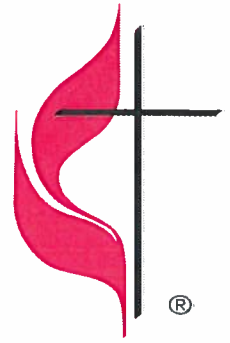


Our Vision:



*“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 4, 2022

An elderly lady was amazed at how nice the young man was next door. Everyday he would help her gather things from her car or help her in her yard. One day the woman finally asked the young man, “Son, how did you become such a fine young man?”

The neighbor replied, **“Well, when I was a boy, I had a drug problem.”**

The old lady was shocked, *“I can’t believe that!”*

The young man replied, *“It’s true, my parents drug me to church on Sunday morning, drug me to church on Sunday night and drug me to church on Wednesday night!”*

There are a lot of good reasons for worship to be a regular part of your life (even beyond God’s command):

1. WORSHIPPING EACH WEEK IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE JESUS IS ALIVE.

We go to worship each week **because Jesus is alive**. Jesus rose from the dead on a Sunday morning. As the news spread, his disciples spent that whole day telling each other the story and talking about what it all meant. They named it “The Lord’s Day.” It was a powerful way to spend the day, so they decided to do it again the next week. And every week ever since, for two thousand years.

So, think of it like your birthday. The day you were born is so special to the people who love you that they celebrate it every year. The day Jesus rose from the dead is so special to people who love him that we celebrate it every single week.

2. WORSHIP IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE WE WANT TO REMEMBER AND PRACTICE THE GOSPEL.

Some words are easier to learn than others. No one needs to teach us words like “mine” and “no!” But other words are more difficult, and take a lot of time to learn — words like “Thank you” and “I’m sorry.”

Church is a place where we practice these words in the most important ways. We can see our sin and what it means, we can feel regret in our hearts and say, “God, I’m sorry for sinning against you.” We can hear his words of forgiveness to us and say, “Thank you, Jesus, for saving me.”

Interestingly, learning those words makes words like “mine” and “no!” — harder and harder to say.

I remember hearing how Dr. Norman Neaves and his wife Kipp were leading a group on a tour of England, and one of the stops was St. Paul’s Cathedral in London. It’s an awesome structure, even more beautiful on the inside than it is impressive on the outside.

Standing there admiring the beautiful artwork, Kipp found herself standing next to an elderly British gentleman. He was looking up at the magnificent dome of St. Paul’s and tears were running down his wrinkled cheeks. After a moment he turned and said: *“I live less than 20 miles from here, and yet this is the first time I’ve ever come into this cathedral since I moved here over 50 years ago!”* He just could not imagine how beautiful and inspiring it really was, and so for 50 years he had denied himself the exquisite experience, even though he was so close.

DON’T DENY YOURSELF THE GIFT OF WORSHIP!

You’re probably not 20 miles away. **Engage your heart. ENCOUNTER THE PRESENCE OF GOD.** Change your life. And bear fruit for the Kingdom. I hope to see you in worship on Sunday!

Grace and Peace!

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:

Aubrey & Ashley (Markland) Hite
Jack & Gaye Hoke
Jimmy & Mary Jean Hollar
Kenneth & Dianne Hollar
Charles, Mary & Matthew Hornick
Elizabeth Hornick & Kaitlin Hornick

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

Jeanette Davis at Abernathy Laurels Rehab
(Please send cards to her home address)

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 - (Currently at Trinity Ridge for Rehab)
Catawba Valley Living at
Rock Barn (Room 107)
4174 Shook Road
Claremont, NC 28610

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

Rick Parker at Trinity Ridge Rehab
Tony Garrison at Wake Forest Medical Center

MEMORIALS General Fund

In memory of Tut Johnston by:
Martha Johnston

In memory of M.G. Doub by:
Linda Whitley
Brad & Kim Little
Carol Dickinson
Keith & Tommie Hall

Organ Fund

In memory of M.G. Doub (Office Volunteer) by:
Robin Mays

Preschool Fund

In memory of Linda Beck by:
Lynn & Rita Watson

In memory of M.G. Doub by:
Lynn & Rita Watson

HONORARIUM Organ Fund

In honor of all office volunteers in 2021 by:
Robin Mays

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Mr. Melbourne Gary (M.G.) Doub died Wed., December 22, 2021 at the age of 93. A Service of Remembrance was held at FUMCC on Wednesday, December 29, 2021 at 11am. Pastor John Woods officiated. Due to COVID, a slide show of photos of M.G.'s life was shown prior to the service at 10am. A private entombment was held at Catawba Memorial Park. Our thoughts and prayers are with Gray, Ginger and the family during this sad time.

NEWS TO USE

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

Yes it is hard to believe it was just Christmas last week 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



PHONE # CORRECTION

Please note this correction in your new church directories.

Ron & Dottie Harris
(704) 460-4919 - Ron's cell

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)

PASTOR'S QUIZ

"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,"

- the shepherd who was needed by his flock
- Mary, after the birth of Jesus
- Simeon, who was not to see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ
- Anna, the eighty-four year old prophetess



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

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence December 26, 2021
Sunday School
51

Worship:	
8:45am Service	84
11:00am Service	51
Live streaming	<u>Not reported</u>
Total	135

Christmas Eve Services:	4:00pm	139
	6:00pm	114

God's Tithes & Our Gifts

General Fund \$ 12,522.00
(Needed weekly for budget: \$12,596)

Children's Bank	7.00
"Hoops for Christ"	10.00
Organ Fund	6,100.00
Tornado Relief	<u>525.00</u>
Total	\$ 19,164.00

December 31, 2021	
General Fund	\$ 7,169.50
Organ Fund	<u>60.00</u>
Total	\$ 7,229.50

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence January 2, 2022
Sunday School
58

Worship:	
8:45am Service	77
11:00am Service	76
Live streaming	<u>68</u>
Total	221

God's Tithes & Our Gifts

General Fund \$ 8,140.50
(Needed weekly for budget: \$13,609)

Children's Bank	12.00
Preschool Fund	<u>50.00</u>
Total	\$ 8,202.50

First United Methodist Church
410 First Avenue North
Conover, NC 28613
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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:

c. Simeon, who was not to see death before he had
seen the Lord's Christ
(Luke 2:25-29)

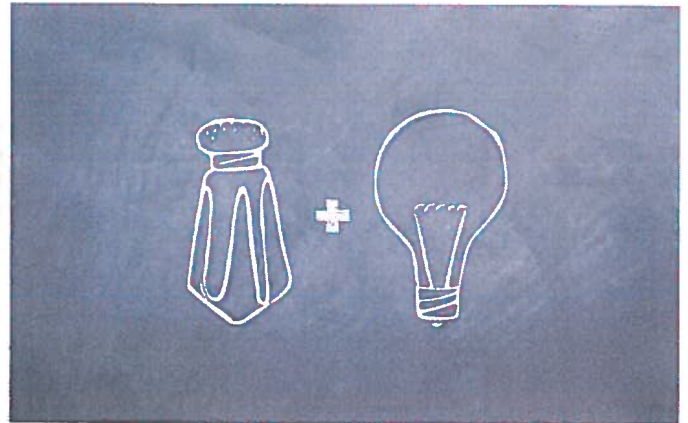
CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. John Woods (pastor@fumconover.org)
Associate Pastor of Faith Development	Rev. Charmaine Van Rooyen (pastorcharmaigne@gmail.com)
Office Administrator / Financial Secretary	Robin Mays (fumcc@fumconover.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@fumconover.org)
Lead Nursery Worker Custodian	Pilar Tobar Luisa Toro Bryan
Church Office	(828) 464-4635
Website:	www.fumconover.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

HAPPY New Year

May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us...

PSALM 90:17a



WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

There are a lot of opportunities for you to be in ministry these days at FUMC! Look over these needs and see if there's some place you can use your time, gifts and abilities to be in service:

- ☞ Help cover the church office on occasion
- ☞ Visit, call, or write to our congregational shut-ins
- ☞ Volunteer to help with our monthly ECCCM ministry.
- ☞ Help with our Children's or our Youth Ministries
- ☞ Greet or Usher on Sundays (on a rotating basis)
- ☞ Join the Choir or offer special music for worship



"Resolution One: I will live for God.
Resolution Two: If no one else does, I still will."

~Jonathan Edwards

THE COVENANT PRAYER OF JOHN WESLEY

"I am no longer my own, but thine.

*Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt;
put me to doing, put me to suffering,*

*let me be employed for thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low for thee; let me be full, let me be empty;
let me have all things, let me have nothing;*

*I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now glorious and blessed
God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. thou art mine and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant, which
I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen."*



Why not join in praying this prayer right now as we begin this new year together?

We at First Conover UMC can't think of anything that would make our Heavenly Father any happier.

NEWS & NOTES

Just a friendly health reminder....
that as we enter into the cold and flu season, please be respectful of those around you during church activities and worship.
If you have symptoms of a cold or the flu (fever, sneezing, cough, running nose), avoid some of the friendly contact many of us like to share (like shaking hands, hugs, etc.) until those symptoms have been gone for at least 24 hours.
Though we would miss you, it may even be a more loving gesture, for your own health and the health of all those at church, for you to stay home to rest and recuperate until "all clear."



SIGN UP TO PUT FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY

The 2022 flower calendar is available. If you would like to put flowers in the church on a particular Sunday please sign up by calling the church at 464-4635 or writing your name on a particular Sunday on the flower chart attached to the clip board. What a special way to honor someone you love!

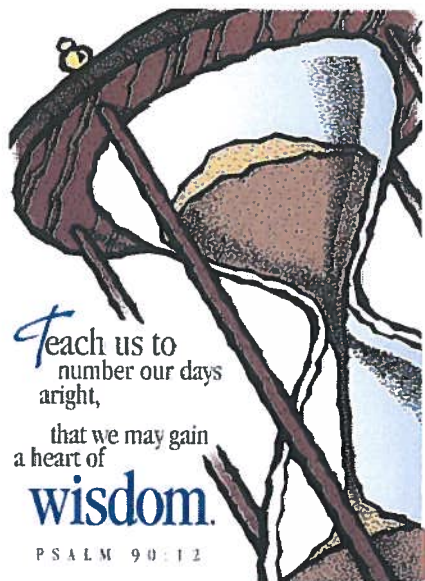


Teams *and* COMMITTEES

TO ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND LEADERS OF MINISTRY GROUPS

With the start of a new year and the start of a new person in the church office, we need your help!

If you have a regularly scheduled meeting for your committee/ group, please contact the church office with that information so we can schedule it on the master church calendar. Thank you!



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

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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