

**THE MESSENGER**  
**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**601 NORTH PINK STREET**  
**CHERRYVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA 28021**  
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**August 5, 2020**

**Vol. XXXI No. 8**

Rev. Zack Christy  
Pastor

Teresa Gardo  
Administrative Assistant

Bess Thornburg  
Director of Christian Education

Nancy Catena  
Pianist / Organist (Interim)

Linda Barger  
Chancel Choir Director

Andrew Harmon  
Handbell Director

Mildred Young  
FUMC Weekday Preschool Dir.

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**August Reflection**

1 John 4:18: *"There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in Love."*

Several years ago in October Crystal, Elijah, and myself took a family trip to CVS (on a side note when you have kids the destination of a trip becomes a lot less interesting, but the trips themselves become a lot more adventurous). Crystal needed to get some pictures that she had ordered, and we needed to get Elijah some ibuprofen because he was teething.

Now it just so happened that we made this trip at the same time Elijah was developing a new a personality trait. Typically with a child's development you celebrate every new growth, but this new development was quite frustrating. For you see, Elijah had gotten to a place where he never wanted to be held. He thought he was too big for his daddy, and wanted to walk all on his own. I am all for independence, but when it comes in the form of a wild eighteen month old, I would like a little more dependence.

So while Crystal was gathering her things, I had baby wrangling duties. Which essentially means that I would walk behind Elijah as he knocks every item that he can get his hands on off the shelves, and then as I was trying to catch up with him I would put the items back on the shelf and he would gleefully go on to the next aisle and repeat the same pattern.

When I would get tired of chasing him around I would try to pick him up which made him scream so loud that I'm pretty sure some of the patrons of CVS were convinced I was abducting him. It also didn't help that when I would pick him up he would scream at the top of his little lungs, "HELP ME; HELP ME; SOMEONE HELP ME!" When I would put him back down he would go back to wrecking havoc on CVS, at least that was until he came to the Halloween aisle.

For as soon as he made it to the Halloween aisle there was a motion-activated bird in a cage that started to squawk, and Elijah high-tailed it straight into my arms. When I tried to put him back down he was having none of it, he didn't want anything to do with that bird. He was wrapped around me like a monkey. I have to admit it made me feel pretty good that my baby wanted to be in my arms when he was scared.

Every single day we are told that there is something new to fear. Each day there is some new enemy to be afraid of. If you have watched the news during this election cycle, you may be convinced that the world is going to end based on who is elected president.

In fact it seems as if fear has become the key motivator in our society. There are probably many reasons for this, but chief among them I believe is that fear elicits such a primal response. When we are afraid we do not think clearly or critically, we respond to fear based on a gut reaction, kind of like Elijah when he ran crying to me.

In 1 John 4:18 the apostle says, "there is no fear in love." As Christians the greatest motivator for us

in the world and in society has to be love. It is love that moves us to grow in connection with one another and in connection to God. We do well to remember John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he sent his only Son in order that whosoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life." It is in the sending of Jesus Christ that we are convinced and convicted of the love of God, and it is in response to this love that we follow Jesus Christ.

While the world may be motivated by fear, for Christians fear has no place in our lives. Now this isn't to suggest that we should throw caution to the wind or anything like that. But as Christians we are not allowed the luxury of letting fear get in the way of our love. So, during this season, when we are wrapped in a pandemic, and as the world continues to recoil into itself based on fear, may we as Christians continue to move out into the world in order that our love may shine more brightly and that we might better embody the words of John, "perfect love casts out fear."

Grace and Peace,  
Zack Christy

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Dear Church Members:

In an attempt to keep members up to date on our giving since we have not had Worship in the Sanctuary for 20 weeks. Although we continue having drive in church, while others are still utilizing our live facebook Worship services or watching the service later from the church website. Bo & Betsy Baity continues doing a Sunday School lesson on facebook for adults, and Andrew Harmon continues to do a Sunday School lesson for the children via "Zoom." Our Children are fortunate as they continue to get to see the weekly lessons on Facebook or our church website by Bess Thornburg each Wednesday as she continues to try to stay in touch with them. We are very blessed to have such talented people to make all of this happen during these very unusual times.

We have received \$164,997.00 toward our budgeted needs through the end of June. Our budget through the end of June is \$195,773 which our giving is under our budgeted needs by \$30,776.00. Our expenses through the end of June were \$168,066 which is less than our budgeted needs. We have used the remaining balance of our PPP loan in June which was \$16,008.82 reducing funds used from our general checking account ytd to \$137,277 which is \$27,720 under our actual amount received ytd which is a tremendous help to our financial reports. We are blessed with dedicated members who remain faithful stewards to our church.

(Payroll Protection Plan \$14,779.74 used in May and \$16,008.82 in June for a total forgivable loan of \$30,788.56)

The church staff is still trying to maintain somewhat of a "normal" daily operation in the church office while being faithful stewards of our financial resources.

We have continued our Thursday evening meal for those in need in the community and this program is growing each week. We appreciate the many volunteers who are making this ministry possible each Thursday.

The backpack program has continued during the summer months to some of the families that we sent home book bags while they were in school, but now the food is being delivered to their homes.

We still continue to face obstacles and we are waiting to be given approval from our Bishop and District Superintendent when we may enter the Sanctuary to have Worship together again. Please continue to pray for Pastor Zack, our staff, the community and the world in these unusual times.

God Bless you, and I look forward to the day that we can safely worship in person together again.

Teresa Gardo  
Administrative Assistant

JOIN US THIS SUNDAY FOR

### DRIVE IN WORSHIP 10:30AM

PLEASE STAY IN YOUR CARS  
SOUND WILL COME THROUGH RADIO  
TUNE YOUR RADIO TO 90.5 FM.



SERVICE WILL ALSO STREAM ON  
FACEBOOK

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
CHERRYVILLE

We will continue with drive in Worship until we are able to safely join together in the Sanctuary again. We are still observing our Bishop's recommendations regarding COVID-19 and corporate Worship.



### Education Committee Meeting August 10<sup>th</sup>

The FUMC Education Committee will meet Monday August 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All committee members are urged to attend to discuss reopening of our Children and Youth programs, curriculum, and lesson plans. We need everyone's input and creative knowledge as to the best way to handle upcoming fall and winter session classes with folks of all ages. We will meet at tables 6 feet apart. Please wear your mask.

### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL ONLINE

Please continue to join us for Adult Sunday School lessons taught and provided by Betsy Baity on facebook or our church website each Sunday morning at 9:45 a.m. Her inspiring lessons have been a blessing to all and we appreciate her dedication to bring these lessons to our church family each week.



UMKs are not meeting at this time due to the COVID19 virus. We miss you so much at FUMC on Wednesday nights. In order to stay safe we will not meet again until later in the year. So, until things get going again, we will still have our

Bible lessons at 5:00 pm each Wednesday on our church Facebook page and website with Miss Bess. Please remember to join in for a lesson each week. We are also doing our "Zoom" Children's Sunday School class with Andrew Harmon at 9:45 am each Sunday morning. This has been a wonderful experience and you are invited to join in (even in your PJ's and bed head! LOL).

Latest update from our Bishop for Worship & Ministry During COVID-19

6/25/2020 is the latest update.

As faithful disciples of Jesus Christ in the midst of our response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we remain committed to our Biblical mandate to "love our neighbors as ourselves" and our Wesleyan call to "do no harm." In doing so, we seek ways to engage faithfully in worship, study, and ministry while ensuring the health and safety of our members and communities. We do not recommend returning to indoor worship at this time. Continue hosting online, drive-in, or outdoor worship services while following CDC, state and local guidelines, including handwashing, wearing masks, and observing physical distancing rules.

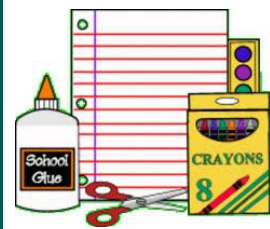


**UMYF:** United Methodist Youth Fellowship will start back in the fall when hopefully the COVID19 situation is under control. We may have a few special activities during the summer if regulations allow. You will hear more about this program of Bible study and activities and fun in the "SON" as we make plans for our Youth Group! UMYF will be for middle and high school youths ages 6<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> graders. We will meet on Sunday nights at 6 pm down stairs in the youth room for a snack, study and activities. Make plans now to be a part of our group!



## B I G SPLASHING THANK YOU

to all those that participated in our Virtual VBS! We had a wonderful week of learning about Jesus and his love for us when we dive into His word and jump into His loving arms! **A BIG "CANNON BALL" THANKS** to Mr. Bo Baity for helping to set up and record our virtual and zoom lessons each night and to Andrew and Chrystal Harmon for hosting our end of VBS Pool Party and supper at their beautiful pool and back deck, and a special thank you to all the parents who pitched in and helped make our day so much fun!



### Our **One Body One Mission** **School Supply Drive** will be

held on Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 12 noon at the First Presbyterian Church parking lot. We are still gathering supplies until August 11<sup>th</sup> at the Church. There is a box across from the church office for anyone to drop off and donations and of course monetary donations are always accepted. We also are in need of volunteers on August 6<sup>th</sup> and August 11<sup>th</sup> to help sort supplies and pack the bags. We also will need volunteers on that Saturday to set up and deliver the backpacks to cars. The supply drive and hand out will be handled a little differently this year, due to COVID 19, in that it will be a drive through in which the filled backpacks will be placed in the trunk of the car for each student. Whether our schools and classes are in the classroom or virtual via computer each student will still need school supplies. Please contact Bess Thornburg if you are willing to help with this project. office: 704-435-6732, cell: 704-836-6803, home: 704-435-5185.



## KINGDOM KIDS KORNER

We ask for your prayers as we plan to open for this school year on Monday, August 17. This will be a very different experience for the students as well as the teachers and I. We are implementing safety guidelines including teachers wearing masks, allowing only students and staff into the school, checking temperatures while the children are still in the vehicles, as well as distancing as much as possible.

The beginning of school is a trying experience for children and their families under the best of circumstances. Not allowing parents into the school will make this even harder for most. Some parents are still trying to deal with the decision to send their child or not. We all need those prayers!

One of our teachers elected to retire at the end of last school year. Another of our teachers decided not to return due to Covid. We are pleased to have one of our church members, Kara Morehouse, coming to work with us. We look forward to having her as a part of our team!

Ms. Millie



*We gratefully acknowledge gifts presented to the church in loving memory of:*

**SELENA ALEXANDER**

Ben & Libby Ballard  
Bruce & Chris Barrett (Thursday Meal Ministry)  
Jack & Judy Bingham  
Chad, Crystal & Leslie Thornburg (Thursday Meal Ministry)  
Gary & Phyllis Thornburg

**BARBARA "BABS" BEAM**

Bruce & Chris Barrett (Thursday Meal Ministry)

**E. L. BEAM**

Bruce & Chris Barrett (Thursday Meal Ministry)  
Chad, Crystal & Leslie Thornburg (Thursday Meal Ministry)

**SAM BEAM**

Debbie Gantt

**ANNE DELLINGER**

Billy & Linda Alexander  
Sandra Eaker  
Chad, Crystal & Leslie Thornburg (Thursday Meal Ministry)

**DEBORAH DEVENNY**

Greg & Pat Beam  
Steve & Susan Beam  
Jack & Judy Bingham  
Ronnie & Ruth Brown  
Sandra Carpenter (Backpack Ministry)  
Nancy Catena  
Robin Eubanks  
Debbie Gantt  
Ray McSwain  
Hazeline Moss & Jack Moss & family  
Sylvia Norton (Backpack Ministry)  
Mickey Payseur (Endowment Fund)

**CAROLE FIELDS**

Bruce & Chris Barrett (Thursday Meal Ministry)

**GERT FISHER**

Bob & Caryl Austell  
Ron & Janice Hovis

**PETE HEAVNER**

Bruce & Chris Barrett (Thursday Meal Ministry)  
Pat McGinnis  
Hazeline Moss & Jack Moss & family  
Chad, Crystal & Leslie Thornburg (Thursday Meal Ministry)  
Gary & Phyllis Thornburg

**EDWIN HOMESLEY**

Bruce & Chris Barrett (Thursday Meal Ministry)

**DON LYLES**

Vee & Melanie Thornburg

**DAN MAUNEY**

Jack & Judy Bingham  
Gail & Jeff Jenkins  
Chelsi & Rob Thomas

**SUE NOLEN**

Jack & Judy Bingham  
Sandra Carpenter (Backpack Ministry)  
Nancy Catena  
Debbie Gantt  
Sylvia Norton (Backpack Ministry)  
Margaret Webb

**NANCY PIERCE**

Bruce & Chris Barrett (Thursday Meal Ministry)

**MARY FENTON SAINÉ**

Bruce & Chris Barrett (Thursday Meal Ministry)  
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Mayhew

**JEFF SCHRUM**

Bruce & Chris Barrett (Thursday Meal Ministry)  
Ron & Janice Hovis  
Chad, Crystal & Leslie Thornburg (Thursday Meal Ministry)

**TROY SELLERS**

Bruce & Chris Barrett (Thursday Meal Ministry)

Bruce & Chris Barrett (Thursday Meal Ministry)  
Sandra Carpenter (Backpack Ministry)  
Pat McGinnis  
Sylvia Norton (Backpack Ministry)

Sandra Carpenter (Backpack Ministry)  
Sylvia Norton (Backpack Ministry)

Ben & Libby Ballard  
Bruce & Chris Barrett (Thursday Meal Ministry)  
Jack & Judy Bingham  
Ron & Janice Hovis

*IN HONOR*

Vee &amp; Melanie Thornburg

Jack & Mary Etta Stephenson

Jack & Mary Etta Stephenson

Jack & Mary Etta Stephenson


Chad & Michelle Bingham  
Vee & Melanie Thornburg

## Vee &amp; Melanie Thornburg

Bob Austell, Judy Bingham, Mike Burgess, Janet Carter, Keith DeVenny & family, Julie Dellinger, Vera Eaker, Jim Eaton, Ruth Gaston, Sherie Harrelson, John Hines, Ken Mayhew, Bertha Maxey, Aura Ann McGinnis, Larry McGinnis, Family of Sue Nolen, Karleen Price, The family of Joe Putnam, Chris Sneed, Gary Thornburg, Earlene Williams, and all our homebound and nursing home members.

Marty Beam, Martha Beam & family, Wanda Bruce, The family of Cody Bryant, Cindy Gales, Miles Gantt, Rhett Guest, Lisa Hastings, Teresa Henley, Dan Jonas, Kenneth Moffitt, Katie Pruitt, Sherri Schrum & family, Beverly Hamrick Stiles, Angela Wurster, Martha Jane Zeitler, and our loved ones in the military.

#\*Ethan Beck, Aron Dickerson, Jessica Lovell, Cody Spiker.

 **Our Christian Sympathy** is extended to Betty Jane Robinson following the death of her sister, Katherine Wiegel on July 25; to Keith DeVenny and family following the death of his wife, Deborah, on July 27; to the family of Sue Nolen following her death on July 29; and to the family of Joe Putnam following his death on August 4.



Dear Church Family,  
Thank you so much for your prayers, cards, phone calls, and gifts during my recent illness. I'm so blessed to have such a loving and caring church family.

Love,  
Judy Bingham



## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 Ned Heavner  
2 Devan Beam  
2 Sharon Sigmon  
2 Jack Stephenson  
3 Chris Ballard  
3 Steve Panton  
4 Greg Kirby  
4 Emilie Pope  
5 Lauren Bell  
5 Bella Thornburg  
6 Betty Jane Robinson  
6 Miney Saine  
8 Sandra Carpenter  
8 Sylvia C. Norton  
8 Bill Moss  
9 Linda Alexander  
13 Kristyn Stroupe  
14 Dusty Pope  
14 Raelyn Thornburg  
18 Billy Crews  
19 Jodi Beam  
19 Ben Payseur  
19 Loren Stroupe  
20 Steve Bowen  
20 Janice Hovis  
21 Jerry Thornburg  
22 Gavin Burleson  
22 Vera Eaker  
23 Danny Webb  
24 Zane McGinnis  
24 Landry Pruitt  
25 Jeff Hoyle  
25 Jenny Emerson  
25 Braden Jones  
26 Libby Ballard  
26 Scott Jones  
27 Harlee Austin  
27 Eli Christy  
28 Nicole Canipe  
28 Mickey Payseur  
28 Doug Whitworth  
29 Alex Blackburn  
29 Harris Hetrick  
29 Leon Roseboro  
30 Kathy Burleson  
31 Ron Walls



When we learn more from our Bishop about when can resume normal operations, we will let you know. There is no calendar of events included in this newsletter.

If your birthday is in August and not listed, please contact the church office.