

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

2410 Creech Road—Raleigh, NC 27610

Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston, Pastor

Rev. Donald R. Ingram, Sr., Pastor Emeritus

Office Telephone 919-832-4704—Office Fax 919-832-5625

Email—fccral@bellsouth.net and Website—fccraleigh.org

CHURCH CALENDAR

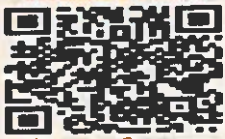
Monday	12	11:00 am 5:00 pm	Funeral-Maude M. Bell Male Chorus Rehearsal
Tuesday	13	5:00 pm 6:45 pm	Combined Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday	14	6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Prayer Meeting Bible Study
Thursday	15	5:00 pm	Combined Choir Rehearsal
Friday	16	5:00 pm	Male Chorus Rehearsal
Saturday	17	9:30 am 10:00 pm	Men's Fellowship Pauline Missionary
Sunday	18	9:30 am 11:00 am 2:00 pm	Sunday School Worship Celebration <i>Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston</i> Progressive Missionary Church





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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Pastor Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston

2410 Creech Road

Raleigh, NC

KNOW THAT

THE LORD

HE IS GOD

Psalm
100:3

October 11, 2026

11:00 A.M.

Sunday Worship Celebration
Worship Leader — Deacon LaMonte Jones

•CALL TO WORSHIP *Deacon LaMonte Jones*

*OPENING
SELECTION... *"Hold To God's Unchanging Hand" #248*

*INVOCATION..... *Congregation in Unison*

*Gracious and loving God,
we thank You for bringing us together.
We have come to worship You,
to hear Your Word,
and to be renewed by Your Spirit.
May everything, we say and do
bring glory and honor to Your name.
Have Your way in this place,
and have Your way in us.
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.*

MORNING PRAYER *Deacon LaMonte Jones*

CHORAL RESPONSE *"Stay Under The Blood"*

RECOGNITION OF
VISITORS *Rev. Dr. Paulette Kearney*

Announcements

OFFERTORY
APPEAL & PRAYER *Deacon LaMonte Jones*

** Denotes To Stand*

PREPARATION

SELECTION *"I Need You To Hold My Hand"*

REMARKS

Rev. Dr. Paulette Kearney

HOLY SCRIPTURE

READING *Rev. Dr. Paulette Kearney*
Psalms 100

**PRE-SERMONIC. MEDITATION
SELECTION**

"Home When The Roll Is Called"

SERMON

"Living In The Overflow Of Revival"
Rev. Dr. Paulette Kearney

*SONG OF INVITATION *Male Chorus*

CALL TO
DISCIPLESHIP *Rev. Dr. Paulette Kearney*

*CLOSING SELECTION. *"Let The Church Say Amen"*



** Denotes To Stand*

Upcoming Financial Workshop Sponsored by the Finance Ministry

Financial Literacy

Teaching Fundamental Financial Concepts To Empower FCC And Its Members To Make Informed Church and Personal Financial Decisions

Details

- Saturday, October 24, 2026 | 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- Location: Charlotte Green Fellowship Hall
- Exclusive for FCC Members
- Led by Jaye Graham, founder of Anchored Success Accounting & Management Services

Key Topics



Stopping the Leaks:
Eliminating wasteful spending



Goals vs. Activities:
Better ministry planning



Debt-Free Living:
Personal finance models



Operating Reserves:
Emergency funds

To attend, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board by Wednesday, Oct 22, 2026.



First Congregational Church's Fall 2026 Food Drive October 11, 2026 – November 1, 2026



First Congregational Church will begin the Fall Food Drive on October 11, 2026 and conclude it on November 1, 2026. We are partnering with the Food Bank of North Carolina in their efforts to relieve hunger. Begin now to pray about how you will support this endeavor to help those who need food. Please bring your items to the church Tuesday through Friday during church office hours, Wednesday nights during the Prayer Ministry and Bible Study Hour and Sunday mornings. Place your items on the tables in the James Stroud room. Thank you in advance for your generous giving!

FOOD BANK OF CENTRAL & EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA FOOD DRIVE MOST NEEDED ITEMS INCLUDE:

- Canned Fruits and Vegetables
- Canned Meats (chicken, salmon, tuna, pork, etc.)
- Canned Beans and Dried Beans (pinto, black, kidney, chickpeas, baked beans, etc.)
- Canned Soup (tomato, beef stew, chicken noodle, etc.)
- Canned Dairy (evaporated milk, sweetened condensed milk, coconut milk, etc.)
- Cereal, Oatmeal and Pastas (all kinds of cereal, spaghetti, mac and cheese, bowtie, etc.)
- Rice (brown, white, wild, instant, etc.)
- Lentils (green, red, brown, etc.)
- Nut butters (peanut, almond, hazelnut spread, etc.) Nuts, seeds, trail mix, and granola bars
- Baking (flour, masa, cocoa, sugar, etc.) and Oils (olive, canola, vegetable, corn, etc.)
- Herbs & Seasonings (pepper, garlic, onion, paprika, Italian, oregano, salt, cinnamon, etc.)
- Dried Fruit (raisins, apricots, raisins, prunes, etc.)
- Beverages (instant tea, coffee, drink mixes, juice, water, shelf-stable milk, etc.)

Per The Food Bank: Due to food safety regulations, we ask that you do not donate food items that are unsealed, loose items without ingredients listed, glass containers, expired items, or loose glass or plastic jars of baby food.

These items must be discarded.



39th Homecoming Celebration!

**Join us on Sunday, October 18, 2026, at 2:00 PM,
as we fellowship with our neighbors at
Progressive Missionary Baptist Church
In celebration of their 39th Church Homecoming!**

**Our very own
Pastor, Rev Dr. J. Alexander Leaston
will serve as the guest speaker,
and the
Cunningham-Ingram Gospel Choir
will provide the music f
or this joyous occasion.
Come join us for an afternoon
of worship,
fellowship, and celebration
as we honor 39 years of God's faithfulness!
We look forward to seeing you there!**

A Prayer Declaring God's Protection

**The Lord keeps you from all harm and watches over your life.
The Lord keeps watch over you as you come and go, both now
and forever." Psalm 121:7-8 (NLT)**

Almighty Father, thank You for watching over us day and night. Thank You for assigning Your angels to guard our comings and goings. Thank You for keeping Your promise to guard and protect us. We love You, Lord! You are our strength. You are our rock, our fortress, and our Savior, in whom we find protection. You are our shield; the power that saves us. We will call upon You, for You are worthy of praise, and You will save us from our enemies. We bless Your Holy Name because You arm us with strength and You make our way perfect. Father, we know that it is Your right hand that supports us. Through Your help, we are made great.

Beloved Father, the world we live in is full of dangers and pitfalls, many of which we cannot even see. But, as the people of God, we declare that our eyes will continue to look for our help to come from You. As a Church Family, we commit to always pray for one another so that we will remain inside Your hedge of protection at all times. We confess that we will lie down and sleep in peace because it is You alone who will keep us safe. We declare that You are our hiding place where we can be protected from trouble. Lord, as we go to our various daily destinations, we will trust You to guide us along the best pathway for life. We will trust You to advise us and watch over us.

Holy Spirit, where would we be without You? It is You who warns us when we are in danger. You help us make wise choices that lead to life and safety. Help us stay consistent in communicating with our family members, co-workers, and friends so we all look out for one another as we should.

All glory to You alone, who is God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord. All glory, majesty, power, and authority are Yours before all time, and in the present, and beyond all time! In Jesus' Name, Amen

PRAYER MINISTRY – SISTER ANNIE HOLLOWAY



Condolences to Deacon Arnold Bell
in the
passing of his beloved mother,
Maude M. Bell

The Celebration of Life Service for
Maude M. Bell
will be held on Monday, October 12, 2026,

A viewing will be held at the church prior
to the service,
beginning at 10:30 a.m.,

followed by visitation with the family
from 11 o'clock to 11:30 a.m.

The Celebration of Life Service
will follow.

Please continue to lift the Bell family in prayer
during this time.

Lea Funeral Home has been entrusted with the service.

with deepest
Sympathy
in the loss of your
Sister



Church Family, it is with heavy hearts and deep sympathy that we
share the passing of our dear sister, **Deaconess Lottie Hackett**, on
Thursday evening, October 8, 2026.

For decades, **Deaconess Hackett** faithfully served First Congrega-
tional Church with devotion, grace, and love. Her steadfast com-
mitment to our church family leaves a cherished legacy, and her
presence will be deeply missed. We extend our heartfelt condo-
lences to her family, loved ones, and all whose lives she touched.
May we hold them close in prayer and surround them with com-
fort during this time of sorrow.

"Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are
at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (For we walk
by faith, not by sight:) We are confident, I say, and willing rather
to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord."

— 2 Corinthians 5:6-8

Arrangements will be announced upon receipt. Please continue to
keep Deaconess Hackett's family in your prayers.



*Join us next Sunday, October 18, at 11:00 AM
for Community Connect:
Revival Sunday at First Congregational Church!*

*As we come out of three powerful nights of revival,
we want to keep the fire burning
and
the spirit of renewal alive!*

*Invite a friend, bring your family,
and
share this experience with someone you
would love
to see encouraged, renewed, and strengthened
in their faith.*

INTERCESSORY PRAYER LISTING

*Mrs. Patricia Avery, Miss Carnetta Blakely,
Mrs. Jessie Freeman, Deacon Donzell Hunter,
Mrs. Yvonne Johnson, Mrs. Amelia Judd,
Deaconess Geraldine Lee, 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. 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. Daisier 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)

*Leaston
Anniversary
Celebration*

John Alexander **26** *Katrice*



**Happy 26th Wedding Anniversary to our
Pastor, Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston & First Lady Katrice Leaston
as they celebrate their 26th Wedding Anniversary.**

**Today, we joyfully celebrate 26 years of love, faith,
and commitment as we wish our beloved Pastor and First Lady a
Happy Wedding Anniversary!**

**We thank God for their beautiful example of love, partnership, and
faithfulness throughout the years. First Congregational Church joins
together in wishing them continued blessings, happiness, good
health, and many more wonderful years together. May God continue
to bless your marriage and the love you share!**

*Thank
you*

**The First Congregational
Church 2026 Revival Committee
extends our heartfelt thanks to
everyone who helped make
this revival
a blessed and
meaningful experience.**

**Above all, we give all honor, praise, and glory to our Lord
and Savior Jesus Christ for His presence and for the bless-
ings He poured out upon those who joined us, both in per-
son and online.**

**We are sincerely grateful for every prayer, every act of ser-
vice, every word of encouragement, and every expression
of support.**

**As we move forward, let us continue to fan the flames of
Christian love, genuine fellowship, heartfelt forgiveness,
and faithful service to the Lord. May the gifts God has
placed within each of us burn brightly—not only during
revival, but in our homes, our church, our community, and
wherever He leads us.**

**May we remain encouraged, united in faith, and steadfast
in sharing the love of Christ. Thank you for worshiping,
serving, and rejoicing with us. May the flame continue to
burn in every heart.**

**With sincere gratitude and Christian love,
The First Congregational Church 2026 Revival Committee**



**Deaconess Emma Dorssett,
Deacon Emeritus Donzell Hunter,
Rev. Dr. J. Alexander Leaston,
Sister Lillian McNeill, Deacon Grady Perkins,
and Deacon Grady Walston**