



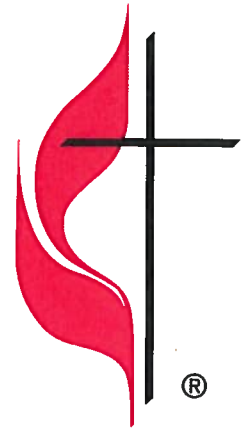
CONOVER
FIRST UNITED
METHODIST

Our Mission:

Bring Them In...

Build Them Up...

Send Them Out!



The Weekly Newsletter of First United Methodist Church, Conover

December 31, 2019

THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED
Winter Sermon Series
January 12 through March 1

Everyone is looking for pathways in life: pathways to success, pathways to happiness, pathways to influence, pathways to a long life. Yet why do so many never find what they are searching for?? Why do so many end up in other places they never dreamed?? Does Scripture address these issues? Yes it does.

So, beginning January 12, we will search the Scriptures to discover the **Wisdom** that God's Word gives to us to make right choices and take the right pathways. For only these lead to what our hearts desire.

January 12	....."Intersections of Life"	Psalm 1, Matthew 7
January 19	....."Portrait of a Fool"	Proverbs 17, 18, 22
January 26	....."Know God or No God"	Ecclesiastes 1
February 2	..... Communion Sunday	
February 9	....."Looking for Success in all the Wrong Places"	Ecclesiastes 2
February 16	....."Seasons of Life" Part 1	Ecclesiastes 3
February 23	....."Seasons of Life" Part 2	Ecclesiastes 3
March 1	....."Coming Home"	Ecclesiastes 12

Dr. Gary

PRAYERS, PRAISES AND NEEDS



Let Us Pray...

As an ongoing part of our Nurturing Ministry, we are asking all members of our church to pray for six specific families. Each week we will identify a different group of six families as we work our way through our church roll. Those with an asterisk are non-members. The families for this week are:

Clara Hyatt
Jim & J.T. Igims
David Ikerd
Mike & Greta Induni
Bonnie Ingle
Patsy Isaac

MEMORIALS **General Fund**

In memory of Betty Shell by:
Circle #2
Bill & Sue Smith

Matthew Bolick Scholarship Fund

An anonymous donation has been made in memory of Matthew Bolick.

Miracle Moms' Ministry

In memory of their grandson, Ethan Kelly James by:
Will & Sue James

HONORARIUMS **General Fund**

In honor of Jon Rogers on his solo performance by:
Mary Rudisill

Matthew Bolick Scholarship Fund

An anonymous donation has been made in honor of Betty Moritz.

MUSIC FUND

In honor of the Chancel Choir for their performance of a wonderful Christmas Cantata by:
Mary Rudisill

THANK YOU

Dear Church Family:

We want to extend our sincere thank you to all members of First United Methodist Church Conover, our Pastors and staff for all the support, food, cards, calls and visits that blessed us during Ron's severe back problem, surgery and recovery (still continues today). All the prayers were felt, each and everyone, through the surgeons' hands and opening my eyes afterwards to NO PAIN! Prayers work. We want to extend a special thanks to our beloved Sunday school class, Sharpe Bible Class, and Methodist Men for being with us every step of the way.

Love to all,
Ron & Dottie Harris

THANK YOU

Dear Church Family:

Your prayers, love and expressions of sympathy in the recent loss of my Mom have been overwhelming. I sincerely thank you and appreciate each of you.

May God's blessing be with each of you as you have been a blessing to me.

Sincerely
Keith Hall

THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone for sending me the beautiful Christmas cards. I have thoroughly enjoyed looking at them and reading the sweet messages.

Grace Whitlock

THANK YOU

To FUMCC,
THANK YOU! Thank you for the beautiful bridal shower. To say we are blessed is an understatement. Most of all, thank you for the support, encouragement, love, and laughter you have contributed to our lives. We love you guys!

Chelsea & Hernan

NEWS TO USE

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Jan. 1** Office Closed for New Year's Day
- Jan. 2 & 3** Preschool Closed
- Jan. 4** 8am-3pm "Hoops" games (CFLC)
- Jan. 5** Van - Michele Moritz's SS class
- Jan. 7** 7-8pm Disciple 1 Orientation (CFLC)
- Jan. 8** 6-9pm "Hoops" practices (CFLC)
- Jan. 9** 12-9pm Girl Scouts (Cookies - Stage)
- Jan. 9** 7pm Scout Roundtable (CFLC)
- Jan. 10** 6-11am UMM - J.T. Russell (Kit./Classroom)
- Jan. 10** 6:30pm Girl Scouts (CFLC)
- Jan. 11** 8am-3pm "Hoops" games (CFLC)
- Jan. 11** 2-5pm UMM - St. Stephens FD (Kit.-catering)
- Jan. 12** 3:30-7pm Youth Teams & Meetings
(Sanctuary/Gray House/CFLC)
- Jan. 12** 5-6:30pm Youth-in-Training (Gray House)

PASTOR'S QUIZ

As an example of faith, Hebrews recalls the actions of



- a. Adam
- b. Eve
- c. Cain
- d. Abel

(The correct answer is on the back of the newsletter.)

NEW ADDRESS

Pete & Phyllis Robinson
10103 War Admiral Lane
Berlin, MD 21811

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION Sunday, January 26 4:00 PM

If you have been visiting our church and are even thinking about becoming a member, Gary would like to invite you to a "new member orientation" to be held on Sunday, January 26 at 4:00 in the "Crossroads" classroom. At this meeting, we will talk about the **Beliefs, Structure and History** of the United Methodist Church, as well as how you can make a difference through the many avenues of service offered at FUMC. You may not be sure about membership yet and need more information. Well, this meeting is designed to help you make that decision. There will be time for questions you may have as well. If you plan to attend, we ask that you reserve your place by calling the church office at 828-464-4635 or send an email to fumcc@fumconover.org.



PLEDGE CARDS, TIME & TALENT SHEETS

If you haven't already done so, you can turn in your Pledge Cards and Time & Talent Sheets to the church office Monday - Thursday 8am-12 noon and 1-4pm. Please call if you need any of these. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence December 22, 2019
Sunday School
180

Worship:	
8:45 am	158
11:00 am	165
Live Streaming	<u>20</u>
Total	343

God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund	\$ 14,156.38
<i>(Needed weekly for budget: \$12,180)</i>	
Capital Campaign (Shell Prop.)	910.00
Children's Bank	19.00
"Hoops for Christ"	290.00
Matthew Bolick Scholarship Fund	800.00
Music Fund	<u>50.00</u>
Total	\$ 16,225.38

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence December 29, 2019
Sunday School
93

Worship:	
8:45 am	107
11:00 am	110
Live Streaming	<u>19</u>
Total	236

God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund	\$ 29,999.50
<i>(Needed weekly for budget: \$12,180)</i>	
Capital Campaign (Shell Prop.)	735.00
Children's Bank	8.50
Matthew Bolick Scholarship Fund	1,000.00
Miracle Moms' Ministry	100.00
Preschool Fund	<u>2,000.00</u>
Total	\$ 33,843.00

Attendance at Christmas Eve Services:

4:00pm -	239
6:00pm -	<u>171</u>
Total	= 410

First United Methodist Church
 410 First Avenue North
 Conover, NC 28613
Return Service Requested

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GUESTS for Sunday, Dec. 22, 2019
 Kathy, Christian & Samantha Leonard; Hernan Puqa-Luna; Christy Jeffries; Jack Sigmon; Saul Pavlinsky, Jr.; Quinn Cloninger; Scottie Corriher; Peyton Goins; Adam Barrows; Joni Thornburg; Logan & Lauren Vaughan; Candace & Keith Brown; Caroline & Michelle Long; Andy & Chloe Thompson; Emmett & Jane Wike; Rhonda Pavlik & family; Chuck & Aaron Anderson; John & Cathi Gann; Mark & Lynn Murphy; Keith & Susan Tucker; Hank Beck; Joanie, Cass & Heather Taliaferro; Tammy Nine.

GUESTS for Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019
 Larry & Cindy Cook; Amber LeGoullon; Zoe & Halle Paige; Sandi Young; Chuck & Karen Anderson; Wright & Patt Arb; Haley Beech; John & Margie Fumage; Chloe Thompson; Jack Sigmon; J.D. & Cindy Heard; Samantha, Christian & Kathy Leonard; Jared & Kelly Hallman; Cheryl Gragg; Adam, Erin, Landon, Harper, Delaney & Braden Clawson; Keithette & Greg Quarrick; Hank Beck; Joanie & Cass Taliaferro; Gary & Sharon Keuper; Keith & Susan Tucker; Colbie, Bodie & Kristen Dwiggin; Hernan Puqa-Luna.

DISCIPLE 1 SIGN-UP
BEGINNING TUESDAY, JAN. 7, 2020

Pastor Gary will be offering the Disciple 1 Bible Study beginning Tuesday, January 7, 2020. Come to the CFLC at 7pm for the Orientation. Classes will be each week on Tuesday night from 7-8:30pm until May 5th. It will continue on the New Testament beginning in the Fall on Sept. 8th. You may call the church office at (828) 464-4635 to register.

Thank you.

Answer to this week's Pastor's Quiz:
d. Abel (Hebrews 11:4)

By Our Service January 5, 2020

- Ushers:**
 8:45 AM Keith Hall
 11:00 AM Adam Johnson
- Greeters:**
 8:45 AM Tommie Hall
 11:00 AM Melissa Johnson
- Acolyte:**
 8:45 AM Jarrett Rheeder
 11:00 AM Kaela Briggs
- Nursery Workers:**
 8:45 AM Diane Howard
 11:00 AM Margaret Garrison

Thank you Nursery Committee Coordinator for
 January, Laurette Rheeder.

CHURCH STAFF

- Pastor Dr. Gary Royals
 (pastor@fumconover.org)
- Assistant Pastor of Faith Dev. Charmaine Van Rooyen
 (apfd@fumconover.org)
- Administrative Assistant Robin Mays
 (fumcc@fumconover.org)
- Music Director Jonathan Rogers
 (jsrogers99@gmail.com)
 (828) 244-7019
- Pianist Shannon Rogers
 (srog101@gmail.com)
 (828) 244-6124
- Organist Alex Wilson
 (organistfumconover@gmail.com)
 (803) 810-3396
- Preschool Director Ginger Doub (466-3158)
 (ps@fumconover.org)
- Lead Nursery Worker Pilar Tobar
- Custodian Luisa Toro Bryan
 (828) 464-4635
- Church Office (828) 464-3423
- Facsimile www.fumconover.org
- Website: (828) 464-4635-church
- Pastor's phone numbers (704) 787-0598-cell
- Pastor's address 2161 Augusta National Drive
 Denver, NC 28037
- Assistant Pastor's phone # (781) 913-4415 - cell
- Assistant Pastor's address 1307 8th Avenue NW
 Conover, NC 28613

MORE NEWS TO USE

LADIES' LUNCH BUNCH

Wednesday, Jan. 8th
11:00 AM

DaVinci's
2968 N. Center Street
Hickory, NC 28601
(828) 328-6101

The Queen Esthers' circle will meet
after lunch at 1:00pm at the church
in the Clark Classroom.



THANK YOU To all CHRISTMAS DECORATORS

I would like to thank all those who helped to decorate the church for Christmas. With Thanksgiving being late this year and Christmas right on it's heels, there was a short time span to get everything done. I just appreciate those who were committed and took the time to help. It was a good time to visit and fellowship with each other as well.

Wishing you all a HAPPY NEW YEAR in 2020!
Thank you again and to God be the glory!

Michelle Sierzenga.



SYMPATHY NOTE

Barbara Bolibrzuch of Skaneateles, New York and sister of Andrea Long, died Sunday, December 22, 2019.

Relatives and friends may call at the Colonial Memorial Chapels, Inc., 3003 South Park Ave., Lackawanna, NY, Thursday, Dec. 26th from 2-8pm, with a Mass of Christian Burial, Friday, Dec. 27th at Our Lady of Victory Basilica at 10:30am.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Andrea and the family during this sad time.

SYMPATHY NOTE

Vine Hobart Shepherd, age 88 and father of Jerry Shepherd, died Wednesday, December 25, 2019 at Carolina Caring in Newton.

A Celebration of Life service was held Monday, December 30, 2019 at 2pm at Catawba Funeral Home with Pastor Allen McCoy officiating. Burial followed at Catawba Memorial Park. The family received friends from 1-1:45pm prior to the service.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Jerry, Terry, and the family during this sad time.

SYMPATHY NOTE

Lelia Brower, age 77 and sister of Debbie Royals, died Tuesday, December 24, 2019 in High Point, NC.

Cumby Family Funeral Service in Archdale, NC, is servicing the family. Arrangements are incomplete at the time this Newsletter was printed.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Debbie, Dr. Gary and the family during this sad time.

SYMPATHY NOTE

Carter Council Sanders, age 79 and uncle of Keith Hall, died Monday, December 23, 2019 at Shaire Center in Lenoir.

A graveside service was held Saturday, December 28, 2019 at 1pm at Wildwood Cemetery conducted by his nephew, John Bishop.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Keith, Tommie and the family during this sad time.

NEWEST BAPTIZED MEMBER OF FUMCC SUNDAY, DEC. 22, 2019



OUR NEWEST BAPTIZED MEMBER

**Saiylor Anne Spencer-Wooten
403 5th Street NW
Conover, NC 28613**

**Pictured left to right: Zander & Samantha Spencer;
Saiylor Anne Spencer-Wooten, Preston Wooten, Anne Spencer,
grandmother; and Alice Spencer, great grandmother.**