

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

September 10, 2017

CELEBRATION SUNDAY

Welcome: *It's time to celebrate, we are in the presence of God. We invite you to joyfully prepare your hearts to receive God's love and to feel connected to the Body of Christ this day. Please take a moment to sign the pew pads. We'd like to keep you informed of what we are doing, so give us your email, too.*

* Please stand as you are able.

TEN FORTY-FIVE O'CLOCK

GATHERING AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS

VOLUNTARY **Amazing Grace** Duane Funderburk
Amy Marsh, violin (b. 1954)

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God calls us to service,
People: rather than honor.
Leader: God calls us to love the unknown,
People: rather than the familiar.
Leader: We come to this time of worship,
People: trusting in the grace of Jesus Christ,
Leader: who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 89

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee **HYMN TO JOY**

OFFERING GOD'S WORD TO OUR TWO-YEAR OLDS Vickie Sykes
Allison Moran

CALL TO CONFESSION

God invites us to mutual love. But to find that mutuality, we must release our need for honor, our desire for privilege. In humility, let us seek forgiveness, trusting in the promises of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (IN UNISON)

Merciful God, forgive us, for we exalt ourselves and mock the humble. We choose to believe we are self-sufficient rather than trust in your strength. Open us to your Spirit, that we might serve all people without regard to the outcome, devoting ourselves to your honor alone. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

PERSONAL CONFESSION AND MEDITATION (IN SILENCE)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: God rejoices when we repent and return, offering us the finest wheat and honey from the rock to sustain us in new life. Rejoice! For you have been reconciled to God and to one another. With joy, seek the honor of God's service. Amen.

People: We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God!

SUNG RESPONSE **Hear the Good News of Salvation** **NETTLETON**

Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God's love. Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from heaven above. Jesus Christ, how much I love You! Jesus Christ, You save from sin! How I love You! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

MISSION MOMENT Clark and Val Sleeth
Missionaries serving at Tenwek Hospital, Bomet, Kenya

TESTIMONY Grace Strickland

OFFERING GOD'S WORD TO OUR SECOND GRADERS Marie Crissman
Lynn Collins

OFFERING GOD'S WORD TO OUR SIXTH GRADERS Dave Bollen
Laura Hargrove

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (IN UNISON)

We are here, Lord — children and grownups; teens and grandparents; young, middle-aged, and elderly.

We offer ourselves to you.

We offer the child among us and the child in us.

We offer the hopeful, visionary teens and youth and the dreams in each of us.

We offer the maturity of adults and the thoughtfulness of both young and old.

We offer the perspective and wisdom of elders and the insights of us all.

In Christ's name, we offer ourselves. Amen.

Children ages 4—first grade may depart for Children's Church in Room 304

TESTIMONY Sam and Aria Westbrook

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (IN UNISON)

God of wisdom, open us to the work of your Spirit that we may hear and faithfully respond to your holy Word. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 149

OT Page 583

ANTHEM

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

Chancel Choir
Amy Marsh, violin
UMH No. 644

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

* GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 18:15-20

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TESTIMONY

Jim Roberson

CALL TO PRAYER

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Let us pray.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY

King of My Heart John Mark McMillan
Aldersgate Worship Team Sarah McMillan

* 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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (IN UNISON)

God of Grace, we give thanks for your faithfulness to us, we give thanks for your hope in us, we rejoice in the knowledge of your unending grace. In the light of your mercy, and confident in your love, we dedicate these offerings, and ourselves to you. Amen.

* HYMN NO. 593

Here I Am, Lord

HERE I AM, LORD

* BLESSING (IN UNISON)

May the God of mystery take us to unexpected places, may the God of humility teach us to serve without pride, may the God of wisdom inspire our work in the kingdom; and the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier be with us now and always. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune in C

David N. Johnson
(1922-1987)

We thank the following for their service during our worship service:

Lay Reader: Betsy Lee
Acolytes: Mary Elizabeth Huneycutt & Amelia Pardue
Crucifer: Kennedy Bennett
Assistant Organist: Graham Huneycutt

WELCOME! We're glad that you have chosen to worship with us today. Please join us for a covered dish lunch in Aldersgate Hall following worship.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in honor of Bert Mims on her birthday by her family.

MEMBERS OF THE ALTAR GUILD serving in September are Marianna Harris, JoAnn Barbour, Margaret Blackwell, Mary Ann Garrison, and Suzanne Troxler.

THE PRAYER REQUEST CARDS in the pew may be placed in the offering or in the Prayer Request Boxes in the Reading Area and the Narthex Area. We thank team members, Don and Glenda Milligan, who will be in the Prayer Room on our behalf at noon to pray for requests given on the Prayer Request Cards.

HURRICANE HARVEY

If you would like to donate financially toward Hurricane Harvey relief and recovery efforts, you may do so through UMCOR's US Disaster Response Advance #901670. You may give offline with a check payable to the church: write Advance #901670 on the memo line and place it in the offering plate. To donate online, go to www.umcor.org, click the red Donate button, and then click the green US Disaster Response button.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS AND SERVICE SURVEY

Sisters and brothers, God gifts each of us with strengths and passions that are meant to play a role in our life together as the body of Christ. Indeed, Scripture tells us that we (the church) function much like a body, each person having an essential role that allows the body to function effectively, with Christ as the head that moves us. What is your passion? What are your strengths? Take a moment to fill out this brief survey to help the leadership teams of Front Street connect your passions and strengths to God's vision and how it is expressed in and from the congregation's ministry opportunities! The survey is located in the pew slots or online at www.frontstreetumc.org.

JOIN THE 2018 HAITI MISSION | January 20-27, 2018

A deposit of \$250.00 is due by **September 15, 2017**. Questions? Contact Fred Weigand at 336-707-0639 or fred.weigand@allstate.com, or Jennifer Smith at 336-260-2699 or jensmith71@msn.com.

AGAPE PROJECT 2017

Share Christ with refugee children in Armenia by packing a Christmas box following the instructions in the 2017 Project Agape Packing List. For more information, visit the church website or pick up instructions in the Welcome Center. Please return filled boxes by **Wednesday, September 20**.

FINDING I AM - A SMALL GROUP STUDY FOR WOMEN

This 8 week study, facilitated by Marlee Beckom, begins **Wednesday, September 20 at 7:00 p.m.** in Room 401. The books are available in the church office and cost \$16.00. Class size is limited to 20 participants and registration is required. Visit the church website for details or to register.

CROP WALK

The time is near for the 2017 Alamance County CROP WALK, now 5K vs. 10K, to be held on **Saturday, October 7**. There's still time to be part of our church's Walk team, so sign up at the CROP table in the Reading Area. Did you know that since the Alamance Walk began in 1979, our Walk has raised more than \$2.1M in support of our local agencies and for hunger relief worldwide? Our church's goal is to raise \$7,000 for 2017; the overall CROP goal is \$47K vs. \$39K in 2016. Everyone can help, either as a walker or as a sponsor! For more information, call Jenna Johnson at 336-584-1120 or Phil Young at 336-584-2090.

SEE BACK OF BULLETIN FOR MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

Sunday, September 10

10:45	Combined Worship Service	Sanctuary
12:00	Celebration Sunday Covered Dish	Aldersgate Hall
4:00	Children's & Youth Choirs Information Session	Choir Room
5:00	Confirmation Orientation	Ministry Center
6:00	UMYF	Ministry Center

Monday, September 11

10:00	UMW	Heritage Center
7:00	Education Meeting	John Wesley Room

Tuesday, September 12

7:30	Men's Breakfast Bible Study	Reading Area
9:30	Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study	Room 305
6:15	Epworth Ringers	Bell Room
6:30	Circle #5 Meeting	Heritage Center

Wednesday, September 13

7:30	Youth Breakfast Club	Dr. Cecil's Office 1711 Sykes St.
7:00	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
7:00	SPRT Meeting	John Wesley Room

Sunday, September 17

8:30	American Red Cross Blood Drive	Aldersgate Hall
8:45	Worship Service	Sanctuary
9:00	Aldersgate Contemporary Worship	Aldersgate Hall
9:45	Sunday School	Classrooms
11:00	Sanctuary Worship	Sanctuary
4:00	Children's Choir	Sanctuary
4:00	Youth Choir	Choir Room
5:00	Wesley Ringers	Room 307
5:00	Youth Bells	Bell Room
6:00	UMYF	Ministry Center

AN ACT OF LOVE: A GUIDE TO HELP COMMUNICATE FINAL WISHES

Because it can be difficult under emotional stress to plan wisely, pre-planning your funeral or memorial service is a gift that you can give your loved-ones, family, and friends. *An Act of Love* is a guide to inform your loved ones of your final wishes respecting music, scriptures, readings, etc. to be included in your service. Copies of this guide are available in the Welcome Center or on the church website: www.frontstreetumc.org (under Quick Links).

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The following dates are available to place flowers in the Sanctuary in honor or in memory of a loved one: **October 29 and December 3, 17, 24, and 31**. Please contact Linda Paul at 336-449-4717 (home), 336-543-5081 (cell), or kpaul5@triad.rr.com (email) for details or to sign up.

The call to worship and prayers of confession and thanksgiving are copyrighted by the General Board of Discipleship and are used by permission.

King of My Heart: CCLI Song # 7046145 and CCLI License # 1988431.

FRONT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Our Mission:

Knowing Christ • Growing in Christ • Sharing Christ



Pastors

Rev. Ross Carter
Rev. Patrick Murphy

Associate Pastor of Student Ministries

Dave Bollen

Organist/Director of Music

Dr. Matt Brittain

Choirmaster

Laura J. Sam

Coordinator of Congregational Care

Carol W. Sineath

Director of Children's Ministries

Marcella Z. McAdams

PO Box 2597 Burlington, NC 27216

www.frontstreetumc.org

Church Office: (336)-227-6263

On-Call Phone: (336)-380-4136