



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

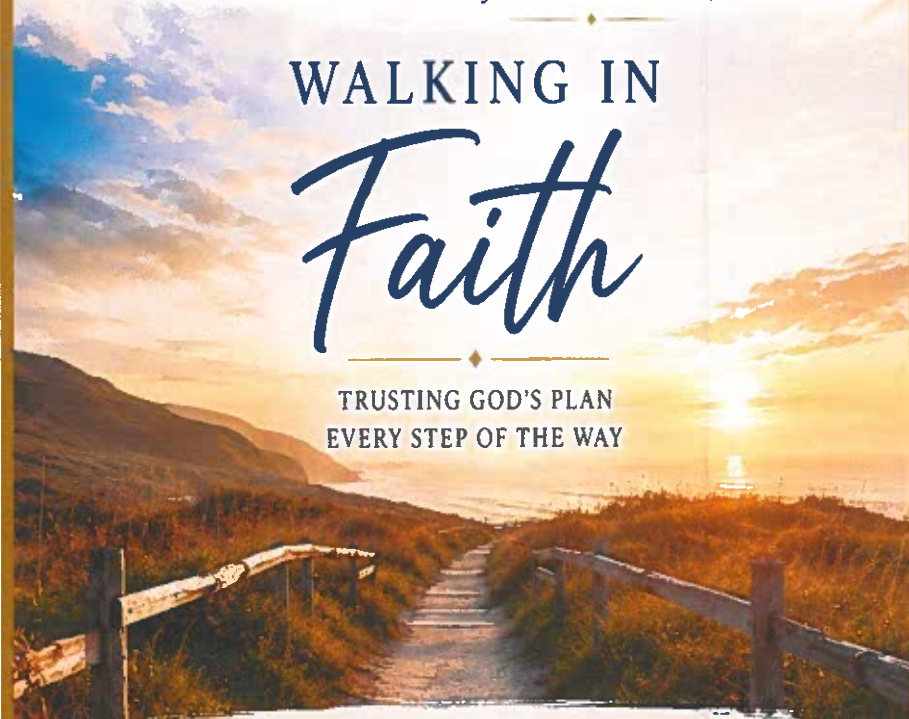
A Place to Belong. A Faith to Share. A Mission to Live.

Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston, Pastor

WALKING IN

Faith

TRUSTING GOD'S PLAN
EVERY STEP OF THE WAY



"Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways submit to Him,
and He will make your paths straight."

PROVERBS 3:5-6

SUNDAY | AUGUST 9, 2026

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston, Pastor

Email: pastoral@fccra.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 – fccra@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."*

Welcome

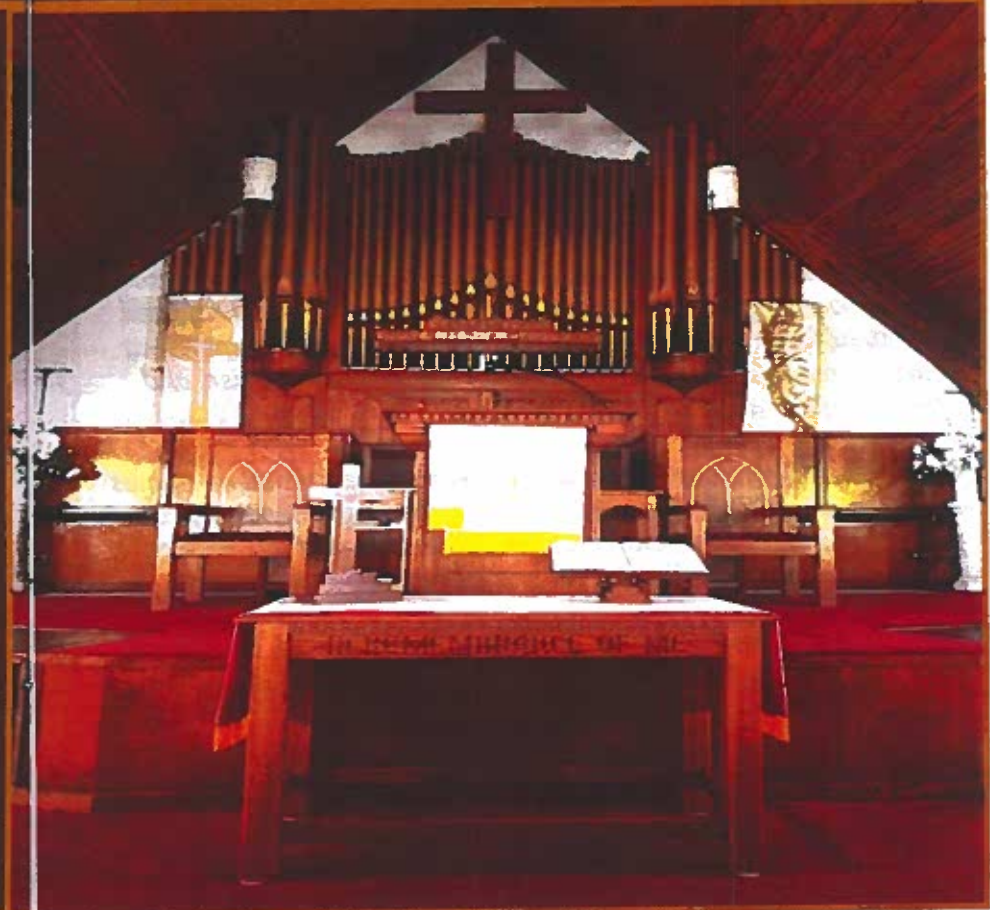
to our Church
A place for prayer and family



*First
Congregational
Church*

*Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston
Pastor*

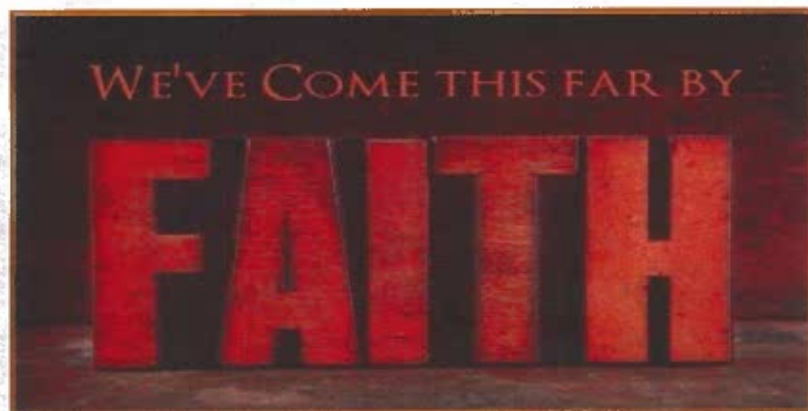
*2410 Creech Road
Raleigh, NC 27610*



August 9, 2026

11:00 am

Sunday Worship Celebration
Worship Leader—Rev. Dr. Paulette Kearney



- *CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Dr. Paulette Kearney
- *OPENING SELECTION..... "No Not One" #217
- *INVOCATION..... .. Congregation in Unison

Almighty and everlasting God, we gather before You in reverence and thanksgiving, acknowledging Your holiness, Your mercy, and Your steadfast love. As we enter this time of worship, prepare our hearts to receive Your Word, as we lift our voices in praise, and offer ourselves anew in faithful devotion.

Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, be present among us by the power of Your Holy Spirit. Guide our prayers, sanctify our praise, and unite us as one body in Your grace, that this service may be acceptable in Your sight and edifying to Your people.

May all that is said and sung, prayed and proclaimed, be offered to the glory of Your holy name. We commend this service to Your gracious care, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Denotes to stand**

- MORNING PRAYER..... Rev. Dr. Paulette Kearney
- CHORAL RESPONSE "Stay Under the Blood"
- OFFERTORY APPEAL &
PRAYER..... .. Rev. Dr. Paulette Kearney
- RECOGNITION OF VISITORS... Rev. Carolyn Ingram, Th.M.

Announcements

PREPARATION SELECTION
"Send Me, I'll Go"

- HOLY SCRIPTURE READING... ..Rev. Carolyn Ingram, Th.M.

Judges 6:7-14

PRE-SERMONIC MEDITATION SELECTION
"My Whole Life Has Changed"

- MESSAGERev. Carolyn Ingram, Th.M.

"GO IN THE STRENGTH YOU HAVE"

- SONG OF
INVITATION "Because He Lives"

- CALL TO
DISCIPLESHIP..... ..Rev. Carolyn Ingram, Th.M.

- * CLOSING SONG FCC Male Chorus

- * THE BENEDICTIONRev. Carolyn Ingram, Th.M.

Sister Vickie Debnam, Pianist
Brother Todd Freeman, Drummer
Male Chorus

***Denotes to stand**

A Declaration of God's Provision

The heaven, even the heavens, are the LORD's: but the earth hath he given to the children of men. (Psalms 115:16)

Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your grace. Thank You for knowing exactly what we need before we even ask. Thank You for never abandoning us or leaving our children begging for bread. Thank You for being our faithful source. We have always been able to depend on Your goodness. We take delight in You, Lord. We commit everything we do to You because we know we can trust You to help us. You direct our steps and You delight in every detail of our lives. Even though we sometimes stumble, we will never fall because You hold us by Your hand. We find comfort in knowing that the very hairs on our heads are all numbered. Therefore, we are not afraid because we know how much You value us.

We decree that we will keep the gates of provision open by giving cheerfully and not reluctantly. We know that if we continue to be obedient in our giving that You will generously provide all that we need. We declare that we will learn to do good by meeting the urgent needs of others. We confess that our love for You, Father, will not be overshadowed by a love for the material things Your goodness provides for us.

We believe that You will faithfully answer our prayers with awesome deeds. You crown the year with a bountiful harvest. Even the hard pathways overflow with abundance. We decree that You are our sun and shield, giving us grace and glory. You will withhold no good thing from us when we do what is right.

We praise You, Lord! How amazing are Your deeds! Everything You do reveals Your glory and majesty. We know Your greatness, Father; that You are greater than any other god. You do whatever pleases You throughout all heaven and earth, and on the seas and in their depths.

Your Name endures forever. Your fame is known to every generation. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

**FCC Prayer Ministry
Sister Annie Holloway**

INTERCESSORY



**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, Ms. Lisa Stewart
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)

Ms. Pauline Burton (Family Friend of Mrs. Lillian McNeill)

Mr. James Cox, (Father of Mr. Jesse Reynolds)

Mr. Dameon Everett, (Nephew of Mrs. Patsy Rowland)

Mr. Charlie Farnham (Family Friend of Mrs. Lillian McNeill)

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)**

Mrs. Mary Johnson, (Sister of Mrs. Lillian McNeill)

Dr. Nikki Johnson, (Friend of Mrs. Lillian McNeill)

Mr. Paul Lee (Husband of Deaconess Geraldine Lee)

Mr. Raymond Perkins (Brother of Deacon Grady Perkins)

Mr. John Poole, (Brother of Mrs. Cheryl Dendy)

Mrs. Carolyn Hick Perryman (Sister of Mr. Freddie Hicks)

Mrs. Elizabeth Smith (Cousin Mr. Jarvis Richardson)

PRAYER LIST

CELEBRATING FAITH. HONORING HISTORY. LIFTING OUR COMMUNITY.

FOURTH WARD GOSPEL EXTRAVAGANZA

Great Music. Rich History. One Powerful Celebration.



POWERFUL CHOIRS
Inspiring Gospel Music



OUR HISTORY
Honoring Our Legacy



OUR COMMUNITY
United in Faith



SUNDAY, AUGUST 23,
FROM 4:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M.



FLETCHER HALL
IN THE MARTIN MARIETTA CENTER
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
DOWNTOWN RALEIGH

ROOTED IN CHRIST | GROWING IN GRACE | REACHING IN LOVE



**FIRST
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH**
RALEIGH



SUNDAY
SCHOOL

Adults + Children

EVERY SUNDAY 9:30 AM



BIBLE
STUDY

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12TH 7:00

Let's Dig In together

A graphic for "COMMUNITY CONNECT" with a light pink background. At the top center is a logo of an open book with green leaves growing from it. To the right are icons of a pencil, an open book, and a graduation cap. Below the logo, the words "COMMUNITY CONNECT" are written in large, bold, black and green letters. Underneath, "Excellence in Education" is written in a cursive font. A black banner with white text says "SUNDAY, AUGUST 16TH". Below this, "11:00 AM" is written. Two circular portraits of men are shown. The man on the left is labeled "Pastor Rev. Dr. Al Leaston". The man on the right is labeled "Eddie Harden Principal of Southeast Raleigh Magnet High School". Between the portraits is a logo for "FCC First Congregational Church". To the right of the portraits is a vertical list of roles: TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATORS, PARENTS, VOLUNTEERS, and STUDENTS, each with a corresponding icon. To the left of the portraits is a blue mug with the words "TEACH INSPIRE IMPACT TRANSFORM" and a small plant. To the right is a globe on a stand and a stack of books with a sign that says "Every Role Every Impact Every Student". At the bottom, a black banner with white text says "INVESTING IN those who invest IN OTHERS." Below that, the address "First Congregational Church 2410 Creech Rd, Raleigh, NC 27610" is written.

**And I am sure of this,
that he who began
a good
work in you will bring it
to completion at the day of
Jesus Christ.**

PHILIPPIANS 1:6 ESV

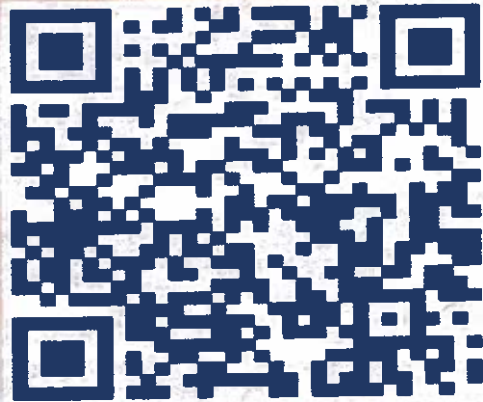
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

2410 Creach Road
Raleigh, NC 27610

Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston, Pastor

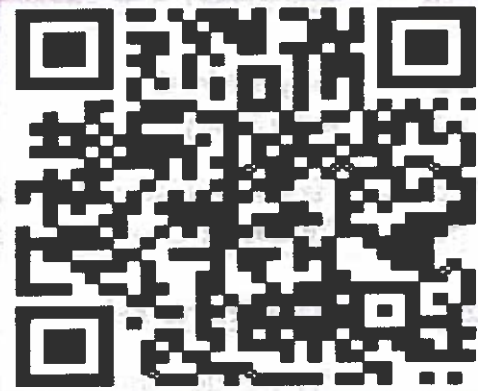


OFFERING / TITHE / SEED



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

FCC

Monday	10	5:00 pm	Male Chorus Rehearsal
Tuesday	11	5:00 pm 6:45 pm	Combined Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday	12	6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Prayer Meeting Bible Study
Thursday	13	1:00 pm 5:00 pm	Health Ministry Meeting Combined Choir Rehearsal
Friday	14	5:00 pm	Male Chorus Rehearsal
Saturday	15	9:00 am 10:00 am	Men's Fellowship Meeting Pauline Missionary Meeting
Sunday	16	9:30 am 11:00 am	Sunday School <i>Worship Celebration Sunday</i>

Quarterly Usher Meeting
(Immediately after today's service-August 9, 2026)

Rev. Dr. Paulette Kearney
Sunday, August 9, 2026

NOTES

[illegible]