



CONOVER
FIRST UNITED
METHODIST

Our Mission:

Bring Them In...

Build Them Up...

Send Them Out!



The Weekly Newsletter of First United Methodist Church, Conover

October 6, 2020

HAPPY OCTOBER, CHURCH FAMILY!!!

I just wanted to update everyone on this new session of FUMCC Preschool. As you can see from below we are working on a great year with a beautiful bunch (this is the Friday bunch).

We currently have an enrollment of 29 children and they are keeping us REALLY busy. Parents, families and staff have all been wonderful with the transition into a "Covid-19" school year. It has been a tougher beginning than usual, but everyone has been really patient and willing with the process that needs to be followed. We go about our days as usual once the children arrive because in their world everything is "normal" and they put their trust in us. What a life lesson we can learn from "the least of these"!!

I want to thank all of you, parents and church family, for all of the generous donations of supplies. I am overwhelmed some mornings when I walk in and see all that you have provided. The last year has been a rough time for the world (to say the least), and I think of the many times when I have complained about all the things that are NOT happening, NOT going well, or NOT the way I want..... I am ashamed.

Through this church family, this preschool and all of the families that are involved in our program I am blessed beyond measure, God's Grace has no bounds. "Thank You" will never be enough.

Let's all strive to be "normal" and put our trust in the LORD!!

In Christ,

Ginger Doub



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:

Haley Beech
Elaine & Bill Biles
Ray & Linda Birchfield
Doug & LaRue Black
Kalen Bolick
Billy, Beth, Thomas & Chris Boston



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

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 - Valley Nursing & Rehab (Room 606)
581 NC-16 S Taylorsville 28681

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

Beverly Stone, 403 Rock Barn Rd., NE
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

JUST A REMINDER

Please remember to wear your name tags when attending church services. Thank you.



UPPER ROOMS

The September / October "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 the bookshelf outside Pastor Charmaine's office. You can read the same daily devotional that is in the book each day by going on line to this website:

<http://www.upperroom.org/devotional/>



ADDRESSES NEEDED FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS OR PARENTS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS:

Please submit your addresses to the Faithbuilders' Sunday school class by emailing your address at college or at home, if you are a commuter, to Denise Moose: mooselodge@bellsouth.net. They would like to stay in contact with you as you continue your studies. Faithbuilders' Sunday school class' mission is to support, encourage, and pray for you throughout the year. Also send your email address to the church office at: fumcc@fumconover.org so you may receive the weekly Newsletter.

Thank you,
Denise Moose



NEWS TO USE

WORSHIP

Worship with us Sundays at 8:45am by viewing our livestream at <http://www.fumccconover.org/live> or on our Facebook page by searching for First United Methodist Church of Conover.

Worship with us Sunday by attending one of three services:

8:45am Worship in the Sanctuary (Masks required)
10am Worship in the CFLC (Masks recommended)
11:15am Worship in the Sanctuary (Masks required)



If you are a recent high school graduate or a Young Adult looking for a Sunday School Class, there is a class just for you here at First Methodist Conover! If you will send me your email address I will add you to my weekly email. I look forward to communicating with you and welcoming you to our class when you can be with us! Right now our church plans to offer the opportunity to attend Sunday School classes again on October 18.

Thank you,
Connie Henderson
cls.henderson@gmail.com

Faithbuilders Sunday School Class:

We are continuing our virtual study of the book of Romans every Sunday evening (until notified otherwise), starting at 6:45PM for one hour. Check your email for the Zoom access instructions.

Church family, you have an open invitation to join us! Email Lindsay Keisler at lkeisler@catawbachamber.org to receive the meeting link."

Thank you,
Lindsay Keisler



PASTOR'S QUIZ



The beast was allowed to make war against the saints,

- but was conquered by them
- and to overcome them
- with a stalemate outcome
- forever

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

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence Oct. 4, 2020
Sunday School
N/A

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Worship: | |
| 8:45am Service | 30 |
| 10:00am Service | 62 |
| 11:15am Service | 30 |
| Live Streaming | <u>126</u> |
| Total | 248 |

God's Tithes & Our Gifts

| | |
|---|---------------|
| General Fund | \$ 18,436.00 |
| <i>(Needed weekly for budget: \$12,596)</i> | |
| Capital Campaign | 50.00 |
| Children's Bank Fund | <u>210.00</u> |
| Total | \$ 18,696.00 |

TWO SERVICES BEGINNING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18TH

8:45am - Contemporary service in the Sanctuary (Social Distancing is required and masks are strongly recommended but not required.) The praise team will lead us in singing.

11:00am - Traditional service in the Sanctuary (Social distancing and masks are required and there will be no congregational singing.)

Everyone must continue to enter through the same door at the back to be screened and have temperatures taken. The sanctuary will be thoroughly sanitized following the 8:45am service in preparation for the 11:00am service.

Due to social distancing, there will be a limit to the number of people who can attend. To address this issue, we will live-stream the 8:45 and 11:00am services and will have the CFLC set up for overflow at both services.

This will leave ample time in-between the two services for Sunday school classes if they want to meet. It is up to the class and each teacher to make that decision.

First United Methodist Church
 410 First Avenue North
 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:

b. and to overcome them (Revelation 13:7)

GUESTS for Sunday, October 4, 2020:

70 households viewed by live-streaming at
 1.8 persons per household = 126
 1st Service - 30; 2nd Service - 62; 3rd Service - 30
 Total: 248

WNCC now recommends 1.8 persons per household.

CHURCH STAFF

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Pastor | Dr. Gary Royals (pastor@fumconover.org) |
| Associate Pastor of Faith Dev. | Charmaine Van Rooyen (pastorcharmaine@gmail.com) |
| 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 | 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 |
| Associate Pastor's phone # | (781) 913-4415 - cell |
| Associate Pastor's address | 1307 8th Avenue NW Conover, NC 28613 |



Ephesians 6:10-11

First United Methodist Church, Conover Youth Ministry 2020-2021

Calendar Watch

October

11 - Youth Meeting & Ministry Teams

18 - Youth Meeting & Ministry Teams

25 - Youth Meeting & Ministry Teams

November

1 - Youth Meetings & Ministry Teams

15 - Youth Sunday

December

6 - Progressive Dinner

February '21

12 - 15 - Ridge Haven High School Retreat

April '21

23-25 - IgniteUs Middle School Retreat



Youth Meeting on October 11th

We are finally having youth meetings again. Meetings will be in the Life center. Please enter there for temperature check. Masks are not mandatory but are recommended.

Youth Praise Team: 3:30pm

Youth Dance Team: 4:15pm

Meeting: 5pm

Youth Drama Team: 6:15pm

We are looking forward to seeing you all again.

Our verse for this youth year is Ephesians 6:10-11 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

Ridge Haven

The high school youth will be going back to Ridge Haven this February. The dates are Friday the 12th through Sunday 14th or Monday 15th depending on school.

Please let us know this month if you are interested so we can get signed up.



CALENDARS ARE IN!!!

Cost is \$7 each. Please see a youth, Charles, or Mary to get one.



CALLING ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS!!

Please turn in your addresses to the church office at (828) 464-4635 or via email at fumcc@fumcconover.org. Thank you.

Check us out on Facebook @ FUMCC Youth!



For more information about the Youth Ministry at Conover First United Methodist Church, please contact

Charles Hornick (828-381-7231 / charles_h71@charter.net)

Mary Hornick (828-381-7233 / maryhornick1974@gmail.com)



H.O.P.E. saves lives.



**Look for
Hints**



**Ask Openly
about suicide**



**Validate
Pain**



**Explore Reasons
to live and plan
to stay safe**

Warning Signs of Suicide

- Talking about wanting to die or kill oneself*
- Looking for a way to kill oneself, such as searching online or obtaining a gun*
- Talking about feeling hopeless or having no reason to live*
- Talking about feeling trapped or in unbearable pain
- Talking about being a burden to others
- Increasing the use of alcohol or drugs
- Acting anxious or agitated; behaving recklessly
- Sleeping too little or too much
- Withdrawing or feeling isolated
- Showing rage or talking about seeking revenge
- Displaying extreme mood swings

* signs of acute risk

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255

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Operation Christmas Child 2020

It is easy to participate.

1. Build a box online OR drop off a box at church.

2. Choose an age range: 2 - 4, 5 - 9 or 10 - 14.

Are you shopping for a boy or a girl.



2-4

5-9



10-14

3. Fill your box. Ideas can be found at <https://www.samaritanaspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>. Consider adding a card and a picture. Your SHOEBOX child might need to feel specially loved and wanted.

4. PRAY for the child who will receive your box.

5. Drop you SHOEBOX off at church by **November 8, 2020**. If you would like to track your box to see where in the world it got delivered, please print your label online.

IF YOU NEED MORE BOXES we can make sure you have them. More information will follow.

Happy shopping!

Report from Western North Carolina Conference

The Bible states in Matthew 18:20, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Well God was really busy because this was a first time in decades that we met in our homes to conduct the business of the United Methodist Church. What a different experience this was. Bishop Paul Leeland called the meeting to order on August 8, 2020 and lead the opening worship.

Everything that usually occurs at Conference could not be conducted but we did cover a lot of the business. First of all, the budget for WNCC for 2021 covering Conference and District Apportioned Funds was reduced from \$18,123,784 to \$15,989,745. This is a decrease of -11.77%. The Conference Support (Administration) budget was increased only 1.12%. And the Mission and Ministry budget was decreased - 16.83%. I think the Finance and Administration Committee did an excellent job with this tough assignment.

The Special Session of the General Conference in February 2019 created a pathway for churches to leave the denomination under certain circumstances. The church must hold a Church Conference whereby 2/3 of the members vote to disaffiliate. Seven (7) churches in the Western North Carolina Conference (WNCC) have chosen to disaffiliate. These include Bethel UMC, Midland NC (*Metro District*); Brown's View UMC, Candler NC (*Blue Ridge District*); Cedar Grove UMC, Bostic NC (*Blue Ridge District*); Golden Valley UMC, Bostic NC (*Blue Ridge District*); Hardison UMC, Mocksville NC (*Yadkin Valley District*); Mt. Pleasant UMC, Thomasville NC (*Yadkin Valley District*); and Mt Zion UMC, Lenoir, NC (*Appalachian District*). With everything held virtually, the voting results were not announced. The results will be forwarded to General Assembly for any further actions.

The Cabinet Report included sad news of the closing of 17 churches in WNCC. These include Brevard Chapel UMC, Lincoln County (*Catawba County*); Columbus UMC, Polk County (*Blue Ridge District*); Davis Chapel UMC, Buncombe County (*Blue Ridge District*); Grace UMC, Cleveland County (*Catawba Valley District*); Hanes UMC, Forsyth County (*Yadkin Valley District*); Plaza UMC, Mecklenburg County (*Metro District*); Rosman UMC, Transylvania County (*Blue Ridge District*); Siloam UMC, Davidson County (*Uwharrie District*); Swannanoa UMC, Buncombe County (*Blue Ridge District*); Northwood UMC, Guilford County (*Northern Piedmont District*); Peachtree UMC, Cherokee County (*Smoky Mountain District*); Pine Bluff UMC, (*Cabarrus County Metro District*); Lilesville UMC, Anson County (*Uwharrie District*); Louisa Chapel UMC, Haywood County (*Smoky Mountain District*); Main Street United UMC, Rowan County (*Uwharrie District*); Transou UMC, Ashe County (*Appalachian District*); White's Chapel UMC, Randolph County (*Northern Piedmont District*). With everything held virtually, the voting results were not announced. The results will be forwarded to General Assembly for any further actions.

From August 2019 to May 2020 there were 53 deaths of Clergy, Diaconal Ministers, and Spouses. Of the 27 Clergy and diaconal Ministers, none served at FUMC Conover nor in the Catawba Valley District.

There are 47 Clergy retiring this year with a collective service record of 3.093 years. A celebration of these retirees, the Clergy and spouses, is currently planned for next years conference. I do not have a report on new Clergy added or ordained.

I am very pleased to announce Pastor Dr. Gary Royals will continue to be our guiding light in Christian Love and Spiritual Guidance while teachings the word of God. We are truly blessed to have him as our Minister. Charmaine Van Rooyen will continue the vital work as Minister of Faith Development.

No questions could be made from the floor with this being a virtual meeting. Many other reports were made and changes to various boards and committees were presented. These were then voted on after the meeting was dismissed. The wonderful work of the United Methodist Church continues. We are still encouraged to carry on the work God has committed to each of us. Let us pray that this virus will be contained and that Love, Kindness and Respect for one another that God's teachings show us will make this world a better place.

Blessings to you all.

Gerald Loftin
Lay Delegate to Annual Conference
FUMC Conover