

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Enter to Worship
January 14, 2024

Kneel to Pray
2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Rise to Serve
11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE

CHIMING OF THE HOLY TRINITY

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

You Are Welcome Here

Chancel Choir

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Be still!

People: We come to quiet ourselves in this haven of holiness.

Leader: Be still and know . . .

People: We come to discern the Word which can set us free.

Leader: Be still and know that God is

People: Our Hope, our Help, our Refuge, and our Redeemer.

***HYMN**

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

UMH #110

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost! As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

TIME MOSTLY FOR CHILDREN

Robbie Combs

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 46

ANTHEM

Breath of God

Chancel Choir

SERMON

Doom & Gloom
2nd in Series:
Glimpses of Hope

Dr. Tim Roberts

***HYMN**

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

UMH#420

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

Chancel Choir

***POSTLUDE**

****You are invited to stand, as you are able****

WELCOME: To all who need a church home, who mourn and need comfort, who are lonely and need friendship, who know how to pray and who do not, who sin and need a Saviour, who are displaced and are searching for community, who are tossed in turbulent waters and are seeking a safe harbor, and to whosoever will – First United Methodist Church opens wide its heart, mind, and doors, and in the name of Jesus the Christ says: WELCOME!.

PRAYER LIST: Please review the prayer list on the back of the bulletin. If you know of any updates or deletions that need to be made, please contact the church office.

PRAYER CONNECTIONS

Jesus said, "Therefore I say to you, whatever you pray and ask for, believe that you will receive it, and it will be so for you."
- Mark 11:24 (CEB)

We believe in the power of prayer. If you have a prayer concern that you would like for the church and/or the pastor to pray with you about, please let us know by writing it down on the slip below and dropping it in the offering plate.

Check here to have your prayer request to be shared with the church. Otherwise, it will remain confidential.

Use the space below to list any requests for more information about events or to provide additional information about yourself. Please place this slip in the offering plate.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TITHES AND OFFERINGS: The offering plates are located at each entrance for you to give of your weekly tithe and offerings. You may also choose to use our online giving portal at: www.fumclincolnton.com/give-online

FLOWER CALENDAR: If you wish to place flowers for morning worship in memory of or in honor of a loved one, the 2024 Flower Calendar is now posted outside of the church office in the Education Building.

MEDICAL DEBT RIP: As Pastor Tim has mentioned the past couple of weeks, our church has an opportunity to greatly help those in our area who are overcome with medical debts. More information will be coming regarding this program, but you may check the following website to answer some questions you may have: <https://tinyurl.com/First-RIPMedical>

OFFERING ENVELOPES: Offering envelopes for the coming year are now available for pick up on the counter in the Middle Building. You can pick up packs of 12, packs of 52, or single envelopes. If you have any questions, please see Letha.

CHOIR REHEARSAL: Our Chancel Choir meets every Wednesday at 7:00 pm in the Choir Room in the Middle Bldg. All are invited to come and help make a joyful noise to the Lord.

5TH WEDNESDAY READING GROUP: Women of the church who participated in the 5th Wednesday Book Club read a total of 31 books in 2023. They are Letha Owen, Rosemary Leonard, Gayle Park, Rosalind Welder, Susan Henthorn, and Carol King. We will meet on January 31st in the church library to talk about any book purchase recommendations from the 5 different categories of the 2024 UMW Reading Program. We welcome new readers to this group! We get together four times a year to share our reactions and recommendations with each other....no book reports required!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES UPDATE:

Emergency Services is requesting:

- Shampoo and Conditioner
- Body Wash and Body Lotion
- Backpacks for the homeless
- Jeans waist size 30 and 32

Current Food Needs:

Peanut Butter, Crackers, Breakfast food (cereal, grits, oatmeal), Macaroni & Cheese, Pop-top cans of food (easy to use for our homeless)

Clothes Closet:

The clothes closet will reopen on January 2.

In January, we are asked to provide volunteers to pack food boxes at Christian Ministries. The designated dates for our church is January 22, 23 and 24th.

Souper Bowl of Caring, which takes place on February 11th, has become an annual tradition for many congregations, schools and other youth-led groups, which can make a big difference for charities such as ours who serve the community's most vulnerable. During the week before the Super Bowl football game, dollars and canned goods are collected and donated through various Souper Bowl of Caring events.

The Souper Bowl of Caring is the ONLY fundraiser that every dollar goes to the Soup Kitchen. This is a great way to support their work. More information to follow.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – January 21

Liturgist: Bryan Beal

Greeters: Steve & Jane Morton

Acolyte: Noah Hardin

Time Mostly for Children: Jan Duncan

Pew Keepers: Kathy Valentine

Valet: Jeff Noles

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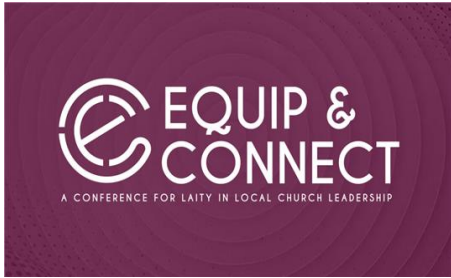
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The 2024 Equip & Connect Conference (formerly the District Winter Leadership Training), scheduled from January 21 to January 25, is set to be a transformative experience for all local church leaders. This event is open to all lay leaders, council members, church volunteers, and anyone considering future congregational leadership roles.

Key Highlights:

- **Diverse Workshops:** Explore a range of workshops tailored to various aspects of church leadership, from SPRC essentials to financial roles, single-board governance, and more.
- **Renowned Speakers:** Benefit from the wisdom of distinguished speakers, including Bishop Ken Carter, Assistant to the Bishop, Rev. Amy Coles, your district superintendents, and others.
- **Specialized Tracks:** Engage in sessions like "Cultivating a Culture of Care," "Ministering to Gen Z and Gen Alpha," and "What Does the United Methodist Church Do For Me?," addressing crucial aspects of ministry in today's context.

Find the complete, detailed schedule, visit the following link.
<https://www.wnccumc.org/equip-connect-2024>

Registration Details:

Register for Equip & Connect 2024 as soon as possible, as all workshops are available on a first-come, first-serve basis and will close as they fill up. We know there are so many great options that you may want to attend them all, but rest assured that they will be recorded. Choose the topics in each breakout session where you most relate and would like to participate in conversation. Attending the session will help you participate in dialogue, watching the session later will help you glean information.

Register today at <https://wnc-reg.brtapp.com/EquipConnect2024>.



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ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPDATE ON THE IVANENKO FAMILY: The family still wants to come to the US, and the builders are waiting for them to arrive. They will provide a duplex for the family, and have agreed to provide \$500.00 a month for four months to go toward their housing. Once they do arrive in Lincolnton, the father and oldest son will work for the builders to provide a steady income for the family, paying their rent in full after the first 4 months. The builders are also providing \$5000.00 toward airfare for the family. The church currently has just over \$13,000 in our Ukraine Family Account.

We are still unable to get full approval through the US Immigration Department, possibly because the family is too large. The lawyer for this case is suggesting that we obtain 3 additional sponsors for the family in order to divide the family of 14 into smaller units; for example, one sponsor for the two older children (both over 18), one sponsor for the mother and 5 children, and one sponsor for the father and 5 children. To become a sponsor requires no monetary commitment on the part of the sponsor. You are, however, required to fill out forms showing you have the ability to financially support the group at the US poverty level. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact Jerry or Gayle Park at 980-241-0467

CONFIRMATION CLASSES: We will be offering a confirmation class for the young people of the church (grades 6-12). This class will take place during the Sunday School time (10:00 til 10:45 am) beginning on Feb 4, and culminating with the participants becoming full members of the church on Easter Sunday, March 31st. More information will be made available in the next couple of weeks.

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