



FIRST
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH

A PEOPLE
A PLACE
A PURPOSE

FAITH | COMMUNITY | PURPOSE

COMMUNITY CONNECT

Family & Friends

RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP

WORSHIP • FELLOWSHIP • BELONG TOGETHER

*You
Belong
Here!*

"Greet one
another with
a holy kiss.
All the churches
of Christ send
greetings."

ROMANS 16:16



ALL ARE
WELCOME



WORSHIP
TOGETHER



FELLOWSHIP
TOGETHER



BUILD A
BRIGHTER TOMORROW

SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 20TH

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
2410 CREECH RD, RALEIGH, NC

COME AS YOU ARE • BRING A FRIEND

*Stronger
Together*

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

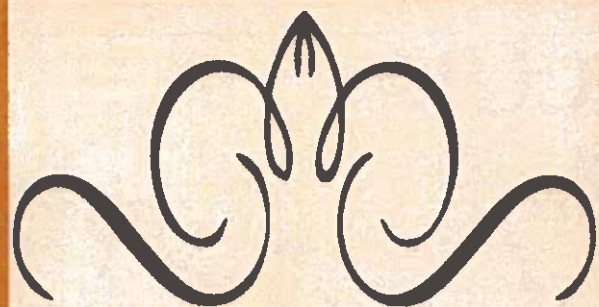
Office Telephone 919-832-4704

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



**FIRST
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH**

Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston
Pastor

**2410 Creech Rd
Raleigh, NC 27610**

NEW SERMON SERIES

PREPARING

FOR WHAT

GOD

Wants to Do



SEEK
GOD'S DIRECTION



PREPARE
YOUR HEART



POSITION
YOURSELF



TAKE
THE NEXT STEP



EXPECT
GOD TO MOVE

STARTING IN SEPTEMBER

POSITION YOUR HEART. PREPARE YOUR LIFE.

STEP INTO WHAT'S NEXT.

September 20, 2026

11:00 A.M.

Sunday Worship Celebration
Worship Leader — Deacon Grady Walston

*Enter into his gates with
thanksgiving,
and into his courts with praise:
be thankful unto him, and
bless his name.*

Psalm 100:4

*CALL TO WORSHIP Deacon Gray Walston

*OPENING SELECTION. "God Never Fails" #239

*INVOCATION. Congregation in Unison

Gracious and loving God, we come before You with thankful hearts on this special Family and Friends – Community Connect Sunday. We gather in Your presence with joy, grateful for the blessing of community, the strength of family, and the gift of friendship. Thank You for allowing us to share love, fellowship, encouragement, and faith with one another.

Lord, we thank You for the many ways You continue to bless us—seen and unseen, spoken and unspoken. Thank You for the doors You open, the burdens You carry, the grace You provide, and the mercy You extend each day.

Bless this service, O God. Bless every song, every prayer, every word spoken, and every heart gathered here. May this time together remind us that we are stronger when we walk together, love one another, and serve our community in Your name. Let our fellowship reflect Your goodness, and let our lives continue to be a testimony of Your continual blessings, not only in words, but also in the kindness, fellowship, and service we offer to one another.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

***Denotes to stand**

MORNING PRAYER Deacon Gray Walston

CHORAL RESPONSE "I Love You Lord, Today"

RECOGNITION OF
VISITORS Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston

Announcements

OFFERTORY
APPEAL & PRAYER Deacon Gray Walston

PREPARATION SELECTION "God, Said It"

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF BOOKS & BEARS
Youth Director Mr. William Walker

Pastoral Remarks
Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston

HOLY SCRIPTURE READING . . Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston
Mark 10:46 to 52

PRE-SERMONIC MEDITATION SELECTION
"So Satisfied"

SERMON

Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston

SONG OF INVITATION FCC Combined Choirs

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston

THE RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP

* CLOSING SONG "Let The Church Say, Amen"

* THE BENEDICTION Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston

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

***Denotes to stand**



Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Mrs. Lillar Barnes and family on the passing of her beloved husband, Mr. Barbara "Bobby" Barnes, on Wednesday, September 9, 2026.

A viewing will be held this afternoon from 1:00-5:0 pm at Trice Funeral Home, 127 N. West Street, Fuquay-Varina, NC

The Celebration of Life Service will be held on Monday, September 21, 2026, at noon, with visitation preceding the service from 11:30 a.m. until noon here at the church.

Please keep Mrs. Barnes and the entire family lifted in prayer during this time of sorrow, asking God to grant them comfort, strength, and peace in the days ahead.

Prayer for Revival and Awakening in Our Lives
Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you? Psalm 85:6

Heavenly Father, We come before you today, humbly, needy of your grace, praying for the power of your Holy Spirit to fill us afresh. We ask for your forgiveness in all the ways we've wandered so far from your presence. We need your healing and grace. We are desperate to have our hope restored in you. Thank you for reminding us you are always faithful and that you're constantly at work on behalf of your children – powerfully, completely, drawing us closer to you again.

Thank you for your mighty power that acts on behalf of your children. Out of your kindness, please extend to us your grace and freedom. Cover us with your protection. Empower us with your strength.

We ask for an awakening of your presence in our own lives and in the world around us, as never seen before.

FCC Prayer Ministry—Sister Annie Holloway

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***Mrs. Patricia Avery, Miss Carnetta Blakely,
Mrs. Jessle Freeman, Deaconess Lossle Hackett,
Deacon Donzell Hunter, Mrs. Yvonne Johnson,
Mrs. Amella Judd, Deaconess Geraldine Lee,
Mrs. Irene Marks, Mrs. Lillian McNeill, Ms. Lisa Stewart
Deaconess Beatrice Todd, Deaconess Victoria Walker***

Ms. Mary Allen, (Sister of Deacon Crinkle 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. Dameon Everett, (Nephew of Mrs. Patsy Rowland)

Mr. Charle 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)

Ms. Stephanie Knowlin, (Ms. Carnetta Blakely's Caregiver)

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 Hicks Perryman (Sister of Mr. Freddie Hicks)

Mrs. Elizabeth Smith (Cousin Mr. Jarvis Richardson)



REX MOBILE MAMMOGRAPHY PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS
for SCREENING MAMMOGRAMS



First Congregational Church

ANNUAL PINK TEA

Saturday

October 10, 2026

1:00 pm



**Breast
Cancer**

**Awareness
Month**

*October is Breast Cancer Awareness month.
The annual Pink Tea will be held on October 10.
Current medical information regarding t
he subject will be provided and
survivors of breast cancer
will be recognized.*

*We are also happy to announce that
First Congregational Church
will again e partnering with
UNC Rex Mammography Mobile Program
to offer screenings here at the church.*

*Registration forms for thoe interested can be found
on the table at the back of the church
today and next Sunday.*

*If you have any questions, please
contact*

**Dr. Hope Saulter
Health Ministry Coordinator**

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
PRESENTS

IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR *Revival*

3 NIGHTS • ONE PURPOSE • ONE POWERFUL GOD



WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 7

Rev. Dr.
**BANKOLE
AKINBINU**

BAPTIST GROVE
• CHOIR



THURSDAY
OCTOBER 8

Rev. Dr.
**HARRY L.
WHITE**

WATTS CHAPEL
• CHOIR



FRIDAY
OCTOBER 9

Rev. Dr.
**DARIAN
BOUIE**

FIRST BAPTIST
• CHOIR

POWERFUL PREACHING
ANointed WORSHIP
KINGDOM IMPACT

COME READY.
LEAVE CHANGED.

BRING A FRIEND
BRING YOUR FAITH
COME EXPECTING!

SERVICE BEGINS NIGHTLY
AT 7:00 PM

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 2410 CREECH RD., RALEIGH, NC 27610 @FCCRaleigh WWW.FCCRaleigh.ORG

Church family, get ready because Revival 2026 is almost here, and we are expecting a powerful, spirit-filled time in the Lord!

*Beginning **Wednesday, October 7**, we will welcome Rev. Dr. Bankole Akinbinu, Senior Pastor of Baptist Grove Church, along with the Baptist Grove Choir.*

*Then on **Thursday, October 8**, we will be blessed by Rev. Dr. Harry L. White, Jr., Senior Pastor of Watts Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, along with the Watts Chapel Choir.*

*And we will close out on Friday, **October 9**, with Rev. Dr. Darian C. Bouie, Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church of Raleigh, along with the First Baptist Choir.*

Three nights, three powerful preachers, and three dynamic choirs!

Each night promises to be an exciting time of worship, preaching, praise, and renewal in the presence of the Lord. So, invite your family, invite your friends, and make plans now to join us because it is going to be an incredible three nights as we come together expecting God to move in a powerful way!



WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

NEW MEMERS RECEIVING THE RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP

Stefan Ashford

(Children—King Ashford, Lella Ashford, Stefanie Ashford)

John Alexander Leaston

Katrice Leaston

(Julius Leaston)

Doniece Simeus

Steve Simeus

(Children—Mathaniel Simeus, Travis Simeus, & Elise Simeus)

Lisa Denise Stewart

Christopher Williams

Keith Williams



DID YOU KNOW?



BLACK MEN are at a Higher Risk for prostate cancer

Black men in the United States are more likely to be diagnosed with and to die from prostate cancer vs. men of other backgrounds. They are diagnosed at a younger age and with more advanced disease.



Know Your Risk for Prostate Cancer

WHAT TO KNOW

Prostate Cancer affects **1 in 8** men in his lifetime.



Men with a family history of prostate cancer may be **2x** as likely to be diagnosed.



1 in 5 Black men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer and are **2x** more likely to die of it.

Prostate cancer screening starts with a simple **blood test.**



WHAT TO DO



Assist a Loved One
Share our risk factor screening quiz at pcf.org/quiz

Get Moving
pcf.org/wellness



Visit pcf.org to learn more and take action



Hold a Family Meeting

Track your family cancer history at pcf.org/familytree



Get Educated
pcf.org/guides

PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS

September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.
The Health Ministry provided educational information on this subject to the congregation today.

We are also happy to share that Martin Street Baptist Church is providing a seminar on Prostate Cancer Awareness on Saturday, September 26. We encourage those who are interested to attend this event.

Empowering Men, Strengthening Families

North Carolina Minority Prostate Cancer
Awareness Action Team (NCMPCAAT)



Prostate Cancer Awareness Conference

Saturday, September 26, 2026
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Martin Street Baptist Church
1001 E. Martin Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

What to Expect:

- Expert Speaker Presentations
- Health Screening Education
- Patient Testimonials
- Q&A Session
- Breakout Session & Networking



Our mission is to promote education, awareness, advocacy, best practice treatment, and support services to empower individuals and families and reduce prostate cancer disparities.

**TO REGISTER
SCAN HERE**



BACK to SCHOOL Outreach

Thank you, church family, for your generous support of the Back To School Project.

Your gifts of school supplies will bless many children and help ease the burden for parents as their children begin the school year.

The project ends today.

God bless you for your kindness, love, and faithful giving.

Youth Director William Walker

Every Sunday @ 9:30 am for all ages
Sunday School

Wednesday, September 23rd @ 6:30

CORPORATE

Prayer Meeting

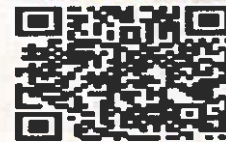


OFFERING / TITHES / SEED



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

UPCOMING EVENTS

This Month



September 21-27, 2026

Monday	21	11:30 am	Homegoing Service for <i>Barbara "Bobby" Barnes</i>
		5:00 pm	Male Chorus Rehearsal
Tuesday	22	6:45 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday	23	6:30 pm	Corporate Prayer Meeting
Thursday	24	12 pm	Senior Dy Out
		3:00 pm	Combined Choir Rehearsal
Friday	25	5:00 pm	Male Chorus
Saturday	26		
Sunday	27	9:30 am	Sunday School
		11:00 am	<i>Worship Celebration</i> <i>Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston</i>



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