



First United Methodist Church
Cherryville, North Carolina

THE MESSENGER
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
601 NORTH PINK STREET
CHERRYVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA 28021
Phone (704) 435-6732 Fax (704) 435-4468
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AUGUST 28, 2024

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Rev. Zack Christy
Pastor

Teresa Gardo
Administrative Assistant

Bess Thornburg
Director of Christian Education

Nancy Catena
Organist

Linda Barger
Chancel Choir Director

Andrew Harmon
Handbell Director

Cam Alfaro
Audio Visual Tech.

Mildred Young
FUMC Weekday Preschool Dir.

September Reflection

John 14:1;12 *"Do not worry and do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God believe also in me. Very truly I tell you, the one who believe in me will also do the works that I do, and in fact will do greater works than these, because I am going to my Father."*

When I was in high school, I was able to go on a golfing trip with my dad and some of his friends. I can't tell you what a big deal this was in my life, I felt like for the first time, I was an adult you know, I even got to skip school to go play golf, it was perfect.

We went down to Myrtle Beach and one day after a round, we were sitting in a Wendy's and I don't know how, but the guys sitting around the table started talking about white lies they had told their kids. Things like "If you drink more than one soda a day your teeth will fall out." Or "You can't sit too close to the TV or your eyes will go crooked." Most of them were kind of funny, but then my dad, I guess not to be out done by his friends, said, "Oh yeah listen to this, I've got one for you."

"When Zack was young he had this dog named Jasmine, and this dog got old, it needed to be put down, so we took a family vacation and I told Zack the dog ran off, but really I just had the vet come over and put it down." And I said, "You did what." He said "Oh you knew that," I said "No I didn't." He just shrugged and said, "Oh well that little white lie must have been a bit better than most of them I guess." I still in shock that my favorite dog Jasmine hadn't run off into the sunset chasing squirrels I said, "When I have kids, I'm always going to be honest with them, no matter what. I'm never going to tell them any of those white lies."

Well, I have kids now, and I have to tell you I see the value in some of those white lies. They come in handy truthfully. On any given day you might hear me say something like, "No we can't go to McDonalds right now it is closed." "Oh I'm so sorry Wal-Mart was out of Reese cups." "Oh you scrapped your knee, come over here and let me kiss it, it will feel all better." Sometimes those little fibs, little white lies, they help to take the fight out of a day right. As we all know there isn't much reasoning with a toddler, those white lies can help stop a tantrum before it ever begins.

Every family has their own version of these white lies, but I do think there is one that perhaps gets used more than any other. It is simply don't worry. If you hear someone say, "Don't worry," more often than not you should be worried. Whenever Crystal and I are driving somewhere and I get us lost, as soon as she starts to bust out the Google Maps, I'll say, "Don't worry I know the way." More often than not I do not in fact know the way, she should be worried, but for some reason that little white lie just comes out of my mouth.

Don't worry, it is a profound little white lie. Don't worry that's what Jesus says to the disciples this morning. But you know what, the disciples have a very good reason to worry. Their world is literally changing quicker than their minds can process it. That don't worry it probably sounds pretty hollow to the disciples, they should be worried.

It is kind of like when the angel of the Lord appears to Mary and says, "Do not be afraid." Mary should be afraid. When you see "Don't be afraid in Scripture." It typically means that something very frightening is about to happen. It is the same with the "don't worry" that Jesus offers the disciples this morning. The disciples should be worried when we meet them here in chapter 14 of the gospel of John. Everything is about to change.

When Jesus tells his disciples don't worry, when he says you will do greater things than me, it sounds like a little white lie doesn't it, but friends Jesus doesn't tell white lies. We bear witness to the truth of what he claims in this passage every day. One of the greatest joys that I have as a pastor is to see people accomplish things that apart from God would be impossible. Friends Jesus raised the dead; I have seen you rise up through heart-wrenching loss to begin a new life. Jesus healed the blind, I have seen you open the eyes of someone who was covered in despair by the way you loved them, and stood by them giving them hope when there was no hope to be seen. Jesus turned water into wine, I have seen you take what could be a dull and watered down bible study and turn it into a spirit filled encounter with God through his Holy Word.

I could go on and on, because as those who have been following Jesus for some time, we know Jesus Christ doesn't lie to us. That's why when he tells his disciples, "don't worry" they need not worry. Even though their world is changing, even though everything is about to be different, they don't have to worry because Jesus Christ doesn't break his promises.

I know we live in a rapidly changing time and changing world. At times life seems to be moving so fast that we can't catch up. I want you to hear the good news, no matter where you are in your life today, no matter the worries that are filling up your mind, Christ is with you! When we are in Christ we need not worry because of his abiding presence. May you hold this truth close to your heart this month.

Grace and Peace,

Zack Christy



CHILDREN'S CHURCH is held during our 10:30 worship service for all children **3yrs thru 3rd grade**. The children will leave from the sanctuary worship service following the children's sermon and go to a classroom on the educational hall for lessons and crafts. Parents can pick-up their children at the end of worship. A packet will be available outside the sanctuary in the Narthex for children 4th-5th graders or older with pencils crayons and coloring pages and Children's Worship bulletin. Again... **volunteers are needed for Children's Church teachers and helpers.** Please let Bess know if you are willing to help with children's church.

Breakfast

On **Saturday, August 31**, we will have our Community Breakfast. Serving times will be from 7:30 - 10:30 a.m. Come join us for a time of fellowship and a delicious all you can eat breakfast buffet. Cost will be by donation. Our profits have gone toward assisting our local community by giving to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, to the local "Handy Man's Ministry" for helping with minor repairs to homes, and to our youth for retreats and mission trips. **We hold this event the last Saturday of every month.**



THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR ACOLYTES AND CRUCIFERS

Thanks so much for serving your church as Acolyte and Crucifer. You are an important part of our worship service each week. Please see the below Acolyte/Crucifer schedule for the month of September. **If you cannot serve on your Sunday, PLEASE contact Bess @ 704-435-6732, cell: 704-836-6803 or 704-435-5185 or switch with one of the other people on the list.**

Sept. 1	Zach Harmon	Seth Harmon
Sept. 8	Hunter Brafford	Alayna Ross
Sept. 15	Lydia Bradley	Sophia Williams
Sept. 22	Mikki Jane Emerson	Mallie Emerson
Sept. 29	Grayce Pruitt	Riley Shuford



SEPTEMBER NURSERY WORKERS

We are proud to offer an infant nursery, provided each Sunday morning, for our sweet babies during the 10:30 worship service. Our nursery is located at the end of the hall and to your right just below the church office. **A BIG THANK YOU** to all who have agreed to help in the Nursery. Below is the Nursery Workers list for September. You will receive a reminder card and text on your given Sunday. Please let Bess or Susan Beam know if you cannot be there on your Sunday.

Sept. 1	Kaci Beck
Sept. 8	Crystal Thornburg
Sept. 15	Emily Webb
Sept. 22	Linda Alexander
Sept. 29	Elizabeth Shuford



It is time to start stocking up on items for The Backpack Ministry as the new school year has started. We are in need of the items listed below of nonperishable items to put in book bags during the month of September.

Thank you to all who assist with this program. Your generous donations help this mission to be successful and are very much appreciated by those who receive the book bags. We can always use these items, but sometimes the list may change based on the supply of goods we have on hand.

Sept. 1	Macaroni & Cheese
Sept. 8	16 oz. Creamy Peanut Butter
Sept. 15	Canned Green Beans
Sept. 22	Canned Corn
Sept. 29	Canned soup

Thank you,
The Backpack Ministry Committee



Prayer Breakfast

Our weekly prayer breakfast will continue each Thursday morning. Our prayer breakfast is such a blessing to all who attend. It's a great start to our school day, work day or any day! We are meeting at Homefolks Café at 7:00 a.m. on Thursday mornings to feed our tummies, our souls and our hearts with friendships, devotions and prayer time before school. Everyone of all ages and all denominations are invited to join the prayer breakfast group! Our church van will be there to provide a ride to school for anyone who needs it. **BUT Buckle Up and hold on to your stuff! There may be a BUMP in the road!!!**



UMYF: (United Methodist Youth Fellowship)

UMYF will begin our regular Sunday night meetings on **September 8th**. We will meet at the home of Andrew and Chrystal Harmon on September 8 from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. for a back to school swim party. Please wear your bathing suit and bring a beach towel. We will welcome our new rising 6th grade members.

On September 15th, we will resume our meetings here at the church in the youth room downstairs and begin planning activities for the upcoming school year.

Watch your FUMCY News Flash text for details!!

All 6th thru 12th graders is invited to be a part of UMYF. And yes, you can Invite!!!

*******Also.... PLEA FOR HELP!** Youth helpers and counselors are needed for the coming year! If you are a parent or a friend of our young folks, please prayerfully consider volunteering to help on Sunday evenings with our fun, energetic group of Christian young people and UMYF members! We need you!!!

UMK RESTART!!!!



"GODS FAVORITE FRUITS"

Our Wednesday night United Methods Kids, better known as UMKs, will "restart" again on Wednesday, September 4th. All 3 yr. olds through 5th graders are welcome to join in and be a part of our UMK program. We will meet each Wednesday from 6:00 p.m. - to 7:30 p.m. Supper is served each night from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. and then we will move into the sanctuary for our singing and assembly time. From 6:55 to 7:25 we will do our lesson/class time/crafts and games together and gather at 7:25 -7:30 in the Sanctuary or playground (weather permitting) for our prayer time and vespers. Parents can pick-up your children at 7:30 p.m. at the side entrance or on the playground if weather permits.

Our lessons coming up in September are based on **GOD'S FAVORITE FRUITS!** God created a world of yummy fruits that are sweet to eat and give us what our bodies need to stay healthy. At the same time, these fruits will teach us other great blessings that God has given us in the world as well as how He wants us to live. Our memory verse is John 15:5, "I am the vine, you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

Everyone is so excited to get back to our Wednesday nights of fun and learning together about God's love! As always leaders, helpers, kitchen volunteers and supper providers are needed. Let Bess know if you are willing to help!



KINGDOM KIDS KORNER

This school year began with 46 beautiful children and we are so excited! Of course, there are adjustments to be made; however, these first few weeks have surpassed my expectations. It is wonderful to hear the sounds of laughter, music, and excitement again.

Our two year teachers are Mrs. Kim Stout, Mrs. Kendra Presnell, and a new employee Miss Jada Gibby. Our three year teachers are Mrs. Haley Craft and Mrs. Jaclyn Sours and our four year teachers are Mrs. Trinity Smith and Mrs. Lisa McBride. I am so proud to have such a wonderful staff for our school.

We so appreciate the support of Mrs. Teresa Gardo and Miss Bess Thornburg and of course, of Pastor Zack who provides chapel lessons for the children. The children all quickly learn to love Pastor Zack!

Please continue to lift us up in your prayers as we seek to instill the love of Christ in these little ones, as well as prepare them socially and academically for their continuing education.

Ms. Millie



ENDOWMENT FUND

Consider giving to the Endowment Fund:

The money you contribute to the Endowment Fund is invested and only the earnings on that money will be used for the benefit of our church. Your contribution can provide benefits to our church for years to come. In doing so you leave a legacy. Consider gifts to our Endowment Fund. Consider a gift through your will.



Cereal Collection for Hungry families

Our Soul Sisters group will be collecting boxes of cereal to be distributed during the God's Work Our Hands food give out at St. John's Lutheran church on September 5th. There will be a box in the church Narthex to put your donated boxes of cereal in. The goal is to collect 100 boxes of cereal between now and Sunday, September 1. Please help with this ministry by donating a box of any kind of cereal.



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

DON ALEXANDER

Steve & Lynn Bowen
Richa Clark
Eddie & Cindy Eaker

RUTH BROWN

Jack & Judy Bingham (Church Renovation Fund)
Phyllis Thornburg

MARGARET BUFF

Steve & Lynn Bowen

JACK DAVIS

Eddie & Cindy Eaker
Jack & Judy Bingham (Church Renovation Fund)

DAVID T. EAKER

Eddie & Cindy Eaker

LAVERNE "BUZZ" EAKER

Eddie & Cindy Eaker

DORIS FINGER

Juanita Gunnell

BOB GILREATH

Jack & Judy Bingham (Church Renovation Fund)
Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Pastors Fund)
Janice Hovis
Gail Jenkins & Jeff Jenkins (Playground Fund)
Rob & Chelsi Thomas (Playground Fund)
Phyllis Thornburg

DR. JUDY HOUSER

Steve & Lynn Bowen

JERRY HUDSON

Gail B. Beam
Jack & Judy Bingham (Church Renovation Fund)
Steve & Lynn Bowen
Eddie & Cindy Eaker
Juanita Gunnell

CAROLYN LAIL

Jack & Judy Bingham (Church Renovation Fund)

AURA MCGINNIS

Eddie & Cindy Eaker

BARBARA MCGINNIS

Libby Ballard
Linda Kale Barger
Joyce Baxter
Gail B. Beam
Jim & Becky Beam (Youth Fund)
Jack & Judy Bingham (Church Renovation Fund)
Ben & Robin Blackburn
Mac & Jewel Brawley
Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Pastors Fund)
Nancy Catena (Youth Missions)
Dennis & Phoebe Devine (Youth Fund)
Joe Dismukes
Eaker Dairy (Youth Fund)
Debbie Gantt (Church Renovation Fund)
Juanita Gunnell (Youth Missions)
Teresa Hopper & Fred Rudder (Youth Fund)
Janice Hovis
Harold & Kim Mauney (Youth Fund)
Bill & Quita Moss
Dave & Pam Owens (Playground Fund)
T. L. & Miney Saine (Youth Missions)
Joe & Evelyn Southards (Youth Fund)
Jerry Thornburg (Backpack Ministry)
Phyllis Thornburg
Turner Supply Company (Youth Fund)
Danny & Teci Webb

TOMMY PORTER

Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Pastors Fund)

JANIE ROSS

Steve & Lynn Bowen

PATRICIA SIGMON SCHUBERT

Jack & Judy Bingham
Phyllis Thornburg

BUD WILLIAMS

Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Pastors Fund)

KAY WILLIS

Linda Kale Barger (Church Renovation Fund)
Jack & Judy Bingham (Church Renovation Fund)
Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Pastors Fund)
Debbie Gantt (Church Renovation Fund)
Tad Huffstetler
Phyllis Thornburg

September Birthdays

- 1 Hattie Beck
- 2 Leland Gaskins
- 2 John Hines
- 3 Crystal Essary
- 3 Amber Sneed
- 4 Ann Harmon
- 5 Teesie Smith
- 5 Billy Warlick
- 6 Hadley Webb
- 7 Jeff Jenkins
- 7 Belinda Watts
- 8 Carol Falls
- 8 Ada Smith
- 10 Seth Freeman
- 10 Camille Freeman Harden
- 10 Evelyn Southards
- 10 Jimmy Wilent
- 11 Roy Norwood
- 12 Kevin Gardo
- 12 Danny Smith
- 14 Julie Dellinger
- 14 Andrea Leffingwell
- 15 Gary Husen
- 15 Jack Rupard
- 15 Robin Wilent
- 16 Jessica Lovell
- 16 Gabrielle Shedd
- 17 Mac Brawley
- 17 Amy Kilby
- 17 Dick Ledford
- 18 Easton Webb
- 20 Pam Owens
- 20 Chelsi Jenkins Thomas
- 21 Julie Hovis Lyles
- 21 Earlene Williams
- 22 Lynn Bowen
- 22 Shane Stroupe
- 25 Brent Walls
- 26 Cooper Sain
- 27 Annie Beam
- 27 Ken Mayhew
- 27 Alex Morehouse
- 28 Randy Baxter
- 28 Oakley Parris
- 28 Ryan Sorenson
- 29 Michael Beam
- 30 Trent Thornburg



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



Mrs. Deanna Daggerhart
2038 Lincolnton Hwy.
Cherryville, NC 28021

Sunday, September 1

9:30am - Sunday School
10:30am - Worship

Monday, September 2

Church Office closed (Labor Day)

Wednesday, September 4

6:00pm - UMK's
6:30pm - Bible Study

Thursday, September 5

7:00am - Prayer Breakfast @ Homefolk's

Sunday, September 8

9:30am - Sunday School
10:30am - Worship
3:00pm - UMYF Pool Party at the home of
Andrew & Chrystal Harmon

Monday, September 9

6:30pm - PPRC meeting

Tuesday, September 10

6:30pm - Church Council meeting

Wednesday, September 11

6:00pm - UMK's
6:30pm - Bible Study

Thursday, September 12

7:00am - Prayer Breakfast @ Homefolk's

Sunday, September 15

9:30am - Sunday School
10:30am - Worship
6:00pm - Youth

Monday, September 16

6:30pm - Nominations Committee meeting

Wednesday, September 18

6:00pm - UMK's
6:30pm - Bible Study

Thursday, September 19

7:00am - Prayer Breakfast @ Homefolk's

Sunday, September 22

9:30am - Sunday School
10:30am - Worship
6:00pm - Youth

Wednesday, September 25

6:00pm - UMK's
6:30pm - Bible Study

Thursday, September 26

7:00am - Prayer Breakfast @ Homefolk's

Saturday, September 28

7:30am - 10:30am - Community wide breakfast
buffet

Sunday, September 29

9:30am - Sunday School
10:30am - Worship
6:00pm - Youth

STEWARDSHIP REPORT, AUGUST 25

Total Giving To Date \$215,180.34

OTHER FUNDS RECEIVED YTD 2024

Church Building/Renovations.	\$7,750.00
Endowment Fund	\$2,895.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$3,974.25
Playground Fund	\$3,901.00
Youth Missions	\$2,051.83

SEPTEMBER USHERS:

Youth