



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*

*January 11, 2022*

### **STEWARDS OF OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS AT FUMCC**

*“Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as you ever can.” – John Wesley*

The past two years have undoubtedly given us reasons to pause and reflect on many things in life, especially those things that mean the most to us. At the time of my writing, cases of the Omicron variant of the coronavirus are escalating across our nation and our community and while we strive to be careful, we are all trying to find ways of creating routines that take into account new realities – health-related, economic, emotional, and spiritual – as well as trying to return to some of the good things of life that have been disrupted by the pandemic.

It would be an understatement to say that 2021 was another year that required of us continual adjustments to ‘...the changes and chances of this fleeting world’. But there is one thing that I have noticed during these times. No matter what may happen, through pandemic and storms and disruptions, the reason FUMCC means so much to so many, is that it is home; a place to not only worship our loving God, but to do so among ‘family and friends’. Even amidst so much upheaval in our lives these past two years, we can still confidently move forward because we place our hope and trust in the One who will never change or fail us or let us go. That is a priceless gift from God to each of us.

To that end, my ‘family and friends’ at FUMCC, may everything we do in word and deed, be our song of thanksgiving in response to our Great God. Despite all that has happened, we have been blessed beyond measure. We have grown, we are healthy, and we are moving forward in the Faith as part of the ‘family of Christ’. That is what endures. That is what gives meaning to our lives.

As Pastor John extolled in a recent sermon, we are to ‘...become a people who respond to Jesus’ call to serve... and be involved in his Kingdom-work’. Goals such as, adding to our flock, increasing worship attendance by 10% and increasing our missions and outreach efforts by one-third (1/3), will all require a renewed purpose and continued effort on our behalf to support our ‘family’, so we can be what our neighbors and friends need us to be in our community of Conover, NC and beyond. Good things are happening here, even amidst difficult circumstances, and your generous giving allows us to have a vital ministry to our own ‘family’ and to those beyond our doors.

It is only appropriate that we begin this new year with emphasis on our continual stewardship of God’s bounty on FUMCC. Christian stewardship is about so much more than the giving of financial resources. It requires a mindful effort of reflection and prayer about the ways in which God might be calling each of us to support our church ‘family’ and live out our vision for FUMCC. As a church, we have weathered the storms of these past two years, thanks to your generosity and dedication in giving of your time, talents and treasures. And now that we are faithfully moving forward together, into another chapter of our church family’s history, we seek your further involvement to embolden our Mission and Ministry. May we call to mind these innumerable blessings as we prayerfully consider our commitments to our ‘friends and family’ in 2022.

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(Continued from front page)

As we begin to regain our footing after two years of pandemic-induced circumstances, let us be reminded that our operational budget has increased above 2021-levels by 5.69%. From Missions to Nurture Ministries, Youth programs, Hoops for Christ, Harvest Festival, Bible Schools, Prayer Walk, Sunday Schools, Pre-school, Building & Grounds expenses – all are or will be returning with renewed vigor that will rely on our time, talents and treasures for their continued growth, outreach and upkeep.

During every Stewardship season, we ask that you complete a 'pledge' of your support for our ministries and operations as your 'statement of intent' or commitment to the furtherance of our vision at FUMCC. To date, as a church 'family', we have received pledges for approximately 61% of our 2022 budgeted needs. We gratefully acknowledge all of you who have not only fulfilled your pledge commitment for the current year but have even exceeded it. We appreciate the efforts made by so many of you who regularly submit your pledges, even by weekly mail. We thank those of our church 'family' who have resumed their giving this past year. We also extend an invitation to those who have not given of their financial gifts to step forward in faith and in thanksgiving for our many blessings. You are all vital and needed members of this church 'family', and your support, be it your time, your talents or your treasure, is immensely appreciated.

*"And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."*

May this verse from Paul be for us the hallmark of who and what we are as a 'family of FUMCC'; an enduring characteristic of how we live in the Faith which is readily visible to all who look at our example. May God bless you abundantly in wisdom, discernment and stewardship in 2022.

M. Kent Walker  
Chairman – Finance Committee

## **\*PRAYERS, PRAISES AND NEEDS\***

### **THANK YOU**

Thanks for all your prayers for Alma Jo. She will begin her chemo treatments and also have an endoscopy later this month. I will let you know how she is doing. She is expecting about 5 months of chemo at this time.

Your prayer chain is much appreciated.  
Alma Dixon

**MONDAY, JAN. 17 - OFFICE CLOSED  
FOR MLKJ HOLIDAY; NEWSLETTERS  
WILL BE MAILED OUT WED.-JAN 19.**

**IN / OUT OF HOSPITAL**  
Tony Garrison at Wake Forest Medical Center



### ***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:*

Jeannie Houston  
Randy & Diane Howard  
Tina & Sam Hudson  
Bill & Anita Huffman  
Melissa Hunsucker  
Susan & Mack Hunsucker

### **MEMORIALS** **General Fund**

In memory of M.G. Doub by:  
FUMCC United Methodist Men  
Gene & Beverly Swithenbank  
Judy Rayburn-Young  
Susan Hunsucker

### **Preschool Fund**

In memory of M.G. Doub by:  
Clyde & Carol Kistler  
Pat & Alice Woods

# NEWS TO USE

## REV. DIXON & MARGERY ADAMS' DAY

The members of Conover First United Methodist Church have designated Sunday, January 16, 2022 as Rev. Dixon & Margery Adams' Day. Please join us Sunday, January 16 for a reception from 2:00 - 4:00 in the Connor Family Life Center to honor them for their lifetime dedication to the Lord and their fellowman.

*"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord and He delighteth in his way."*

(Psalms 37:23)



## PRAYER WALK MEETING TIME Sunday, Jan. 23rd at 2:00pm

Yes it is hard to believe it was just Christmas and we are talking about Easter. Without Christmas there would be no Easter and Easter is the most glorious season of the Church.

We will have our first Prayer Walk Planning Committee Meeting on Sunday January 23rd at 2PM in the CFLC. So I ask all of those that help to please attend; Art Dept.; Props Dept.; Costume Dept.; Etc.

This will be an initial meeting to get dates and times, determine what we do and do not need for this Easter Season Prayer Walk. We have three months and they will pass in a hurry. I look forward to seeing all of you there.

Anthony Price



## PASTOR'S QUIZ

The home city of Joseph and Mary was

- a. Jerusalem
- b. Nazareth
- c. Bethlehem
- d. Capernaum



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

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence January 9, 2021  
Sunday School  
66

Worship:

8:45am Service	88
11:00am Service	69
Live streaming	67
Total	224

### God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund	\$ 19,424.00
<i>(Needed weekly for budget: \$13,609)</i>	
Children's Bank	12.75
Preschool Fund	125.00
Total	\$ 19,561.75

## Women of FUMC of Conover

You are invited to a gathering of women of faith on January 22, 2022 at 9:30AM.

Our program will be provided by a retired missionary, Rose Ann Childres, of Connelly Springs, NC. She and her husband Roger served for 20 years in four areas of southern Africa. This is a new year for our local unit of UMW. We have prayed and seek to make our UMW unit a gathering of women of all ages and talents who seek to serve God.

Please come join us as we start a new year in service to our Lord.

Lois Goodson

United Methodist Women President

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

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Conover, NC

**PLEDGE CARDS AND  
AREAS OF MINISTRY**

Please remember to turn in your pledge cards and the sheets of Areas of Ministry. Make sure to put your name on the Areas of Ministry sheets.

Thank you.



**RECYCLE OLD  
PUBLICATIONS**

Please place your used Upper Room or other Christian books to be recycled in the container marked "Upper Room" in the upstairs hallway beside the water fountain or in the Common Area where you pick up your new "Upper Rooms".

Thank you,  
Laurette Rheeder



Answer to this week's Pastor's Quiz:

b. Nazareth  
( Luke 2:39 )

**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  (828) 464-4635
Church Office	www.fumcconover.org
Website:	
Sr. Pastor's phone numbers	(828) 464-4635-church (336) 480-4550-cell
Sr. Pastor's address	612 6th Ave NE Conover, NC 28613 (781) 913-4415 - cell
Associate Pastor's phone #	1307 8th Avenue NW Conover, NC 28613
Associate Pastor's address	

# Fueling Faith



## Women's Winter Tea Party

It has been pressed upon my heart that the generational gaps within our church and community must be bridged. I invite you to bring a friend, colleague, neighbor, your granddaughters, your grandmothers, ANY WOMEN to join us for several events over the coming months as we work together to make this happen.

In the Fall Dana Little hosted a Fashion Show that brought together so many women. We all enjoyed an afternoon of laughter and a longing for more of the same. In January we will be hosting a **Winter Tea** for women of all ages. It might be a walk down memory lane or a little girl's first tea party you witness as you connect with someone old and someone new at your tables!

In 2 Timothy 1:5 Paul says: "I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well." Join me on a journey to become the "YOU" in this verse.

Pastor Charmaine

Please turn the page for details.

Cut on the dotted line.  
Share.

**Women's Winter Tea Party**

January 30, 2022

2pm - 4pm



At Conover First United Methodist Church  
410 First Ave North, Conover  
in the Connor Family Life Center

Dress: Choose to

- ◆ express who you are, or
- ◆ for 'Tea with the Queen'

**R.S.V.P. by January 23, 2022**

Call 828-464-4635, Text 781-913-4415 or  
email [pastorcharmaigne@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcharmaigne@gmail.com)

Entrance to the Connor Family Life Center is located in the parking lot behind the church office, towards the back of our campus.

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# **WE WELCOME OUR NEWEST BAPTIZED MEMBERS TO FUMCC SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2022**



Daniel Silas Wike and Cali Wrynn Elizabeth Wike  
3944 Shad Lane  
Catawba, NC 28609

Pictured left to right: Dillon, Daniel, Emma Grace,  
Ashley, Cali Wrynn, Jan Morrow & David Morrow