

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

August 27, 2019

Vol. XXX No. 9

Rev. Zack Christy
Pastor

Teresa Gardo
Administrative Assistant

Mary Etta Stephenson
Organist

Linda Barger
Chancel Choir Director

Andrew Harmon
Handbell Director

Mildred Young
FUMC Weekday Preschool Dir.

September Reflection

Matthew 5:18-20 *"As Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' Immediately they left their nets and followed Jesus.*

"Follow me and I will make you fish for people." In the history of the world has a stranger request ever been made? Jesus goes up to two men who spent their lives, fishing, now in the ancient Middle East was nothing glamorous but it was safe and it was their life. They liked the Sea, they liked to fish, they liked to provide for their families, they were never going to be wealthy but they were always going to have enough. A fisherman was kind of like a middle class job in this time, it was honest work, it was hard work, you didn't make enough to live in a mansion but you weren't out on the street either.

Then one day when Peter and Andrew were out at the Sea of Galilee minding their own business here comes Jesus offering them the opportunity to fish; for people that is. What is Jesus getting at? I have often wondered why such an offer appealed to Peter and Andrew; it seems to me that this request from Jesus borders on the absurd. I don't know about you but if it was me, on that boat, I would have rowed further out to sea, not jumped out and followed this Jesus guy.

How can simply the word "Follow" change the course of these two lives? It is a strange Scripture, and it is a very strange response that Peter and Andrew make to this request from Jesus.

My wife says that I have selective hearing, meaning that I only hear what I want to. She says that I will hear her every single time she says that supper is ready, but if she asks me to change the baby or take out the trash, I don't listen. It would have been very easy for Peter and Andrew to not listen to this request from Jesus, it would have been very easy for them to simply ignore the strange man on the shore, they could have chosen to be selective listeners. And in all reality their lives would have carried on, business as usual, they would have caught fish, sold fish, and had a generally happy life.

However, as we who follow Jesus know, these are not the chief ends of life. We are called to be more than simply happy, we are called to do more than simply exist, we are called be fishers of people. Yes, Peter and Andrew could have been selective listeners, but they would have missed out on life itself by staying in their boat.

In this same way we in the church are often challenged by the allure of staying in the boat. We try if we can to be selective listeners of Jesus. We love it when Jesus puts the Pharisees in their place, but we don't like to hear it too much when Jesus tells us to love our enemies, and bless those who curse us. In order for us to really follow Jesus we must leave the comfort of the boat and swim into the sea of uncertainty.

This life of discipleship that we are striving to embody necessitates that we take risks, that we leave our comfort zone and that we journey towards the cross. So I challenge us as First United Methodist Church Cherryville to step out of the boat, to take risks and to listen to Christ's call to follow. May we be open to the prodding of the Holy Spirit, and may we venture wholly and completely into the unknown, knowing that Christ has already gone before us.

Pastor Zack

Return to Regular Worship Schedule

On Sunday, **September 8**, we will resume our normal Worship Schedule with the Early Service at 8:45, followed by Sunday School at 9:45 and our Traditional Worship service at 11:00.



Beginning on Wednesday, September 4, we will begin weekly meetings at the church at 5:30 for a meal followed by our weekly program of songs and lessons. Parents if you did not receive your letter in the mail, please contact the church office and we will get you a copy. The schedule of special events is also on our website under the UMK tab at firstmethodistcherryville.com.

facebook

You can now "like us" on our new **Facebook** page (First United Methodist Church Cherryville). If you would like to

follow us on Facebook, Pastor Zack will be posting updates weekly.

Attention all parents with children who are in grades

4 - 6, we will meet on Sunday afternoons from 4:00pm - 6:00pm with pizza, fellowship and a lesson.

4th-6th

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PASTOR ZACK CHRISTY:

Church Office: (704) 435-6732
Parsonage: (704) 435-6792
Cell phone: (828) 508-2358
email: zchristy@wnccumc.net

Pastor Zack's office hours will be Monday - Thursday from 8:00am to 11:30am and other times he will be out visiting.

YOUTH NEWS AND EVENTS

On Thursday, September 5, at 7:00am the youth will resume their weekly **Prayer Breakfast** at 7:00am 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.



Beginning on **Wednesday, September 4**, Pastor Zack will begin a **Bible Study** on the *Gospel of Mark* at 6:30pm in the Romans 12 classroom. A fellowship meal will be served at 6:00pm prior to the Bible Study.



Beginning on Thursday, September 5, at 5:30pm a new group called **The Prayer Warriors** will begin bi-weekly

prayer meetings in the church Parlor. Contact Randy Baxter for more details.



If you would like to be an **Usher** for Worship during the 11:00am service, please contact Steve Beam.



On **Friday, September 27**, FUMC will be working the concession stand for the High School Homecoming football game. We need 10 volunteers to help us out on that evening.

You will need to be at the High School by 6:30pm. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Church Office.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT, AUGUST 25, 2019

Previous Total..... \$197,706.22
Total To Date \$226,496.66
Needs to Date \$244,708.54
Under..... \$18,211.88

ATTENDANCE, AUGUST 25, 2019

Sunday School..... 81
Worship..... 141

PRAYER LIST (Members)

Billy Alexander, Mike Burgess, Cone Carpenter, Joanne Carpenter, Janet Carter, Billy Crews, Deborah DeVenny, Peggy Gardo, Ruth Gaston, Eloise Mauney, Aura Ann McGinnis, Larry McGinnis, Sue Nolen, Ed & Nancy Pierce, Karleen Price, Joe & Frances Putnam, Jack Stephenson, Gary Thornburg, Earlene Williams, and all our homebound and nursing home members.

PRAYER LIST (Family & Friends)

Joie Arthus, Maurice "Jim" Beam, Logan Beck, Grebb Biebault, Mike Dellinger, Dan Jonas, Danny Jonas, Cornelia Moss, Jeff Schrum, Marc Sigmon, and our loved ones in the military.

LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY:

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

Church Member

SEPTEMBER NURSERY WORKERS

8:45am

11:00am

Sept. 1	Crystal Christy (10:30)
Sept. 8 Robin Blackburn	Amy Tallent
Sept. 15 Chrystal Harmon	Bess Thornburg
Sept. 22 Maria Pruitt	Renee Allen
Sept. 29 Jenny Emerson	Susan Beam



DR. MARSHAL & MILDRED AGNER

Ruth Gaston

DR. BILL ALLEN

Billy & Linda Alexander (nursery renovations)
Pam Anthony
Ben & Libby Ballard
E.L., Gail & Ephriam Beam (Backpack Ministry)
Steve & Susan Beam
Chad & Michelle Bingham
Allen & Susan Fraley (Nursery Renovations)
Larry & Juanita Gunnell
Tad Huffstetler
Gail Jenkins
Jeff Jenkins
Eloise Mauney
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Mayhew
Janice Metcalf
Bill & Quita Moss
Betty Jane Robinson
Jack & Mary Etta Stephenson
Rob & Chelsi Thomas
Jerry Thornburg (Backpack Ministry)
Margaret Webb (Backpack Ministry)

JOAN CHRISTY

Joyce Baxter
Jim & Becky Beam (Backpack Ministry)
Steve & Susan Beam
Larry & Juanita Gunnell
Clarice Harrelson
Palmer & Mary Ann Huffstetler
Eloise Mauney
Bill & Quita Moss
Betty & Vernon Smith
Danny & Teci Webb

JANELLE COOK

Joyce Baxter

JOHN COOK

E. L., Gail & Ephriam Beam (Backpack Ministry)

HELEN EATON

Jim Eaton

STEVE FALLS

Tommy & Renne Allen (Bell Fund)
Kent & Rhonda Ballard (Backpack Ministry)
Marty & Lea Anne Cansler (Bell Fund)
Bob Faires (Bell Fund)
Dr. & Mrs. Chris Madison (Bell Fund)
Eloise Mauney (Bell Fund)
Janice Metcalf (Bell Fund)
Archie Mitchell (Bell Fund)
Phyllis Moore (Bell Fund)
Mickey Payseur (Endowment Fund)
Ed & Nancy Pierce (Bell Fund)
Ronnie & Jill Puett (Bell Fund)
Dwight & Dartha Stroupe (Bell Fund)
Jerry Thornburg (Backpack Ministry)
Young At Heart (Nursery Renovations)

KATHERINE GOINS

Julie Wyatt
Melinda Yount

BOB HARRELSON

Ben & Libby Ballard

BENJIE HOMESLEY

Ben & Libby Ballard
E. L., Gail & Ephriam Beam (Backpack Ministry)
Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)
Gail Jenkins
Jeff Jenkins
Chelsi & Rob Thomas

BILL NAIL

Bill & Chris Sneed
Jack & Mary Etta Stephenson

DEBBIE PAYSEUR

Chuck & Julie Dellinger (Nursery Renovations)
Don & Patty Fisher (Youth Fund)

JAMES PUTNAM

Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown

C. V. THORNBURG

Tommy & Renee Allen (Backpack Ministry)
Ruth Gaston
Young At Heart (Nursery Renovations)

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

Billy & Linda Alexander (Nursery Renovations)

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**Sunday, October 20, 2019
at 12:15pm**

All Committee Chairs need to schedule meetings to get ready for our Annual Charge Conference which will be held on **Sunday, October 20**, at 12:15pm. There are several reports that must be submitted by October 10. Each committee chair is encouraged to get a meeting scheduled on the church calendar in order to meet these deadlines. Reports to complete will be available after September 1 and Teresa will get a copy of the report that needs to be completed to each committee chair as soon as they are available.

Committee chairs, you will also be getting information soon from Teresa on your request to the finance committee for preparing our 2020 budget.



 **Our Christian Sympathy is** extended to Rev. Zack Christy and family following the death of his grandmother, Joan Christy, on August 14; and to Doyle Leonhardt and family following the death of his sister, Janelle Leonhardt Cook, on August 17.

September Birthdays

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



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



Joe & Frances Putnam
P. O. Box 486
Cherryville, NC 28021

Sunday, September 1

9:30am - Sunday School
10:30am - Worship
4:00pm - 4th - 6th grades meet
6:00pm - Youth

Monday, September 2

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday, September 4

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

Thursday, September 5

7:00am - Prayer Breakfast at Homefolk's
8:00am - Prayer in Parlor
5:30pm - Prayer Warriors meeting

Sunday, September 8 (regular schedule resumes)

8:45am - Early Worship
9:45am - Sunday School
11:00am - Worship
4:00pm - 4th - 6th grades meet
6:00pm - Youth

Monday, September 9

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

Tuesday, September 10

7:00pm - Nominations Committee meeting

Wednesday, September 11

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

Thursday, September 12

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

Sunday, September 15

8:45am - Early Worship
9:45am - Sunday School
11:00am - Worship
4:00pm - 4th - 6th grades meet
6:00pm - Youth

Wednesday, September 18

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

Thursday, September 19

7:00am - Prayer Breakfast at Homefolk's
8:00am - Prayer in Parlor
5:30pm - Prayer Warriors meeting

Saturday, September 21

1:45pm - UMK's to Billy Graham Library

Sunday, September 22

8:45am - Early Worship
9:45am - Sunday School
11:00am - Worship
4:00pm - 4th - 6th grades meet
6:00pm - Youth

Wednesday, September 25

12:00 noon - Young At Heart (meet at church)
5:30pm - UMK's
6:00pm - Fellowship Meal
6:30pm - Bible Study
6:30pm - Chancel Choir

Thursday, September 26

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

Friday, September 27

6:30pm - Volunteers meet at football field to work concession stand

Sunday, September 29

8:45am - Early Worship
9:45am - Sunday School
11:00am - Worship
4:00pm - 4th - 6th grades meet
6:00pm - Youth