

**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)

**July 28, 2021**

**Vol. XXXII No. 7**

Rev. Zack Christy  
Pastor

Teresa Gardo  
Administrative Assistant

Bess Thornburg  
Director of Christian Education

Nancy Catena  
Pianist / Organist (Interim)

Linda Barger  
Chancel Choir Director

Andrew Harmon  
Handbell Director

Mildred Young  
FUMC Weekday Preschool Dir.

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**August Reflection**

*John 6:15 "When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself."*

Sometimes at home I feel like my only job is to say "no" to my kids. I'm confident every parent feels this at certain points, but at times it is exhausting to say no to children. "Daddy can I have a cookie?" "No," "Daddy can I ride my scooter inside?" "No" "Daddy can I drink some coke?" "No" "Daddy can I sleep in your bed?" "No." It is constant, now I do have to give credit to my children they have thought of creative ways to start asking for things. Instead of asking for a cookie, now Eli will say something along the lines of, "You know it has been a long time since I have had a cookie, I sure wish I could have a cookie." Ella has started to bat her eyelashes every time she asks for something, but still I find that frequently I must say no.

To be fair I don't think there is anyone in this world that enjoys saying "no." At our hearts many of us are people pleasers, we want to say, "yes," but often times we can't; sometimes a "yes" does far more harm than a "no."

In this John text, Jesus says no to a large crowd. What is striking in my mind about the way John depicts the feeding of the five thousand, is that unlike Matthew, Mark, and Luke who say that the feeding is because of the hunger of the crowd. John says the crowd forms around Jesus because they want to see signs. John locates the miraculous feeding against the back drop of the Passover, this happens right after Jesus goes into town and flips over the tables of the money changers.

Folks are feeling Jesus out they are inspecting him, they want to see if he has what it takes to be the Messiah, to be the one who will lead Israel into the Kingdom of God. They have seen his healing, they have heard him speak, but as soon as he feeds all them folks with only five loaves and two fish, everybody and their brother says, "that's it, this is the man, this is the Messiah." And the crowd tries to capture Jesus so that they can make him a king.

Now from the world's perspective this is a great thing, who in their right mind doesn't want to be a king? Thrones are to be sought after not run away from! Why would Jesus decide at the height of his popularity that now was the time to give an emphatic "no" to a very enthusiastic crowd?

Well I believe it is because we as people don't always know what is best for us. Oh don't get me wrong we are convinced that we do, but very often we are incorrect. If I let my kids eat cookies and drink coke all day long that doesn't set them up for success in life, rather it hinders their growth. In the same way if Jesus gave into the crowds incessant demands here, and became their king he couldn't lead them to the path of

eternal life.

The crowd here was only in it for the show, they were thankful that their bellies were full, but they didn't yet understand that Jesus came to fill them with more than food. Jesus came to fill them with the Holy Spirit, Jesus came to fill them with life, Jesus came to fill them with salvation. They saw Jesus as a means to an end, not as the start of a new way of life.

In the same way, we can become convinced in our walks of faith that our highest calling is to get God to bless the paths we are already taking, instead of listening for the places where God might just be telling us "no." Instead of pushing forward perhaps we would benefit from stopping for a second and listening, trusting that just as when a parent delivers a "no" to a child it isn't intended to harm rather it is intended to build up.

As you move into the month of August may you listen close for the prompting of the Holy Spirit so that you may find the paths God is leading you down. For just as we see in the Bread of Life discourse in the Gospel of John, even when God tells us "no" it is so that he can lead us on the paths that lead to life.

Grace and Peace,

Zack Christy

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**Vacation Bible  
School will be held  
Sunday August 1st  
thru Thursday  
August 5th!!! Our**

theme this year is **Victory** in the game of life with **Victory** and strength in Courage, Obedience, Faith, Unity and Jesus! We will have supper each night at 5:30 pm and begin our **Victory thru Jesus** pep rally assembly around 6:00 and VBS activities till 8 pm. Make plans now to attend! We will have an opening day **"PEP RALLY"** on Sunday afternoon August 1<sup>st</sup> for every one of all ages. Beginning at 4 pm, we will play wiffle ball and have hotdogs and game food! Pelican Snow Cone truck will be here to help cool us down. Then the children will move to their classes for all kids 2yr olds to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Thanks to all who have volunteered. We will need a few 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!!!!**



The Backpack Ministry is in need of the items listed below of nonperishable goods for our backpack ministry during the month of August. 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.

- |         |                              |
|---------|------------------------------|
| Aug. 1  | Macaroni & Cheese            |
| Aug. 8  | Tuna Helper                  |
| Aug. 15 | Canned tuna (5 oz. cans)     |
| Aug. 22 | Beef & Chicken Ramen Noodles |
| Aug. 29 | Vienna Sausages              |

Thank you,  
The Backpack Ministry Committee



**CHILDREN'S CHURCH** will continue 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> 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.



## 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 August. If you cannot serve on your Sunday please let Bess know or switch with someone on the list.

Aug. 1     Mallie Emerson & Bella Thornburg  
 Aug. 8     Amber Grace Brittain & Lydia Bradley  
 Aug. 15    Kenan Fowler & Will Fowler  
 Aug. 22    Alayna Ross & Zachary Harmon  
 Aug. 29    Mallie Emerson & Amber Grace Brittain



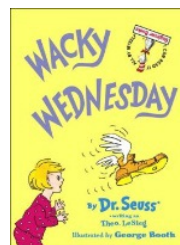
## UMYF: Our summer program is **MISSION POSSIBLE!!!**

The youth have packed toiletry bags for the outside "blessing box" and we are continuing to provide bags of assorted hygiene items to be placed in the box for anyone who needs it. Sadly our **MISSION CAMP GRACE** August 13-15 had to be canceled due to COVID19 cases among the campers so due to safety reasons the camp has been canceled for this year. We hope to be a part of Camp Grace next year!

We will continue meeting at least once a month during the summer on the last Sunday of each month. Our next meeting is August 29<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm. We invite the new members (rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders) to join us for a **MYSTERY MISSION**. Please watch our group text **"FUMCY"** group link for information!

Our regular meetings will start back on September 19<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm down stairs in our youth room. UMYF IS FOR ALL 6<sup>TH</sup> THRU 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS! BE THERE!

**SAVE THE DATE: November 5-7<sup>th</sup>**. Our group will attend **MISSION SUMMIT** weekend in Asheville, N.C. which is a Western NC United Methodist youth retreat. More info to come!!!!

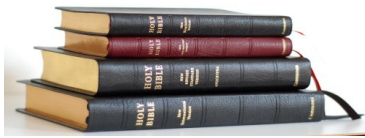


## "WILD & WACKY WEDNESDAYS"

What a fun summer we had each Wednesday at **"Wild Wacky Wednesday!"** Our wonderful group of very well behaved children enjoyed each other and fun times at attractions around our area! **THANK YOU** to all the parents and grandparents who went with us on our adventures this summer, Rhonda Wehunt, Becky Ross, Julie and Mike Wallace, Bill Moss, Natalie Beam, Chelsea Thornburg, Phyllis Thornburg, Crystal Christy, Jenny Emerson, Angie Anthony, Chad and Crystal Thornburg, and Harlee Austin and **a Very**



**Special THANK YOU** to Mrs. Chrystal Harmon and Mr. Chuck Dellinger for Driving our "Wacky Wheels" bus to each location! Looking forward to next summer's adventures!



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY!!!

Our Sunday Schools are meeting again! On August 29<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate our School Classes and Education Programs during our Sunday School hour at 9:30 with Promotion Sunday, Sunday School Class recognition and teacher appreciation and recognition and at 10:30 Worship, we will spotlight our Sunday School Classes and teachers, we will present Bibles to our 3rd graders. (Both current and rising). 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, 3-5<sup>th</sup> grades; Youth class, 6-12<sup>th</sup> grades; and of course our adult classes upstairs: Romans 12 class, Young adults; Ethleen 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 celebrate our classes of Bible study, Christian fellowship, small group bonding and prayer time!



## ONE BODY ONE MISSION SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

will be August 7<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at St John's Lutheran Church. This is a mission for back to school supplies and book bag distribution for those that are in need in our community. 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 or Cherryville Area Ministries 704-435-3816. As always volunteers are needed to help with the event. Please contact Bess Thornburg if you can help in anyway on August 7<sup>th</sup>. **A BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who so generously brought in the school supplies and donated to the cause! Thanks to Susan and Allen Fraley who packed up and delivered our supplies to the donation site!



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

UMK'S WILL BEGIN AGAIN ON WEDNESDAY EVENING SEPTEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>. All 3 yr. olds thru 5<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to be a part of UMK's! More info to come!!!!



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

**DAVE BAITY**

Ken & M'Shel Bowen

**DAVID BEAM, JR.**

Billy & Linda Alexander

**J. L. & LOLA BEAM**

Janice Metcalf

**JEAN BEAM**

Billy & Linda Alexander

**MARTY BEAM**

Tommy & Renee Allen  
Steve & Susan Beam  
Ken & M'Shel Bowen  
Steve & Lynn Bowen  
Sandra Carpenter (Backpack Ministry)  
Richard & Martha Cornwell  
Bill & Quita Moss  
Sylvia Norton (Backpack Ministry)  
Mr. & Mrs. O.C. Parker  
T. L. & Miney Saine  
Danny & Teci Webb  
Rhonda Wehunt (Backpack Ministry)  
Melinda Yount  
Traci Yount

**BETTY BLACKBURN**

Billy & Linda Alexander

**EVA DELL BROWN**

Tommy & Renee Allen

**FRED BROWN**

Gail Jenkins (Backpack Ministry)  
Ken & Darlene Mayhew

**HELEN EATON**

Ruth Gaston

**CARL "BOOZIE" DELLINGER**

Tommy & Renee Allen  
Bill & Quita Moss  
Ronnie & Jill Puett  
Danny & Teci Webb

**NELL GRIGGS**

Wayne & Belinda Watts

**PAM HOWELL**

Billy & Linda Alexander

**JUDGE ROBERT KIRBY**

Billy & Linda Alexander

**DAVID LEDFORD**

Eddie & Cindy Eaker

**CHARLES & WILMA METCALF**

Janice Metcalf

**JOHN MILLER**

Ken & Darlene Mayhew

**DEBBIE PAYSEUR**

Janice Metcalf

**DAVID QUALLS**

Gary & Karen Freeman

**GLENN "SON" RANDALL**

Clarice Harrelson  
Ken & Darlene Mayhew

**BOBBIE RUDISILL**

Billy & Linda Alexander

**JACK STEPHENSON**

Tommy & Renee Allen  
Pam Anthony  
Ben & Libby Ballard  
Joyce Baxter  
Gail Beam & Ephriam Beam, Jr.  
Jim & Becky Beam (Backpack Ministry)  
Steve & Susan Beam  
Ben & Robin Blackburn  
Ken & M'Shel Bowen  
Mac & Jewel Brawley  
Marsha Brown & David Brown, Sara (Brown),  
Dan, Hattie, Sadie & Charlie Braberg



- CONTINUED -

**JACK STEPHENSON**

Sandra Carpenter (Backpack Ministry)  
Nancy Catena  
Richard & Martha Cornwell  
Kathy Eaker  
Cathie Farris  
Debbie Gantt  
Brent & Teresa Gardo  
Ruth Gaston  
Jo Ann Hicks  
David & Sheila Houser  
Ron & Janice Hovis  
Palmer & Mary Ann Huffstetler  
Tad Huffstetler  
Gail Jenkins (Backpack Ministry)  
Eloise Mauney  
Linda Mauney  
Pat McGinnis  
Janice Metcalf  
Bill & Quita Moss  
Sylvia Norton (Backpack Ministry)  
Ronnie & Jill Puett  
Betty Jane Robinson  
T. L. & Miney Saine  
Robert & Becky Scism  
Vernon & Betty Smith  
Bill & Chris Sneed  
Amy Tallent  
Roger Thompson & Cindy Johnson  
Jerry Thornburg (Backpack Ministry)  
Danny & Teci Webb  
Rhonda Wehunt (Backpack Ministry)

**BEVERLY STILES**

Ray McSwain

**JAN SUMMER**

Gail Jenkins

**C.V. THORNBURG**

Janice Metcalf

**GERALD VEEDER**

Gail Beam & Ephriam Beam, Jr.  
Steve & Lynn Bowen  
Pat McGinnis

**MARGARET WEBB**

Donnie, Jeanne & Jenna Alexander  
Billy & Linda Alexander  
Lola Allran Circle  
Gail Beam & Ephriam Beam, Jr.  
Loretta Beam  
Ken & M'Shel Bowen  
Arnold & Nancy Brackett  
Sandra Carpenter (Backpack Ministry)  
Deanna Daggerhart  
Chuck & Julie Dellinger  
Eddie & Cindy Eaker  
Kathy Eaker  
Tim & Robin Eubanks  
Brent & Teresa Gardo  
Ruth Gaston  
Clarice Harrelson  
William & Guyann Howe  
Linda Mauney  
The Mauney Girls:  
    Martha Mauney Moses  
    Caroline Mauney  
    Anna Mauney Spence  
    Harriett Mauney Cordray  
Ken & Darlene Mayhew  
Morris & Jacque McGinnis  
Ray McSwain  
Sylvia Norton (Backpack Ministry)  
Harry & Goldie Queen  
Betty Jane Robinson  
John & Cindy Smith  
Vernon & Betty Smith  
Mary Etta Stephenson  
Jo Carol Stiles  
Wayne & Belinda Watts  
Mary West  
Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Rhyne White  
James & Barbara Wood  
Beth B. Wright

**WONNIE & MARGARET WEBB**

Janice Metcalf

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# IN HONOR

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

**BILLY & LINDA ALEXANDER**

Janice Metcalf

**LINDA BARGER**

Janice Metcalf

**SHERMAN BROWN**

*90th Birthday*

Tracy & Julie Lyles (Backpack Ministry)

**PASTOR ZACK CHRISTY**

Janice Metcalf

**DEANNA DAGGERHART**

Janice Metcalf

**VERA EAKER**

Ruth Gaston

**TERESA GARDO**

*Birthday*

Janice Metcalf

Mary Etta Stephenson

**ELOISE MAUNEY**

Janice Metcalf

**JANIE PEAK**

Johnny, Kelly & Nickolas Brown (Backpack Ministry)

**BILL & CHRIS SNEED**

Janice Metcalf

**MARY ETTA STEPHENSON**

Janice Metcalf

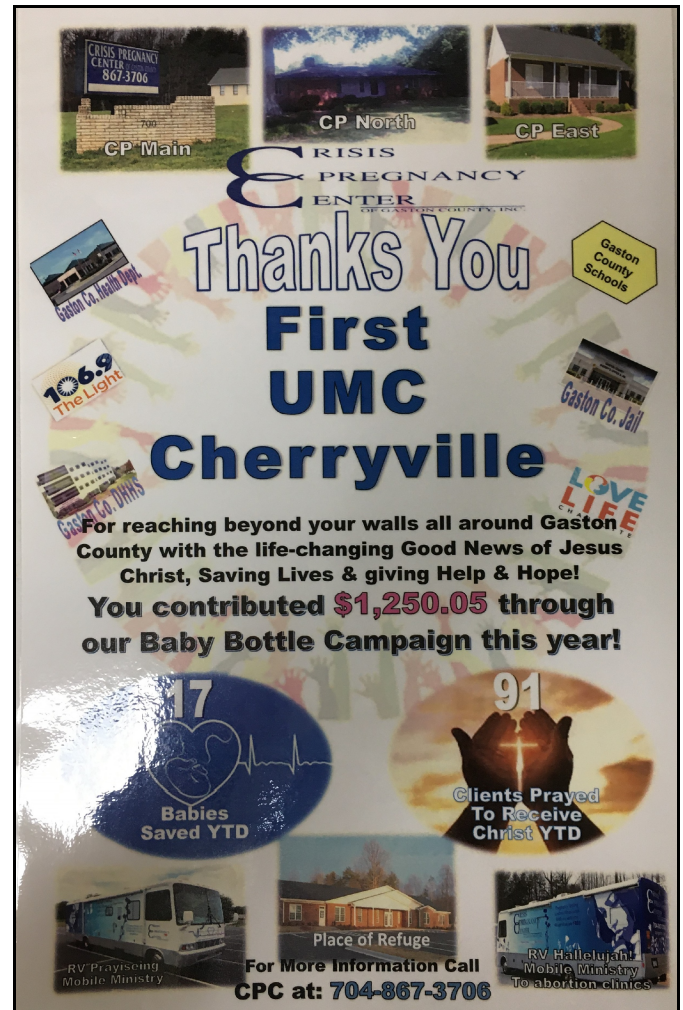
**GARY & PHYLLIS THORNBURG**

Janice Metcalf

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

Janice Metcalf

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## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 Ned Heavner  
2 Devan Beam  
2 Sharon Sigmon  
3 Chris Ballard  
3 Steve Panton  
4 Greg Kirby  
4 Emilie Pope  
5 Lauren Bell  
5 Bella Thornburg  
6 Betty Jane Robinson  
6 Miney Saine  
8 Sandra Carpenter  
8 Sylvia C. Norton  
8 Bill Moss  
9 Linda Alexander  
13 Kristyn Stroupe  
14 Dusty Pope  
14 Raelyn Thornburg  
18 Billy Crews  
19 Jodi Beam  
19 Ben Payseur  
19 Loren Stroupe  
20 Steve Bowen  
20 Janice Hovis  
21 Jerry Thornburg  
22 Gavin Burleson  
**22 Vera Eaker**  
23 Danny Webb  
24 Zane McGinnis  
24 Landry Pruitt  
25 Jeff Hoyle  
25 Jenny Emerson  
25 Braden Jones  
26 Libby Ballard  
26 Scott Jones  
27 Harlee Austin  
27 Eli Christy  
28 Nicole Canipe  
28 Mickey Payseur  
28 Doug Whitworth  
29 Alex Blackburn  
29 Harris Hetrick  
29 Leon Roseboro  
30 Kathy Burleson  
31 Ron Walls



The family of Vera Eaker is planning a 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration on **Sunday, August 22, from 1:30 - 3:30pm** in the church Fellowship Hall. Family and friends are invited to drop by to celebrate with her. Your presence is your gift.

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





Mrs. Karleen Price  
409 South Elm St.  
Cherryville, NC 28021

**Sunday, August 1**

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

**Monday, August 2**

5:30pm - Vacation Bible School

**Tuesday, August 3**

5:30pm - Vacation Bible School  
6:40pm - Trustees meeting

**Wednesday, August 4**

5:30pm - Vacation Bible School  
6:30pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, August 5**

5:30pm - Vacation Bible School

**Sunday, August 8**

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

**Sunday, August 15**

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

**Wednesday, August 18**

6:30pm - Chancel Choir

**Sunday, August 22**

9:30am - Sunday School  
10:30am - Worship  
4:00pm - Preschool Orientation

**Sunday, August 29**

9:30am - Sunday School  
10:30am - Worship  
4:00pm - Youth

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT, JULY 25, 2021**

Total Giving To Date ..... \$206,071.98  
Needs to Date ..... \$228,986.40

**PRAYER LIST (Members)**

Billy Alexander, Bob Austell, Scott Beam & Family, 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, Mary Etta Stephenson & family, Gary Thornburg, Earlene Williams, Melinda Yount, and all our homebound and nursing home members.

**PRAYER LIST (Family & Friends)**

Elena Azzrita, Martha Beam, Gwenneth Blackwelder, David Farnsworth, A. J. & Teresa Henley, Scott Kale, Marissa Smith, Tyler Wehunt, Greg Yount and our loved ones in the military.

**LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY:**

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

# Church Member