"**
Rev. Ray Warren

HYMN OF RESPONSE UMH No. 405 Seek Ye First (sung in a round)
SEEK YE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Please feel comfortable praying the words of your tradition.)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us
our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against
us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from
evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the
glory, forever. Amen.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Thank you for your support of the mission and ministry of the church. If you would prefer to make your contribution via Text-to-Give, just text your offering amount to FSUMC's dedicated number, 336-489-GIVE (4483).

OFFERTORY	Ticket to the Promised Land	John Carter
	Chancel Choir	

*** DOXOLOGY** **LASST UNS ERFREUEN**

**All Singing: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ,
whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

UMH No. 94

*** CLOSING HYMN UMH No. 707 Hymn of Promise PROMISE**

*** BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE **Sonata Op. 2. No. 1**
Ludwig Van Beethoven

WELCOME! We're glad that you have chosen to worship with us today. Following this service, there is a gathering in the Heritage Center for fellowship and refreshments. Please join us. Our hosts this week are Tom and Vickie Sykes.