



CONOVER  
FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST

***Our Mission:***

***Bring Them In...***

***Build Them Up...***

***Send Them Out!***



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

*April 28, 2020*

*Dear Friends,*

*All of our lives are different now than it was pre-virus. I have heard the phrase "in limbo," "twilight zone," "not knowing ..." several times as people share their thoughts on our current reality. We experience times of being troubled and times where we acknowledge that we are blessed and treasured children of God. I recently read that "...the presence of God is the difference between joy and happiness. We can be happy without God, but we may not be joyful without God."*

*Do you feel God's presence? I urge you to pray to God every morning as soon as you open your eyes. Pray out loud, invoke His presence, invite Him into your life and your home. Yes, as Christians we know that God is with us always; but if we pray words of invitation we claim His presence in our lives. We acknowledge that we will live our lives with spiritual integrity. God's presence and love is ours to claim, to own, to thrive on.*

*Yes, we are in uncharted waters. But, even after all these weeks in our 'new normal', I still believe this time could be to our spiritual benefit. I believe that prayer is a powerful way for us to be quiet, still, and calm before and with God. It is in His presence where I find peace, and I pray the same for you.*

*Prayerfully,  
Charmaine*

*Read the Fueling Faith section for some suggestions to pray.*

# \*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:

Pauline Parker  
Elbert & Lee Ann Parris  
Jerry & Julie Patterson  
Courtney Patterson  
Ray & Pam Penley  
Gilda Pennell



## 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) 328-9962 - 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.

## IN / OUT OF HOSPITAL

None



## MEMORIAL Organ Fund

In memory of Jimmy Davis, Jr. by:  
Lee & Betty Moritz

## VOLUNTEER DAY AT ECCCM IN MAY

Tuesday, May 5th is the church's day to volunteer at ECCCM.

ECCCM is in desperate need of volunteers for their food pantry! All of their regular volunteers are in the high risk category for COVID-19, so they are understandably staying home. They are looking for volunteers that are currently out of work or school who would like to help. They have redesigned their pantry to allow for safe social distancing. They require masks, so they ask that you bring your own if possible. If not, they will provide one. Please contact Christina at (828) 465-1702, ext. 123 to schedule volunteer hours.

Thank you!

**WE**   
VOLUNTEERS

## LADIES' LUNCH BUNCH MEETING

Hi Ladies,  
We were unable to meet in April due to COVID-19. Hopefully we will be able to meet together on Wednesday, May 13th at 11:30am at the Olde Hickory Station located at 232 Government Avenue SW, Hickory if the "stay at home" ban is lifted. We hope to see everyone there for good fellowship and great food!

Debra Byrd  
(828) 228-3310



# NEWS TO USE

## WORSHIP

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

## PASTOR'S QUIZ



"With the Lord, wrote Peter,

- one day is as a thousand years
- a thousand years are as one day
- one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day
- one day is as the last syllable of recorded time

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



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. Please give \$.10 for every year old and \$.25 for every year married. This is to help the children's church bank.

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence April 26, 2020  
Sunday School  
N/A

Worship:  
Live Streaming 173 Households  
Total 432

### God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund	\$ 10,504.00
<i>(Needed weekly for budget: \$12,596)</i>	
Capital Campaign (Shell Prop.)	90.00
Organ Fund	<u>20.00</u>
Total	\$ 10,614.00

## FUELING FAITH

**To pray**, dear friends, one does not have to pray in a certain way, or use elaborate 'church'-language, or assume a specific position. To pray you only need the **desire to be in the presence of the Lord**.

Prayer is normally understood as a request to God, asking for something. But it can also be seen as a mental discipline, reminding *myself* of God and God's will for me.

- Work on finding a 'meeting place / space' for your conversation with your Lord.
- Find a way, that you are comfortable with, to become quiet and feel the presence of God. A breath prayer might be a good way to start. Pick a single word or phrase (Come O Lord, Peace, Thank you, please etc.) and repeat it as you inhale and exhale. Continue until you are calm and centered.
- Now simply tell God about your life and your feelings for Him. Acknowledge that you are a sinner. Pray for others. Tell Him what troubles you, ask for what you want.  
[More on this next week.]
- Say 'AMEN'.

Peace,  
Charmaine



First United Methodist Church  
 410 First Avenue North  
 Conover, NC 28613  
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**GUESTS for Sunday, April 26, 2020:**  
 173 households viewed by live-streaming at  
 2.5 persons per household = 432

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

**We will communicate with you when we will be able to gather together again for worship and other events.**

**PROTECTION AGAINST COVID-19**

**UPPER ROOMS**

The May / June "Upper Room" devotional books are in the racks for you to pick up and use. One rack is located in the upper hallway by the water fountain, and the other is located on one of the tables outside the Conference Room by the offices.

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.

**CHURCH STAFF**

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Pastor                         | Dr. Gary Royals<br>(pastor@fumconover.org)                      |
| Assistant Pastor of Faith Dev. | Charmaine Van Rooyen<br>(apfd@fumconover.org)                   |
| Administrative Assistant       | Robin Mays<br>(fumcc@fumconover.org)                            |
| Music Director                 | Jonathan Rogers<br>(jsrogers99@gmail.com)<br>(828) 244-7019     |
| Pianist                        | Shannon Rogers<br>(srog101@gmail.com)<br>(828) 244-6124         |
| Organist                       | Alex Wilson<br>(organistfumconover@gmail.com)<br>(803) 810-3396 |
| Preschool Director             | Ginger Doub (466-3158)<br>(ps@fumconover.org)                   |
| Lead Nursery Worker            | Pilar Tobar   |
| Custodian                      | Luisa Toro Bryan<br>(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<br>Denver, NC 28037                 |
| Assistant Pastor's phone #     | (781) 913-4415 - cell   |
| Assistant Pastor's address     | 1307 8th Avenue NW<br>Conover, NC 28613                         |

**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:

*c. one day is as a thousand years,  
 and a thousand years as one day (2 Peter 3:8)*

First UMC  
**Birthdays**

Who = (everyone); Filter = Birthday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>3</b> Andrea Little	<b>4</b> Colt Briggs Elizabeth Rockett		<b>6</b> Julie Lawing		<b>1</b> Kyle Byrd Quentin Porter Jake Stines	<b>2</b> Nikki Kelly Alice Woods
<b>10</b> Brooke Connor Jack Muller Theresa Sutton	<b>11</b> Thomas Boston Judy Rayburn-Young Jay Shepherd Michelle Sierzenga	<b>12</b> Jim Duncan Michael Moritz	<b>13</b> Andrea Beatty Spencer Brackett Jacob Fisher Sharon Green Dottie Harris Nell Johnson	<b>14</b> Donald Goble Clyde Kistler Trenia Monk	<b>8</b> Laurette Rheeder Brenda Teague Wendy Robinson Phyllis Watson Sybil Windsor	<b>9</b> Monte Connor Jennifer Fiorucci Eddie Warren
<b>17</b> Meredith Geier Susan Hunsucker Gary Royals Brittany Starnes	<b>18</b> Michael Bryan Lindsay Keisler Mike Matthews Charles Reed	<b>19</b> Tammy Muller Ginger Rockett Charles Whitlock	<b>20</b> Harmony Hammock Charles Hornick	<b>21</b> Crystal Hefner Denise Moose Chris Reynolds	<b>15</b> Rachel Hamilton Dale Lafone Lee Ann Parris	<b>16</b> Bradley Clark Jessica Kincaid Mackenzie Thornburg
<b>24</b> Jackie Cagle Kenneth Hollar Windy Mays Maverick Steelmon	<b>25</b> Linda Beck Angela Garrison Al Hernandez Bonnie Ingle	<b>26</b> Amy Hawn Brent Henderson Randy Howard Mary Pinto Laura Zinkhan	<b>27</b> J.T. Ijims Connie McCoy Dan Rockett		<b>22</b> Rick Clarke Ginger Doub Jackie Lowdermilk Gerhardt Rheeder Ruthie Thornburg	<b>23</b> Dave Markland
<b>31</b> Jo Ellen Knecht Leonard Walling						<b>30</b> Scottie Hentschel Jack Rockett Margie Sparkman

**Wedding Anniversaries**

Who = (everyone except removed); Filter = Wedding

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> Windy and Robin Mays	
		<b>5</b> Brien and DeAnn Bowen	<b>6</b> Jody and Michelle Brackett		<b>8</b> Patrick and Crystal Morrow	
	<b>11</b> Carl and Lori Sigmon	<b>12</b> Tony and Margaret Garrison Doug and Samantha Rockett		<b>14</b> Gary and Debbie Royals	<b>15</b> Aaron Teague and Nicole Hahna	
	<b>18</b> Will and Sue James Pete and Phyllis Robinson Rick and Nancy Wall		<b>20</b> Jeff and Michelle Sierzenga Troy and Suzanne Spencer		<b>22</b> Wayne and Sybil Windsor	<b>23</b> Charles and Mary Hornick
		<b>26</b> Charles and Carolyn Whitlock	<b>27</b> Leonard and Julie Lawing	<b>28</b> Debra and Kyle Byrd	<b>29</b> Jonathan and Alyssa Myers Beaver and Marsha Williams	<b>30</b> David and Ginger Rockett