

**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)

**August 25, 2021**

**Vol. XXXII No. 8**

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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*September Reflection*

*Philippians 2:12-13 "Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure."*

Covid has made me realize just how much of life I took for granted prior to March 2020. From the big things, like coming to church, not being in fear of either contracting or sharing a deadly virus, to the little things like not wearing a mask on my face and eating in restaurants. I took so much for granted, and I believe often in times of strife, we search for silver linings, we grasp for something good to take with us from otherwise bad situations. If I can say I learned one good thing over this past season of pandemic, it is this, don't take anything for granted.

It is in this spirit that I share with you something that I have missed perhaps more than anything else is Bible Study. I love Bible Study, I love that time we set aside to dive deep into Scripture, to become immersed in the word and then to have conversation about it. Scripture is vast and interesting that even the most mundane Scripture (I'm looking at you Leviticus) deserves to be treated with a reverence and curiosity, that often we cannot completely delve into it on a Sunday morning.

Sermons for a variety of reasons are a decidedly one-sided discourse. I as the pastor share with you what a week's worth of study and prayer have revealed. Bible Study on the other hand is when we pull together using our collective imagination to not only discern what a particular author of Scripture was getting at, but also to hear what the Holy Spirit may be revealing to us as a group.

To say that I have missed this time would be an understatement. So starting on Wednesday 9/8 at 6:30pm we will meet in the June Medlin class for the beginning of a new Bible Study. If you have attended Bible Study before I hope that you will return. If you have not been a part of Bible Study before, I hope that you will take this restart as a time to begin. The best news is that we will all be starting from the same place.

Of course with the restart of Bible Study you might be wondering what part of Scripture we will begin with. After careful thought and consideration I have decided to open up with four of the Pastoral Epistles, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians to be exact. Over the course of this study we will focus on how each letter shines a light on a different aspect of discipleship. In Galatians we will be looking specifically at the role grace plays in discipleship, in Ephesians we will be looking at how ethics inform our lives as disciples, in Philippians we will be looking at the process of discipleship, and in Colossians we will be looking the way community impacts discipleship.

I hope that as you think about 6:30pm on Wednesday night, you will prayerfully consider coming to

Bible Study, so that we all may hear the words of instruction Paul has for us as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Grace and Peace,

Zack Christy

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The Backpack Ministry is in need of the items listed below of nonperishable items to put in bookbags 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. 5     16 oz. Creamy Peanut Butter  
Sept. 12    Vienna Sausages  
Sept. 19    Instant Potatoe packages  
Sept. 26    Green Beams

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.



**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!



## **UMK's:**

**CALLING ALL  
UMKs...** 3 year olds thru  
5<sup>th</sup> graders... UMK's will

start up again Wednesday night  
September 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm for supper,  
singing and study time. We will have a first night/fun  
night September 8th and study Champions: **More  
than Winners!** You will need to wear your bathing  
suit with a cover up and bring a towel that night for  
some special outdoor fun! You will be receiving a  
letter and fall schedule for all UMK programs in the  
mail within the next few weeks. 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 Lesson will be **BOO!!**  
Turning fear into courage! Thanks to all who have  
volunteered to help again this year. We are always  
looking for leaders and helpers at UMK's. 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! ☺



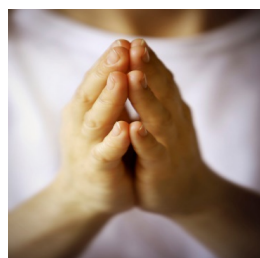
**UMYF:** United Methodist  
Youth Fellowship (all 6th thru  
12th graders) will begin our  
Sunday evening meetings again.  
We will meet together for a **TACO**

**BAR**, Sunday night, August 29th  
at 6:00pm downstairs at the church in our UMYF  
youth room. Again, we have a project to do in fixing  
up our UMYF space. We will welcome our new  
rising 6th grade members and continue our  
**MISSION POSSIBLE!** plans. We need  
everybody's input to talk, plan and study God's word  
and His will for our group. We will not meet Labor  
Day weekend, September 5th, but we will begin  
meeting every Sunday evening at 6:00pm on  
September 12th. Our group will plan a Special  
**Secret Mission** night to get our new members  
oriented on **September 19** with our **mystery trip** and  
fun for the already established groupies. Our group  
will participate in **Summit 2021 in Asheville**  
the weekend of November 5-7th. 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 youths age 6th thru 12th  
grades. Please read your FUMCY text for more  
details.



## **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 need 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.



## **Thursday Morning Prayer Breakfast**

The Thursday morning prayer  
breakfast is starting up again  
August 26th and continuing  
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.



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

**E. L. BEAM**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)

**MARTY BEAM**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)  
Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)  
Eddie & Cindy Eaker  
Chad, Crystal & Leslie Thornburg (Backpack Ministry)

**BETTY BLACKBURN**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)

**HANK BRADLEY**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)

**EVA DELL BROWN**

Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)

**FRED BROWN**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)  
Joe & Sandy Dismukes

**ADAM CROWDER**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)

**CARL "BOOZIE" DELLINGER**

Pam Anthony  
Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)  
Jack & Judy Bingham  
Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)

**RONNIE DELLINGER**

Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)

**MILES GANTT**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Outdoor Blessing Box)

**NELL GRIGGS**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)  
Steve & Cindy Homesley

**JANE HANCOCK**

Jack & Judy Bingham

**JACK HENLEY**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)

**JONATHAN HENLEY**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)

**TERESA HENLEY**

Joyce Baxter  
Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)  
Bill & Quita Moss

**SHARIE KENNEDY**

Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)

**ADAM LACKEY**

Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)

**DAVID LEDFORD**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)

**DAVID MELTON**

Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)

**ROY METCALF**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)

**JOHN MILLER**

Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)

**SANDRA TAYLOR MOSSMAN**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)

**NANCY PIERCE**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)

**GLENN "SON" RANDALL**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)  
Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)

**BOBBIE RUDISILL**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)

**JACK SCISM**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)

**JACK STEPHENSON**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)  
Jack & Judy Bingham  
Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)  
Olin & Kay Bumgarner  
Deanna Daggerhart  
Joe & Sandy Dismukes  
Shirley Fisher  
Larry & Juanita Gunnell  
Steve & Cindy Homesley  
Harold & Kim Mauney  
Ken & Darlene Mayhew  
Jo Stiles  
Chad, Crystal & Leslie Thornburg (Backpack Ministry)  
Wayne & Belinda Watts

**MARY JANE STINSON**

Gail V. Jenkins

**GERALD VEEDER**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)  
Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)

**MARGARET WEBB**

Bob & Caryl Austell (Backpack Ministry)  
Jerry & Sandy Groce  
Steve & Cindy Homesley  
Palmer & Mary Ann Huffstetler  
Joann Pollock  
Dennis & Dawn Price  
Gary & Phyllis Thornburg

**WONNIE & MARGARET WEBB**

Cotton & Pam Crowder

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***IN HONOR***

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

**SANDRA CARPENTER**

*Happy Birthday*

Mary Etta Stephenson

**VERA EAKER**

*Happy 100th Birthday*

Ben & Libby Ballard  
Steve & Susan Beam  
Ben & Robin Blackburn  
Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)  
Nancy Catena  
Chuck & Julie Dellinger  
Michael Dellinger & family  
Jake Dellinger & family  
Debbie Gantt (Backpack Ministry)  
Gail Jenkins  
Hazeline Moss (Youth Ministries)  
Vernon & Betty Smith (Tropical Storm Fred)  
Mary Etta Stephenson

**BRIAN & JENNY EMERSON**

Mary Etta Stephenson

**SYLVIA NORTON**

*Happy Birthday*

Mary Etta Stephenson

**ERIC PACKARD**

Mary Etta Stephenson

**MARY ETTA STEPHENSON**

Shirley Fisher

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**A NOTE OF**



To my Church Family,  
Thank you so much  
for all the prayers, cards,  
and support my family has  
received during this trying  
time.

May God continue to  
Bless this church and each  
one of you.

Gratefully,  
Mary Etta Stephenson

**A NOTE OF**



We would like to thank  
everyone for the love,  
prayers, and support we  
received during this difficult  
time. All the cards, gifts of  
food, memorials, and your  
presence are very much  
appreciated.

Rick & Phyllis Webb  
Danny & Teci Webb





THE **FIT FAB FUN BUNCH** IS OUR CHURCH'S NEWEST EXCITING GROUP. Anyone 60 years or older is invited to join! The first outing of the **"FIT FAB FUN BUNCH"** is

Friday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will meet in the church parking lot promptly at 8:30 a.m. to leave on an adventure to Chimney Rock and Lake Lure! The cost for the day is \$35.00 per person to cover entrance to the park and the Lake Lure Boat Tour. We will eat lunch and get ice cream not included in the above cost. Chuck Dellinger has agreed to be our **FUN BUS** driver. Thanks Chuck! While this group will have numerous outings, we will also meet at the church periodically for supper, games, fellowship and just plain fun together. So if you don't feel like traveling, it's ok, there will be something for you too. 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.**



### KINGDOM KIDS KORNER

As I write this we have just completed our first day of this year's preschool. Wow! We survived! And all my teachers promised to come back tomorrow - thank you, Lord! Fifty-eight beautiful children are embarked on this new adventure. Each one is different, and each one is very special to us at Kingdom Kids. The teachers did an awesome job; we are so blessed to have such a dedicated group.

There were some tears today - probably more from parents than from the students. Soon it will be laughter, music and excitement. We are looking forward to a very special year and are so excited to witness the changes and growth of the children.

Please remember our staff, the children and their families in your prayers. We are so appreciative of the support we receive from our church family.

Ms. Millie

### 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 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 Julie Hovis Lyles
- 21 Earlene Williams
- 22 Lynn Bowen
- 22 Shane Stroupe
- 25 Mary Geiger
- 25 Brent Walls
- 26 Cooper Sain
- 27 Ken Mayhew
- 27 Alex Morehouse
- 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.



Ms. Janet Carter  
Carolina Care  
111 Harrilson Rd.  
Cherryville, NC 28021

### **Sunday, August 29**

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

### **Wednesday, September 1**

6:30pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday, September 2**

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

### **Sunday, September 5**

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

### **Wednesday, September 8**

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

### **Thursday, September 9**

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

### **Sunday, September 12**

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

### **Wednesday, September 15**

6:00pm - UMKS  
6:30pm - Bible Study  
6:30pm - Chancel Choir

### **Thursday, September 16**

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

### **Sunday, September 19**

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

### **Wednesday, September 22**

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

### **Thursday, September 23**

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

### **Sunday, September 26**

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

### **Wednesday, September 29**

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

### **Thursday, September 30**

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

### **STEWARDSHIP REPORT, AUGUST 22, 2021**

Total Giving To Date ..... \$228,524.07  
Needs to Date ..... \$259,517.92

### **PRAYER LIST (Members)**

Billy Alexander, Bob Austell, Mike Burgess, Janet Carter, Deanna Daggerhart, 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, Vernon & Betty Smith, Amanda Sorenson, 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, Bruce & Doris Hamrick, A. J. Henley, Scott Kale, 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



Thank you so much for making my 100th birthday extra special! I appreciate everyone who was able to attend the party, the many cards and gifts and especially your love.

Vera and family