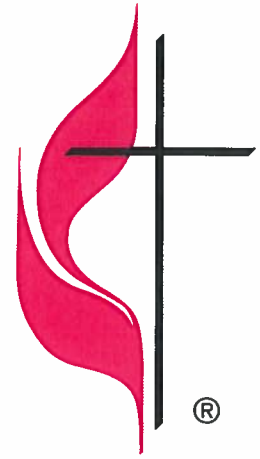




CONOVER
FIRST UNITED
METHODIST

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 7, 2021

A LITTLE BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ON OUR NEW PASTORAL FAMILY

The Woods family has spent the past 6 years in Greensboro and were in Midway (just south of Winston-Salem) for 10 years before that. **John and Beth** have just celebrated 35 years of marriage and they have five children: **Andrew** (31), **Joel** (29), **Luke** (27), **Grace** (25) and **Hannah** (who turned 17 July 1st).

Both John and Beth are from Georgia (which is to say their sweet tea is almost syrup and John says “yall” a lot). Beth grew up in Macon and John grew up in the small town of Hinesville (near the coast). They met at Georgia Southern where Beth was in the first GSU Academic Honors class. John...wasn't.

Growing up, John's first love was the ocean, and he had every intention of becoming a marine biologist. He studied Marine Biology at the University of Miami (Florida) and worked in the marine science department there. He somehow must have misunderstood that “*make you fishers of men*” thing Jesus spoke about, because it was there God made it clear John was called to be a minister, not Jacques Cousteau Jr. His sense of calling as a minister is both clear and strong.

While John went to seminary at Duke Divinity School (M.Div.-'89, Th.M.-'90), Beth earned a Master's in Instructional Design from UNC-Chapel Hill (so the family has split basketball loyalties).

Family and church and the Bible are all central. John and Beth both love to teach, with John teaching a lot of Bible studies and adult S.S. and Beth home schooling their children and teaching children's S.S. John is unapologetic about holding firm to the essentials of our faith, but gets excited about making that faith fresh, relevant and real in a time when a lot of folks dismiss church as boring or irrelevant.

John loves the Lord, is crazy about his family and already loves Conover and our church. He thinks it's an honor to be our minister (and to minister with us) and really wants to get to know you and your family.

Introduce yourself to our new pastor and his family and together, let's look for God to do some amazing things in our midst!

P.S.

For those who may be interested, here's a little 411 on John & Beth's children:

- **Andrew** lives in Durham and is part of that city's HR team, specifically doing training and on-boarding for new hires.
- **Joel** is a pilot in the Air Force. He and his wife (**Hannah**) have a 1 year old, Eli. Hannah is a nurse and Joel just became one of the Air Force's flight instructors.
- **Luke** is a stage manager in New York City (for American Ballet Theater, Alvin Ailey Theater and others). His wife **Ridley** is a lighting designer for Broadway shows but since the pandemic has earned her pharmaceutical tech. license.
- **Grace** is in the middle of a Ph.D. program (Univ. of Georgia), researching malaria.
- **Hannah** — you will get to see her a lot. She's beginning her senior year in high school, loves the piano and is super easy to talk to.

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:

Mike & Jeanette Stewart
Jake & Barbara Stines
Burr & Betsy Stoker
Johann & Annabella Stoltz
Bruce & Elizabeth Swanson
Gene & Beverly Swithenbank

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

None



Thank You

Dear FUMCC Family,

Words cannot express our gratitude to everyone who made our retirement celebration such a wonderful event. Your kind expressions of love, beautiful cards and gifts gave us an overwhelming sense of love and fulfillment. This was truly the culmination of, not only 6 years at FUMCC, but our 41 years of ministry. We will remember this day and celebration for the rest of our lives. From the bottom of our hearts we thank you and love you.

Pastor Gary & Debbie

"Discovery on Adventure Island" VBS

Date: Sunday, July 18 through
Thursday, July 22

Time: 5:45pm to 8:30pm

Where: Connor Family Life Center (gym)

<https://>

conoverfirstunitedmethodist.mycokesburyvbs.com/

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.



NEWS FROM ECCCM

Pastor and Congregation,
This is a reminder that your congregation has a designated day to volunteer at ECCCM on August 3 & September 7, 2021. We hope to have multiple members of your congregation come work with us as many days as possible. Our hours of operation are Monday through Thursday 8 am to 5 pm. Volunteer opportunities include:

- Bagging food for distribution
- Stocking shelves
- Filling client orders at the drive-through door
- Sorting donations

Volunteering with ECCCM is an easy and enjoyable experience that gives you the opportunity to serve your community in a meaningful and tangible way. Without our volunteers, we would not be able to accomplish the work we do. We look forward to being the hands and feet of God with you as we serve those in need in our community.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (828) 465-1702 or via email at a.sherrill@ecccm.org.
Sincerely,
Allen Sherrill
Food Pantry Manager

PASTOR'S QUIZ

Say nothing of this event, Jesus expressly admonished the



- paralyzed servant
- daughter of the ruler
- dumb demoniac
- two blind men

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

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence June 27, 2021

Sunday School

N/A

Worship:

10:00am Service 252

Live Streaming 74

Total 326

God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund \$ 13,308.50

(Needed weekly for budget: \$12,596)

Children's Bank 12.20

Pastor's Love Offering ??.??

Total \$ 13,308.50

Total received for Pastor's Love Offering:

\$2,010.00

By Our Presence July 4, 2021

Sunday School

63

Worship:

8:45am Service 83

11:00am Service 76

Live Streaming 40

Total 199

God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund \$ 12,676.00

(Needed weekly for budget: \$12,596)

Children's Bank 63.20

Organ Fund 100.00

Total \$ 12,839.20

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>July</u>	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>
7/25	8/1	11/14	12/5
	8/8	11/21	12/12
	8/22	11/28	12/19
	8/29		



Answer to this week's Pastor's Quiz:

d. two blind men (*Matthew 9:18-34; 8:5-13*)

GUESTS for Sunday, July 4, 2021:

22 households viewed by live-streaming at
 1.8 persons per household = 40
 8:45am Service - 83; 11:00am Service - 76
 Total: 199

WNCC now recommends 1.8 persons per household.

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. John Woods (pastor@fumconover.org)
Associate Pastor of Faith Dev.	Charmaine Van Rooyen (pastorcharmaigne@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
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

Fueling Faith



The Bible gives many examples of the benefits of depending on God. He is completely dependable.

Scripture Psalm 62.

Depending on God is basic to the Christian life. We trust in, or depend on, God for our salvation Ephesians 2:8-9. We depend on God for wisdom James 1:5. In fact, we depend on God *for* everything Psalm 104:27 and *in* everything Proverbs 3:5-6.

**Learning to fully rely on God is a vital aspect of faith;
and it takes practice.**

Pray. Philippians 4:6

GET IN THE WORD. Acts 17:11 & Psalm 85:8

Do right. Exodus 2:1-10; Daniel 6; & 1 Samuel 17

Be a living sacrifice. Romans 12:1; & 2 Corinthians 12:10

Abide in Christ John 15:4

Refuse to worry. Matthew 6:32; & 1 Peter 5:7

Some more Scripture to reflect on include, but is not limited to -

Everything in life is shifting; here today and gone tomorrow!

Psalm 73:25-26; BUT God will not abandon us, Hebrews 13:5

God can bless us when we follow Him: with our reputation, our purpose and plans, our health, and material blessings. **Proverbs 3:1-12**

Helps us through dark periods of our lives like nothing else. **Isaiah 50:10; John 14:27; Matthew 6:25, 33**

We are able to produce fruit that blesses others when we are in close connection with Him. **John 15:5**

He gives us what we need. **Psalm 145:15; John 15:7; Philippians 4:19**

God already knows the future and what His plans are for us.

Philippians 4:5; 1 Peter 5:10

The point of life is really glorifying God and
receiving eternal life someday!

Psalm 49:5-13; Matthew 28:20

Telephone: (828) 464-4635 / Email: pastorcharmaine@gmail.com / Text : (781) 913-4415

July 2021

July 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jun 27	28	29	30	Jul 1 7pm - Hand & Foot cardgame (Faithbuilders' class)	2 7pm Dominos (Faithbuilders classroom)	3
4 08:45am Service (Sanctuary) 10-10:45am Optional SS 11am Service 3-6pm Domino's	5 6pm-Cub Scouts (CFLC) 7pm Boy Scouts (CFLC) OFFICE CLOSED	6	7 1pm Hand & Foot (Middle High Classroom)	8 7pm - Hand & Foot cardgame (Faithbuilders' class)	9 7pm Dominos (Faithbuilders classroom)	10
11 08:45am Service 10-10:45am Optional SS 11am Service 3-6pm Domino's Set-up for VBS	12 1pm Queen Esther's 2pm - Circle #2 Meeting 6pm-Cub Scouts (CFLC) 7pm Boy Scouts (CFLC) Set-up for VBS	13 Set-up for VBS (CFLC/Classrooms)	14 1PM - QUEEN ESTHER'S (CLARK CLASSROOM) 1pm Hand & Foot (Middle High Set-up for VBS)	15 7pm - Hand & Foot cardgame (Faithbuilders' class) Set-up for VBS (CFLC/Classrooms)	16 7pm Dominos (Faithbuilders classroom) Set-up for VBS (CFLC/Classrooms)	17 Set-up for VBS (CFLC/Classrooms)
18 08:45am Service 10-10:45am Optional SS 11am Service 5:45-8:30pm Both Vans 5:45-8:30pm VBS	19 5:45-8:30pm Both Vans (for VBS) 5:45-8:30pm VBS (CFLC/classrooms)	20 5:45-8:30pm Both Vans (for VBS) 5:45-8:30pm VBS (CFLC/classrooms)	21 1pm Hand & Foot (Middle High 5:45-8:30pm Both Vans (for VBS) 5:45-8:30pm VBS	22 5:45-8:30pm Both Vans (for VBS) 5:45-8:30pm VBS (CFLC/classrooms)	23 7pm Dominos (Faithbuilders classroom) Decorate - Wedding - Price (Sanctuary / CFLC)	24 5pm - Rehearsal (Sanctuary) Decorate - Wedding - Price (Sanctuary / CFLC)
25 08:45am Service 10-10:45am Optional SS 11am Service 3-6pm Domino's 6pm-Price/Mercado	26 6pm-Cub Scouts (CFLC) 7pm Boy Scouts (CFLC)	27	28 1pm Hand & Foot (Middle High Classroom)	29 7pm - Hand & Foot cardgame (Faithbuilders' class)	30 7pm Dominos (Faithbuilders classroom)	31

Birthdays

Who = (everyone except removed); Filter = Birthday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 Carol Warren	5 Dana Little Sady Little	6 Mary Ann Simpson	7 J.R. Duncan	8 Armando Lagunas Brenda Novotny Hannah Woods	9 Taylor Higgins Joshua Lafone	10 Billy Boston
11 Jeanne Laws	12 Dawn Barbersek Betty Fisher Kim Little Harold Thornburg Kent Walker	13	14	15 Keith Hall	16 Michele Danner Kathryn Muller Heather Norman Brenda Putnam	17 Patsy Isaac Elijah Matson
18 Mark Hamilton	19 Elizabeth Conner Ethan Wright	20 Ray Penley Phyllis Robinson Camden Spencer	21 Kim Hentschel Beverly Swithenbank	22 Scott Little	23 Rona Saunders Marsha Williams	24
25	26 Samantha Hawn Sandy Loftin Jo Anne Phillips	27 Revonda Matthews Nick Pittman Jake Wright	28	29 Kaela Briggs Margaret Garrison Christy Greco	30 Sara Knecht Matthew Morrow Saylor Spencer-Wooten	31 Wyatt Fulbright

Wedding Anniversaries

Who = (everyone except removed); Filter = Wedding

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5 Jake and Barbara Stines Johann and Annabella Stoltz	6	7 John and Betsy Hemmings Scott and Andrea Little	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 Taylor and Fara Dellinger
18	19 Lee Jr. and Michele Moritz Thad and Margie Sparkman	20	21	22	23	24
25 Bill and Anita Huffman	26	27	28 Charlie and Tommi Anderson	29	30 David and Brenda Putnam	31 John and Sally Hartner