



CONOVER
FIRST UNITED
METHODIST

Our Vision:

*“By knowing Him, we
Seek to make Him known to
all people
Through the love and
Grace of Jesus Christ.”*



The Weekly Newsletter of First United Methodist Church, Conover

February 2, 2021

A HEARTFELT MESSAGE FROM PASTOR GARY

Life is made up of many “seasons”..... some lasting a short time while others a long time. The Book of Ecclesiastes, chapter 3 reminds us that there is a season for everything under heaven. I can look back on some seasons and say “Man I am glad that one is over and done.” Oh but there are others along the corridors of my life which I cherish with great memories. It is these moments which enrich and define one’s life and make life “worth living.”

Debbie and I have been in a wonderful, enriching season of life since the day God appointed us to First UMC Conover. For six years, we have had the honor and joy of knowing you, walking with you through the laughter and the tears, and experiencing some powerful moments of worship and learning together. I am now sensing that there is another “seasonal change” just ahead.

After much thought and prayer.....I want to announce to you that I plan to retire as of the end of June 2021. With the changes coming in the United Methodist Church this year, it is the “perfect” time for me to retire from the church in which I spent 42 years of my life. We look forward to doing some traveling and (of course) spending more time with the grandchildren.

We can look forward to the future and what God has in store for this great church. It is truly a JOY to be your pastor and friend and to work together for the Kingdom of God.

Pastor 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:

Mike & Greta Induni
Patsy Isaac
Wyll & Sue James
Tony & Gwen Jarrett
Adam, Melissa, Mackenzie & Tyler Johnson
Ken & Martha Johnson

IN / OUT OF HOSPITAL

Hank Beck at home

FACE MASKS REQUIRED AT BOTH SERVICES

Due to the spike in COVID-19 cases in Catawba County, the Church Council is requiring masks to be worn at both services for a temporary period of time.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time.



THANK YOU

Dear FUMC Conover,
I would like to thank you very much for your generous donation to my broke college student fund when I graduated all the way back in May of 2020. Whether you have been awaiting a letter or not, it has always been in the back of my mind. With how hectic the past few months have been, I haven't really had a break until now. Back in June of 2020, the month after my graduation, I resumed by apprenticeship position at Sarstedt, which also includes a scholarship to learn about the manufacturing world while pursuing an Associate's degree in Mechatronics Engineering at CVCC, which has taken up even more of my time.

In conclusion, thank you for your generous gift, and sorry that I got back to you so late.

Thank you,
Gerhardt Rheeder

THANK YOU

Dear First UMC Conover,
As the new Development Coordinator for Carolina Caring, I hope your new year has started on a positive note - with happiness, joy, and good health. My name is Hallie Best, and I am looking forward to getting to know you and your congregation in 2021. With your continued support as a *Hall of Faith* partner, you make it possible to serve patients and families we could not help otherwise.

Grace and Peace,
Hallie B. Best



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

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

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

Barbara Wilcox - Trinity Ridge Rehab
2140 Medical Park Drive
Hickory, NC 28602 - (828) 322-6995

M.G. Doub, 319 7th Street Place SW #A6
Conover, NC 28613

Betty Moritz, 103 County Home Road
Conover, NC 28613

Dolores Setzer PO Box 1237
Conover, NC 28613

Glenna Sherrill, 2038 North Deal Avenue
Newton, NC 28658

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.

NEWS TO USE

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES FOR SALE

For those who attend worship on Sunday, Erin Moritz and Addison Punch will be selling Girl Scout cookies in one of the classrooms on the Children's Sunday school wing. So, get your delicious cookies from them.



NURSERY WORKERS NEEDED

Nursery Workers are needed on Sunday at the 8:45am and the 11:00am services. Please contact Laurette Rheeder at (828) 238-8101. Thank you each and everyone for your willingness to volunteer for this much needed ministry of our church.



UPDATE TO THE CHURCH DIRECTORY

The update to the church directory is available. You may come by the church during office hours Monday—Thursday from 8am-4pm.

If you attend church on Sunday at one of the worship services, you may pick up your update from the Common Area outside of Pastor Charmaine's office. Please ask a volunteer who is taking attendance or taking temperatures where they are located.

Because of the many pages to the update, it will not be cost effective for the church to mail them. If you wish to receive one via email, please call the church office at (828) 464-4635.

PASTOR'S QUIZ

John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, wore a garment of



- a. goatskin
- b. camel's hair
- c. papyrus
- d. wool

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

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence January 31, 2020
Sunday School
27

Worship:	
8:45am Service	47
11:15am Service	37
Live Streaming	<u>196</u>
Total	280

God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund \$ 27,104.00
(Needed weekly for budget: \$12,596)

Children's Bank 8.00
Total \$ 27,112.00

GUESTS for Sunday, January 24, 2020:

109 households viewed by live-streaming at
1.8 persons per household = 196
8:45am Service - 47; 11:00am Service - 37
Total: 280

WNCC now recommends 1.8 persons per household.

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY FOR 2021

DATES HAVE BEEN SET TO TAKE FAMILY PHOTOS FOR THE NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY IN JUNE.

If you wish to volunteer for this process, please contact Robin in the church office at (828) 464-4635 Monday - Thursday from 8am-4pm. Thank you.

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW!

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

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



2021 FLOWER CHART

Please note that if you wish to sign up on the 2021 flower chart, call the church office at (828) 464-4635 Monday-Thursday to reserve your date. You may either have a local florist deliver your flowers (most have a key to the church and can deliver on Saturday), or in lieu of flowers, you may make a donation to a designated fund of the church in memory or in honor of someone.

Answer to this week's Pastor's Quiz:

b. camel's hair
(Matthew 3:1, 4)

CHURCH STAFF

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