



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 19, 2022

The winter weather this week reminded me of another winter storm that happened some years ago. Much of the East Coast got hit with this parade of snow and ice storms. At one point, the storms seemed to be coming about every other day. Needless to say, the sand and the salt trucks were working around the clock, trying to keep the streets as safe as possible. Ultimately, though, the slippery stuff wasn't the biggest problem.

In one city, the real crisis was a salt shortage. Snow and ice are bad, but no salt to put on the roads? Well, that's just bad news. People were thinking, *“Hey, they ran out of salt!”* Actually, a city official explained that wasn't the problem. He said, *“There's plenty of salt. The problem is we can't get the salt from where it is to where it's needed.”*

In Matthew 5, as He is giving the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said: ***“You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled by men.”*** He goes on to describe us – you and me, as ***“the light of the world, like a city set on a hill.”*** Finishing with the image, Jesus then says, ***“Let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”***

As followers of Jesus, we are salt and light. Now, it doesn't take a lot of salt to change the environment. I mean, you don't need a pound of salt for a pound of meat, right? You don't have to have as much salt as there is ice. But in order for salt to do any good, it's got to be in contact with the thing it needs to change; on the street or on the meat. It doesn't do anything just sitting in a saltshaker or piled in a salt mountain somewhere in a big storage yard.

God's problem with getting Jesus to lost and dying people is the same as that winter emergency in that city; the salt wasn't getting where it was needed. We - who know Christ - often are not in enough meaningful contact with the people who need us most. It's as if there are these great mountains of spiritual salt in a very cold and frozen world. We salt people spend so much time in meetings with each other, doing programs for each other, having concerts, serving on committees, and doing things for each other, we're not getting to the people who are dying without our Jesus.

Jesus' "salt" needs to get out where it's needed. We need to leave the comfort of Salt Mountain and dare to risk getting involved in places where lost people are; to look at the unbelieving people around us and start building some bridges into their lives. More than anything else, God needs His people to get out and get close to some of the people who are not yet His people.

Would you dare to ask God today to lay some lost person on your heart? Maybe He already has. Then ask Him, *“God, help me be salt and light for the people within my reach who don't have You.”* And then invest yourself in what Jesus did. He came (the Bible says) *“to seek and to save those who are lost.”*

Too many people are slipping away, they're crashing because there's no salt making a difference where they are. Why not ask Jesus today to help you be where you're needed the most?

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:

Mike & Greta Induni
Patsy Isaac
Will & Sue James
John & Christine Jeffries (Visitors)
Adam, Melissa, Mackenzie & Tyler Johnson
Ken & Martha Johnson

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 - (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

Tony Garrison at WFMC (At home)

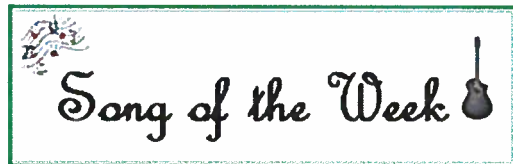
CORRECTION TO LAST WEEK'S NEWSLETTER INSERT

Our newest baptized member's name was incorrect. It is CaliWrynn (one word). Her older sister is EmmaGrace (one word) as well. Please accept our apologies for these mistakes.

THANK YOU

Thank you is not enough for all the prayers, cards, calls, gifts, visits and the many ways you showed your love and concern for me when I broke my hip. We have the best church ever. I love each and every one of you.

Many blessings in the New Year,
Jeanette Davis



The song of the week is "River of Life" by Mac Powell. Be sure to search it through YouTube or through Google and be ready to worship with us on Sunday!

Shannon Rogers

PSALM 34:4-5,8

I sought the LORD, and He answered me and delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to Him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed. Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him!

NEWS TO USE

REV. DIXON & MARGERY ADAMS' DAY

Due to the weather last weekend, we made the decision to postpone Rev. Dixon & Margery Adams' Day. Please continue to check the Newsletter and check your One Call Now recordings for the new date and time.

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

(Psalm 37:23)

PASTOR'S QUIZ



When the boy Jesus stayed in Jerusalem, sitting among the religious teachers in the temple, both hearing them and asking them questions, he was

- a. eight years old
- b. ten years old
- c. twelve years
- d. fourteen years old

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

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 Team Meeting on Sunday January 23rd at 2PM in the CFLC. So I ask all of those that want 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



Women of FUMC of Conover

You are invited to a gathering of women of faith tentatively set for February 26, 2022 at 9:30AM. The CFLC will be undergoing painting and repairs in the month of February, but hopefully will be available for that date.

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

Women's Winter Tea Party

Have you ever wished for a space where you can just hang out with your girl friends around the table, enjoying a hot cup of tea (or iced!!), snacking on some delicate "tea snacks"? PLUS, you do not have to clean up.

Dress Code. Let's just say the ice breaker starts at your closet. You can wear something that are 'so you' (jeans and T-shirt; bling; apron for the bakers; whatever!) OR dress for 'Tea with the Queen'. Your 'Sunday Best', maybe even a hat? OR come as you are for a time of fun and laughter. The best dressed in each of the categories will win a prize.

When: Sunday, **January 30, 2022** from 2—4pm. **R.S.V.P. by Wednesday, January 26, 2022** to allow for baking and making.

Call 828-464-4635, Text 781-913-4415 or pastorcharmaigne@gmail.com.

Pastor Charmaigne



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. twelve years old
(Luke 2:42-49)

CHURCH STAFF

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

MORE NEWS TO USE

MOVING FORWARD CONFERENCE

February 5, 2022 - 8:30am-3:00pm

Hello friends,

On February 5, from 8:30-3:00, Christ Church in Hickory is hosting the Moving Forward Conference featuring prominent pastors from the Wesleyan Covenant Association that we all know. What is happening with the future of the United Methodist Church? When will we know? What should we be doing in the meantime to further God's kingdom? These are some of the questions that will be discussed. The afternoon session features workshops that will help us better minister to the world in these uncertain times. I would like to invite you to register and attend one or both sessions. Hope to see you there! Text or email me for more information.

Michele Moritz

612-6747

To register go to our website www.fumconover.org and click on "News".

Morcrew@gmail.com

You may also register at: <https://christchurchforms.wufoo.com/forms>

WNC WCA's "MOVING FORWARD" Conference - February 5, 2022 8:45 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Christ Church, 2416 Zion Church Rd., Hickory, NC.

Speakers include:

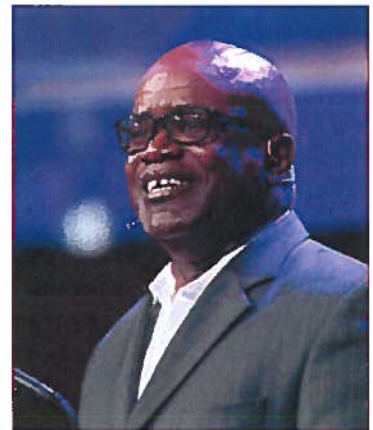
Carolyn Moore



Rev. Angela Pleasants



Rev. Ken Levingston



Keith Boyette



Garry Ingraham

