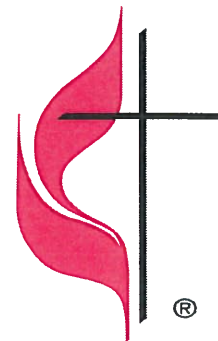




Our Vision:

*“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

March 15, 2022

CHANGE IS CONSTANT

Seasons change. Culture changes. Technology changes. Lives change all the time. Change makes us feel uncomfortable. Yet, here we are, constantly having to adapt and change.

Change is the only constant. Blessed are the flexible.

These are quotes I often heard when I was in Dr. Patty Meyer's classes completing my master's degree.

We wake up one day and unexpectedly our world is different. COVID made that abundantly clear. In our church we are met with change often. Pastoral changes - we are Methodist; growth changes - because it is needed: technology in worship services, ministries that change with the church seasons. And then there is life... life in this amazing universe our God has created for us changes when we face health crisis. We wake up one morning and we realize 'my children are grown', 'I'm getting old' and 'my parents are now elderly'.

On Friday a friend of mine suddenly passed away. He died. He is gone from this earth, and while I celebrate his arrival in heaven, I mourn with his teenage children and his spouse of 21 years. Their lives have changed. There is no going back. No amount of yearning can change that.

It makes me consider life in general. How lucky I am to serve God alongside you here in Conover. We are so blessed at this church! I consider all we offer during Easter: Easter4Kids on April 2nd, Journey to Jerusalem (Prayer Walk) during Holy week, April 11 - 13, 15; Maundy Thursday Service at 7pm (April 14). I am amazed at the many ministries we participate in, whether it be as a church or in private capacities. God is SO GOOD!

The GOOD NEWS is that God never changes His love for us. He is with us always.

Philippians 4:4-7 has been Scripture I have been clinging too in this time of change. *Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Friends, let us make one thing in our lives a constant. Let us pray for one another as we place our hope in Christ Jesus.

Pastor Charmaine

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:

Johnny & Denise Moose; Kyle Moritz; Lee & Michele Moritz; Lee & Betty Moritz; Michael, Debbie & Erin Moritz; Dave & Janet Morrow.

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
(828) 381-4988 - Rick's cell
(828) 381-7328 - Linda's cell

Dottie Harris, 1449 Brookstone Drive
Hickory, NC 28602
(704) 460-4919 - Ron's cell

Revonda Matthews, 308 1st Avenue PL NE
Conover, NC 28613
(828) 465-1873

Lee & Betty Moritz, 103 County Home Road
Conover, NC 28613
(828) 464-3383

Dolores Setzer PO Box 1237
Conover, NC 28613
(828) 256-1421

Glenna Sherrill, 2038 North Deal Avenue
Newton, NC 28658
(828) 464-1874

Mary Ann Simpson, PO Box 1735
Conover, NC 28613
(828) 244-5524 - cell

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

Dottie Harris at CVMC (Room 204)
Richard Sears at WFMC (at home)
Annabella Stoltz in ER (at home)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Johann & Annabella Stoltz
210 3rd Avenue NE Apt. C27
Conover, NC 28613

A NOTE OF SYMPATHY

Regina Smal, age 96 of South Africa and grandmother of Laurette Rheeder, died March 4, 2022.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Laurette, Pierre, Gerhardt, Jarrett and the family during this sad time.

EASTER 4 KIDS

Calling all Children ages 2 thru 5th grade! You, and your family, are invited to a very special **EASTER CELEBRATION** on:

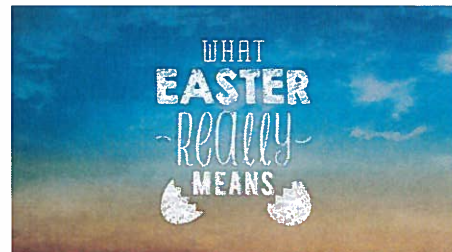
Saturday, April 2, 2022

10:00 am – 11:00

Connor Family Life Center

Children will learn about Jesus' journey through Jerusalem, from His entry on Palm Sunday to His resurrection. There will be stories, crafts, snacks and activities. This celebration will be a blessing to all children and their families. You won't want to miss it and be sure to invite friends, grandchildren, and neighbors!!

Bring Baskets for the Easter Egg Hunt!!



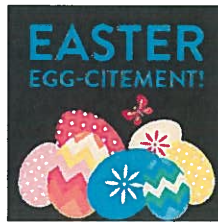
NEWS TO USE

CONNOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

For anyone wanting to apply for a Connor Scholarship, please contact the church office by phone (828) 464-4635 or via email - fumcc@fumconover.org to obtain an application. **The deadline for application submittable is March 31st.**

TRAINING SESSION FOR WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

There will be a training session held on Saturday March 19th at 9:00am for anyone that is currently volunteering or would like to volunteer during worship. This will be training on the sound board, live stream and ProPresenter (what shows on the screens during worship). Please join us in serving our ministry. Thank you,



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED EASTER 4 KIDS

Saturday, April 2, 2022

FUMCC will be inviting all children to an Easter Celebration just for kids. We will need many **VOLUNTEERS** to help the children learn about Jesus and his journey through Jerusalem – from His entry on Palm Sunday to His resurrection. We will offer crafts, activities, lessons, and snacks. To finish our celebration, there will be an Easter egg hunt.

Volunteers will be needed from 9:30 – 11:30. This is a fun event and an important ministry for all those who participate.

If you can help with one of the Bible verses, an activity or a craft, please contact JO ELLEN KNECHT at 828-244-9437 (joellenknecht@yahoo.com) or PASTOR CHARMAIGNE at pastorcharmaigne@gmail.com.

Thank you for your help and prayers.

PASTOR'S QUIZ



The version of the Lord's Prayer given in Luke 11 is, compared with that in Matthew 6

- shorter
- longer
- about the same length
- shorter in words but longer in letters

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

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence March 13, 2021
Sunday School
85

Worship:	
8:45am Service	87
11:00am Service	97
Live streaming	<u>N/A</u>
Total	184

God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund	\$ 9,198.00
<i>(Needed weekly for budget: \$13,609)</i>	
Children's Bank	23.00
Prayer Walk	<u>2,000.00</u>
Total	\$ 11,221.00

AS A COURTESY...

Please help us to make all of our new members and visitors feel at home during worship services by wearing your name tags.



FLOWER CHART DATES AVAILABLE



March 20
May 8
June 5, 12
Aug. 28
Sept. 11
Dec. 11

Please call the church office at 464-4635 to reserve a date on the flower chart.

First United Methodist Church
410 First Avenue North
Conover, NC 28613
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MARCH MADNESS AT ECCCM!!!

Time for March Madness at ECCCM!! Not so much the basketball games, but a friendly competition in the form of a food drive. Please donate food or money on behalf of your favorite college team. The team who gets the most donated food wins the challenge. Collection dates are March 1 - April 4.

FUMCC is participating in this March Madness food drive! Please leave your donated food in the team designated boxes located in the Conner Family Life Center. Money works, also! Each dollar counts as 3 pounds of food. Checks should include your team choice and FUMCC in the memo line. Checks may be mailed to ECCCM at P O Box 31, Newton, taken to ECCCM, or given to Anita Deal.

Thank you for supporting this ministry and our community.

Anita Deal, Representative



Answer to this week's Pastor's Quiz:

a. shorter
(Luke 11:2-4; Matthew 6:9-13)

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. John Woods (pastor@fumcconover.org) (828) 464-4635 (336) 480-4550 - cell 612 6th Ave NE Conover, NC 28613
Associate Pastor of Faith Development	Rev. Charmaine Van Rooyen (pastorcharmaigne@gmail.com) (781) 913-4415 - cell 1307 8th Ave NW Conover, NC 28613
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	Pilar Tobar
Custodian	Luisa Toro Bryan
Church Office	(828) 464-4635
Website:	www.fumcconover.org

MORE NEWS TO USE



EASTER BLESSINGS

Can you believe Easter is just a few weeks away? Would you once again help us spread love and blessings to our homebound and nursing facility members? Easter baskets will be placed outside Charmaine's office with the names of our 9 members. Please bring an Easter card and/or treat to add to each basket, either on Sunday morning or during the week. The names are listed in the newsletter. **The deadline will be April 10th** so the baskets can be delivered before Easter. Thank you so much for your amazing support of this ministry.

Susan Hunsucker



Song of the Week:

Use YouTube to listen to "The God Who Stays" by Matthew West. Let's worship the God who stays this Sunday!

THANK YOU FROM THE LIMITLESS PERFORMERS

We would like to thank First Conover UMC for supporting us with the generous gift from the Children's Bank offering. Without support from churches and individuals, we could not continue to offer this important opportunity to those who are less fortunate than we are.

We hope you'll join us for our Public Performance Showcase at the Green Room Community Theatre on Friday, March 25th at 6:30pm. Doors will open at 6:00pm.

We look forward to seeing you there!



COLUMBARIUM PRICING FOR 2022

Prices are for 1-1-2022 to 12-31-2022 and include the following:

The price of the Niche, Opening and Closing of the Niche one time and Bronze Plaque must be ordered at the time of purchase by the Church Office Staff.

Bronze Plaque: \$1,250.00

Double Niche: \$1,150.00

Single Niche: \$ 850.00

Pricing subject to change if cost changes during the year.

The Trustees



Wondering How You Can Help the People of Ukraine?

United Methodists and others wishing to provide humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people in the wake of the Russian invasion of their country may contribute to **Advance #982450, UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery**. This fund will provide direct assistance to those in Ukraine as well as assistance to Ukrainians fleeing to neighboring countries.

Gifts to support the people of Ukraine can be made in the following ways:

- By check with "Advance #982450-Ukraine" written on the memo line and made payable to First UMC Conover and placed in the offering plate on Sunday, March 20, 2022.
- Online at <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/982450>
- By toll free telephone: 888-252-6174

One hundred percent of all Advance contributions go to the designated cause. The United Methodist community in Ukraine, though quite small, is actively engaged in assisting neighbors in need. Global Ministries is in touch with the Church's leadership as well as with church leaders in countries welcoming those who are fleeing from violence in Ukraine.