



CONOVER  
FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST

***Our Mission:***  
***Bring Them In...***  
***Build Them Up...***  
***Send Them Out!***



*The Weekly Newsletter of First United Methodist Church, Conover*

*March 31, 2020*

Dear Church Family,

Many of you have reached out to ask how you can continue to support the church, even though we cannot be together physically. Thank you!

Even though, our church is financially sound at this time, all committee chairs of the church council have been asked to minimize expenses in preparation of budget reductions for the remainder of the year if that becomes necessary. Hopefully this will not be necessary but giving has been down the last several weeks and right now we do not know how long the coronavirus may be with us and what impact it may have on the economy & church offerings. Likely, offerings are down due to not being able to give as we normally have. For this reason, we point out various giving options.

A lot of us like the physical act of dropping an envelope into the offering plate on Sundays. It is a symbol of our obedience, gratitude and trust. We can continue to "drop our offering into the plate" by any of the following methods.

1. **Mail a Check or Money Order** – The church will continue to be open for essential functions and will receive and deposit your checks. If you need stamps, the post office will still be open, and many grocery stores also sell them, just ask at the register. In lieu of mailing your check, you can drive by the church anytime during the week and drop off your offering.
2. **Online Bill Pay** – You can set FUMC Conover up as a payee on your bank's portal or app if you use online banking. This will allow you to set up regular contributions to be sent automatically on a schedule you select OR you can use it to send in donations whenever you choose.

The address and phone number are below if you choose to mail a check or use online bill pay options.

**First United Methodist Church Conover**  
410 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N  
Conover, NC 28613  
(828) 464-4635

**Give online via credit/debit card through the UMC Western NC Conference Website** – This method of giving is the only one where the church **does not** receive 100% of your donation. There is a convenience fee (2-3%) assessed by credit card companies that comes out of the donation. You can choose to cover the fee by increasing your donation by that amount, but that is not mandatory.

The website for online giving is: <https://www.wnccumc.org/online-donations-to-churches>

This is a secure portal and donor information is not retained.

When you get to the website, you will need to enter the following information:

Church Name:	First United Methodist Church Conover
City:	Conover
District:	Catawba Valley
Pastor's Name:	Gary Royals

We are the Church and by His abundant Grace and Mercy, we will get through this!  
The Finance Committee

# \*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. The families for this week are:

Emily & Daniel Moore  
 Johnny & Denise Moose  
 Kyle Moritz  
 Lee, Sr. & Betty Morita  
 Lee, Jr. & Michele Moritz  
 Michael, Debbie & Erin Moritz

## IN / OUT OF HOSPITAL

None

## MEMORIAL Organ Fund

In memory of Don Barbersek by:  
 Bob & Lois Goodson



## DON'T FORGET OUR MEMBERS IN THE NURSING FACILITIES & OUR HOMEBOUND!

Pauline Parker - Conover Nursing & Rehab  
 (Room 316);

Rick Parker - Catawba Valley Living at  
 Rock Barn (Room 107)  
 4174 Shook Road  
 Claremont, NC 28610

LaVerna Wilson  
 4801 Edwards Mill Rd.  
 Raleigh, NC 27612-4417

Betty Fisher - Catawba Living at Rock Barn  
 (Room 200)

4174 Shook Road  
 Claremont, NC 28610

Nell Johnson  
 Kingston Residence  
 904 2nd Street NE, Apt. 109  
 Hickory, NC 28601  
 (828) 328-9920 - landline  
 (828) 228-7396 - cell

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Betty Moritz, 103 County Home Road  
 Conover, NC 28613

Dolores Setzer PO Box 1237  
 Conover, NC 28613

If you know of any homebound members that need to be on our list, please contact the church office at (828) 464-4635.

## NEWS FROM ECCCM

Pastor & Congregation,

Thank you so much for volunteering with us last month! Your church worked a total of 121.5 hours with 6 volunteers during February 2020.

If anyone in your congregation would like to volunteer with us regularly, please contact Allen Sherrill at (828) 465-1702 or via email at [a.sherrill@ecccm.org](mailto:a.sherrill@ecccm.org).

Thank you again for all of your hard work!

Allen Sherrill,  
 Director of Food Pantry Operations



Please remember your birthdays and anniversaries this Sunday by bringing by your offerings or mailing them in to the church at 410 1st Avenue North, Conover, NC 28613, or online via the instructions on the front of the Newsletter. Please give \$.10 for every year old and \$.25 for every year married. This is to help the children's church bank.

# NEWS TO USE

## WORSHIP

Worship with us Sundays at 10:30am by viewing our livestream at <http://www.fumccconover.org/live> or on our Facebook page by searching for First United Methodist Church of Conover.

## PASTOR'S QUIZ



The "multitude of sins" is covered, wrote Peter, by

- a. faith
- b. charity
- c. hate
- d. meekness

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

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence March 29, 2020  
Sunday School  
N/A

Worship:  
Live Streaming 140 Households  
Total 350

### God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund	\$ 22,233.64
<i>(Needed weekly for budget: \$12,596)</i>	
Capital Campaign (Shell Prop.)	50.00
Organ Fund	50.00
UMCOR (Disaster Relief)	<u>735.00</u>
Total	\$ 23,068.64



## **"The Virus that (wanted) to Steal Easter"**

Everywhere we turn there is news on the COVID-19 virus epidemic. I fear we might miss out on the most glorious of all Christian Celebrations! Our children did not get to participate in the Easter Celebration. We have to wait until a later date to enjoy a beautiful musical celebration of Easter and our much talked about Prayer Walk, "Journey to Jerusalem." Many of us will not be able to attend or host family Easter Sunday dinners. Can this virus steal our Easter? ONLY if we allow it.

On the third day after His crucifixion, angels spoke to the women at the empty tomb, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said." Matthew 28:5

Hebrews 13:8 reminds us that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." So, our Christ is still risen, and we still get to celebrate this in 2020.

Start your celebration by joining us for the Palm Sunday message by Pastor Gary this Sunday at 10:30 am. Use Holy Week to give thanks to our Lord God for the gift of eternal life through His Son, Jesus Christ. Pray for one another for protection and well-being.

Parents, I encourage you to make Easter an exciting journey for your young children. Tell the story of Jesus' death and resurrection in a creative way. Think Scavenger Hunt, obstacle course, puppet show or message in a bottle! Post your ideas on Facebook so that we can all be inspired!

In these last weeks of Lent, I encourage you to hold on to the promise of Jesus in Matthew 28, "I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Prayers,  
**Charmagne**



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

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Conover, NC

**GUESTS for Sunday, Mar. 29, 2020:**

140 households viewed by live-streaming at  
2.5 persons per household = 350

**PROTECTION AGAINST COVID-19**

Church family,

Coronavirus is with us and could be around for the next few weeks. Here are some steps that may help you avoid or reduce your exposure to COVID-19.

**To protect yourself, you can:**

- Clean your hands often, preferably with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Avoid close contact with someone who is sick; has traveled to one of CDC designated level 2 or 3 countries or has been diagnosed positive with the coronavirus.
- **Stay home if you are sick or have been exposed.**
- Cover coughs and sneezes.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that people touch frequently.

**Resources for more information about COVID-19:**

Centers for Disease Control (CDC) website  
North Carolina Coronavirus Hotline:  
1-866-462-3821

South Carolina Centers for Disease Control:  
1-800-232-4635

Answer to this week's Pastor's Quiz:

*b. charity (1 Peter 4:8)*

**All Events & Meetings have  
been cancelled until further  
notice.**

**We will reassess and  
communicate after  
April 30, 2020.**

**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

First UMC  
**Birthdays**

April 2020

Who = (everyone except removed); Filter = Birthday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>5</b> Brittany Carver Rylee Garrison	<b>6</b> Bryson Lowdermilk	<b>7</b> James Zehmer	<b>8</b> Jeanette Davis	<b>2</b> Eddie Henderson	<b>3</b> Brandon Miller Suzanne Spencer	<b>11</b> Jan Barbersek
<b>12</b> Terry Shepherd	<b>13</b> Haley Beech Jimmy Hollar Brandie Tucker Jane Wike	<b>14</b> Behr Jones Wade Taplin	<b>15</b> Natasha Bunton Cathy Choppa	<b>9</b> Alice Spencer Alan Thornburg	<b>10</b> Drew Danner Greg Reed	<b>18</b> Aaron Little Leta Tucker
<b>19</b> Michael Copeland	<b>20</b> Baker Yount	<b>21</b> Owen Gilleland Melissa Johnson Elbert Parris Crystin Pittman Clay Rockett		<b>16</b> Carol Kistler	<b>17</b> Logan Spencer	
<b>26</b> Gray Doub	<b>27</b> Evan Matson Greg Monk		<b>29</b> Michael Goode	<b>23</b> Tristan Zinkhan	<b>24</b> Daniel Moore	

First UMC

**Wedding Anniversaries**

April 2020

Who = (everyone except removed); Filter = Wedding

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>6</b> Robert and Jaunita Whisnant	<b>7</b> Dale and Rebekah Lafone		<b>2</b> Harold and Ruthie Thornburg		<b>11</b> Ray and Pam Penley
<b>19</b> Bob and Lois Goodson Brad and Kim Little	<b>20</b> Billy and Beth Boston		<b>22</b> Steve and Michele Danner	<b>16</b> Larry and Pam Lowdermilk Don and Vata Shook	<b>17</b> Gary and Tammy Muller	
	<b>28</b> Wesley and Brandie Tucker					