

## POINSETTIAS GIVEN IN HONOR OF:

*Dylan & Morgan Houser; Gabe & Anna Ellis by Jason and Jennifer Ellis*

*Lou Beal, by Beverly, Bryan, Ben and Jessica Beal, Bayley & Andrew Stidman*

*Rev. Sarah Underwood by Charles and Pat Stevens*

*Kevin, Michael, Melissa & Brian by Keith & Kathy Dedmond*

*Our Grandchildren: Brinkley, Connor, Banks, Ellie, Jackson and Kallie by Keith and Kathy Dedmond*

*Judy Kommas, by Nick Kommas*

*Jackson and Baby Sister Sigmon, by Sheila and Richard Beeker*

*Bobbie Cherry Robbins, by Lisa Cherry*

*Hencil and Beulah Cannon, by Sarah Underwood*

*In honor of the FUMC staff: Steve, Robbie, Letha, Neil and Joanna by Rev. Sarah Underwood*

*Our Children and our grandchildren by Bo & Carol King*

*Our children and Grandchildren, by Rodney and Mary Robinson*

*Bryan Beal by the Good News Sunday School Class*

*Tommy & Carol Mason; Richard and Sheila Beeker, by Calvin & Cathy Thornburg*

## POINSETTIAS GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

*Avis & Debro Peeler by Steve & Suzanne Peeler*

*Howard and Betty Zimmerman, Charles & Rose Stevens, Jr, TN & Bessie Shaw, Howard & Cora Zimmerman,  
Charles & Ruby Stevens, Sr, George & Elda Herbert by Charles & Pat Stevens*

*Our Parents: David & Alma Robinson; Duncan & Catherine McNair; Chip Cook (Our nephew) by Rodney & Mary  
Robinson*

*Gene & Kathryn Gates; D.C. & Claudia Thornburg, by Calvin & Cathy Thornburg*

*Our Parents by Bo & Carol King*

*Sarah Lantz by John Lantz*

*Our parents, Rosalind Welder & Carl Henline*

*Our Parents by Charles & Wanda Lutz*

*Bobbie Robinson by Michael & Letha Owen*

*Bob Rankin and Helen & Elbert Combs by Mary Anna Rankin*

*Carol Connor by Wanda & Charlie Lutz*

*Reid & Hilda Parker; Howard & Nancy Steele by Ernie and Betty Parker*

*Joe & Consie Melton by Thurmon Melton*

*Rev. Bob Combs and Carolyn A. Dysart by Shirley and Robbie Combs*

*Marge Stula, by Steve and Milly Hemmann*

*David Noles by Jeff Noles*

*Tommy Andrews, by Vckie Andrews*

*Brenda Ballard and Blake Ballard, by Stephanie, Rick, Taryn & Ron*

*Our Parents, by Jerry & Gayle Park*

*Jonathan Brookins, by Peggie Shuford*

*Elliott Beal, Mr. and Mrs. Perry Steen, by Beverly, Bryan, Ben and Jessica Beal; Bayley & Andrew Stidman*

*In Memory of my parents, Marilyn & Joe McGovern, and my sister, Kathy McGovern, by Chrissie McGovern*

## **WREATHS GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

*Jim & Jill Owen; Max & Faye Robinson, by Michael and Letha Owen*

*Rosie & Gene Modlin, by their children and their grandchildren*

*Sherry Noles and Brenda Noles by Jeff Noles*

*Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Combs, Mr. & Mrs. H.J. Asbury, by Shirley & Robbie Combs*

*Art Putnam by Dianne Putnam*

*Robert Williams, by Carolyn Heafner Williams*

## **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>

**NATIVITY DISPLAYS:** Our Nativity display will be open immediately following morning worship today for anyone who would like to view it. It will again be open to the public this weekend, Dec 19-21. Come and see the beautiful nativity sets shared by our church family. December 20<sup>th</sup> will be your last chance to enjoy our First Annual Live Nativity on the porch of the fellowship hall. Invite friends and family to share in this special event.

**MORAVIAN LOVEFEAST:** Our Annual Moravian Lovefeast will take place in our sanctuary on this evening, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Invite your friends and family to join us for this most special worship service of the Advent Season as we fellowship together and sing the familiar hymns of Christmas. A nursery will be provided for this service.

**JOINT CHRISTMAS CANTATA:** On Wednesday evening, Dec 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm, there will be a joint Christmas Cantata with choirs from First UMC and Boger City UMC, as well as both churches handbell choirs. Join for this wonderful musical offering. A nursery will be provided for this service.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE:** Our Annual Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight service will take place at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>. All are invited as we celebrate the birth of the Christ Child.

**HEALTHCARE MINISTRY:** The Healthcare Ministry team will meet in the church library immediately following morning worship today.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS (contd)**

**2025 FLOWER CHART:** The 2025 Flower Calendar has been posted outside the church office. If you wish to place flowers in the church for worship, you may sign up at any time.

### **FIRST UMC ONGOING SCHEDULE:**

Sunday - Coffee & Conversation – 9:00am - Fellowship Hall  
Monday – Quilting Ministry – 9:30 am -2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Middle Bldg  
Monday – Griefshare – 10:00 am – The Annex  
Wednesday – Pastor’s Advent Study – 10:00 am  
Wednesday – Handbell Choir – 6:00 pm – Middle Bldg  
Wednesday – Chancel Choir – 7:00 pm – Middle Bldg

**SUPPORT FOR UPCOMING MISSION TRIP:** One of our members, Brittany Beeker, is again going on a mission trip with the organization, Practice Mercy, out of Texas. She will be providing spiritual support and assisting in the relocation of refugees in Mexico.

We can help support her by providing funds toward her transportation and living costs (\$1,500) and the purchase of storybooks in Spanish for the children. Some other much needed items for the refugees are feminine hygiene products, toothbrushes and toothpaste, and bar soap. Donations toward her costs and storybooks can be made by check to FUMC and earmarked for “Mission trip”. A box will be placed in the hallway of the Middle building for the collection of any items.

Her mission trip is planned for January 2025 so donations are needed by December 29, 2024. Your support of Brittany and this mission is greatly appreciated. For more information, please contact our Outreach Coordinator, Dianne Putnam.

### **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – December 22, 2024**

Liturgist: Gordon Hubbell  
Acolyte: Noah Hardin  
Greeters: Dianne Putnam & Joann Parker  
Time For All God’s Children: Cale Thornburg  
Pew Keepers: Vickie Andrews  
Valet: Steve Morton

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**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**

Please update any change in information

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

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

**NEW:** Kenny Shrum  
**CONTINUING:** Thomas Allen, Deanie Auton, Debi Ballard, Laurie Anne Beyer, Caylor Brinkley, Jeremiah Buff, Beulah Cannon, Les Canipe, Greg Clarke, Rob Coles (son of Lynn Campbell), Elvie Cranford, Jody Cronland, 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, Betty Howell, Dolly Jones, Jack Jones, Danny Kirkpatrick, Randi Kolseth, Pat Lawing, Karen Leonhardt, Jim Love, Ginger Lowe, Judy Lowe, Jerry McClure, Holly McGinnis, Pat Maddux, Danny Nicholson, Patsy Nicholson, Suzy Otterman, Letha Owen, Rob Owen, Hal and Joann Parker, Randy Ramsey, Dr. Tim Roberts, Linda Rudisill, Gracie Sceascea, Artie & Linda Shields, Randolph Shives, Blake Sigmon, Laura Smallwood, 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), Carroll and Mary Heavner (Abernethy Laurels), Jo Huss (Chestnut Ridge Rehab) Judy Komas (The Addison), Verna Rufini (Abernethy Laurels)  
**HOMEBOUND:** Lou Beal, Winnon Cashion, Donna Connor Morris, Mary Robinson

**THOSE SERVING YOU TODAY**

<b>MINISTERS:</b>	All Members of First UMC
<b>LITURGIST:</b>	Michael Powers
<b>GREETERS:</b>	Jason & Jennifer Ellis
<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>	Steve & Jane Morton
<b>ROVER:</b>	Liz Strachan
<b>VALET:</b>	Mike Owen

**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*

*Kneel to Pray*

*Rise to Serve*

December 15, 2024

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

11:00 A.M.

**GATHERING MUSIC**

**GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHIMING OF THE HOLY TRINITY**

**PRELUDE**

*Christmas Angels*

Handbell Choir

**CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Light The Advent Candle*

Chancel Choir

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

The Thornburg Family

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: The Lord is near to all who call upon him in truth.

**People: O Lord, thou are our help and our deliverer: O come, let us worship and bow down. Amen.**

**\*HYMN**

*In The Bleak Midwinter*

UMH# 221

**\*THE NICENE CREED**

UMH #880

**\*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**

Suzanne Peeler

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Matthew 1: 18-25

**CALL TO PRAYER**

*A Christmas Prayer*

Chancel Choir

**PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**ANTHEM**

*An Appalachian Christmas*

Chancel Choir

**SERMON**

*Joseph Trusts God*  
*Series: Angels Among Us*

Rev. Sarah Underwood

**\*HYMN**

*Hail To The Lord’s Anointed*

UMH# 203

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL BENEDICTION**

*Emmanuel*

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!

**Today is the third Sunday of Advent, which is also called Gaudete (Latin: “Rejoice”) Sunday. On this day, we recognize the joyful anticipation of the season that will culminate in the birth of Christ on Christmas by changing the liturgical color to rose. Rose is a “brightening” of the ordinary violet and thus symbolizes joy.**

**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.