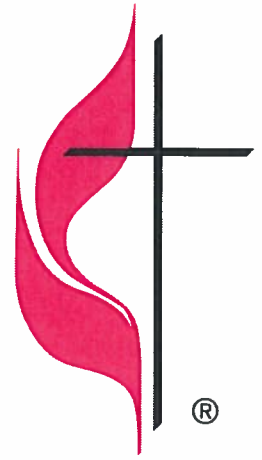




CONOVER  
FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST

## *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*

*September 8, 2021*

### **WHISPERS IN THE WOODS — *The Way of Grace***

*For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.*

*—Ephesians 2:8*

The sight made me smile and more than that, it was a good example of grace I saw one day: a dog riding in a Mercedes Benz. Lots of dogs get to ride in cars, but this one conjures up a great picture for us.

Not every dog has the high honor of being transported in such a fancy car. But there he was, prancing back and forth on the plush seat, proud as a peacock, and taking in all the scenery. You would've thought that dog owned the car. While his circumstances were a cut above the average canine's, they were through no doings of his own.

Without the owner-driver, that 'ol dog would've been hard put. He was riding high because his Master had bought him, cared for him, gave him the run of that nice car, and even opened the door for him. Mr. Dog was indebted to his Master for all of it. And it didn't cost him a thing!

God's grace toward us is like that. Grace is that beautiful word that describes our unmerited favor from God.

We ride in the chariot of God's love, not because we deserve to, but because the Lord makes it possible. We may even think or act high and mighty, but our pedigree is a lot lower than we may want to admit: sinner. Jesus paid for us with His own blood, loves us and cares for us, opens the door of salvation for us and rides with us to a destination we can only dream about. Because of Jesus, we are where we are, and it didn't cost us a thing! That's the way of grace. Thanks be to God for His vast love toward us!

*—Pastor John*

# \*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:

Anne & Jeff Barrier  
Alex, Hiley & Jolie Baucom  
Danny, Sandy & Ashley Baucom  
Don, Andrea & Grace Ann Beatty  
Jordan Beatty  
Hank Beck

## 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

John Hartner - Saint Vincent Hospital - Erie, PA

## MEMORIALS

### Music Fund

In memory of Roy "Tut" Johnston by:  
Carol Dickinson

### Organ Fund

In memory of Roy "Tut" Johnston by:  
UMM

## ATTENTION GOODTIMERS!

Our Goodtimers covered dish luncheon for September 15th has been cancelled. Due to an increase in the Delta Variant of COVID, it is better to be safe than sorry! We may reschedule for another day.

Eddie Warren, Director

## UPPER ROOMS

The Sept. / Oct. "Upper Room" devotional books are available for pick-up. They are located in the bookcase outside the Conference Room by 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/>

## 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

## A NEED IN THE PRESCHOOL

The Preschool's copier that they have had for years has finally stopped working. They are in need of a copier that uses one black toner cartridge instead of several toner cartridges. They will only be making copies and not printing to this copier.

They sometimes need to make copies in the classroom and cannot come down to the church office and leave their classroom to make those copies.

If you would like to donate a copier to the Preschool and receive a gift-in-kind for your donation, please contact the church office at (828) 464-4635 or Julie Robinson, the Director, in the Preschool at (828) 466-3158. Thank you.

**As of August 31, 2021**

### DESIGNATED "FUND" BALANCES

Fund Name	Organ	Wireless/ Sound	
		System	
Total Cost	\$ 79,891.55		??
Collected-to-date	\$ 66,180.55		??
<b>Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$ 13,711.00</b>	<b>\$ 24,650.00</b>	
*End Date	12/31/21		12/31/21

\*The decision has been made to end collection for the above Funds at the end of the year.

## PASTOR'S QUIZ



Matthew speaks of

- sisters of Jesus
- one sister of Jesus
- no sisters of Jesus
- a step-sister of Jesus

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

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence September 5, 2021  
Sunday School  
84

Worship:	
8:45am Service	96
11:00am Service	81
Live Streaming	47
<b>Total</b>	<b>224</b>

### God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund \$ 13,918.00  
(Needed weekly for budget: \$12,596)

Children's Bank	67.10
Music Fund	50.00
Organ Fund	250.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 14,285.10</b>

## EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

I am Jarrett Rheeder, a member of First United Methodist Church and also a Life Scout of Boy Scout Troop 325. My Eagle project proposal has been approved and I am going to enhance the baseball field at Newton-Conover Middle School. My time at middle school was memorable and I feel like giving something back.

Currently, the baseball field does not have warm-up areas for the pitchers and catchers, which can lead to injuries if they are not properly warmed up. My project is to install two warm-up areas, both home and visiting team sides. Then we will remove the cubbies in the dugouts. They are too high for the players to reach. Remember, these are middle school kids. We will pressure wash the dugouts and paint them in the Newton-Conover red and black colors. We will make the cubbies bigger, rearrange them and then add them back to the dugouts.

I would like to ask for your support by making a donation. There will be a plate at the entrance to the church when you exit. Please make checks out to **Troop 325** and write in the memo field "Jarrett Eagle Project". If you would like to use PayPal, please send your donation to [troop325.420@gmail.com](mailto:troop325.420@gmail.com) and again, write in the memo field "Jarrett Eagle Project".

Thank you for your support and for your support to the Boy Scout Program.

**"Once an Eagle Scout, Always an Eagle Scout."**



First United Methodist Church  
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 Conover, NC 28613  
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## 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>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>
11/14	12/5
11/28	12/12



Answer to this week's Pastor's Quiz:

a. sisters of Jesus  
 (Matthew 13:56)

## **GUESTS for Sunday, September 5, 2021:**

26 households viewed by live-streaming at

1.8 persons per household = 47

8:45am Service - 96; 11:00am Service - 81

Total: 224

WNCC now recommends 1.8 persons per household.

## **CHURCH STAFF**

Pastor	Rev. John Woods (pastor@fumcconover.org)
Associate Pastor of Faith Development	Rev. Charmaine Van Rooyen (pastorcharmaine@gmail.com)
Office Administrator / Financial Secretary	Robin Mays (fumcc@fumcconover.org)
Music Director/Choir	Jon Rogers (jsrogers99@gmail.com) (828) 244-7019
Music Director/Praise Team/ Pianist	Shannon Rogers (srog101@gmail.com) (828) 244-6124
Organist	Kevin Haney khaney01@gmail.com (704)914-6510
Preschool Director	Julie Robinson (466-3158) (ps@fumcconover.org)
Lead Nursery Worker Custodian	Pilar Tobar Luisa Toro Bryan
Church Office	(828) 464-4635
Website:	www.fumcconover.org
Sr. Pastor's phone numbers	(828) 464-4635-church (336) 480-4550-cell
Sr. 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

# MORE NEWS TO USE

## BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

(September 12 – October 24)

The United Methodist Women of FUMC of Conover met on August 14. Our program was given by a speaker for Pregnancy Care Center of Catawba Valley. We learned of the spiritual, physical, and emotional support given women and men facing pregnancies. ( [www.pcchickory.com](http://www.pcchickory.com) )

Our women's unit chose to support this agency and their mission by participating in the Baby Bottle Campaign along with the help of the members of FUMC of Conover. With our spare change or check, we will enable the agency to "offer women and families resources such as: free pregnancy testing, limited ultrasounds, and educational classes".

The bottles will be in the church narthex Sunday, September 12. You may return them on these dates: October 3 or October 24.

The UMW unit would like to thank you for helping to support this agency and its worthy mission.

Lois Goodson  
UMW President



Friends,

I am proud to serve on the Board of Disciple Bible Outreach Ministries and offer this opportunity for support up to you. As we come out of COVID this is a great way to support both DBOM and our inmates in North Carolina. Please note the email from Dr. Mark Hicks, Director of DBOM (below).  
David Christy, Catawba Valley District Superintendent

Dear David and Friends of the Catawba Valley District:

Disciple Bible Outreach Ministries is providing prayer books to prison inmates throughout North Carolina. These prayer books will offer spiritual support to our inmate population during the time of COVID. COVID has ravaged our prisons with soaring infection rates. As a result, there is much fear and anxiety among our prison population. The prayer book being provided is "Hear My Voice - A Prison Prayer Book." This resource printed by Augsburg Press offers prayers, scripture lessons and devotions designed specifically for our prison population. If you would be willing to help, you may make a donation to Disciple Bible Outreach Ministries of NC, Inc.. Please specify "prison books" on your donation. Books are \$10 each which includes postage and handling. Online donations can be received at [www.disciplebibleoutreach.org](http://www.disciplebibleoutreach.org).

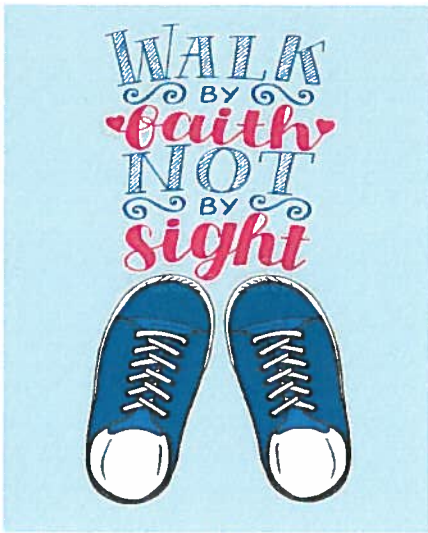
Thank you for your generosity,

Mark Hicks, Director  
336-689-1443

Disciple Bible Outreach Ministries of NC, Inc.  
PO Box 358  
Oak Island, NC 28465  
[www.disciplebibleoutreach.org](http://www.disciplebibleoutreach.org)

*"I was in prison and you came to me."*

*"In as much as you have done it unto the least of these you have done it to me."*



# FUMCC Youth Ministry

Our devotions for this youth year will be focused on living by faith and relationships, especially our personal relationship with God. Several families are opening their homes for us to gather and have lots of different activities planned to help build the relationships within our group also. Below are the activities that we have planned for the remainder of 2021. We encourage our youth to bring a friend with them to our scheduled meetings. A youth survey has been sent to retrieve general information and sizes for youth t-shirts. Please complete that survey as soon as possible.



DATE	EVENT	TIME
Sunday, September 12	Youth Meeting at the home of Bill, Jenny & Michael Harris (Lake Party)	4 PM – 7 PM
Sunday, September 26	Youth Meeting at the home of Ryan, Angela & Rylee Garrison (Pool Party)	4 PM – 7 PM
Sunday, October 10	Youth Meeting at the home of Alan, Melissa & Drew Fisher	4 PM – 7 PM
Sunday, October 24	Youth Meeting at the home of Bryan, Donna & Jessie Ross	4 PM – 7 PM
Sunday, November 7	Ministry teams will meet from 4 PM – 7 PM to prepare for Youth Sunday. Anyone interested in participating in Praise Team and/or the Drama team, please attend this practice. <u>We will only have two practices to prepare for Youth Sunday.</u>	4 PM – 7 PM
Sunday, November 14	Ministry teams will meet from 4 PM – 7 PM to prepare for Youth Sunday. Anyone interested in participating in Praise Team and/or the Drama team, please attend this practice. <u>This will be the final practice before Youth Sunday.</u>	4 PM – 7 PM
Sunday, November 21	YOUTH SUNDAY – your church family loves this service and they are amazed by your talent and willingness to participate.	
Sunday, December 5	Our Annual Progressive Dinner will be hosted by the Fisher's and the Sierzenga's. <i>(More details to follow)</i>	TBA

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

Dana Little (828-320-9904 / [da\\_little2003@yahoo.com](mailto:da_little2003@yahoo.com))