

THE MESSENGER
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
601 NORTH PINK STREET
CHERRYVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA 28021
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June 30, 2021

Vol. XXXII No. 6

Rev. Zack Christy
Pastor

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Director of Christian Education

Nancy Catena
Pianist / Organist (Interim)

Linda Barger
Chancel Choir Director

Andrew Harmon
Handbell Director

Mildred Young
FUMC Weekday Preschool Dir.

July Reflection

2 Corinthians 6:2 "For God says: At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you. See, now is the acceptable time; see now is the day of salvation!"

Before my son Elijah was born, my wife and I took what our peers affectionally called a "babymoon." It was one last hurrah before we welcomed our firstborn into the world. We decided to go to Pigeon Forge, we didn't have an itinerary or anything we just went to get away. On the drive into our hotel we passed the Titanic Museum, now why this museum was in Pigeon Forge I'm sure I don't know, but we decided it would be a good place to visit.

The museum is filled with the stories of the people who tragically perished in the Titanic disaster. But there was one story in particular that truly gripped me, it was the story of a preacher named John Harper who was on the boat. Now as a Methodist I'm hardwired not to give credit to Baptist's, but John Harper was a Baptist preacher. During the sinking of the Titanic, Harper gave his life preserver to someone who was struggling in the water, and as he threw it witnesses heard him shout, "Grab onto this preserver because it will extend your life, grab onto Jesus because he will give you salvation and life eternal." Harper could have saved himself, but he refused choosing instead to share a message of salvation.

There are few more challenging words to be said by the church than, **salvation**. Because salvation implies that there is something that we need to be saved from. Salvation implies that we are not doing as well as we presume, that we do not have the whole world in our hands. And I know of no one who likes to think that perhaps they can't save themselves. After all many of us are raised to think that if we simply work hard enough, we can solve our problems.

But the problem of sin is such a persistent one that in spite of our best efforts we cannot shake it off. We have tried since the garden to rid ourselves of the burden of our sin, all to no avail. Just when it appeared that we would never be able to rid ourselves of this problem, at the perfect time God sent his Son Jesus Christ to us. To pay a price we could not and would not pay in order that we all might experience the forgiveness of sins. The gift of this freedom seems almost too good to be true.

The news is so good in fact that some reject it simply because it seems too easy, too quick a solution for a problem as complex as human sin. It seems that might have been where the Corinthian church was when Paul penned these words to them. They were unwilling and unable to grasp the good news of salvation. They were treating salvation as if it were merely something that happens when we die. They did not seem to grasp that salvation is here, it is present, it is available now.

Paul refuses to let them relegate salvation to something that happens simply when you die. Paul wants them to claim the good news that salvation is here, it is now, and this salvation has a name Jesus Christ. My friends the good news of salvation is still here for the proclaiming today. Like a Baptist preacher in the cold waters of the Atlantic ocean, we too can pronounce the best news that the world has ever heard, we can proclaim salvation, if we are but willing to let the world know. Praise be to God that he continues to reach out to sinners like us, and offer us a new way, a better way, a way that leads to life.

Grace and Peace,

Zack Christy



SUNDAY SCHOOL HAS RESUMED !!!! YAY!!!!

Our Sunday School Classes are meeting again! On May 23rd we our Sunday School Classes began their small group studies for all ages. Sunday School will begin at 9:30 a.m.. We offer classes for everyone! We will have our children's classes: Nursery, 0-2yr olds; Toddler Class, 2-4 yr. olds; Younger Elementary, K-2nd grade; Older Elementary, 3-5th grades; Youth class, 6-12th grades; and of course our adult classes upstairs: Roman's 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. Teachers and helpers are still being lined up for these classes and groups and 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 gather again in our classes for Bible study, Christian fellowship, small group bonding and prayer time!



is coming! Vacation Bible School will be held August 1 thru August 5!!! We will have supper each night at 5:30 p.m. and begin our **Victory thru Jesus** pep rally assembly around 6:15 and VBS activities till 8:00 p.m. Make plans now to attend! We will have an opening day **"PEP RALLY"** on Sunday afternoon August 1st for every one of all ages. Beginning at 4:00 p.m., we will play wiffle ball and have hotdogs and game food! Then the children will move to their classes for all kids 2yr olds to 5th grade. Also, we will need volunteers for every aspect of V.B.S. so **PLEASE** let Bess know if you will be able to help with this year's V.B.S. **Victory is COMING!!!!**



CHILDREN'S CHURCH is back 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 grades with pencils crayons and coloring pages. 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.



UMYF: United Methodist Youth Fellowship (all 6th thru 12th graders) met on June 27th for a “sub supper” and brain stormed ideas to make plans for the upcoming summer. The youth also have packed toiletry bags for the outside “Miles Gantt memorial food blessing box” and bags of assorted hygiene items were placed in the box for anyone who needs it. We will continue meeting at least once a month during the summer on the last Sunday of each month at the church at 6:00 p.m. We also have planned to do some fun nights, mission projects and activities during the summer months. Please watch our group text **“FUMCY”** group link for information! Our next regular meeting will be July 25th at 6 p.m.

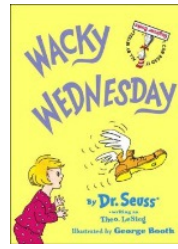
Our summer program is **MISSION POSSIBLE!!!** On Thursday, July 15th, we will meet at the church at 4:00 p.m. to prepare for our first mission... **MISSION DOWNTOWN CHERRYVILLE.** We will offer “living water” to store patrons and have a little fun ourselves with a **“Streets of Cherryville Scavenger Hunt.”** We will end up in the secret back room meeting point of Homefolks Café for a Mission Possible team rendezvous and supper.



THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR ACOLYTES AND CRUCIFERS

Thanks to all of our young people you have served as acolyte and crucifer last month! You guys have done a great job in preparing us for worship. A new schedule was sent out to cover Sunday's through August 29. Thanks for your willingness to serve during our worship services. Below is the schedule for July. If you cannot serve on your Sunday please let Bess know or switch with someone on the list.

- July 4 Amber Grace Brittain & Alayna Ross
- July 11 Will Fowler & Kenan Fowler
- July 18 Mallie Emerson & Ayden Canipe
- July 25 Zachary Harmon & Landry Pruitt



“WILD & WACKY WEDNESDAYS” “W.W.W” is

off to a great start! We have MORE summer activities coming up for our group. We will have “Wild Wacky Wednesday’s until August 4th. We will gather each Wednesday for a fun filled excursion to area places for playtime, devotions and exploring God’s world! All rising 1st graders thru rising 6th graders are invited to join in the action! If your child is a rising Kindergartener or under school age and wants to participate they are welcome to come along BUT a parent or adult must accompany them (this is mainly due to car seat restrains and the young age of the child). We will meet at the church parking lot to embark on our adventures! Below is our schedule for each Wednesday in JULY....

- **July 7th:** 9:30 a.m. - noon **“ADVENTURE LANDING”** visit "Adventure Landing" in Gastonia. Play putt-putt, arcade games, batting cages, and fun for all. The cost this week is \$7.00 per person which is golf and 20 tokens for games. You can also do the batting cages for additional \$3.00 for 30 pitches if you would like. Drinks and snacks will be provided.
- **July 14th** 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **“HANDS ON SCIENCE”** visit Catawba Science Museum in Hickory. Your child will experience hands on science experiments, animals, aquarium and building blocks. The cost is \$10.00 per child for the tickets to the museum.
- **July 21st** 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. **“GOD LIFE is a GEM”** visit Chimney Rock Park and Gem Mine, Flower Bridge, riverside lunch, and Lake Lure boat ride. All day fun day!
- **July 28th** 9:30 am-1pm **CREEK STOMPING WITH “KNOBBY!”** A morning of fun outdoors playing in the creek, roasting hotdogs and marshmallows for lunch and slaying Giants (A.K.A. “Knobby”) on the playground of South Mountain Family Camp!

This is the plan for July, but keep in mind, plans are always subject to change. If you have any questions don’t hesitate to call Bess 704-435-6732 / 704-836-6803.



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

DAVE BAITY

Jack & Judy Bingham (Pastor's Discretionary Fund)
Ron & Janice Hovis
Jerry Thornburg (Backpack Ministry)

JEAN BEAM

Chad & Michelle Bingham
Jack & Judy Bingham (Pastor's Discretionary Fund)
Debbie Gantt (Pastor's Discretionary Fund)
Clarice Harrelson
Danny & Teci Webb

FRED BROWN

Gary & Phyllis Thornburg

HELEN EATON

Jim Eaton & Family

DAVID LEDFORD

Gary & Phyllis Thornburg

PAM LEWIS

Allen & Susan Fraley (Backpack Ministry)
Danny & Teci Webb

ROY METCALF

Gary & Phyllis Thornburg

JOHN MILLER

Jack & Judy Bingham (Pastor's Discretionary Fund)
Ron & Janice Hovis
Gary & Phyllis Thornburg

GLENN "SON" RANDALL

Jack & Judy Bingham (Pastor's Discretionary Fund)
Gary & Phyllis Thornburg

BOBBIE RUDISILL

Gary & Phyllis Thornburg

ROBERT SHOOK

Chad, Crystal & Leslie Thornburg

BEVERLY STILES

Jack & Judy Bingham (Pastor's Discretionary Fund)
Debbie Gantt (Pastor's Discretionary Fund)
Clarice Harrelson
Pat McGinnis
Ronnie & Jill Puett
Amy Tallent
Chad, Crystal & Leslie Thornburg
Rhonda Wehunt (Backpack Ministry)

MARGARET WEBB

Stan & Martha Allen
Tommy & Renee Allen (Pastor's Discretionary Fund)
Pam Anthony (Chancel Choir Music)
Ben & Libby Ballard
Bruce & Chris Barrett
Joyce Baxter
Ruth Baxter Laney & Family
Allen & Denise Beam (Kingdom Kids Preschool)
Betty H. Beam
Jim & Becky Beam (Backpack Ministry)
Martha McSwain Beam
Steve & Susan Beam
Chad & Michelle Bingham
Jack & Judy Bingham (Pastor's Discretionary Fund)
Ben & Robin Blackburn
Steve & Lynn Bowen
Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)
Glenn & Cindy Burgess
Cindy Burgin, Rita Huffman & Dianne Dixon
Jeff & Cynthia Cash
Nancy Catena
Richard & Martha Cornwell
Barry, Wanda & Margie Dellinger
Joe & Sandy Dismukes
Cherryville Chapter 156 Order of Eastern Star
Debbie Gantt (Chancel Choir Music)
Larry & Juanita Gunnell
Ron & Janice Hovis
Palmer & Mary Ann Huffstetler
Tad Huffstetler
Gail Jenkins
David & Louanna Kiser
Harold & Kim Mauney
Aura Ann McGinnis
Larry & Barbara McGinnis
Pat McGinnis

July Birthdays

- 1 Brian Emerson
- 2 Sheri Sneed
- 3 Macie Beam
- 3 Taylor Paputseanos
- 6 Jason Ledford
- 7 Jace Brittain
- 7 Linda Mauney
- 9 Betsy Baity
- 9 Paitlyn Yount
- 10 Teresa Gardo
- 10 Deb Husen
- 10 Karleen Gaskins Price
- 12 Kaci Thornburg Beck
- 12 Tyler Buff
- 12 Gail Jenkins
- 12 Teci Webb
- 13 Blair Moss
- 14 Bobbi Conner
- 14 Zach Harmon
- 15 Alayna Ross
- 15 Michael Wright
- 16 Kristina Houser Haynes
- 16 Darin Webb
- 19 Jay Allen
- 19 Brian Gardo
- 20 Josh Skibo
- 20 Betsy Sneed
- 21 Richard Cornwell
- 22 Lydia Bradley
- 22 Cheryl Dobson
- 22 Kathy Kiser
- 23 Keith DeVenny
- 25 Kennedy Dellinger
- 27 Kelvin Brittain
- 27 Kristi Buff
- 28 Amanda Sorenson
- 29 Michael Baity
- 30 Valerie Wallace
- 31 Shayne Turner



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

**BACK TO
SCHOOL
SUPPLY
DRIVE**



ONE BODY ONE MISSION SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

will be August 7th from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at St John's Lutheran Church this year. Again we will be gathering school supplies and much needed materials for back to school back pack distribution for our community. The school supplies are due by July 26th. There is a table in the hall outside of the church office for any school supplies to be dropped off. We need notebooks, marbled composition books, notebook paper, pencils, pens, glue sticks, kid's scissors, coloring pencils, crayons, highlighters, report folders with brackets, and any school supplies you are willing to add. The school lists are posted at Walmart. There will be free haircuts and free hot dogs served at the event.

If you would like to register to receive supplies please call 704-435-9264 between the dates of June 1st thru July 16th.



Mr. Larry McGinnis
907 Vista Drive
Cherryville, NC 28021

STEWARDSHIP REPORT, JUNE 27, 2021

Total Giving To Date \$168,787.98
Needs to Date \$198,454.88

Sunday, July 4

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

Monday, July 5

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, July 7

9:30am - UMK's "WWW" to Adventure Landing
6:30pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, July 11

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

Wednesday, July 14

9:30am - UMK's "WWW" Catawba Science Museum

Thursday, July 15

4:00pm - UMYF Mission Downtown Cherryville

Sunday, July 18

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

Wednesday, July 21

8:30am - UMK's "WWW" to Chimney Rock
6:30pm - Chancel Choir

Sunday, July 25

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

Wednesday, July 28

9:30AM - UMK's "WWW" to South Mountain Park

Sunday, August 1

9:30am - Sunday School
10:30am - Worship
4:00pm - VBS kickoff celebration

PRAYER LIST (Members)

Billy Alexander, Bob Austell, Mike Burgess, Janet Carter, Deanna Daggerhart, Guy & Pat Eaker, Vera Eaker, Jim Eaton, Ruth Gaston, Larry Gunnell, Eloise Mauney, Ken Mayhew, Aura Ann McGinnis, Larry McGinnis, Ray McSwain, Karleen Price, Rev. Harry Queen, Amanda Sorenson, Chris Sneed, Gary Thornburg, Earlene Williams, and all our homebound and nursing home members.

PRAYER LIST (Family & Friends)

Elena Azzrita, Martha Beam, Gwenneth Blackwelder, Jayme Christy, A. J. & Teresa Henley, Scott Kale, Greg Yount and our loved ones in the military.

LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY:

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

Church Member



The Backpack Ministry is in need of the items listed below of nonperishable goods for our backpack ministry during the month of July. We will continue to deliver bookbags to the homes of some of the children we serve throughout the school year.

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.

- July 4 - Spam
- July 11 - Ravioli
- July 18 - Tomato Soup
- July 25 - Chicken Noodle Soup

Thank you,
The Backpack Ministry Committee