



CONOVER
FIRST UNITED
METHODIST

Our Mission:

Bring Them In...

Build Them Up...

Send Them Out!



The Weekly Newsletter of First United Methodist Church, Conover

May 19, 2020

DEAR CHURCH FAMILY

It's so hard to believe that we can go this long without entering those beautiful church doors. This pandemic is an opportunity to give you a glimpse of how a new family's world can be thrown upside down when their child is sent to the NICU: secluded, trying at all costs to stay healthy, and keep vulnerable family members safe. This becomes life's never ending battle it seems. Until we realize that all we need is to leave this in God's hands. He forever has a plan, the Big plan.

"Don't panic. I am with you. There's no need to fear. I'll give you strength. I'll help you. I, your God, have a firm grip on you and I am not letting go." Isaiah 41:10,13 "But the Lord stood with me and gave me strength." 2 Timothy 4:17

Little did I know, three years ago that part of God's big plan for me and for this church community was to start Miracle Moms. Helping the moms in this community when they feel secluded and scared is a great ministry. I want to thank my wonderful church family as well as local businesses and other local churches (Mathis chapel)! We have made Miracle Moms successful and have touched so many lives. The donations, volunteers, and prayers have been a constant support and encouragement, especially in this trying time. Thank you for all you have done and I look forward to God bringing us all together again so we can keep helping the moms and families in our community.

Love,
Elizabeth Conner



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:

Judy Rayburn-Young
Charles Reed, Rona Saunders & Greg Reed
Pierre, Laurette, Gerhardt & Jarrett Rheeder
Sydney Roberts
Harold & Martha Robertson
Pete & Phyllis Robinson



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
Cell - (828) 302-6608

Nell Johnson
Kingston Residence
904 2nd Street NE, Apt. 109
Hickory, NC 28601
(828) 328-9962 - landline
(828) 228-7396 - cell

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

THANK YOU

First United Methodist Church Conover, I hope and pray you and your parishioners are all healthy and well during these uncertain times. We received your financial gift of \$125.00. We continue to be humbled by your generosity. We are thankful for your partnership in prayer and support. We have continued to provide services during this COVID-19 pandemic crisis to the most vulnerable population in our community. Please continue to lift our agency, our staff and every client we serve up in prayer. We could not continue to serve others without the generosity of your time in prayer and support. We truly appreciate your generosity and are very thankful for you.

Kindest Regards,
LaWanda Brown, ED
Family Guidance Center



THANK YOU

Thank you to the United Methodist Men for the Mother's Day gift card. It is greatly appreciated. Lynn is tired of my cooking.

Thanks again,
Rita Watson



GUIDELINES FOR RE-OPENING

The Church Council has developed guidelines so that when we do return to collective worship, we will all be safe. We will communicate these guidelines with you soon. Until then, we will continue our live-streaming on Sundays.

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

"Whosoever hateth his brother," wrote John, "is a



- thief"
- cheat"
- embezzler"
- murderer"

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

ECCCM NEEDS

We need volunteers! Schedule volunteer times with Christina @ 828-465-1702 ext. 123.

We are running low on empty 1-dozen size egg cartons. We can use the Styrofoam and the cardboard-paper type.

We can ALWAYS use **bags!** We go through so many bags between the food pantry and the thrift store! PLEASE save your plastic and paper grocery/shopping bags and donate them to ECCCM! Its next to impossible to do what we do without bags! And of course, financial donations are always needed! Thank you!

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence May 17, 2020
Sunday School
N/A

Worship:	
Live Streaming	<u>164 Households</u>
Total	410

God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund	\$ 13,359.00
<i>(Needed weekly for budget: \$12,596)</i>	
Capital Campaign (Shell Prop.)	400.00
Columbarium Fund	600.00
Organ Fund	<u>50.00</u>
Total	\$ 14,409.00

PROJECT AGAPE (American Greater Armenian Partnership Efforts)

COVID 19 has changed our lives, our "normal". Our economy is hurting, how much is still to be determined. I want to take time to remind you of people that are in dire need of assistance; even before COVID19 appeared.

They are our Armenian brothers and sisters in Christ. Armenia is a landlocked country, bordered on the north by **Georgia**, on the east by **Azerbaijan**, on the southwest by the Nagorno-Karabagh, on the south by **Iran**, and on the west by **Turkey**. Other than PROJECT AGAPE, no other non-governmental entity wants to have a presence in this part of the world, plagued with long-standing, multi-layered conflict.

Project AGAPE is the collaborative effort of both United Methodist conferences in North Carolina, who have worked in cooperation with the Armenian Apostolic Church since 1993/1994, some 6,000 miles away in the Euro-Asian part of the world.

In more than two decades of ministry, Project AGAPE has shared the love of Christ by continuing early projects and adopting new efforts for and with the people of Armenia and Artsakh, as this ministry serves those in Kashatagh and in border villages.

Project AGAPE efforts help the people learn and grow into better lives for individuals, families and the communities.

The ministry of Project AGAPE is multi-tiered: • Humanitarian aid • The orphanage, hospital, sanitation improvement, and more. • Families are provided with animals through the Agricultural Development Project, giving families cattle and chicken, along with tools for gardening for food and breeding. • Mission building teams

Take a few minutes and read more about this struggling Christian country.

<https://nccumc.org/outreach/files/AGAPE.brochureFinalHiRes.pdf>

<https://nccumc.org/outreach/2019/11/why-project-agape-is-not-a-toxic-charity/>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/apr/22/turkish-silence-fans-century-of-armenian-grief-over-genocide>

Join me in prayer for Armenia and her people,
Charmaigne



First United Methodist Church
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Conover, NC 28613
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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:

d. murderer." (1 John 3:15)

GUESTS for Sunday, May 17, 2020:

164 households viewed by live-streaming at
2.5 persons per household = 410

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Dr. Gary Royals (pastor@fumcconover.org)
Assistant Pastor of Faith Dev.	Charmaine Van Rooyen (apfd@fumcconover.org)
Administrative Assistant	Robin Mays (fumcc@fumcconover.org)
Music Director	Jonathan Rogers (jsrogers99@gmail.com) (828) 244-7019
Pianist	Shannon Rogers (srog101@gmail.com) (828) 244-6124
Organist	Alex Wilson (organistfumcconover@gmail.com) (803) 810-3396
Preschool Director	Ginger Doub (466-3158) (ps@fumcconover.org)
Lead Nursery Worker	Pilar Tobar
Custodian	Luisa Toro Bryan (828) 464-4635
Church Office	(828) 464-3423
Facsimile	www.fumcconover.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