

# First United Methodist Church *Messenger*

November 2024

## For All the Saints

*For all the saints who from their labors rest, who Thee by faith before the world confessed; Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia, Alleluia!*

On Sunday, November 3rd, we will remember with joy those whom we love who have preceded us into heaven. We will give thanks for them and remember that we stand on their shoulders in the faith. Because they shared the stories of God's love, we learned from them how much God loves us.

All Saints Day falls on November 1st. Since we are not always in church that day, our tradition is to celebrate this important holiday on the Sunday following. This year we remember the following people.



David Lowe	Sept 6, 1936 – Nov. 3, 2023
Becky Grier	Feb 22, 1943 – Nov 7, 2023
Kaye Waters	July 31, 1949 – Nov 14, 2023
Vicki Nantz	Feb 19, 1961 – Dec 15, 2023
Larry Wease	Dec. 8, 1950 – Jan 8, 2024
Rosie Modlin	Nov 24, 1925 – Mar 9, 2024
Bobbie Robinson	Jan 22, 1929 – March 11, 2024
Mary Jean Rollins	Dec 28, 1930 – Mar 18, 2024
Brenda Noles	Mar 21, 1943 – July 1, 2024
Brenda Ballard	Mar 29, 1940 – Aug 8, 2024

*Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful servants. Psalm 116:15*

Grace and peace,

*Pastor Sarah*

## Ways We Serve

### Greeters

- 3 Steve & Jane Morton
- 10 Charles Stevens & Michael Powers
- 17 Carl Henline & Rosalind Welder
- 24 Keith & Kathy Dedmond

### Acolytes

- 3 Brooks Hardin
- 10 Owen Krech
- 17 Noah Hardin
- 24 Lucas Demofonte

### Time For All God's Children

- 3 Cale Thornburg
- 10 Beverly Beal
- 17 Kathy Douglas
- 24 Mike Owen

### Liturgists

- 3 Jeff Noles
- 10 Paul Strachan
- 17 Thurmond Melton
- 24 Jennifer Carroll

### Pew Keepers

- 3 Teresa Shives
- 10 Dianne Putnam
- 17 Ernie & Betty Parker
- 24 Peggie Shuford

### Parking Valets

- 3 Steve Cain
- 10 Keith Dedmond
- 17 Carl Henline
- 24 Bo King

### Sunday School Rovers

- 3 Carol King
- 10 Rosemary Leonard
- 17 Pam Metzger
- 24 Ron Metzger

### Altar Guild

Teresa Shives

### Communion Stewards Nov. 3

- Calvin & Cathy Thornburg
- Joanne Parker



*Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.*  
- Mark 11:24

*In Your Daily Prayers, Please Pray for:*

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, Jamie VanDohlen, David Wyant, First UMC, Peace in Europe, Prayers for the homeless, United States of America, Our brothers and sisters in Western NC, First responders, Rescue Teams

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

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

### **Birthdays**

- 2 Lori Sykes
- 3 Megan Carroll
- 8 Jennifer McIlmail, Bob Heavner, Stephanie Ballard Schou
- 12 Matthew Cline & Helen Clair Hames
- 13 Michael Hovis
- 14 John David Goodson & Louise Shuford
- 15 Scotty Bradshaw
- 22 Tricia Stroud
- 25 Randall Stevens & Calvin Thornburg III
- 26 Kathy Douglas & George Grier III
- 27 Nelva Goodson
- 28 Alex Eagle & Amy Lockman

### **Anniversaries**

- 4 Jeremy and Emily Krech
- 6 Bill and Linda Church
- 17 Thad and Ginger Lowe



# FUMC News & Updates

## Community Thanksgiving Service

All are invited to a Community Thanksgiving Service to be held at Emmanuel Lutheran Church (216 S Aspen St) on Sunday, November 24th, at 7 p.m.. Pastors from the downtown churches and a combined choir will be leading this service of Thanksgiving. We hope you can attend.



## Sunday School Rovers Needed

If you are looking for a way to help out on Sunday mornings, you might consider being a Sunday School "Safe Sanctuary Rover." Rovers move throughout each building on Sunday morning during Sunday school and Morning Worship to make sure that our church campus and members are safe and each Sunday school class is covered. To find out more about being a Safe Sanctuary rover, please contact Keith or Kathy Dedmond.

## 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 p.m. If you are interested in attending, please contact the church office.

## Charge Conference

Our annual Charge Conference will be held on November 6th at 6 p.m. 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.

## Financial Update

Sept. 2024 YTD Revenue	\$262,086
Sept. 2024 YTD Expense	\$279,525
Sept. 2024 YTD Deficit	\$(17,439)

## 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.

## Greeters/Pewkeepers for 2025

Two of the many ways you can provide a service to our church is to help on Sunday mornings as a Greeter or a Pew Keeper for morning worship. Greeters welcome our members and any guests to the church and help answer any questions. Pew keepers go through the pews following worship to pick up any trash, replace hymnals, Bibles, pencils, etc. to make sure we are set up for the following week's service. If these are areas you might be interested in, please contact the church office and we will add you to the rotating schedule.

## Music Update

How blessed we are for the gift of music! Thank you to everyone who made donations toward the purchase of 12 new handbells (5 lower bells and 7 higher bells) for the Handbell Choir. They have already made such a difference in the sound of our bells in performance, and we will look forward to many years of music made to the Glory of God.

We are awaiting further information on the organ, but supply chain issues with vendors have been the reason for the delay. We are hopeful that the new wind chambers will soon be re-installed in the organ area behind the sanctuary, and the full refurbishment project will be completed before Christmas.

We are excited for this year's Christmas Cantata, as it will be a joint venture between our Chancel and Handbell choirs, and the Chancel and Handbell choirs of Boger City United Methodist Church. The cantata will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 18th in our sanctuary at 7 p.m. We hope you will join us for this special holiday event.

## Parish Nurse Notes

Many older people experience some kind of nerve pain (neuropathy). The number of nerve cells in your body decrease with age and chronic conditions, such as diabetes, and some kinds of treatments such as chemotherapy can also increase the risk. Vitamin B-12 deficiencies which may be present in up to 20% of people over 60 years of age can also cause nerve pain. If you experience tingling, or painful sensations or numbness in your hands and/or feet, you should seek medical help to determine the cause. Numbness in the feet may lead to falls resulting in other problems. There are several treatments which may help this condition (neuropathy) so it is important to seek diagnosis early.

Betty

## UMW November Update

Book Club: A catalogue of 2025 books is now available in the library for review. During the October gathering, we discussed what books we might want to add to our UMW Library. A list of these new additions will be available in next month's newsletter. The next meeting of the Book Club will be on January 29th, 2025.

This year, we will be offering the display of Nativity

sets in the Annex during the first three weekends of December. Members of the Congregation are invited to please share your Nativity sets with us if you can. Bring them to the church anytime during the week of Thanksgiving, no later than Monday, December 2nd. Please make sure all packaging is labeled with your name. As a part of this year's Nativity display, we will be offering a Live Nativity on Dec 7, Dec 13, and Dec 20. More information will be made available soon.

## Safe Sanctuaries Update

The Safe Sanctuaries Task Force met on Sunday, Oct 27th to review our current policy for any possible updates or revisions. Along with these updates, we discussed plans for training sessions for church members, either in person or online, as well as offering a first aid class early next year. Trainings will be open for any church members who wish to work with our young people of the church. We will also be updating background checks for members and staff in the near future. Stay tuned for more information.

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## Christian Ministries Update

**Used Toy Giveaway:** The Good News Sunday School Class has two class members who are heavily involved in Christian Ministry used toy drive. Please support their efforts and help the children in our community.

Christian Ministry is collecting used toys now for the Used Toy Give Away on December 7. Donations can be dropped off Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Christian Ministry. Also, if smaller toys, we can collect and take to Christian Ministry weekly so leave them in the grocery cart (or near it) or in box in the hall of the middle building.

**Adopt a Christmas Food Item:** The Adopt A Food is critical this year. Please be a part of Christian Ministry's food drive by buying some (or better yet a case) of your favorite items from the list below.

Canned Beans   Green Beans   Saltine Crackers  
Soup   Laundry Detergent   Rice   Corn

Tomato Sauce   Breakfast  
Foods   Peanut Butter  
Spaghetti Noodles   Grits

Deadline for food brought to the church (near the shopping cart in the Education Building or box in Middle Building) is Thursday, December 12 (or at Christian Ministry the next day Friday, December 13)!



**Emergency Services is asking for:** Men's shoes, socks for boys, girls, men and women (mostly women); Men's pants size 30, 32, and 34

**Soup Kitchen:** The most needed items for the pantry are cereal, breakfast foods, detergent, bar soap, pop top canned foods. The wish list for the kitchen includes butter, ketchup, eggs, and 12 and 16 ounce cups.



## Apple Festival BBQ Recap:

What a great day for a BBQ!! This year's Apple Festival Barbecue was a huge success, and could not have been accomplished without all the awesome volunteers! Whether you helped cook the BBQ, served on the food prep line, made the incredible BBQ sauce, helped prepare our drink station, made any of the scrumptious desserts, created the awesome church video that played during the event, ran the payment table, represented us under the tent and encouraged folks to come and eat or helped with set up or clean up at the end of the day, YOU ARE APPRECIATED!!!! We are still waiting to hear what our final numbers are for that day, but we will update you in the weekly bulletin as soon as we know. Again, MANY, MANY THANKS!!!!



# CLC Recap

The Church Leadership Council met on October 14th. Below is a recap of the highlights from that meeting:

- The new roof on the Education Building is coming along well. Rafters were transferred to the roof on Friday, Oct 25th, and construction began on Saturday morning to put them in place. The next phase of this project will take place soon as early November as metal panels will be added to the rafters. Once this project is complete, the next roofing project will be on the Sanctuary building, which we hope will be completed by the end of the year.

- Other repairs and projects being undertaken on the church campus are:
  - A new compressor for one of the HVAC units on the roof of the Fellowship Hall
  - The building of a covering over the basement stairs located between the sanctuary and the Annex
  - The Girl Scout food box has been rebuilt and relocated to the rear of the Education Building to make it easier for maintenance by the Girl Scout troop.

- Resolution of the moisture issues at the parsonage are to be completed soon, as Bug Busters is working to encapsulate the basement, which will resolve the moisture and mold issues, as well as helping with any insect infestation.

- The design team for our new church directory is now meeting and getting our photos and rosters organized. We will be sending our completed packet to Universal Church Directory by mid November, with a goal of getting our directories sent to us in early 2025.

- We are currently ahead of our yearly budget though still operating under an approximate \$18,000 deficit. Overages of expenses of late have been related to parsonage and property maintenance. We have been fortunate in that when any larger expenses have come up, church members have stepped up to help cover those expenses. We will also be sending out Estimate of Giving cards for 2025 toward the end of this year.

- Staff job descriptions have been reviewed and updated, and a new personnel policy manual is being created.

- Thanks to all who donated during our last Blood Drive. We had a goal of 25 pints, and we ended up collecting 32 pints! Our next Blood Drive will be January 15th, 2025

- The Quilting Ministry presented 11 quilts on Oct. 13th to be prayed over before they are distributed.

- We filled and sent out 45 flood buckets to be distributed to needed areas in Western NC as we continue our efforts toward Hurricane Helene Relief. We, as a church, made donations of over \$10,000 to be sent to the WNC Conference, and the United Methodist Women voted to donate an additional \$2000 to relief efforts.

- Other items discussed at this CLC meeting have already been highlighted elsewhere in the newsletter.



**FIRST UMC is a  
Lighthouse Congregation  
of the  
Western North Carolina  
Conference of the  
United Methodist Church.**



## Drive Thru Trick or Treat

A big “THANK YOU” to all who helped make this year’s Drive-Thru Trick or Treat a success! We gave out over 350 treat bags, and had a great time doing it. Whether you help make the treat bags, or handed out candy to the many kids who came through, or donated a bag of candy, you are most appreciated for your involvement.



## Children's Sabbath

What a joy we experienced at this year’s Children’s Sabbath service! We welcomed many special guests, including the Ivanenko Family! With the use of a translator, Mr. Ivanenko shared his heartfelt thanks for the support they have received from our church over the past two years to aid in their arrival to Lincoln. As a special token, all the family members received handmade quilts from other local quilting groups in the area. We also welcomed many of our 3 and 4 year olds from our preschool, and their families. They provided some very special music under Ms. Joanna’s direction. The highlight of the morning was from our own young people (and some young at heart!) with the presentation of the skit, “The Day the Crayons Quit.” Everyone did a wonderful job, and learned a valuable lesson that all the “crayons” in the box are special! How blessed we are with children of all ages in our church. Thanks be to God!



201 East Main Street  
Lincolnton, NC 28092

**Sunday School at 10 am**

**Service at 11 a.m. each Sunday.**

Office Hours: 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.: Mon.-Thur.

Office: 704.735.7489

NEW Email: [firstumclinc@gmail.com](mailto:firstumclinc@gmail.com)

Website: [fumclincolnton.com](http://fumclincolnton.com)



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## Events this coming month

Nov. 3 – **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS - SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR!**

**Blood pressure checks** - Education Building 10:30-11 a.m. and following worship in the Breezeway

11 a.m. **All Saint's Remembrance** during morning worship

Noon "**Feast of Traditions**" **covered dish meal** in Fellowship Hall

Nov. 6 – **Charge Conference** with District Superintendent Rev. David Christy, 6 p.m.

Nov. 11 – **Church Leadership Council** in the Annex, 6 p.m. All members are invited to attend CLC meetings.

Called Executive Sessions (Staff Parish meetings) are for CLC members only, and take place following the main meeting.

Nov. 24 – **Community Thanksgiving Service** - Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 7 p.m.

Nov. 28 – **THANKSGIVING DAY** Church office closed

### ONGOING EVENTS

- **Coffee and Conversation**, Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall
- **Quilting Ministry** Monday mornings at 9:30 in the Quilting Room on the 2nd floor of the Middle building.
- **Griefshare** meets each Monday morning at 10 in the Annex
- **Handbell Choir** meets at 6 p.m. every Wednesday in the Middle Building Choir Room
- **The Chancel Choir** meets at 7 p.m. every Wednesday in the Middle Building Choir Room
- **United Methodist Women of Faith** – 2nd Sunday of each month at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall
- **United Methodist Men** – 4th Sunday of each month at 8 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall