

FCC

FIRST
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH

WE WELCOME YOU TO

Worship

HONORING
FATHERHOOD
&
FREEDOM
CELEBRATING
JUNETEENTH

Sunday, June 21st

FCC

A Place to
BELIEVE & BELONG

2410 Creech Rd, Raleigh NC, 27610

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston,
Pastor

Email: pastoral@fccral.org
Rev. Donald R. Ingram, Sr., Pastor Emeritus
2410 Creech Rd
Raleigh, NC 27610
Office Telephone 919-832-4704
Office Fax 919-832-5625
Email – fccral@bellsouth.net

VISION STATEMENT: *The disciples of First Congregational Church vision is to obediently follow the Lord Jesus becoming more Christ-like in character and effective in ministry to others. By the power of the Holy Spirit we pray to reach, reconcile and restore lives to Jesus Christ by proclaiming the glorious Gospel of the Kingdom. Our vision will be realized when we have reached Christ-like maturity, the Gospel has been proclaimed in all the world, and the Kingdom of God has been fully established in the new age.*

MISSION STATEMENT: *The mission of First Congregational Church is to obey Christ's command to seek and save the lost; to preach and teach the Word of God; to make and empower disciples through increasing and promoting our love for God and His word; to help meet the needs of human kind by "loving God with all our hearts, with all our souls, with all our minds, so that it will mold and fashion our lives, and to love our neighbor as ourselves."*

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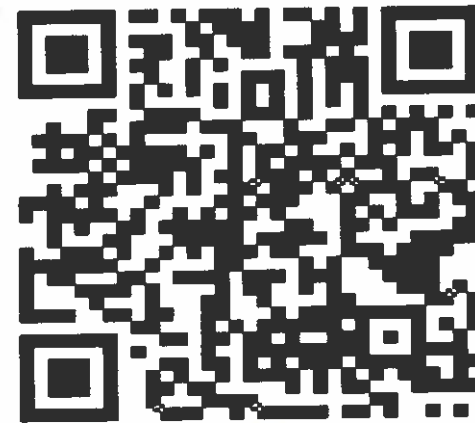


OFFERING / TITHE / SEED



Scan to Give

VISITOR'S FORM



Scan to Connect

We're so glad you're here!
If this is your first time, please fill out our visitor's form.

www.fccraleigh.org

June 21, 2026

11:00 am

Sunday Worship Celebration

Worship Leader—Rev. Carolyn Ingram

*“O worship the Lord
in the beauty of Holiness.”*

- CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Carolyn Ingram
- OPENING SELECTION..... “How Great Thou Art” #25
- INVOCATION..... .. Congregation in Unison

Gracious and loving God, we gather with grateful hearts on this day of remembrance, celebration, and reflection. We thank You for the blessing of fathers, father figures, grandfathers, mentors, and all who have offered guidance, protection, wisdom, and love. Strengthen them with patience, courage, compassion, and joy as they continue to nurture families and communities.

Today, we also honor Juneteenth, a sacred reminder of freedom delayed, resilience sustained, and hope carried forward by generations who endured injustice and still believed in liberation. May we remember the courage of our ancestors, give thanks for the progress made, and recommit ourselves to justice, dignity, unity, and love for all people.

Bless this gathering with peace and purpose. Let our words be kind, our hearts be open, and our actions reflect the freedom and faith we celebrate today. Guide us to honor fathers with appreciation, honor freedom with responsibility, and honor one another as Your beloved children. May this day inspire gratitude, healing, and renewed commitment to building families, communities, and a nation rooted in truth, compassion, and justice. In Jesus' name. Amen.

***Denotes to stand**

MORNING PRAYER..... Rev. Carolyn Ingram

CHORAL RESPONSE “We Have Come into This House”

OFFERTORY APPEAL & PRAYER..... Rev. Carolyn Ingram

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS OF SPEAKER Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston

Announcements

PREPARATION SELECTION
“This Storm Is Almost Gone”

HOLY SCRIPTURE..... Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston
Daniel 3:1-18

*PRE-SERMONIC. MEDITATION SELECTION
“We Sing Praises”

MESSAGE..... Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston

“WHEN THE OUTCOME IS UNCERTAIN”

SONG OF INVITATION “When I Think About The Lord”

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP..... Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston

* CLOSING SONG “Let The Church Say Amen”

♦ THE BENEDICTION Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston

Sister Vickie Debnam, Pianist,
Brother Lawrence Williams, Drummer, and Combined Choirs

***Denotes to stand**

Vacation Bible School

We encourage every member to prayerfully invite children, parents, family members, friends, neighbors, and coworkers to attend.

Seek the Holy Spirit's guidance as you help spread the word and reach both children and adults with this special opportunity.

Sheets are on the bulletin board, and the table as you leave and enter the sanctuary for adults to sign up for VBS.

This information is needed to determine the number of adults to prepare for.

*We look forward to
learning,
growing,
and
exploring together.*

VBS Dates: June 22-24, Monday through Wednesday

**JOIN US FOR THE
2026 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
MONDAY-WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22-24
5:45-8:00 pm**

DINNER AND FELLOWSHIP
5:45 PM – 6:15 PM

OPENING ASSEMBLY
6:15 PM – 6:30 PM

BIBLE LESSON
6:30 PM – 7:15 PM

STEAM ACTIVITY AND APPLICATION
7:15 PM – 7:55 PM

WRAP UP AND REFLECTION
7:55 PM
DISMISSA
8:00 PM

VBS Day 1: God Created the World

Genesis 1:1 (NIV)

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

God created the world with purpose, order, and care.

VBS Day 2: God Created Me with Purpose

Psalms 139:14 (NIV)

"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."

God created me on purpose and for a purpose.

VBS Day 3: Using My Gifts for God's Glory

Exodus 35:31-32 (NIV)

"And he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills, to make artistic designs..."

God gives us gifts and talents that can be used for His glory.



With Sympathy

Thinking of you in these
difficult times and sending love
Mrs. Cheryl Dendy



Our heartfelt sympathy and
prayers are extended to the
Poole, Holmes, and Dendy
families in the passing of
Chelsea Holmes,
niece of
Mrs. Cheryl Dendy,
who passed away
Monday, June 15th.

Arrangements announced when received.

**"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I
will give you rest. Matthew 11:28 (NIV)**

Heavenly Father, we come before You in the name of Jesus, lifting up the family who is mourning a great loss. We ask for Your comfort and peace to surround them during this difficult time. Your Word assures us that You are near to the brokenhearted and that You save those who are crushed in spirit.

Lord, we pray that You would wrap Your loving arms around this family, providing them with strength and solace as they grieve. May Your presence be felt in their midst, bringing them hope and healing. Help them to find comfort in knowing that their loved one is now in Your eternal care.

We ask for Your grace to sustain them in their sorrow, granting them the ability to navigate through the waves of grief. Give them the courage to lean on You and to find support in their community of faith and loved ones. Surround them with people who will offer words of encouragement, love, and understanding.

Lord, we also pray for any unresolved emotions or questions that may be weighing on their hearts. Bring them clarity and peace, and help them to find closure and acceptance in Your perfect plan. May they find solace in the promise of eternal life through Jesus Christ, knowing that one day they will be reunited with their loved one in Your presence.

We pray for strength and unity within the family, that they may lean on one another and find comfort in their shared memories and love. Help them to support and uplift each other during this time of mourning. May their mourning be turned into joy as they find comfort and hope in You. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

FCC Prayer Ministry- Sister Annie Holloway

I N T E R C E S S O R Y

Deaconess Linda Allen, Mrs. Patricia Avery,
Miss Carnetta Blakely, Mrs. Jessie Freeman,
Deaconess Lossie Hackett, Deacon Donzell Hunter,
Mrs. Yvonne Johnson, Mrs. Amella Judd,
Deaconess Geraldine Lee, Mrs. Irene Marks,
Mr. Jarvis Richardson,
Mrs. Tiara Richardson, Deaconess Beatrice Todd,
Deaconess Victoria Walker



Ms. Mary Allen, (Sister of Deacon Crinnie Allen)
Mrs. Constance Becoat, (Dearest Friend of Carolyn Johnson)
Mr. David Bradley, (Brother of Deaconess Victoria Walker)
Mr. James Cox, (Father of Mr. Jesse Reynolds)
Mr. Dameon Everett, (Nephew of Mrs. Patsy Rowland)
Mr. Donald Freeman, Jr. (Son of Mr. Donald Freeman, Sr.)
Mr. Randolph Frazier (Friend of Ms. Daisler Watson)
Mr. Mrs. Howard & Jackie Haywood,
(Coworker of Mrs. Doris McKoy)

P R A Y E R L I S T

Mrs. Mary Johnson, (Sister of Mrs. Lillian McNeill)
Dr. Nikki Johnson, (Friend of Mrs. Lillian McNeill)
Mr. Ken Laws (Son of late Cheryl Laws)
Mr. Paul Lee (Husband of Deaconess Geraldine Lee)
Ms. Annette Malone, (Sister of Mrs. Paulette Hicks)
Mr. Raymond Perkins (Brother of Deacon Grady Perkins)
Mr. John Poole, (Brother of Mrs. Cheryl Dendy)
Ms. Amanda Stancil (Young friend of Sister Lillian McNeill)
Mr. Mitchell Yelverton (God-son Sister Lillian McNeill)

HAPPY
Father's
Day



A father's love is
one of God's
greatest blessings.



Techniques for reading aloud



**WORLD
READ
ALoud DAY**

1. Let the child choose the book he wants to read

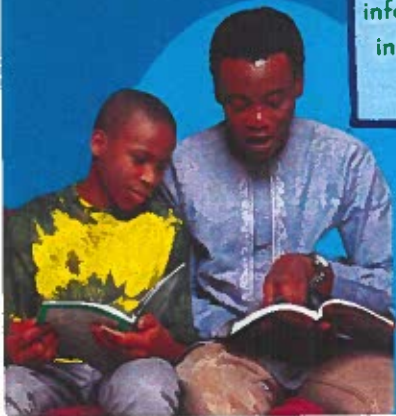
2. Reading with intonation, or expressive body language

3. While reading point to every word in the book

4. Invite children to retell the contents of the book



Reading aloud is the most effective method of teaching reading for children. When we read aloud, we transmit information through the child's ear, this information will form the foundation in the child's brain.



Book and a Bear Project" **June ends June 28th**

The books will be given to the (Wake County Youth), the sick and shut- in members of the church and organizations that serve the community (involving youths) in various capacities.

We want them to know they are loved, and God has a special place in His heart for them. We are asking that you donate books for grades K-12.

Books on all subjects matters would be great. Books celebrating our community would be wonderful!

A stuffed animal other than a bear may also be donate.

Please contact William Walker, Youth Director





Community Connect

Engage. Empower. Elevate

*Church family today is
Community Connect Sunday,
and we are also celebrating
Juneteenth
recognizing freedom, faith, and
the strength of community.*

*A special Father's Day recognition
will be held as we honor and celebrate
the fathers and father figures
who have made a difference in our lives.*

*"Thank You"
for joining us as we connect with our community.*



*We're using media to share the message that changes lives. From
livestreams to social media, from our website to digital outreach,
this ministry helps us reach beyond the walls of the church and
into the hearts of people right where they are.*

*Every post, every video, every click is an opportunity to spread the
Gospel, encourage faith, and invite others into a growing relation-
ship with God.*

*At FCC, We believe ministry doesn't stop on Sunday, and through
media, we stay connected all week long. If you have a passion for
creativity, technology, or helping share the message of Christ, we
would love for you to be part of this ministry.*

**To get involved,
please contact the church office at:
fccral@bellsouth.net**

6:00 -7:00 pm

Wednesday Night

Prayer Meeting

Wednesday
Night

Bible Study

7:00 PM

**Prayer Meeting and Bible Study will not be held
on Wednesday, June 24, 2026,
instead join us for Vacation Bible School from
5:45-8:00 pm**

Sunday School Invitation

Join us for Sunday School every Sunday at 9:30 AM! All ages are welcome—we would love to have you with us for a time of learning, fellowship, and faith.



We are excited to announce that graduation season has arrived, and it is time to celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2026!



All graduates are encouraged to participate in this special occasion. If you are graduating in 2026, please make sure to sign the sheet located on the bulletin board. This will help us keep track of everyone involved in the celebration.

