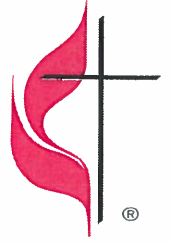


Our Vision:



CONOVER
FIRST UNITED
METHODIST

*“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

May 24, 2022

Pet Hair and Sin

My family is lucky enough to share a house with Wolfie, our 7 yr old Australian Cattle Dog. He is handsome, smart, loyal and very protective of his humans. No squirrels, bunnies, or strange cats are tolerated in our yard. Birds are only tolerated when they are perched on the bird feeder! As dearly as I love Wolfie we do have some issues with our boy. 1) We have to “baby-gate” him in the sitting room when we all leave the house or he will eat anything remotely edible. 2) He sheds ... a lot! So it is hard to accommodate his love for driving in my car with the window down. 3) He is strong and noise-sensitive, NOT a good combination! He has ripped three downspouts off the walls and a few yards of gutter came off the flashing when there were unexpected loud noises; thunder, builders delivering materials across the street and fireworks.

I believe we have the same dilemma when it comes to our faith. We love God dearly, our lives will be empty without Him. Sadly, we find ways to break out of the security of God’s expectations of us to snack on our worldly desires. Our sins are like pet hair that cling to us. We struggle to get rid of our bad habits, we struggle to be a good godly example to our families and neighbors. Most of all, when we react to the world and our pain and struggles, instead of turning to God in prayer FIRST, we get scared and start ripping things apart. We blame our parents, our spouses, our church families, society even the Government for our faults, suffering and pain. If we are honest with ourselves, we will see that it is our sinful nature that distracts us from our relationship with God. We want to live in His eternal home, we want to experience the fun side of being loved; but we are not as tolerant to the lessons we need to learn; lessons that will ultimately strengthen our relationship with God and others.

I love my Wolfie boy, I put up with his shedding, I take the time to make him safe, but I cannot put up with his destructive nature. I will lovingly have to redirect and desensitize him. God loves us even more than that. He tolerates our humanness with Divine grace. He forgives us when we profess our sins. He offers us Jesus so that we will stay whole in Christ. Is that not the best news?

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:

Jerry & Terry Shepherd, Glenna Sherrill, Don & Vata Shook, Jeff, Michelle, Ashley & Jacob Sierzenga, Carl, Lori, Megan & Lauren Sigmon, Danielle & Josh Sigmon.



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

Lin Couch - Trinity Village (Room 119)
1265 21st Street NE, Hickory, NC 28601
(828) 328-2006

Betty Fisher - Valley Nursing & Rehab (Room 606)
581 NC-16 S Taylorsville NC 28681
Cell - (828) 302-6608

Dottie Harris - The Addison of Lincolnton
440 Salem Church Road
Lincolnton, NC 28092

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

John & Betsy Hemmings, 2537 Birdie Lane
Conover, NC 28613
(828) 459-9444

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

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

Betsy Stoker at CVMC (At home)
Lin Couch at WFMC (Trinity Village-Room 119)



MEMORIAL Youth Fund

In Memory of Revonda Matthews by:
Cliff & Debbie Wike

NEW ADDRESS

Debra Byrd
725 8th Street NW
Faribault, MN 55021



NEWS FROM ECCCM'S GOLF TOURNAMENT

May 12, 2022, was a beautiful day. It began with our board and staff

working to finalize the setup of our 22nd Benefit Golf Tournament. Once everything was in place, we welcomed our golfers for a delicious lunch graciously prepared and served by the First United Methodist Church Men's Group in Conover. This lunch has become a wonderful tradition to fuel our golfers before the tournament kicks off.

As the golfers settled into their carts, Board Member Denny Schell took a moment to speak about Gussy Warren, a dear friend and board member who passed away in early March. Dexter Warren, Gussy's husband, gave a donation in her honor. Denny then closed in prayer, and the golfers headed to the starting tees.

This year's winning church team, taking the trophy for the second year in a row, hails from St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Newton. Golfers include Garry Rufty, Becky Schell, Mike Tripoli, and Ransom Graham. Our open team division winners are Steven Hoyle, Dewey Grant, Chris Carver, and Doyle Wyatt! Congratulations to our tournament team champs!

NEWS TO USE

GODLY PLAY



Our very first FULL SESSION of Godly Play will be presented on May 29th. Children PreK - 5th grade will leave the sanctuary with Pastor Charmaine after the children's message.

The session is a full hour so children will be dismissed to their Sunday school classes.

Parents, please plan to attend, your child(ren) will thank you!

Pastor Charmaine



PASTOR'S QUIZ

Jesus vanished from the apostles as they reached the town of

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

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

FLOWER CHART DATES AVAILABLE



June 5, 12
Sept. 11
Dec. 11, 18

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

STEWARDSHIP REPORTS

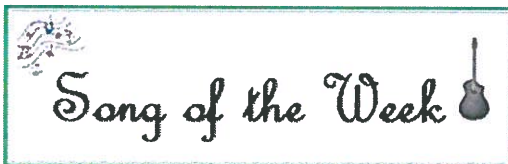
By Our Presence May 22, 2022
Sunday School
43

Worship:
10:30am Service 137
Live streaming 20
157

God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund \$ 6,546.00
(Needed weekly for budget: \$13,609)

Children's Bank 4.00
Youth Fund 50.00
Total \$ 6,625.00



"Raise a Hallelujah" by Bethel Music

BIRTHDAYS / ANNIVERSARIES

Please remember your June birthdays and June anniversaries **Sunday, June 5th** by bringing your offering to the altar. Please give \$.10 for every year old and \$.25 for every year married. This is to help the children's church bank.



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

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

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SUBSCRIBE by clicking on the red subscribe button.



Facebook.com - search for First United Methodist Church of Conover. "Like" to add to your profile.

Answer to this week's Pastor's Quiz:

a. Bethany
(Luke 24:50-51)

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