

**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: Our brothers and sisters in Western NC, First responders, Rescue Teams

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, Billy Harkey, 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, Rob Owen, Hal and Joann Parker, Randy Ramsey, Dr. Tim Roberts, Linda H Rudisill, Gracie Sceascea, Artie & Linda Shields, Randolph Shives, Laura Smallwood, 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

MINISTERS:	All Members of First UMC
LITURGIST:	Richard Beeker
GREETERS:	Steve & Kathy Valentine
ACOLYTE:	Owen Krech
HEAD USHER:	Carl Henline
MEDIA TECHS:	Tim Leonard, Ron Metzger & Thurman Melton
PEW KEEPERS:	Beverly Beal
ROVER:	Keith Dedmond
VALET:	Paul Douglas

STAFF OF FIRST UMC

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

Kneel to Pray

Rise to Serve

October 6, 2024

**20th Sunday After Pentecost
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**

11:00 A.M.

GATHERING

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHIMING OF THE HOLY TRINITY

PRELUDE

Jesus Is Tenderly Calling

Neil Underwood

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Where The Spirit of the Lord Is

Chancel Choir

***OPENING PRAYER:**

Loving God, as we begin this journey of finding peace and being peace within our community, help us to no longer be conformed to the divisive voices around us but to be transformed by the heart and mind of Christ. By your spirit, draw us closer to you and closer to one another. In Christ's name, we pray, Amen.

***HYMN**

Tell Me The Stories of Jesus

UMH# 277

TIME FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN

Steve Valentine

SCRIPTURE READING

John 17: 20-26;
Romans 12: 1-5, 14-21

CALL TO PRAYER

In His Time

Chancel Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

ANTHEM

By Christ Redeemed

Chancel Choir

SERMON

*Closer To One Another
Series: “Peace Building”*

Rev. Sarah Underwood

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

***HYMN**

One Bread, One Body

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

***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!

The beautiful flowers gracing our sanctuary are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Sherry Noles, on her October 10th birthday, by The Noles Family.

Today is WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY. Observed on the first Sunday in October, this day calls the Church to be the universal, inclusive Church. The day was first observed by Presbyterians in 1936, adopted by the Federal Council of Churches in 1940, and shortly thereafter observed in Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren churches.

WE WILL BE TAKING UP A SPECIAL OFFERING today for Hurricane Relief to be sent to Western NC. Please make checks payable to First UMC, and designate it for Hurricane Relief. Do NOT designate checks to UMCOR.

UMH# 8

UMH #620

Chancel Choir

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. 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>

DIRECTORY SUBMITTALS: We have begun the process of compiling our church roster and extra pictures for our new pictorial directory, which we hope to have by early January. If you were unable to sit for a photo during our scheduled times last month, you may still submit a photo for inclusion in the directory. Please send any submittals to the church office by October 15th. If you have any questions, please see Rosalind Welder or call the church office.

OLD SALEM “CANDLE TEA”: We have reserved 20 tickets for a trip to Old Salem on December 14th for their annual Moravian Candle Tea. The Moravian Candle Tea at Old Salem has been a Winston-Salem Christmas tradition since 1929. Participants experience the sights, sounds, smells, and even the tastes of early Moravian Christmas traditions. We will carpool from the church, leaving around mid-morning as our tour time is 1:00 pm. If you are interested in attending, please contact the church office. We have 9 spots still open.

GRIEFSHARE: Our next session for our Griefshare ministry will begin on Monday, October 7th at 10:00 am in the Annex. You may register for the session by using the following link: <https://www.griefshare.org/groups/244894> or you can see Joey Lockman, Sheila Beeker, Katie Hardin or Jane Finger with any questions.

CANDY DONATIONS FOR HALLOWEEN: This year, we will be taking part in the Downtown Drive-Thru Trick or Treat, sponsored by Lincolnton Parks and Rec. Department. We are now accepting donations of large candy bags until Sunday Oct. 20th. Please bring your donations to the church office. Also, anyone who wishes to help make treat bags for this event is invited to join us immediately after worship on Oct 20th in the fellowship hall.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS (Contd)

FIRST UMC ONGOING SCHEDULE:

Sunday - Coffee & Conversation – 9:00am - Fellowship Hall
Monday – Quilting Ministry – 9:30 am -2nd floor, Middle Bldg
Wednesday – Handbell Choir – 6:00 pm – Middle Bldg
Wednesday – Chancel Choir – 7:00 pm – Middle Bldg

**United Methodist Women of Faith – 2nd Sunday of each month at 9:00 am in the fellowship hall
**United Methodist Men – 4th Sunday of each month at 8:00 am in the fellowship hall

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.

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.

EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT: Our annual Charge Conference will be held on November 6th at 6:00 pm in the fellowship hall. Our District Superintendent, Rev. David Christy, will be here to lead us in a time of worship and celebration, as well as conduct our yearly business meeting. All members are invited to attend.

YOUTH NOTES: The next planned activity is to help out during the Apple Festival BBQ by helping deliver BBQ plates to the police station and fire stations, and then enjoying the festival as a group. We hope everyone will come out on October 19th to help!

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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:

- Butter, Ketchup, parchment paper and brown sugar

EMERGENCY SERVICES IS ASKING FOR:

- MENS shoes
- SOCKS, boys, girls, men and women (mostly women)
- Men's size 30, 32 and 34 pants

BACK-UP LEADERS FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL: There is currently a need for a few back-up leaders in our children's Sunday school class and nursery to cover in the event that the regular teacher has to be out on a Sunday morning. If you feel led to be "on call" as a back-up leader, please contact the church office.

APPLE FESTIVAL BBQ: The Lincoln County Apple Festival will be held on Saturday, October 19th, 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!!

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – October 13, 2024

Liturgist: Carol King

Acolyte: Noah Hardin

Greeters: Peggie Shuford & Wanda Lutz

Time for All God's Children: Billy Howell

Pew Keepers: Kathy Valentine

Valet: Jeff Noles

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DISASTER RESPONSE FROM THE WNC CONFERENCE

As we witness the immense devastation caused by Hurricane Helene across our area, we are overwhelmed by the response and caring of faithful United Methodists across the Western North Carolina Conference. Our conference staff is working around the clock to check in with affected community leaders, clergy, and disaster response teams.

In the coming days, we will have more information available on ways you can help with the recovery efforts across Western North Carolina - including details about a *conference-wide special offering next Sunday, October 6*. Please follow our Conference platforms - ENews, website, and social media channels - for all those communications. We know that our United Methodist family will show up with abundance to help those whose lives and livelihoods have been impacted by this storm. We thank you for your generosity and support.

How you can help (updated 9.28.24):

1. **Pray for those impacted by Hurricane Helene.**
2. **Check on your neighbors, nearby churches, and communities.** If you hear of any issues, please call the Disaster Response hotline at 980-354-4157.
3. **Early Response Team Training:** We are planning a “Just-in-Time” Early Response Team (ERT) Training in the Asheville area on Monday, October 7. Volunteers must have ERT training to assist in recovery efforts. Please help spread the word to interested churches and individuals. Register here: [ERTTraining-InitialSign-Up](#)
4. **UMCOR Cleaning Buckets:** We will likely need UMCOR Cleaning Buckets to replace those distributed to impacted areas. Instructions for making kits can be found here: <https://umcmission.org/umcor-cleaning-kit/>
5. **Donations:** Encourage your churches to donate to support WNCCUMC recovery efforts directly. Donate here: <https://bit.ly/WNCCHurricaneReliefDonations> Make checks payable to First UMC and put in the “Notes” section for “**Hurricane Relief**”. Do NOT put UMCOR in the notes.

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FIRST UMC BARBECUE RETURNS!!

First UMC's famous barbecue, cooked by the Noles Brothers, is returning to this year's Apple Festival on Saturday, Oct 19th from 11 am til 4 pm (or til we run out). Enjoy delicious BBQ in the comfort of our Fellowship Hall, as you are treated to video of our church and its many ministry and mission opportunities

This is a FUNDRAISER to assist with FUMC's local missions such as Backpack Ministry, Christian Ministry, Hesed House and others

There are many ways you can help:

- Volunteer to work a shift during the day
- Provide individually wrapped desserts (cookies, brownies, etc.)
- Help with advertising the event (putting up posters, spreading the word)
- Pre-sell BBQ to area businesses and make deliveries during the event
- Buy and take plates to neighbors, public service officers and others
- COME AND EAT AND INVITE FRIENDS!!

Return this form to the offering plate, or contact Rosalind at 704-472-0128 or all the church office

Name _____

Phone number _____

I can help by _____

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Questions God Asks Us

Author: Trevor Hudson. Rev. Hudson is a Methodist minister from South Africa

Synopsis: Often we think of the Bible as a book of answers. Actually, though, the Bible asks many more questions than it answers. Rev. Hudson notes that Jesus was asked 183 questions during his ministry but only directly answers 3 of them. What can we learn from this?

Perhaps God desires a deep relationship with us that can be discovered through conversation and dialogue with God's Word.

Methodology: Through 5 scripture references, divided between the Old and New Testament, we will study questions that God asked in the Bible and is still asking us today.

Time: Wednesday Mornings 10:00 am

Dates: October 9,16,23, & 30

Materials Cost: \$13.49 plus tax.

You may pay for your book at the first class meeting.
Books are helpful, but are not absolutely necessary.

Sign Up: Please call the church office, 704-735-7489

Class Leader: Rev. Underwood



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