

**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)

**JUNE 26, 2025**

**Vol. XXXVI No. 7**

Rev. Zack Christy  
Pastor

Teresa Gardo  
Administrative Assistant

Bess Thornburg  
Director of Christian Education

Nancy Catena  
Organist

Linda Barger  
Chancel Choir Director

Andrew Harmon  
Handbell Director

Cam Alfaro  
Audio Visual Tech.

Mildred Young  
FUMC Weekday Preschool Dir.

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***July Reflection***

John 4:14-15 *"[Jesus said] Those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life. The woman said to him, 'Sir give me this water so that I may never be thirsty.'"*

Y'all it is hot, as Crystal's granny would say, "It's hotter than Helen's beauty shop outside." The heat can be unrelenting, and I'm willing to bet that if you have spent any time outside this summer, you have found yourself wanting a nice cold glass of water. Is there anything more wonderful than that first sip of cold water, when you can almost feel the coolness go throughout your body.

Early on in the Gospel of John, John tells us about a time when Jesus and his disciples went into a Samaritan village. At some point Jesus gets away from the disciples, and makes his way to Jacob's well. Jesus is just sitting by the well, when a Samaritan woman makes her way to the well. Now it was noon which means the sun was at it's hottest, and no one should be going to get water. Typically you would get water in the morning or at night.

But this woman goes in the middle of the day, because she knows no one will be at the well. This poor woman is somewhat of the town pariah, been married six times, and now is living with a man who she is not married to. She doesn't want to deal with the sideways glances she will gladly take the heat of the day over the heat of her peers.

On this day though, the well is not abandoned, there is a man sitting there. I'm willing to bet that she half thought about just turning around, but she had come so far, and she needed the water. As she approached the man he called out to her, she was shocked people didn't typically talk to her, but when he speaks she also realizes, he isn't a Samaritan! He is an Israelite!

The more they talk the more she is drawn in by Jesus talking to her about living water. Until finally she says, "I know a Messiah is coming called the Christ" and Jesus says "I am he." Wouldn't you know it this town pariah, who was going to get water in the heat of the day so that she could avoid everyone's glances runs back to her village, and says, "Come and see this man who told me everything, I think he is the Messiah." The whole town of Sychar comes to believe in Jesus right then and there. She came to the well looking for a drink, she left with a renewed soul.

A few years ago Crystal's brother gave us a rafting trip on the French Broad River in Asheville. I'm sure you have all seen the French Broad River, so you know that there aren't any big rapids on the river, truthfully it is more like a giant lazy river.

But as we came to the end of our ride down the river our raft became high-centered on a rock and that little river that had not seemed intimidating several minutes before started to pour into our raft. At first we started to try and bail out the water, but the harder we tried to bail, the more the water flowed into the raft. Some of the people in the raft began to panic and our cool and collected raft guide started to get a little scarred. She tried to move the raft but it wouldn't budge, she jumped out of the raft tried to push it from behind, but it wouldn't budge, finally she started calling for help from the other people rafting down the river. We were eventually bailed out by some people who kayaked over and started pulling us out of the raft. I left that day thinking about how amazing it was to see the nice calm river, begin to overflow the walls of our raft, and what started out as a trickle soon became a flood, and within minutes that raft was completely submerged in the water.

I think the same thing happens to this woman at the well, she tried to bail herself out, but the harder she tried to bail, the more her spirit was filled with living water. She tried to tell Jesus that she was a Samaritan, but he didn't buy that excuse, she tried to tell Jesus that she is an unmarried woman, but he doesn't buy that excuse either, and finally she is out of excuses. Her life has been flooded by grace in a big way. The living water that she was once searching for is now bursting out of her. The living water that she received from Jesus Christ has shaken her up, for where she was once thirsty her spirit has been quenched.

Hear the good news the same living water that burst forth in Samaria 2000 years ago, bursts forth today, and I don't know about y'all but I think it is time we start to drink from that well.

Grace and Peace,

Zack Christy

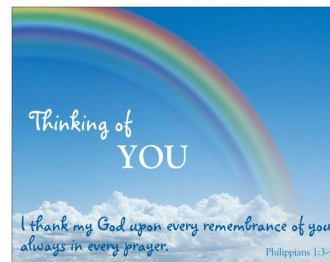
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**The Special Events Committee** would like to extend a special THANK YOU to everyone who came out to enjoy homemade ice cream and desserts on Sunday, June 8, 2025. Weather was perfect and the

Beam Estate location was breezy, peaceful and a lot of fun for all ages!!

A Special Thank you to Ken and M'Shel Bowen and Michael Beam for hosting us again this year! Also, a special Thank you to everyone who contributed homemade ice cream and desserts. It was a great day of fun and fellowship with our church family. As always thank you to the Special Events Committee for planning the event and their hard work. Our next event will be Sunday, September 7, 2025, for our BACK TO CHURCH Event.



### "GREETING CARD Outreach"

**Sunday, July 13**

Did you know that our church family currently has over 35 members of our church family who are sick, or home bound, or who may be struggling? In addition, there are many friends in our community who needs some love. In an effort to reach out to others, there will be various cards available for you to sign for our shut ins or members of church or community on the second Sunday of each month. These cards will be set up on a table in the narthex for you to drop by and sign. We started this in June on the Second Sunday. The next "Greeting Card Sunday" will be Sunday, July 13.

# Breakfast

On **Saturday, July 26**, we will have our Community Breakfast. Serving times will be from 7:30 - 10:30 a.m. Come join us for a time of fellowship and a delicious all you can eat breakfast buffet. Cost will be by donation. Our profits have gone toward assisting our local community by giving to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, to the local "Handy Man's Ministry" for helping with minor repairs to homes, and to our youth for retreats and mission trips. **We hold this event the last Saturday of every month.**



**CHILDREN'S CHURCH** is held during our 10:30 worship service for all children **3yrs thru 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders or older with pencils crayons and coloring pages and 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.



## THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR ACOLYTES AND CRUCIFERS

Thanks so much for serving your church as Acolyte and Crucifer. You are an important part of our worship service each week. Please see the below Acolyte/Crucifer schedule for the month of July. As you may have noticed the Acolytes and Crucifers are wearing robes now. This has been very well received by both our congregation and the young people. **Boys are asked to please wear long pants under your robe on your week to assist in worship and nice shoes!!! ALSO PLEASE BE IN THE NARTHEX BY 10:15 A.M. TO GET READY!** **\*\*If you cannot serve on your Sunday, PLEASE contact Bess @ 704-435-6732, cell: 704-836-6803 or 704-435-5185 or switch with one of the other people on the list.\*\***

### ACOLYTE

July 6 Lydia Bradley  
July 13 Hunter Brafford  
July 20 Amber Grace Brittain  
July 27 Ella Shuford

### CRUCIFER

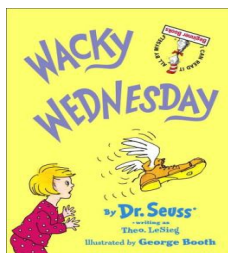
Ava Thornburg  
Artimus Shuford  
Lawson Walls  
Henry Shuford



## JULY NURSERY WORKERS

We are proud to offer an infant nursery, provided each Sunday morning, for our sweet babies during the 10:30 worship service. Our nursery is located at the end of the hall and to your right just below the church office. **A BIG THANK YOU** to all who have agreed to help in the Nursery. Below is the Nursery Workers list for **June**. You will receive a reminder card and text on your given Sunday. Please let Bess or Susan Beam know if you cannot be there on your Sunday.

July 6 Melanie Thornburg  
July 13 Renee Allen  
July 20 Robin Norwood  
July 27 Emily Winter



## WILD & WACKY WEDNESDAYS 2025

W.W.W. is off to a fun start this summer. We have been gathering 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! Please watch your mail box for a parent letter and more details. Below is our schedule for each Wednesday in July....

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>:** 10:30– 1:00 p.m.: **MOVIE "MINIONS: THE RISE OF GRU"** We will leave the church at 10:30 in time to see the 11:00 a.m. movie at AMC Shelby. The cost for the movie is \$15.00 and this includes movie ticket and child's, popcorn, drink and candy. We should be home around 1:00 p.m.

**July 9<sup>th</sup>:** **GO PLUM CRAZY**  
We will go plum crazy at the indoor playground and games at **PLUM CRAZY** in Lincolnton. We will leave here at 9:45 a.m. and return around 1:00 p.m. We will have lunch there and **PLAY! PLAY! PLAY!** The cost is \$15.00 per person for a two hour play time. There are also video games and token machines for those that want to do that! But you will need extra money for those.

**July 16<sup>th</sup>:** **BOWLING FOR DOLLARS**  
We will hit the lanes at PIN STATION in Newton NC. We will leave from the church at 9:30 a.m. and return around 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$15.00 per person and this will include a bowling game, shoes, light lunch and a drink. Any other spending money is up to you.

**July 23<sup>rd</sup>:** 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. **POOL PARTY SPLASH DOWN!!!**  
We will meet and gather pool side at the home of Pam Anthony Cannon at 11:00 a.m. We will have a pizza

lunch, snacks, drinks and ice cream. No cost for this fun day but please remember to wear your bathing suit, bring your towel sunscreen and any pool toys you want to play with. We will have swimming races, pool games and "FUN IN THE SON!!!"

**July 30<sup>th</sup>:** **VBS OUR VBS "ROAD TRIP" WILL BEGIN THIS WEEK ON JULY 27<sup>TH</sup>. So that means on this Wednesday, July 30 our WWW group will meet at the church for VBS at 5:30 p.m. See ya there!!!**

This is the plan for the month of July. We will not continue in August as school will be starting soon. But keep in mind, plans are always subject to change. If you have any questions don't hesitate to call Bess church: 704-435-6732 / cell: 704-836-6803

## ROAD TRIP is coming!!!



Our Vacation Bible School will be held July 27-July 31. Our theme is **ROAD TRIP!**

Our Road Trip doors open at 5:30 and close with vespers at 8:00 p.m. each evening. We will be **ON THE ROAD WITH GOD** and our journey green light verse is "The Lord your God is with you wherever you go," Joshua 1:9. Reminding us that God's presence is always near. Children ages 2 thru 5<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to come along on the ROAD TRIP.

**We will begin our "Road Trip" with a hot dog Supper, Sunday, July 27, at 5:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to the kick-off meal in the fellowship hall. You can pre-register your kids in the Narthex beginning Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup>. Be on the look out for "Scout" our road trip mascot to lead the way!**

\*\*\* Thanks to all those who have volunteered. We still need volunteers for music, snacks and food, teachers, craft helpers, decorators, journey leaders and recreation leaders. Please let Bess know if you are willing to help in any way.





## UMYF NEWS...

HEY SPORTS FANS.....It's Baseball time!!!

Our FUMCY/UMYF group will be going to the Hickory Crawdad's game on Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, leaving at 4:15 p.m. from the church. The game starts at 5:00 against the Augusta Green Jackets. We will have fun at the game and then stay for a Christian concert by **"Building 429"**. We will return home around 10:00 p.m. The cost is \$20.00 per person for your ticket and you will need extra money for hot dogs, drinks, popcorn, peanuts, crackerjacks or whatever you want. Hopefully we will have a good group to go and we will take the bus. You are welcome to invite a friend to come along. Please let me know if you are going by this Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup> and if you are planning to invite someone. Please let me know.

Looking forward to a night of fun and worship!



## T-Shirt Sale:

The Romans 12 Sunday School class is taking orders for First United

Methodist Church t-shirts. Toddler sizes - adult x-large are \$20.00 each and Adults 2XL and up are \$25.00 (color options are white, sand, or gray). Orders will be taken until **Sunday, July 6** and then we will place the order. All proceeds go toward the playground fund. Order forms are available in the narthex or in the church office.

BACK TO  
SCHOOL  
SUPPLY  
DRIVE



## ONE BODY ONE MISSION SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

will be on Saturday, August 9, from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon at First Baptist Church this

year. Again we will be gathering school supplies and much needed materials for back to school backpack distribution for our community. **If you would like to register to receive supplies, please call St. John's Lutheran Church, Cherryville at 704-435-9264 between the dates of June 1 thru August 1.** We will need volunteers to be prayer partners, and people to help give out supplies. If you can help on August 9, please let Bess know. **MORE INFO TO COME about the supplies we need to collect.**

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT: JUNE 22, 2025

Received to Date . . . . . \$155,577.27  
Needs to Date . . . . . \$209,865.50

## OTHER FUNDS RECEIVED YTD:

Church Building Renovations . . . . . \$5,370.00  
Endowment Fund . . . . . \$880.00  
Backpack Ministry . . . . . \$455.00  
Pastor's Discretionary Fund . . . . . \$1,095.00  
Playground Fund . . . . . \$20,959.50  
Youth Missions . . . . . \$650.00

## JULY USHERS:

Chad Thornburg, Ed Pierce, Todd Sorenson, Andrew Harmon, Steve Beam



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

**KEITH & SHEILA BEAM**

Ken & Darlene Mayhew

**GLENN & RUTH BURGESS, SR.**

Ken & Darlene Mayhew

**GLENDA S. CRAIG**

Wayne & Belinda Watts

**RAY GRIGG**

Bruce & Chris Barrett (Church Renovations)

Jack & Judy Bingham

Gail Jenkins

Stephanie Walker & Caroline Carswell

Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)

**JOEY HANCOCK**

Jack & Judy Bingham

Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)

Wayne & Belinda Watts

**JIM HOWELL**

Jack & Judy Bingham

Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)

Wayne & Belinda Watts

**JASON LEDFORD**

Pam Anthony (Playground Fund)

Janice Hovis

Harold & Kim Mauney (Endowment Fund)

Vee & Melanie Thornburg

Wayne & Belinda Watts

Wendy Whisnant

Dr. & Mrs. Thomas R. White

**STEVEN LYNN**

Clarice Harrelson

Curtis Harrelson

**FRANCES MAYHEW**

Ken & Darlene Mayhew

**KENNETH & EVELYN MAYHEW, SR.**

Ken & Darlene Mayhew

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***IN HONOR***

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

**ZACK CHRISTY FAMILY**

Ronnie & Jill Puett (Playground Fund)

**RICHARD CORNWELL**

*Happy Father's Day*

Richa Clark

**ADDIE FIER**

Andrew & Chrystal Harmon (Playground Fund)

**PAUL FIER**

Andrew & Chrystal Harmon (Playground Fund)

**LAKYNN HAYES**

Danny & Teci Webb (Mildred Young Preschool Scholarship Fund)

**CINDY HOLLAND**

Danny & Teci Webb

**MILDRED YOUNG**

Danny & Teci Webb (Mildred Young Preschool Scholarship Fund)

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**PRAYER LIST (Members)**

Linda Alexander, Kent Ballard, Michael Beam, Steve Bowen, Dennis Bradley, Mac & Jewel Brawley, Mike Burgess, Deanna Daggerhart, Ruth Gaston, Doris Huss, Reid Huss, Ken Mayhew, Sylvia Norton, Roy Norwood, Dave Owens, Rev. Harry Queen, Vernon & Betty Smith, Todd Sorenson, Jim Tate, Ron Walls, Wayne & Belinda Watts, Vivian Winter, and all our homebound and nursing home members.

**PRAYER LIST (Family & Friends)**

Alan Cannon, Chris Childers, Mary Crocker, Becky Estes, Riley Huffman, Steve Kale, Keys Pendleton, Jennifer Pruitt, Carson Reed, Alice Sigmon, Carmen Sumner, Rick Webb, Linda Whitworth, Matt Williams, Greg Yount and our loved ones in the military.

**LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY:**

#Ethan Beck, Edward Blackburn, Caleb Dickerson, \*Hunter Haire, \*Jessica Lovell, Paxton York.  
# Church Member, \*Deployed

## 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
12	Kaci 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
20	Josh Skibo
20	Betsy Sneed
21	Richard Cornwell
22	Lydia Bradley
22	Cheryl Dobson
22	Kathy Kiser
23	Keith DeVenny
25	Alice Blackburn
25	Kennedy Dellinger
27	Kelvin Brittain
27	Kristi Buff
28	Amanda Sorenson
29	Michael Baity
30	Valerie Wallace

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



## ***JULY HOMEBOUND*** ***MEMBER TO SEND A CARD***

**Deanna Daggerhart**  
**2038 Lincolnton Hwy.**  
**Cherryville, NC 28021**

### **Sunday, June 29**

9:30am - Sunday School

10:30am - Worship

### **Wednesday, July 2**

10:30am - WWW to movies

### **Friday, July 4**

Church Office closed

### **Sunday, July 6**

9:30am - Sunday School

10:30am - Worship

### **Wednesday, July 9**

9:45am - WWW to Plum Crazy

### **Sunday, July 13**

"GREETING CARD Outreach"

9:30am - Sunday School

10:30am - Worship

### **Wednesday, July 16**

9:30am - WWW going bowling

### **Sunday, July 20**

9:30am - Sunday School

10:30am - Worship

### **Wednesday, July 23**

11:00am - WWW Pool Party

### **Saturday, July 26**

7:30am-10:30am - Community wide breakfast  
buffet

4:15pm - Youth to Hickory Crawdads game

### **Sunday, July 27**

9:30am - Sunday School

10:30am - Worship

5:00pm - Vacation Bible School kick off  
celebration

### **Monday, July 28**

5:30pm - Vacation Bible School

### **Tuesday, July 29**

5:30pm - Vacation Bible School

### **Wednesday, July 30**

No WWW program

5:30pm - Vacation Bible School

### **Thursday, July 31**

5:30pm - Vacation Bible School