



**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)

**September 29, 2021**

**Vol. XXXII No. 9**

Rev. Zack Christy  
Pastor

Teresa Gardo  
Administrative Assistant

Bess Thornburg  
Director of Christian Education

Nancy Catena  
Organist

Mary Etta Stephenson  
Pianist

Linda Barger  
Chancel Choir Director

Andrew Harmon  
Handbell Director

Mildred Young  
FUMC Weekday Preschool Dir.

Harlee Austin  
Nursery Attendant

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### **October Reflection**

*Colossians 3:14 "Above all else clothe yourself with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony."*

There are many reasons that I love the church, and especially First United Methodist Church Cherryville. I love the shared sense of commitment that our church has to the mission and work of Jesus Christ. I love the sense of awe and wonder as I enter into Worship on a Sunday morning. Lord have mercy, I even love the smell of the church when I walk in each morning. But more than any of those things, what I love most about First United Methodist Church Cherryville are the people.

Now I know I am just about as far from an unbiased observer as you can get, but I dare say at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday morning you would be hard-pressed to find a better collection of people anywhere in the world than you find at 601 N Pink St. in beautiful Cherryville, North Carolina. At it's very best the church functions as a family, now like all families we get on each other's nerves. We push each other's buttons, but at the end of the day we love each other, and we are there for one another. This church proves that time and again, by responding to the needs that exist in the congregation.

When Paul writes to the Colossians, the church is engaged in some mild infighting (imagine that a church fighting!). Now Colossians is filled with many of Paul's pleas to the church to get them to act like a family again, but 3:14 represents his thesis statement for the entire letter, "Clothe yourselves with love." It is a beautiful image, but it is an even more poignant reminder for us who strive to be the Body of Christ today.

The most important thing isn't to be right, it isn't to be the smartest, or to have the biggest bank account, the most important thing is to be bound to one another in love. And I must say this is something that I believe First Methodist does very well. When a need arises in the congregation, I have watched y'all time and again spring into action.

Well this month we once again have an opportunity to show the world how we at First Methodist are indeed clothed with love. Bo Baity, who has a hand in just about everything here at the church, has been in the hospital for the past three weeks, two and a half of those spent in the PICU. Bo contracted Covid-19 at the beginning of September, and was left fighting for his life. As he returns home, he will come back with oxygen and a long road to rehabilitation.

Bo has served the church in just about every way imaginable over the years, from running the sound board, to videoing the service and making recordings, as trustee chair, playing in the praise band, helping with UMK's, and always being available to be in ministry at the church. His absence has been felt, and now Bo needs us. The first thing I want you to do as we strive to cover the Baity family in love is be in prayer for

them.

Bo's recovery to this point is nothing short of a miracle, and an answer to prayers. But we must continue to lift him up in prayer. Secondly we are hosting a spaghetti supper fund raiser on Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-6:30 p.m. The fund raiser will be a curb side pick up only. The supper will be by donation only, and it represents one way that our church family is striving to clothe one another in love. So I want you to go ahead and mark it on your calendar, put a big star on the date, you don't have to make dinner that night, come out and get some of the best spaghetti North Carolina has to offer, and know that by eating a good meal, you will also be supporting a fellow Christian in their recovery. May we strive to clothe one another in love, in order that the light of Christ might be shown to this community and to the world!

Grace and Peace,

Zack Christy

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The Backpack Ministry is asking for monetary donations during the month of October. These funds will be used toward the purchase of food for Thanksgiving and Christmas food boxes to the families we sponsor. Your generous donations of nonperishable items have our shelves stocked well enough that we can take the month of October off from shopping.



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.

Thank you,  
The Backpack Ministry Committee



**CHILDREN'S CHURCH** is back during our 10:30 Worship Service for all children **3yrs thru 3<sup>rd</sup> grade**. The children will leave from the Sanctuary 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 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades with pencils crayons and coloring pages and a 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.



**COFFEE TIME YOUTH FUND RAISER**

The UMYF will be sponsoring a **Coffee Bar** fund raiser on October 24<sup>th</sup> before and after the Sunday School hour. They will offer coffee and creamers of all flavors as well as a sweet treat. The cost is donation only and the proceeds will go to help with expenses for our young folks to go the SUMMITT WEEKEND youth retreat in Asheville, NC sponsored by the WNCC of the UMC. Please plan to have a delicious warm "cup-o-joe" as you arrive at church that morning and support our youth group!



**Our Sunday School classes** are meeting again! We offer classes for everyone! We have:

**CHILDREN'S CLASSES:**

- ◆ Nursery, 0-2yr olds
- ◆ Toddler Class, 2-4 yr. olds
- ◆ Younger Elementary, K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade
- ◆ Older Elementary, 3-5<sup>th</sup> grades
- ◆ Youth class, 6-12<sup>th</sup> grades

**ADULT CLASSES UPSTAIRS:**

- ◆ Romans 12 class, Young adults
- ◆ Etheleen Dover Class, young to middle age adults
- ◆ June Medlin Class, middle age and senior adults
- ◆ Men's Bible Class, any age men of the church;
- ◆ Discovery Class meets downstairs, any age adults.

You are invited to be a part of any one of these assemblies. **THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU AT SUNDAY SCHOOL!!!** Thanks to all of you who have so graciously volunteered to teach and lead our classes, but volunteers are still needed. Some adjustments may be made, especially in the children's age groups, as class size and location is determined, but how wonderful to be able to celebrate our classes of Bible study, Christian fellowship, small group bonding and prayer time!



**THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR ACOLYTES AND CRUCIFERS**

Thanks to all of our young people who have served as acolyte and crucifer this year! You guys have done a great job in preparing us for worship. A new schedule has been sent out for the next 4 months. Thanks for your willingness to serve during our worship services. Below is the schedule for October. If you cannot serve on your Sunday please let Bess know or switch with someone on the list.

Oct. 3	Alayna Ross	Landry Pruitt
Oct. 10	Lydia Bradley	Sophia Williams
Oct. 17	Kenan Fowler	Will Fowler
Oct. 24	Bella Thornburg	Zachary Harmon
Oct. 31	Amber Grace Brittain	Alayna Ross



**ATTENTION ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS and/or Parents:**

We want to stay in touch with you!! Please let us know your current college address as soon as possible. Some of your addresses have changed and some of you are studying from home, some virtually and some at your college campus. We needed your information. Please call Bess at 704-435-6732 or email your College information to [Bessfumc@bellsouth.net](mailto:Bessfumc@bellsouth.net) as soon as you can. We would like to have your school, full mailing address, E-mail address, major and scholastic year. Thanks! Our prayers are with you as you pursue your plans and future careers.



## UMK's:

UMKs (United Methodist Kids) is for all 3 year olds thru 5<sup>th</sup> graders... UMK's started up again Wednesday night September 22nd at 6:00 p.m. with supper, singing and study time. UMKs will be over at 7:30 p.m. each night. You should have received a letter and fall schedule for all UMK programs in the mail as well as a registration sheet. Please fill out the sheet and send it with your child on Wednesday night! We will be **GROSS** during September and October meetings! LOL - learning that God can use all things for good (Even **GROSS** things). Then on October 27, we will have a Halloween Party and **TRUNK OR TREAT!** And our Lesson will be **BOO!!** Turning fear into courage! So wear your costume that night and be ready to have fun and get **CANDY!!** Thanks to all who have volunteered to help again this year. We are always looking for leaders and helpers at UMKs. And anyone who would like to prepare a UMK supper is welcome to do so. Just contact Miss Bess. We will be asking parents for meal help this year. So get your favorite group recipe ready! ☺



## TRUNK OR TREAT

This year's TRUNK OR TREAT will be held on **Wednesday night, October 27<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** during our UMK time. Everyone is invited to attend and you can bring your friends! We will have supper, singing and lesson time and then go outside for a few games and trunk to treat time for all ages. **TO ALL ADULTS, PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS:** Please plan now to provide a trunk for this event. Trunk or Treat is no fun without the Trunks and Candy!!! Make it fun for all to dress in costumes and decorate your trunk!!



## UMYF: United Methodist

Youth Fellowship (all 6<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> graders) began our Sunday evening meetings again on September 19<sup>th</sup> with a trip to

Tekoa Foothills where we welcomed our newest members Zach Harmon and Alayna Ross. Our regular meetings will be 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. down stairs at the church in our UMYF youth room. Again, we have a project to do in fixing up our UMYF space. We need everybody's input to talk, plan and study God's word and His will for our group. We have a full schedule of events and projects and **Mission Possible** opportunities coming up in the next few months. Beginning with making more toiletry bags for the blessing box on **October 3<sup>rd</sup>** and then the members of UMYF will help and act as "curb hops" on **October 8<sup>th</sup>** for the Baity Family fund raiser. (Yes, you can wear your roller skates if you dare.) On Saturday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. **October 16<sup>th</sup>** we will venture to the Shelby Corn Maze / haunted corn Maze for an afternoon of fall fun and excitement. We will leave from the church at 4:00 p.m.. Sunday morning, **October 24<sup>th</sup>**, will be our Coffee Bar fund raiser in the fellowship hall before and after Sunday school. Everyone will be needed to help and serve coffee. The youth will be helping and participating in our **TRUNK or TREAT night October 27<sup>th</sup>**, here at the church. We will have a trunk with the "Fruits of the Spirit" theme. (So get ready "Fruit Loops")! Our group will participate in **Summit 2021 in Asheville** the weekend of November 5<sup>th</sup> thru 7<sup>th</sup>. So mark your calendar now for this special retreat weekend of music, meeting new friends and receiving manna from the word of God. This is a youth retreat sponsored by WNCC of UMC. Our UMYF will be for middle and high school youth ages 6<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Please read your FUMCY text for more details.



## Thursday Morning Prayer Breakfast

The Thursday morning prayer breakfast continues each Thursday morning at 7:00 a.m. at Homefolks Café. Everyone is welcome! Especially students and parents and grandparents are invited to attend to share a good healthy breakfast before school and food for the soul as you go about your day. A devotion and prayer time is offered for all those that wish to begin their day in fellowship and prayer with other Christians in the community.



## KINGDOM KIDS KORNER

The weather change has been refreshing and seems to have filled everyone at Kingdom Kids with renewed energy! The children seem to be happy; friendships have been formed; and they have discovered that learning can be fun!

It is such a joy to see all the smiles; to hear the laughter and the singing; to get all the hugs; just to see the children being children — carefree and happy. What a blessing when so much around us sometimes causes us to forget to count our blessings.

Once a month the librarian from Cherryville Public Library comes to read to our students, which they always enjoy. We appreciate Pastor Zack leading chapel for us on Wednesday mornings. The children look forward to this time with him and he always manages to keep them involved and interested.

During October, in addition to all our learning, we will have school photos taken; we will visit the Fire Department; we will take part in Trunk or Treat; and we will march in the Little Monsters Parade through Main Street Cherryville.

We are so blessed to have such an excellent staff of dedicated teachers and to have supportive families, as well as the support of our church. Thank you, church family, for that support and for your continued prayers!

Ms. Millie



THE **FIT FAB FUN BUNCH** IS OUR CHURCH'S NEWEST EXCITING GROUP. Anyone 60 years or older is invited to join! Our next meeting will be **October 20<sup>th</sup>** 12 noon in the church fellowship hall. The "BUNCH" will gather for lunch,

FUN fall games, spiritually FIT devotions and planning for FAB future outings and activities of the group. Join us for fellowship and just plain fun together. You do not want to miss out on being a part of this bunch of mature adults as we experience life, love and friendships together. **YOU MUST BE 60 OR OLDER TO ENTER.**





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

**MARTY BEAM**

Ron & Janice Hovis  
Vee & Melanie Thornburg

**PAT EAKER**

Pam Anthony  
Ben & Libby Ballard  
Gail Beam & Ephriam, Jr.  
Jim & Becky Beam (Backpack Ministry)  
Martha Beam  
Jack & Judy Bingham  
Merlyn Blanton  
Mac & Jewel Brawley  
Nancy Catena  
CHS Class of 1960 (Kingdom Kids Preschool)  
Debbie Gantt (Backpack Ministry)  
Shirley Gunn  
Clarice Harrelson  
Daniel Hendrick & Family  
David Hendrick & Family  
Ron & Janice Hovis  
Palmer & Mary Ann Huffstetler  
Eloise Mauney  
Bill & Quita Moss  
Ronnie & Louse Nelson  
Mickey Payseur (Endowment Fund)  
T. L. & Miney Saine  
Zach & Penelope Stroup  
Larry & Carolyn Summer  
John & Kay Taylor  
Gary & Phyllis Thornburg  
Danny & Teci Webb  
Randy Whitaker  
Dale & Delores White

**REGAN GANTT**

Gail Beam & Ephriam, Jr.  
Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)  
Debbie Gantt

**TRENT GARDO**

Brent, Teresa & Tracy Gardo (Playground Fund)  
Harold & Kim Mauney (Playground Fund)

**SHERIE HARRELSON**

Jennifer J. Allran, Aiden & Emerson  
Pam Anthony  
Ben & Libby Ballard  
Gail Beam & Ephriam, Jr.  
Suzanne Beckstoffer  
Jack & Judy Bingham  
Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)  
Sandra Carpenter (Backpack Ministry)  
Nancy Catena  
Richard & Martha Cornwell  
Deanna Daggerhart (Backpack Ministry)  
Mike Dellinger  
Debbie Gantt  
Teresa Hopper, Bill Waters & Fred Rudder  
Tad Huffstetler  
Carolyn & Ilisa Jenkins  
Clyde Jones & Mrs. Lou H. Jones  
The McGee Family  
Pat McGinnis  
Ray McSwain  
Sylvia Norton (Backpack Ministry)  
Carol & Caleb Roberts  
Mike & Judi Roberts  
Betty Jane Robinson  
Lib Sellers  
Bill & Chris Sneed  
Gary & Phyllis Thornburg  
Jerry Thornburg (Backpack Ministry)  
Danny & Teci Webb

**PERRY JONES**

Steve & Lynn Bowen

**CLETUS LAIL**

Amy Tallent  
Gary & Phyllis Thornburg

**M. L. SHULL**

Jack & Judy Bingham

**JACK STEPHENSON**

Dave & Pam Owens  
Shirley Smith

**MARGARET WEBB**

Kelvin & Linda Brittain  
John & Linda Dellinger

**DAVID WOODS**

Gail & Jeff Jenkins (Backpack Ministry)  
Chelsi & Rob Thomas (Backpack Ministry)



- CONTINUED -

**AURA ANN MCGINNIS**

Pam Anthony  
 Ben & Libby Ballard  
 Steve & Lynn Bowen  
 Sandra Carpenter (Backpack Ministry)  
 Nancy Catena  
 CHS Class of 1949  
 Clarice Harrelson  
 Eloise Mauney  
 June Medlin Sunday School class  
 Sylvia Norton (Backpack Ministry)  
 The Quach family  
 Amy Tallent  
 Jerry Thornburg (Backpack Ministry)  
 Wayne & Belinda Watts  
 Danny & Teci Webb



**FLOWERS  
ADORN OUR  
ALTAR:**

Beginning on October 10, 2021 we will once again open our Sunday worship calendar to allow anyone who wishes to place flowers in our sanctuary in honor or in memory of a loved one to do so. Please contact Joyce Baxter, (910) 231-4787, or the church office if you would like to offer a gift of flowers to our church altar area during the coming year and let her know which Sunday you would like to provide an arrangement.

If you previously had a date on the flower calendar and you wish to keep a date close to that, please confirm this with Joyce or the church office.



***IN HONOR***

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

**HATTIE BECK**

Vee & Melanie Thornburg

**VERA EAKER**

*Happy 100th Birthday*

Sandra Carpenter (Backpack Ministry)  
 Ron & Janice Hovis  
 Janice Metcalf  
 Sylvia Norton (Backpack Ministry)  
 Jim & Sandra Tate

**ERIC PACKARD**

Linda Pruett (Youth Fund)



**PRAYER LIST (Members)**

Billy Alexander, Bob Austell, Bo Baity, Mike Burgess, Janet Carter, Deanna Daggerhart, Guy Eaker & Family, Vera Eaker, Jim Eaton, Ruth Gaston, Larry Gunnell, Eloise Mauney, Ken Mayhew, Larry McGinnis, Ray McSwain, Karleen Price, Rev. Harry Queen, Vernon & Betty Smith, Chris Sneed, Gary Thornburg, Earlene Williams, Melinda Yount, and all our homebound and nursing home members.

**PRAYER LIST (Family & Friends)**

Elena Azzrita, Martha Beam, Gwynneth Blackwelder, David Farnsworth, Alvin Green, Bruce & Doris Hamrick, A. J. Henley, Barbara Mayhue, Marissa Smith, Tyler Wehunt, Pam Whitesides, Greg Yount and our loved ones in the military.

**LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY:**

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

# Church Member

## October Birthdays

1	Eddie Eaker
1	Tim Pruitt
2	Stan Allen
2	Brooklynn McNeely
3	Baylor Gunnell
4	Patience Foster
4	Kevin Moths
4	Lory Paputseanos
5	Bo Baity
5	Brent Gardo
6	Betty Smith
6	Emily Webb
7	Sarah Fowler
7	Ben Huffstetler
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	Ryan Davis
15	Curtis Harrelson
16	Mike Burgess
17	Bobbi Ballard
17	Taylor Costner
18	Tom Dellinger
19	Ava Thornburg
20	Gene Hubbard
20	Melinda Yount
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	Juanita Gunnell
30	Brody Thornburg
31	Jill Puett



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





Mrs. Rita Black Lorrey  
Lincolnton Rehab.  
1410 East Gaston St.  
Lincolnton, NC 28092

**Sunday, October 3**

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

**Monday, October 4**

2:00pm - Lola Allran Circle  
Vera Eaker Circle & Aunt Pearl will not meet

**Wednesday, October 6**

6:00pm - UMK's  
6:30pm - Bible Study  
6:30pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, October 7**

7:00am - Prayer Breakfast at Homefolk's Café

**Friday, October 8**

4:30 - 6:30pm - Spaghetti dinner fundraiser for  
Bo Baity (curbside pick up only)

**Sunday, October 10**

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

**Tuesday, October 12**

7:00pm - Trustees Committee meeting  
2022 Budget Requests due from Committee chairs

**Wednesday, October 13**

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

**Thursday, October 14**

7:00am - Prayer Breakfast at Homefolk's Café

**Saturday, October 16**

4:00pm - Youth depart to Shelby to corn maze

**Sunday, October 17**

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

**Monday, October 18**

6:00pm - Finance Committee meeting

**Wednesday, October 20**

12:00pm - "Fit Fab Fun" Bunch - luncheon in the  
Church Fellowship Hall

6:00pm - UMKS

6:30pm - Bible Study

**Thursday, October 21**

7:00am - Prayer Breakfast at Homefolk's Café

**Sunday, October 24**

9:00am - Youth "Coffee Bar" fundraiser  
9:30am - Sunday School  
10:30am - Worship

6:00pm - Youth

**Monday, October 25**

6:00pm - Church Council meeting

**Wednesday, October 27**

6:00pm - Trunk or Treat  
6:30pm - Bible Study  
6:30pm - Chancel Choir

**Thursday, October 28**

7:00am - Prayer Breakfast at Homefolk's Café

**Sunday, October 31**

9:30am - Sunday School  
10:30am - Worship  
No Youth

**OCTOBER USHERS**

Steve Beam, Jody Fowler, Vee Thornburg, Ben  
Blackburn and Clay Thornburg

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT, SEPT. 26**

Total Giving To Date . . . . . \$260,687.07  
Needs to Date . . . . . \$297,682.32