

**WELCOME GUESTS  
AND MEMBERS!**

We are so glad you chose to worship Jesus Christ with us today! We would love to know that you were with us. Please fill out this slip, detach it, and drop it in the offering plate.

**GUESTS**

Name(s)

Name(s)

Street Address

City/State/ZIP

Phone

Email

- I would like to become a member
- I would like to become involved in a ministry or mission
- I would like the pastor to call me

**MEMBERS**

List each person present and update any info

Name(s)

Name(s)

Street Address

City/State/ZIP

Phone

Email

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

**In your daily prayers, please pray for:**

**NEW:** Billy Harkey, Rob Owen, Larry Papetti, Artie and Linda Sheilds, those who wish to remain unnamed.

**CONTINUING:** Thomas Allen, Deanie Auton, Arlen & Sue Belk, Laurie Anne Beyer, Caylor Brinkley, Jeremiah Buff, Beulah Cannon, Les Canupe, Greg Clarke, Rob Coles (son of Lynn Campbell), Elvie Cranford, Kathy Douglas, Jane Finger, Barbara Fitzpatrick, Kim Fitzpatrick, Rev. Keiko Foster, Donald Hartsell (brother-in-law of Kathy Dellinger), Ed Hatley, Jayce Heff, Susan Henthorn, Denise Hobbs, LoisMary Hoehne, Dolly Jones, Jack Jones, Danny Kirkpatrick, Randi Kolseth, Pat Lawing, Karen Leonhardt, Jim Love, Judy Lowe, Jerry McClure, Pat Maddox, Thurman Melton, Faye Morris, Danny Nicholson, Patsy Nicholson, Suzy Otterman, Hal and Joann Parker, Randy Ramsey, Mae Reasoner, Dr. Tim Roberts, Linda H Rudisill, Gracie Sceascea, Randolph Shives, Laura Smallwood, Linda Smith, Rev. Charles Stevens, Rhonda Swafford, Rev. Sarah Underwood, David Wyant, First UMC, Peace in Europe, Prayers for the homeless, United States of America

**NURSING FACILITIES:** Ann Ford (The Addison), Mary Heavner (Abernethy Laurels), Judy Komas (The Addison), Verna Rufini (Abernethy Laurels)

**HOMEBOUND:** Lou Beal, Winnon Cashion, Jo Huss, Donna Connor Morris, Mary Robinson

**THOSE SERVING YOU TODAY**

<b>MINISTERS:</b>	All Members of First UMC
<b>LITURGIST:</b>	Bo King
<b>GREETERS:</b>	Bill & Karen Leonhardt
<b>ACOLYTE:</b>	Owen Krech
<b>HEAD USHER:</b>	Carl Henline
<b>MEDIA TECHS:</b>	Tim Leonard, Ron Metzger & Thurman Melton
<b>PEW KEEPERS:</b>	Joe & Susan Wigley
<b>ROVER:</b>	Gayle Park
<b>VALET:</b>	Paul Strachan

**STAFF OF FIRST UMC**

<b>PASTOR</b>	Rev. Sarah Underwood	sunderwood@wnccumc.net
<b>DIR. OF MINISTRIES</b>	Robbie Combs	firstumcministries@gmail.com
<b>DIR. OF MUSIC</b>	Joanna Underwood	junmor61@gmail.com
<b>ORGANIST/PIANIST</b>	Neil Underwood	nunderwoodband@gmail.com
<b>FINANCIAL ASSIST.</b>	Letha Owen	lrowen520@gmail.com
<b>FACILITIES MGR.</b>	Steve Herman	paherman@charter.net
<b>PRESCHOOL DIR.</b>	Kristen Willis	preschool@fumclincolnton.com

CCLI #20422793 (Music), #20422803 (Streaming), CVLI #504379166 (Video)



**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

201 East Main Street, Lincolnton, North Carolina 28092  
704-735-7489      fumclincolnton.com



**First United Methodist Church  
Lincolnton**

**Love God. Love All. Be Like Jesus.**



**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

*Enter to Worship*  
September 8, 2024

*Kneel to Pray*  
16<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

*Rise to Serve*  
11:00 A.M.

**GATHERING**

**GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**CHIMING OF THE HOLY TRINITY**

**PRELUDE** Neil Underwood  
*The Lord's My Shepherd*

**CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP** Chancel Choir  
*Shine, Jesus Shine*

**\*OPENING PRAYER (in unison)**  
**Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

**\*HYMN** *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* UMH# 694

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH UMH #881**  
**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 FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN** Jan Duncan

**SCRIPTURE READING** James 2: 1-17

**CALL TO PRAYER** Chancel Choir  
*In His Time*

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**ANTHEM** *You Are Welcome Here* Chancel Choir

**SERMON** *That's Ridiculous!* Rev. Sarah Underwood  
*Series: "How Do We Live"*

**\*HYMN** *Amazing Grace* UMH #378

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL BENEDICTION** Chancel Choir

**\*POSTLUDE**

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

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**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 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.

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**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.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TITHES AND OFFERINGS:** The offering plates are located at each entrance for you to give of your weekly tithe and offerings. Our new online giving portal is up and running, and may be accessed through the “Give” page on our church website, or you can visit the following link: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZMXD>

**THE BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS** gracing our sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of David Allen Duncan on his birthday, by Jan Duncan

**OFFICE HOURS FOR PASTOR SARAH:** Pastor Sarah’s office hours at the church are from 9 am-12 Noon on Mondays and Wednesdays. Appointments may be made through the church office or calling her directly at 704-678-0813. She is off on Fridays, but available in the event of an emergency. Her email address is [sunderwood@wnccumc.net](mailto:sunderwood@wnccumc.net).

**NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY:** Today is the last Sunday to sign up in person for photo appointments for our new church directory. You can also call the church office and we can set an appointment for you online by Wednesday, Sept 11. Photos will be taken on Sept 12-14. If you are unable to make one of these dates, information will be shared at a later date to submit a photo.

**BLOOD DRIVE:** Our next blood drive is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept 11 from 2:30 til 7:00 pm. Please visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and register to donate, as there are still some open appointments. Encourage a family member or friend to come and donate with you. Contact Pat Stevens, Tim or Rosemary Leonard, Bo King, Ron Metzger or Molly Tweed with any questions.

**LAY VISITATION TEAM:** The Lay Visitation Team will meet with Pastor Sarah on Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am in the church library to plan for the next year.

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Sunday - Coffee & Conversation – 9:00am - Fellowship Hall  
Monday – Quilting Ministry – 9:30 am -2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Middle Bldg  
Wednesday – Chancel Choir – 7:00 pm – Middle Bldg

**PRAYER LIST:** Please take a few moments to look over the prayer list in the bulletin, and let us know if there are any updates or deletions that need to be made. You may contact the church office with any changes.

**APPLE FESTIVAL BBQ:** The Lincoln County Apple Festival will be held on Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, and we will again be offering “The Best BBQ of the Festival”! We will be asking for volunteers to help in the coming weeks as we prepare for this year’s BBQ. Mark your calendars NOW!!

**CATAWBA VALLEY DISTRICT EVENT:** First UMC Belmont is hosting an event with Retired Bishop Kenneth Carder, addressing caring for and ministering to the aging, especially those with dementia. The event will be held on Sept. 11 at 6:30 pm. Bishop Carder is the author of the book, "Ministry With the Forgotten: Dementia Through A Spiritual Lens". If you wish to attend, please let Pastor Sarah know.

**Dear Church Family** – Thank you so much for the blanket and recognizing me during Graduation Sunday. I am looking forward to attending UNCC in August and appreciate all the support y’all have given me. Thanks Again,  
Joby Rhyne

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## INTRODUCING VANCO ONLINE GIVING

We are excited to introduce our new online giving platform! Using Vanco online, you can support ongoing missions, make one time gifts, or set up recurring donations. You can access Vanco online giving in a few different ways: through our “Give” page on our church website, using the QR Code shown at the bottom of this page, or the direct link at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZMXD>

How to use Vanco Online:

1. **SELECT YOUR FUNDS AND AMOUNT:**  
Select your fund and click on the DONATE button. Next, choose a donation amount and frequency, then proceed to your payment.
2. **ENTER PAYMENT AMOUNT**  
Enter your credit card, debit card or bank account information. Sign up for an account to save your information for future donations or recurring donations.
3. **COMPLETE YOUR DONATION**  
Review and complete your gift by clicking Submit.

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## OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

### **CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES UPDATE:**

Soup Kitchen – Most Needed Items for Pantry:

- Crackers, Peanut butter, breakfast foods, detergent, bar soap, pop top canned foods

Wish List for Soup Kitchen:

- 55 gallon trash bags, butter Olive Oil

**BACKPACK MINISTRY:** Our church has supported for years a backpack program at GE Massey Elementary School. This year's program will support 24 children by sending home with them each week nutritious, easy to prepare meals and snacks. There are 12 church members involved buying, packing and delivering to the school for weekly home delivery. In addition, many church members regularly support this program through financial contributions. Checks with the word "backpack" on subject line or cash in an appropriately labeled envelope can be put in the collection plate or at the church office. The FUMC's backpack program is a success because of YOU! Thank you for all you do!

**FIRST CHURCH COHORT:** Our Bishop has invited us to participate in a gathering of churches who are considered leaders in their respective communities. This will be an opportunity to diagnose and address the needs of our church in cooperation with other churches who are in a similar situation. I will need a team of 7 to 7 people, of which one will be the chairperson, or "Laity Champion." There will be a series of Zoom meetings and one or two in person meetings. Please let Pastor Sarah know if you are interested.

### **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – September 15, 2024**

Liturgist: Suzanne Peeler

Acolyte: Lucas Demofonte

Greeters: Jason & Jennifer Ellis

Time for All God's Children: Cale Thornburg

Pew Keepers: Jason & Jennifer Ellis

Valet: Mike Owen

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