

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

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**September 27, 2017**

**Vol. XXVIII No. 10**

Rev. Joe Collins, D. Min.  
Pastor

Teresa Gardo  
Administrative Assistant

Jeanna Spiker  
Director of Christian Education

Mary Etta Stephenson  
Church Organist

Linda Barger  
Chancel Choir Director

Andrew Harmon  
Handbell Director

Mildred Young  
FUMC Weekday Preschool Dir.

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Standing or Not Standing during the National Anthem has been getting a lot of attention on the nightly news, ESPN, in the newspaper, on social media, from professional sports figures, and at the water cooler at work. As our nation's President let his thoughts become known on the subject this past week the debate continued to escalate. It's good that we live in a free country where anyone who has an opinion can chime in because everyone seems to have an opinion on this issue.

If you have an opinion on the National Anthem then I wonder how strong an opinion you have when it comes to standing up for God. Standing up for God requires an effort of commitment which goes beyond standing up for 60 seconds before a ballgame when an anthem is played. Standing up for God caused three Hebrews to be placed in a fiery furnace. Standing up for God caused Daniel to be placed in a den of lions. Standing up for God caused the apostle Paul to be thrown in prison, for the disciple Peter to be crucified, and for Stephen to be stoned with rocks and left to die because of his faith. But because of the freedom we have to worship in our country it is not likely we will have to give up our life because of our faith. Yet there are possible situations where a Christian might have to make that decision.

But again I ask, are you living a life which stands up for God? Is this of importance to you? If so I ask you to reflect on a few questions?

- 1) Is being in Worship on Sunday morning a priority for you? Or perhaps Sunday sports events which your children or grandchildren participate in are given the nod over standing up for God. Or perhaps working overtime for that extra paycheck is given the nod over standing up. Or perhaps sleeping late after a busy Saturday is given the nod over standing up.
- 2) Is keeping the vows you made to your spouse before God a priority for you? Or perhaps flirting with others, which can often lead to being with other men / women given the nod over standing up for the vows you took. Are the words you speak to your spouse reflective of the vows you took, or is anger or "the cold shoulder" given the nod over standing up for the vows you took.
- 3) Is tithing to God (instead of tipping) a priority for you. Or perhaps the material things of this world have become more important and are now given the nod over standing up for God. How much of God's financial blessings have you returned to God in 2017?
- 4) Do the things you say and the things you choose to do stand up for God? Do you seek to treat others justly, and stand up for justice, or has self-interest or laziness of spirit given the nod over standing up for God and loving one's neighbor.

What God requires is more than standing up for 60 seconds as an anthem is played prior to a ballgame. Yet this secular topic grabs the attention of many and we fail to focus on important spiritual questions. Has our nation become so spiritually dry?

Again I ask, are you choosing to stand up for God? What does your allegiance to him entail? What did it entail for Daniel, Paul, Peter, and Stephen? Can you even give 60 seconds of thought to your answer? Daniel, Paul, Stephen and Peter gave their lives as an answer.

Pastor Joe



Our fall festival will be Sunday, Oct. 8, 4:00PM at the home of Warren and Sandra Beam. A special thanks to the Beams' who willingly open their home to our church. Hotdogs will be served and we ask that you bring your favorite dessert or appetizer and a lawn chair. Don't miss this afternoon of great fellowship!



### TRUNK OR TREAT

Our annual Trunk or Treat will take place on Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup> from 5 pm to 7 pm. Please make plans to decorate your car and join in on the fun. Let's give the children of our church and community the opportunity to hear about God's love through games, prizes, and Christian fellowship and of course collect candy in a safe environment. Hot dogs and treats will be served to entire family.

### YOUTH NEWS AND EVENTS

Last month we resumed our Wednesday night Bible Study. The youth have been learning how to effectively share the Gospel to unbelievers. They have learned that one needs to show the unbeliever that they have a need for a savior; that they "need" saving. We, so often, want to tell people about the life saving grace of God without them even realizing that they are lost and undone. The youth have been learning that by using the 10 Commandments, they can effectively help others see that they are indeed sinful and in need of forgiveness of the sins that they have committed. If people do not know that they are sick, why would they want or care about a cure for their sickness. It is the same with the Gospel. If people do not realize that they *need* his grace and forgiveness, then they do not care about it. Eric is using "The Way of the Master" curriculum for this study. Please encourage your youth to attend Bible Study on Wednesday nights.



We have had a super start to our Wednesday night program. Several new faces have joined our group of children this year. We have added some outside time to our schedule, which allows the children to play and bond with each other. This little bit of extra time has given our teachers sufficient time to properly cover the lesson with engaging activities for reinforcement of the concept. Thanks to our dedicated teachers, the children have been learning about different ways to grow in their faith. They have learned that God wants them to listen and obey his commands, because he loves them.

### ATTENTION!

Winter Conference is just a few months away. Each January the youth travel to Gatlinburg to spend a few days away from the normal distractions of student life to be able to focus on their spiritual wellbeing. Every year the students come away from the conference with a renewed love for and commitment to Christ.

All youth wanting to go on Winter Retreat need to pay their \$100 deposit by Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. This can be paid using the installment plan. \$50 can be paid on Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>, with the remaining balance paid on Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>. Jeanna will make reservations for the conference the first week of November. Please give her a verbal confirmation ASAP so lodging can be arranged. In addition to the \$100 deposit, the students will be responsible for buying three or four meals. If you want a friend that is not in our youth group to go the cost will be \$120 for that individual, payable by Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>.



After a complete month of school almost all of our children have adjusted and appear to feel safe and secure and to know that they are loved! Our staff is working hard to make this a great school year. Three new staff members, Emily Webb, Cassie Cahoon, and Shelby Lancaster join our returning staff of Chrystal Harmon, Sara Baity, Haley Craft, Kim Stout and Carol Cornwell.

During the month of October we will be visiting the Cherryville Fire Department and Lineberger's Pumpkin Patch, as well as marching in the Cherryville Little Spooks Parade and participating in FUMC Trunk or Treat. We will observe Community Helpers Week by having several people come in to talk with the children about their jobs, such as a nurse, a police officer, and a fireman.

It is such a joy to hear singing and laughter and to see the smiles and receive the hugs from these precious little ones!

Ms. Millie

## October Birthdays

1 Eddie Eaker  
1 Tim Pruitt  
2 Stan Allen  
2 Sara Gardo  
4 Patience Foster  
4 Kevin Moths  
4 Lory Paputseanos  
5 Bo Baity  
5 Brent Gardo  
6 Betty Smith  
6 Suzanne Thornburg  
7 Sarah Fowler  
7 Ben Huffstetler  
8 Cone Carpenter  
9 Emily Kirby  
10 Marley Hudson  
10 Shawn McQuaige  
11 Will Skibo  
12 Holly Bell  
12 George Conner  
12 Ron Hovis  
13 Tracy Gardo  
14 Chesley Walls  
15 Donnie Bell  
15 Garrett Collins  
15 Ryan Davis  
15 Curtis Harrelson  
16 Mike Burgess  
16 Bob Kirby  
17 Bobbi Ballard  
17 Taylor Costner  
18 Tom Dellinger  
19 Nora Heavner  
19 Ava Thornburg  
20 Gene Hubbard  
20 Melinda Yount  
21 Joe Collins  
21 Ray McSwain  
23 Archie Mitchell  
23 Kirk Thornburg  
24 Bob Faires  
24 Dave Owens  
25 Erika King  
27 Amy Dellinger  
29 David Carpenter  
30 Pat Eaker  
30 Juanita Gunnell  
30 Brody Thornburg  
31 Jill Puett



CHERRYVILLE  
COMMUNITY  
REVIVAL



### Cherryville Community Revival

will be held on Monday, October 16, and Tuesday, October 17, at 7:00pm at Starnes Auditorium.



We will start collecting for OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD in October. The first items we will collect are small toys: balls, jump ropes, dolls, stuffed animals, cars, puzzles, Legos, etc. (non-military). Please bring them to UMKIDS on October 4<sup>th</sup>. We will also collect coloring books, crayons, pencils, pencil sharpeners, note pads, hair brushes, hair bows, socks, and the like through the month of October. We CAN NOT SEND TOOTH PASTE, CANDY, or GUM, or any liquid. Our goal is 100 boxes this year.

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



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

**DEONNA ANTHONY**

Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)  
Gary & Phyllis Thornburg

## RONNIE ANTHONY

Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)  
Barry & Wanda Dellinger  
Katherine Goins  
Frank & Danna Henley  
Tad Huffstetler  
Ed & Nancy Pierce (Backpack Ministry)  
Ronnie & Jill Puett  
Jimmy & Robin Wilent

**BRIAN BUTTERFUSS**

Terry &amp; Mildred Young

## REBA CEASE

Allen & Susan Fraley (Backpack Ministry)  
Ronnie & Jill Puett

**NED DELLINGER**

## Barry & Wanda Dellinger

**MARY SUE FAIRES**

Ed & Beverly Campbell  
Barry & Wanda Dellinger

## JERRY HAYES

Clarice Harrelson  
Curtis & Sherie Harrelson

**CAROL PORTER**

Bob Faires

## GENE SAINE

Johnny, Kelly &amp; Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)

**DARRIL SIGMON**

Bob Faires

# DOT WALKER

Gail Jenkins

**NORMAN WARLICK**

Bob & Caryl Austell  
Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)  
Nancy Catena  
Richard & Martha Cornwell  
Bob Faires  
Katherine Goins  
Jack & Mary Etta Stephenson

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*IN HONOR*

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

## BO BAIT

Keith &amp; Kathy Kiser

[illegible]

### PRAYER LIST (Members)

Bob Austell, Bo Baity, Cone Carpenter, Joanne Carpenter, Anne Dellinger, Cheryl Dobson, Buzz Eaker, Trent Gardo, Nell Griggs, Nora Heavner, Aura Ann McGinnis, Barbara McGinnis, Sue Nolen, Debbie Payseur, Becky Phillips, Karleen Price, Frances Putnam, Margaret Smith, C.V. Thornburg, Darin Webb, Earlene Williams, and all our homebound and nursing home members.

## PRAYER LIST (Family & Friends)

Kristen, Seth & Micah Austin, Allie Beam, Shaunda Camp, Morgan Drum Morrow, Mary Wheatley, Linda Whitworth and our loved ones in the military.

### LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY:

#Ethan Beck, #Jake Dellinger, Aron Dickerson,  
Kenny Greene, Jessica Lovell, \*Travis Kiser, Cody  
Spiker.

# Church Member; \*Stationed in the Middle East

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT - SEPT. 24, 2017

Total To Date .....	\$244,316.95
Needs To Date.....	\$268,601.97
Under.....	\$24,285.02

## ATTENDANCE – SEPT. 24

Sunday School. . . . .	88
Early Worship . . . . .	61
Worship. . . . .	<u>87</u>
<b>Total</b> . . . . .	<b>148</b>



LaVerne "Buzz" Eaker  
Somerset Court  
401 W. Academy St., Room 103  
Cherryville, NC 28021

### **Sunday, October 1**

8:45am - Early Worship  
9:45am - Sunday School  
11:00am - Worship  
6:00pm - Youth  
6:30pm - Nominations Committee meeting

### **Monday, October 2**

2:00pm - Lola Allran Circle  
7:00pm - Callie Beam Circle  
7:00pm - Aunt Pearl Circle

### **Tuesday, October 3**

7:00pm - Finance Committee meeting

### **Wednesday, October 4**

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

### **Thursday, October 5**

7:00am - Youth prayer breakfast at Homefolk's  
8:00am - Prayer time in Parlor

### **Sunday, October 8**

8:45am - Early Worship  
9:45am - Sunday School  
11:00am - Worship  
4:00pm - Fall Festival at the home of  
Warren & Sandra Beam

### **Monday, October 9**

Church Office closed

### **Wednesday, October 11**

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

### **Thursday, October 12**

7:00am - Youth prayer breakfast at Homefolk's  
8:00am - Prayer time in Parlor

### **Sunday, October 15**

8:45am - Early Worship  
9:45am - Sunday School  
11:00am - Worship  
6:00pm - Youth

### **Monday, October 16**

6:30pm - Church Council meeting

### **Wednesday, October 18**

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

### **Thursday, October 19**

7:00am - Youth prayer breakfast at Homefolk's  
8:00am - Prayer time in Parlor

### **Sunday, October 22**

8:45am - Early Worship  
9:45am - Sunday School  
11:00am - Worship  
6:00pm - Youth

### **Wednesday, October 25**

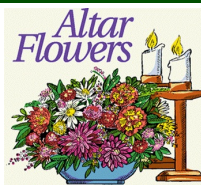
5:30pm - UMK's  
6:00pm - Youth Bible Study  
6:00pm - Fellowship Meal  
6:00pm - Chancel Choir rehearsal  
6:30pm - Adult Bible Study  
6:30pm - Cantata rehearsal

### **Thursday, October 26**

7:00am - Youth prayer breakfast at Homefolk's  
8:00am - Prayer time in Parlor  
7:00pm - Backpack Ministry meeting

### **Sunday, October 29**

8:45am - Early Worship  
9:45am - Sunday School  
**10:00am - Charge Conference**  
11:00am - Worship  
5:00 - 7:00pm - Trunk or Treat



If you are willing to place flowers on the altar in honor or in memory of a loved one on **November 26**, please contact Janet Carter or the church office.