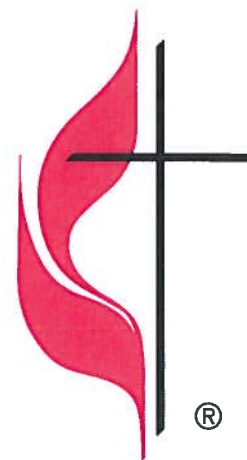




CONOVER
FIRST UNITED
METHODIST

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

July 20, 2021

The spirit I see

I look around me and I wonder “How did we get here?” I am not just referring to COVID and the global mess that became our reality. I am looking at society all over the globe and I can hardly believe I am not on a set of a big Hollywood blockbuster.

How did we become so divided about politics, government financial management, pronouns, race and nationality, immigration, the Church and within denominations? How did we get to this point where our lives feel surreal?

I have heard “I am devastated, our lives will never be normal again.” “It is not right for my loved one to have had to be alone as they lose their fight against the virus.” “I am not sure I want to leave my house ever again.” “What is happening to our church?” People feel broken, robbed of the life they knew, overwhelmed with a whole new set of challenges that include everything from crippling debt because of lost income or the loss of the breadwinner, children’s education that fell short, some congregations still not as fortunate as we are to be back to indoor worship, graduates with no clear vision of what is even do-able these days. We are grieving. We are sad. Some of us are still in a state of despair.

Let us take God at his word. Let us call upon His name. 2 Chronicles 7:14 reads *“if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”*

In Mark 12:30 - 31 we read the powerful words of Jesus; “ *‘Love the Lord your God with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.*”

I know it is impossible to hate someone if you pray for them. So I choose to pray. Friends, I am choosing this moment in time to say, believe and cling to this truth: “my life is secure in God.” I am choosing to say NO MORE to the noise that is drowning out my God who is my Comforter, my Refuge, my True North, my Always and Forever.

I pray that this will become my truth and also yours.

Blessings and prayers,

Pastor Charmaine

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:

Jeff, Kim & Lee Thornburg
Michael Thornburg
Ronald Thornburg
Wayne & Virginia Thornburg
Wendy Robinson Thornton & Elijah
Lionel & Krystal Totherow

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

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

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

Dottie Harris, 1449 Brookstone Drive
Hickory, NC 28602

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

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

Roy "Tut" Johnston at CVMC (At Home)
Barbara Hager at Conover Rehab
Johnny Moose at CVMC (Room 606)

HONORARIUM

Preschool Fund

In honor of Jolie Baucom's 2nd birthday by:
Her grandparents, Danny & Sandy Baucom

ATTENTION GOODTIMERS (Retirees & Seniors)!!!

We are planning to restart our fellowship together.

This Wednesday, July 21st!

We will meet in the CFLC for lunch at 12 noon. We will have a cookout (hamburgers/hot dogs). If you are willing to provide a dessert, please contact Eddie Warren at (828) 464-9643 and let him know what you plan to bring.

Be thinking about any outings that we can go on and any speakers that would be interesting for our lunches.

Eddie Warren,
Coordinator



Senior Adults Cookout

DONATIONS ACCEPTED THROUGH 2021

Donations to the Church Organ Fund and the Sound System Fund are being accepted through the end of 2021.



NEWS TO USE

AS A COURTESY...

Please remember to wear your name tags when attending church services. Pastor John, his wife Beth, and daughter, Hannah, will be able to learn your names much quicker if you have these on. Thank you for your part in making them feel at home.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, 2021

**4:00PM - Finance Committee Meeting
(Conference room)**

**5:00PM - Church Council Meeting
(Sanctuary)**



PASTOR'S QUIZ



The twelve apostles included

- a. two brothers
- b. two sets of two brothers
- c. three brothers
- d. three sets of two brothers

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

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence July 18, 2021

Sunday School

99

Worship:

8:45am Service	127
11:00am Service	101
Live Streaming	<u>52</u>
Total	280

God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund \$ 9,784.01
(Needed weekly for budget: \$12,596)

Preschool Fund	100.00
Sound System	100.00
Youth Fund	<u>92.79</u>
Total	\$ 10,076.80

NURSERY WORKERS NEEDED

Nursery Workers are needed on Sunday at the 8:45am and the 11:00am services. Please go online to the church's website and sign-up.

Thank you each and everyone for your willingness to volunteer for this much needed ministry of our church.



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

Non-Profit
 Organization
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 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.

Available Dates:

<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>
8/1	11/14	12/5
8/8	11/21	12/12
8/22	11/28	
8/29		



Answer to this week's Pastor's Quiz:
 b. two sets of two brothers (Matthew 10:2-4)

GUESTS for Sunday, July 18, 2021:

29 households viewed by live-streaming at
 1.8 persons per household = 52
 8:45am Service - 127; 11:00am Service - 101
 Total: 280

WNCC now recommends 1.8 persons per household.

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. John Woods (pastor@fumconover.org)
Associate Pastor of Faith Development Administrative Assistant	Rev. Charmaine Van Rooyen (pastorcharmaigne@gmail.com) Robin Mays (fumcc@fumconover.org)
Music Director	Jonathan Rogers (jsrogers99@gmail.com) (828) 244-7019
Pianist	Shannon Rogers (srog101@gmail.com) (828) 244-6124
Preschool Director	Julie Robinson (466-3158) (ps@fumconover.org)
Lead Nursery Worker	Pilar Tobar
Custodian	Luisa Toro Bryan
Church Office	(828) 464-4635
Website:	www.fumconover.org
Pastor's phone numbers	(828) 464-4635-church (336) 480-4550-cell
Pastor's address	612 6th Ave NE Conover, NC 28613
Associate Pastor's phone #	(781) 913-4415 - cell
Associate Pastor's address	1307 8th Avenue NW Conover, NC 28613