

THE MESSENGER
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
601 NORTH PINK STREET
CHERRYVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA 28021
Phone (704) 435-6732 Fax (704) 435-4468
firstmethodistcherryville.com

February 26, 2020

Vol. XXXI No. 3

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.

MARCH REFLECTION

Luke 22:14-15 "When the hour had come, Jesus took his place at the table; and the apostles with him. He said to them 'I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.'"

In Seminary when discussing the Gospel of Luke, my New Testament professor said, "What I love about the way that Luke tells the story of Jesus is that Jesus is always at the table eating. He eats with everyone, he eats with the disciples, he eats with the Pharisees, he eats with the sinners. It seems that at Jesus' table there is always room for one more." Eating and growing the bonds of fellowship, on these two points it seems the ministry of Jesus rests, and these two points go hand in hand.

Seems to me these two points go hand in hand in life as well. To sit at the table with someone is to grow in relationship with them. There is no other way about it. In school when you made a new friend, how did you solidify that bond? You ate lunch together. There is something special about eating with one another.

I was reading in a book recently **The Evangelistic Love of God and Neighbor** by Bishop Scott Jones. And in this book Dr. Jones says that the single greatest threat to family life was introduced in the 1950's. No it wasn't nuclear war, it wasn't a shift in societal or social norms. He argues, the greatest threat to family life in America is loss of a kitchen table. He says, "to lose the kitchen table is to lose one of the great ties that bind us as people together."

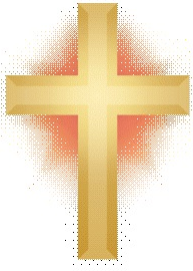
It is so important that we eat together. The Gospels clearly show us that Jesus valued the connection that could be garnered through eating with one another. With all this in mind, we are going to begin a new tradition in the life of our church this year. Whenever there is a fifth Sunday, we will have a combined 10:30 worship service, and a covered dish lunch to follow.

The month of March will be the first time that we have a fifth Sunday. We will worship together as one body, and then we will eat together as one body. Now I hope that during the covered dish you will take some time to eat with someone who you don't know all that well yet. I hope that we can learn to see the table as a bridge on which relationships are built. Also I will say that it has been my experience folks are more willing to come to church if they know they are going to be fed, so I hope that you will take the opportunity of this fifth Sunday to invite someone new to church with you.

Jesus uses the table as a way to build friendship and relationships. Here at First UMC we are going to do the same. So bring your favorite dish to share with the congregation. Now I may have only been here for about 8 months but in those 8 months one thing has become abundantly clear. This church values building relationships, and this church can cook! So on March 29th, May 31st, August 30th, and November 29th we are going to connect these gifts, and build relationships around the table. Praise be to God who grants us good food and good friends!

May the grace of God be with you as we journey into Lent and into a new month!

Pastor Zack



Crucifer and Acolytes: Thanks to all of you who came to the Acolyte / Crucifer training event. We have a great group of young people willing to serve our church as an important part of our worship by presenting the Cross and Light. Beginning March 8th the Cross will be presented by a Crucifer (cross bearer) to signify the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in our worship service. The Cross is followed by our Acolyte to remind us of the Light of Christ when He said "I am the Light of the World." The Pastor will follow them to enter into worship. Please notice at the closing of the service, the Light is also carried out into the world to remind us that we are to carry the Light of Jesus with us as we leave.

YOUTH NEWS AND EVENTS

Jr. Youth grades 4th – 6th will meet at 5:30 - 7 pm starting with a snack supper in the Kitchen then move down stairs for their Bible lesson and word competition games with Eric Packard.

UMYF will meet each Sunday at 6 pm. All 7th thru 12th graders are invited to attend. We will have a snack supper and lessons from a "Combo" menu of life dealing with life's choices! We are growing... from 0 to 8 members in the last Month! It would be great if all could be here on the SAME NIGHT! We are planning an outing for each 5th Sunday. So please plan to come and be a part of the fun in the SON!

At 7:00am on Thursday mornings the youth will meet for their weekly **Prayer Breakfast** at Homefolks Café. All youth are encouraged to attend and bring a friend. Following prayer breakfast, the adults will meet in the Church Parlor and have prayer time for our youth and the youth in the community.



**United
Methodist
Kids**

UMK's continue to meet each Wednesday night at 5:30 p.m. for a meal followed by our program of songs and lessons. All 3year old - 5th graders are invited to join the fun! We are learning the lessons found in our favorite breakfast cereals. We are planning to process and sing at the service on Palm Sunday so plan now to be a part of the Palm Sunday Celebration.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



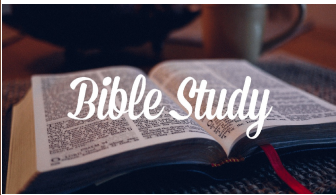
TO ALL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS:

Scholarship Applications are now on-line on the church website under the "Youth" tab. There are 6 scholarship applications that are available. The due date to have the applications into the Scholarship Committee is **April 24, 2020**. If you have problems opening these documents, please come by the church office.



SAVE THE DATE:

The Church will have our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 11 from 10:00 - 11:30a.m. Watch for more details.



Pastor Zack will continue his Bible Study through **Wednesday, May 27, 2020** at 6:00pm on the *Gospel of Mark* in the June Medlin classroom. A fellowship meal will be served at 5:30pm prior to the Bible Study.

LENT BOXES



These boxes will be available at the Events table. Please pick one up and save your change throughout the 40 days of lent to help “rise against hunger”. We will collect the change boxes at the end of Lent and pack as many food boxes with this change as we can. We will need 40 - 50 people to assist with packing for the completion of this project.



The Prayer Warriors meet biweekly at 6:00 in the church Parlor. March meetings will be held on Thursday, March 5 and March 19. Contact Randy Baxter for more details.



The **Young At Heart** will meet on Wednesday, March 25, at 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall for lunch and time of fellowship.

Breakfast

We are resuming our **Community-wide all you can eat Breakfast** buffet. Our next breakfast will be held on Saturday, February 29, in our church fellowship hall. Serving times are from 7:30 - 10:30 a.m. We will be serving breakfast the last Saturday of each month. Come and enjoy the food, fun, and fellowship.



If you would be willing to place flowers at the altar on March 29, please contact Joyce Baxter or the church office:



KINGDOM KIDS KORNER

Wow! It is so hard to believe that we have only three months left in this school year! Time seems to be going way too fast! Most of the children from our two and three year classes have already committed to return for the next school year, and we are getting calls from others. Registration opens to the public on March 1.

We will soon be measuring for graduation gowns and placing the order for those. Spring photos will be taken in March, with graduation photos not far behind.

The children and teachers are working hard, while also having so much fun! It warms my heart to see the friendships the children have developed and the way they care for each other.

Ms. Millie



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

DOC ABERNATHY

Larry & Juanita Gunnell

SONNY BEAM

Jack & Judy Bingham

BETTY BLACKWELDER

Jack & Judy Bingham

SKEET BRACKETT

Joe & Sandy Dismukes

Larry & Juanita Gunnell

Gail & Jeff Jenkins & Chelsi & Rob Thomas

Ronnie & Jill Puett

CONE CARPENTER

Cindy Burgin, Diane Dixon, Rita Huffman

JOANN CARPENTER

Bruce & Chris Barrett

Jack & Judy Bingham

Sandra Carpenter (Backpack Ministry)

Jeff & Kelly Hayes

Sylvia Norton (Backpack Ministry)

Bill & Chris Sneed

Gary & Phyllis Thornburg

Jerry Thornburg (Backpack Ministry)

Rhonda Wehunt (Nursery Renovations)

TERRY FISHER

Bob & Caryl Austell

Bruce & Chris Barrett

Ben & Robin Blackburn

Steve & Lynn Bowen

Joe & Sandy Dismukes

Larry & Juanita Gunnell

Ron & Janice Hovis

Ronnie & Jill Puett

Gary & Phyllis Thornburg

Rhonda Wehunt (Nursery Renovations)

Prayer Shawl Ministry



The Prayer Shawl Committee will meet on Tuesday, March 10, at 2:00pm in the church parlor. We will have a blessing of the shawls during the 11:00 Worship Service on Sunday, Mar. 15.

PEGGY GARDO

Billy & Linda Alexander
Pam Anthony
Bob & Caryl Austell
Ben & Libby Ballard
Kent & Rhonda Ballard (Backpack Ministry)
Beam Construction Co., Inc.
Jim & Becky Beam (Backpack Ministry)
Steve & Susan Beam
Jack & Judy Bingham
Ben & Robin Blackburn
Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)
Sandra Carpenter (Backpack Ministry)
Nancy Catena
Deanna Daggerhart
Chuck & Julie Dellinger (Backpack Ministry)
Bob Faires
Allen & Susan Fraley (Backpack Ministry)
Debbie Gantt
Larry & Juanita Gunnell
Ron & Janice Hovis
Palmer & Mary Ann Huffstetler
Gail Jenkins
Eloise Mauney
Harold & Kim Mauney
Ken & Darlene Mayhew
Pat McGinnis
Ray P. McSwain
June Medlin Sunday School class
Janice Metcalf
Bill & Quita Moss
Sylvia Norton (Backpack Ministry)
Ernie & Betty Parker
Mickey Payseur (Endowment Fund)
Ronnie & Jill Puett
Betty Jane Robinson
T.L. & Miney Saine
Brooks & Ben Singletary
Vernon & Betty Smith
Bill & Chris Sneed
Jack & Mary Etta Stephenson
Mr. & Mrs. Chad Thornburg (Nursery Renovations)
Gary & Phyllis Thornburg
Danny & Teci Webb
Margaret Webb (Backpack Ministry)
Mary Browne West
Randy Whitaker
Jimmy & Robin Wilent

KAY HELMS

Jack & Judy Bingham
Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown
Gail Jenkins & Family
Ronnie & Jill Puett
Amy Tallent
Gary & Phyllis Thornburg

RICK HELMS

Jack & Judy Bingham

FANNIE BELLE & C D LEDFORD

Mr. & Mrs. Chad Thornburg (Nursery Renovations)

SANDY MITCHEM

Pam Anthony
Bob & Caryl Austell
Steve & Susan Beam
Jack & Judy Bingham
Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown
Vera Eaker Circle
Bob Faires
Larry & Juanita Gunnell
Ken & Darlene Mayhew
Pat McGinnis
Betty Jane Robinson
Mr. & Mrs. Chad Thornburg (Nursery Renovations)

CORNELIA MOSS

Bob & Caryl Austell
Jack & Judy Bingham
Bob Faires
Eloise Mauney
Pat McGinnis
Mr. & Mrs. Chad Thornburg (Nursery Renovations)
Margaret Webb (Backpack Ministry)

DOT NEWTON

Jack & Judy Bingham

SABRA & LARRY THORNBURG

Mr. & Mrs. Chad Thornburg (Nursery Renovations)

KEITH WEASE

Jack & Judy Bingham

ROBERT WILLIS

Jack & Judy Bingham

SPRING LUNCHEON

Sponsored by United Methodist Women
Saturday, April 25, 2020 10:30 a.m.
First United Methodist Church Cherryville

Entertainment: *Phyllis & Hannah Webb*

\$10.00

If you would like a ticket, please see a member of the United Methodist Women.



SPRING SONGFEST

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2020 -
6:30PM

FIRST WESLEYAN CHURCH

Come join us for a night of Fellowship and Community Praise to the Lord!! Admission is FREE. However, we will be taking up a "Love Offering" to help with the building fund at CAM.

Sponsored by Cherryville Area Ministries Board



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS ON MARCH 8. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night.



Feeding the Community

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

Cherryville Area Ministries is partnering with Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina in conducting a Mobile Food Pantry. Second Harvest will be dropping off 12 pallets of food to be distributed to those in need.

**Food Distribution will be on
MARCH 9 at 9:00am**

in the parking lot across from First Baptist Church. Food will be distributed to you as long as you fill out a government food form upon arrival. You will need to bring your food stamp card and know your address. If you do not get food stamps, you will need to know how much income you receive monthly.



WEATHER PERMITTING.



**in case of
INCLEMENT
WEATHER**

In case of inclement weather / dangerous road conditions, we will advertise any changes to our

regular worship schedule on WBTV, channel 3 or WSOC TV, channel 9 as well as on the church website www.firstmethodistcherryville.com.

March Birthdays

- 1 Ella Christy
- 1 Clarice Harrelson
- 1 Alex Smith
- 2 Janet Carter
- 2 Janice Hammond
- 3 Ayden Canipe
- 5 Landon Hudson
- 5 Kay Moths
- 5 Eric Stroupe
- 6 Michael Moss
- 7 Crystal Christy
- 8 Robin Blackburn
- 8 Stephanie Elmore
- 8 Melinda Faires
- 8 Vee Thornburg
- 10 Brent Burleson
- 11 Leah Griffin
- 11 Lacey Spangler
- 13 Deanna Daggerhart
- 14 Joe Dismukes
- 14 Steven Gunnell
- 14 Doris Huss
- 16 Mildred Young
- 17 Brent Goforth
- 17 Chapel Moss
- 17 Caleb Narron
- 19 Michael Smith
- 20 Bob Austell
- 20 Steve Buff
- 20 David Hovis
- 21 Chuck Dellinger
- 22 E.L. Beam
- 22 Amy Tallent
- 24 Barbara Crews
- 26 Heidi Cash
- 26 Brooks Gunnell
- 26 Carla Eaker Truluck
- 29 Ryan Costner
- 29 Van Dellinger
- 29 Grayce Pruitt
- 30 Anne Dellinger
- 31 Butch Sneed



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



Earlene Williams
Peak Resources
P. O. Box 610
Cherryville, NC 28021

Sunday, March 1

8:45am - Early Worship
9:45am - Sunday School
11:00 - Worship
4:00pm - Chancel Choir practice
5:30pm - 4th - 6th grade meet
6:00pm - Youth

Monday, March 2

2:00pm - Lola Allran Circle
6:00pm - Aunt Pearl Circle
6:00pm - Vera Eaker Circle

Wednesday, March 4

5:30pm - UMK's
5:30pm - Fellowship Meal
6:00pm - Adult Bible Study
6:30pm - Chancel Choir

Thursday, March 5

7:00am - Prayer Breakfast at Homefolk's
8:00am - Prayer in Parlor
6:00pm - Prayer Warriors meet

Sunday, March 8 *(Daylight Savings time begins)*

8:45am - Early Worship
9:45am - Sunday School
11:00 - Worship
4:00pm - Chancel Choir practice
5:30pm - 4th - 6th grades meet
6:00pm - Youth

Tuesday, March 10

2:00pm - Prayer Shawl Committee meeting

Wednesday, March 11

5:30pm - UMK's
5:30pm - Fellowship Meal
6:00pm - Adult Bible Study
6:30pm - Chancel Choir

Thursday, March 12

7:00am - Prayer Breakfast at Homefolk's
8:00am - Prayer in Parlor

Sunday, March 15

8:45am - Early Worship
9:45am - Sunday School
11:00 - Worship
4:00pm - Chancel Choir practice
5:30pm - 4th - 6th grades meet
6:00pm - Youth

Wednesday, March 18

5:30pm - UMK's
5:30pm - Fellowship Meal
6:00pm - Adult Bible Study
6:30pm - Chancel Choir

Thursday, March 19

7:00am - Prayer Breakfast at Homefolk's
8:00am - Prayer in Parlor
6:00pm - Prayer Warriors meet

Sunday, March 22

8:45am - Early Worship
9:45am - Sunday School
11:00 - Worship
4:00pm - Chancel Choir practice
5:30pm - 4th - 6th grades meet
6:00pm - Youth

Wednesday March 25

12:00pm - Young At Heart
5:30pm - UMK's
5:30pm - Fellowship Meal
6:00pm - Adult Bible Study
6:30pm - Chancel Choir

Thursday, March 26

7:00am - Prayer Breakfast at Homefolk's
8:00am - Prayer in Parlor
6:00pm - Prayer Warriors meet

Saturday, March 28

7:30am -10:30am - Community Breakfast

Sunday, March 29

9:30am - Sunday School
10:30am - Combined Worship Service
11:30am - Covered Dish luncheon
4:00pm - Chancel Choir practice
5:30pm - 4th - 6th grades meet
6:00pm - Youth