

**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: Family of Eric Melanson (Randi Kolseth's son-in-law), Beulah Cannon*  
*CONTINUING: Thomas Allen, Deanie Auton, Debi Ballard, Laurie Anne Beyer, Caylor Brinkley, Jeremiah Buff, Ed & Lyn Campbell, Les Canipe, Greg Clarke, Rob Coles (son of Lynn Campbell), Elvie Cranford, Kathy Douglas, Jane Finger, Barbara Fitzpatrick, Kim Fitzpatrick, Rev. Keiko Foster, Chloe Gibson, Billy Harkey, Donald Hartsell, Ed Hatley, Jayce Heff, Susan Henthorn, Denise Hobbs, LoisMary Hoehne, Dolly Jones, Jack Jones, Danny Kirkpatrick, Randi Kolseth, Pat Lawing, Tim Leonard, Karen Leonhardt, Jim Love, Ginger Lowe, Judy Lowe, Mark Ludwig, Jerry McClure, Pat Maddux, Danny Nicholson, Patsy Nicholson, Suzy Otterman, Rob Owen, Hal and Joann Parker, Larry Parker, Randy Ramsey, Linda Rudisill, Gracie Sceascea, Taryn Schou, Artie & Linda Shields, Randolph & Teresa Shives, Kenny Shrum, Laura Smallwood, Rhonda Swafford, Jamie VanDohlen, Robin Wooten Wood, Rev. David Wyant,*  
*NURSING FACILITIES: Shirley Combs (Cardinal Care-Rehab), Ann Ford (The Addison), Carroll and Mary Heavner (Abernethy Laurels), Jo Huss (Chestnut Ridge Rehab) Judy Komas (The Addison)*  
*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>	Sheila Beeker
<b>GREETERS:</b>	Bo & Carol King
<b>ACOLYTE:</b>	Noah Hardin
<b>HEAD USHER:</b>	Carl Henline
<b>MEDIA TECHS:</b>	Tim Leonard, Ron Metzger & Thurman Melton
<b>PEW KEEPERS:</b>	Teresa Shives
<b>ROVER:</b>	Bo King
<b>VALET:</b>	Steve Herman

**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**

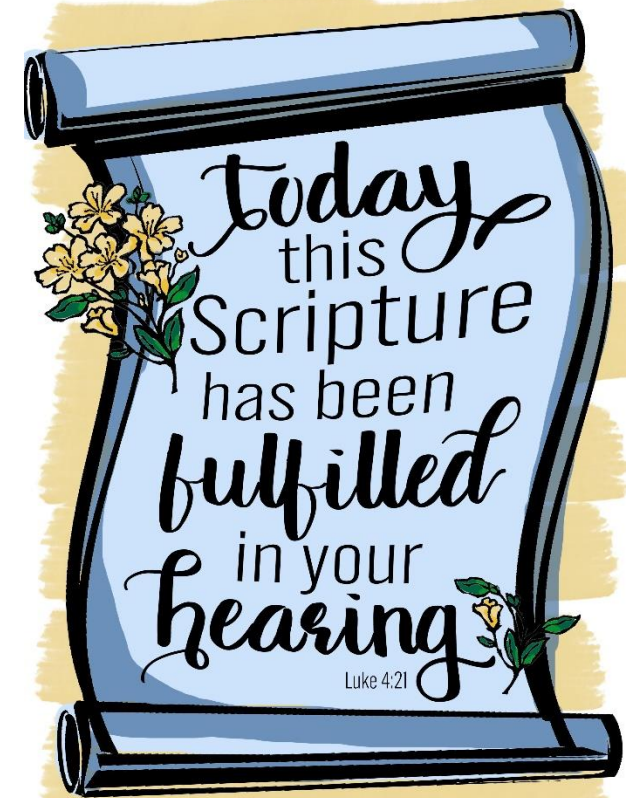
201 East Main Street, Lincolnton, North Carolina 28092  
704-735-7489

email: firstumclinc@gmail.com website: 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

January 26, 2025

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

11:00 A.M.

## GATHERING MUSIC

## GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CHIMING OF THE HOLY TRINITY

### PRELUDE

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Neil Underwood

### CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

*Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

Chancel Choir

### \*OPENING PRAYER:

**O Holy God, open unto me light for my darkness,  
courage for my fear, hope for my despair.**

**O loving God, open unto me wisdom for my confusion,  
forgiveness for my sins, love for my hate.**

**O God of peace, open unto me peace for my turmoil,  
joy for my sorrow, strength for my weakness.**

**O generous God, open my heart to receive all your gifts. Amen**

### \*HYMN

*God Of Love and God of Power*

UMH# 578

### \*AFFIRMATION FROM CORINTHIANS & COLOSSIANS

Leader: This is the good news which we received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

**PEOPLE: Christ died for our sins, was buried, was raised on the third day, and appeared first to the women, then to Peter and the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.**

**We believe Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God, the firstborn of all creation, the firstborn of the dead, in whom all things hold together, in whom the fullness of God was pleased to dwell by the power of the Spirit.**

**Christ is the head of the body, the Church, and by the blood of the cross reconciles all things to God.**

### \*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

Robbie Combs

### SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 4: 14-21

### CALL TO PRAYER

*Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

Chancel Choir

### PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD’S PRAYER

#### ANTHEM

*Holy Is Your Name*

Chancel Choir

#### SERMON

*The Fulfillment*

Rev. Sarah Underwood

#### \*HYMN

*Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*

UMH# 581

#### \*BENEDICTION

#### \*CHORAL BENEDICTION

*Amen*

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!

*The flowers gracing the sanctuary are given today to God's Glory and Honor and to remind us all that God is Good, All the time - Jeremiah 29:11 - by Jan Duncan.*

## 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.

## 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>

**LIVING WILL/HEALTHCARE POA CLASS:** If you have questions about how to set up a living will, or a healthcare power of attorney, our healthcare ministry team will be leading two separate classes on this subject. The next class will be on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the Annex. There is no charge for the class, and they are open to members and non-members. We do ask that you register in the church office.

**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.

**EQUIP & CONNECT 2025:** The Catawba Valley District is again offering courses for church leadership development. These Zoom courses will take place from January 26-30, and are directly aimed at many church administration and outreach areas you are involved in or may be involved with in the future. To see the full schedule and to register, visit this link: <https://www.wnccumc.org/equip-connect-2025>. If you have any questions, please see Gordon Hubbell, Catawba Valley District Lay Leader.

**CARDS FOR LARRY PARKER:** Anyone who would like to send cards or other greetings to Larry Parker, who moved to the Carolina Caring Hospice House in Newton this week, is asked to send them in care of his brother, Rev. Joe Parker. Please send to: Larry Parker, c/o Rev. Joe Parker, 261 Flick Circle, Thomasville, NC 27360.

## 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>

**LIVING WILL/HEALTHCARE POA CLASS:** If you have questions about how to set up a living will, or a healthcare power of attorney, our healthcare ministry team will be leading two separate classes on this subject. The next class will be on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the Annex. There is no charge for the class, and they are open to members and non-members. We do ask that you register in the church office.

**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.

**EQUIP & CONNECT 2025:** The Catawba Valley District is again offering courses for church leadership development. These Zoom courses will take place from January 26-30, and are directly aimed at many church administration and outreach areas you are involved in or may be involved with in the future. To see the full schedule and to register, visit this link: <https://www.wnccumc.org/equip-connect-2025>. If you have any questions, please see Gordon Hubbell, Catawba Valley District Lay Leader.

**CARDS FOR LARRY PARKER:** Anyone who would like to send cards or other greetings to Larry Parker, who moved to the Carolina Caring Hospice House in Newton this week, is asked to send them in care of his brother, Rev. Joe Parker. Please send to: Larry Parker, c/o Rev. Joe Parker, 261 Flick Circle, Thomasville, NC 27360.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS (contd)

**COMMUNICATION OPTIONS:** One of our means of communicating important updates to the congregation is our OneCall system. However, there may be some, especially newer members, who may not be receiving calls or emails through this system. If you are not receiving these calls or emails, and would like to, please contact the church office and we will make sure you are added to the database.

**5<sup>th</sup> WEDNESDAY BOOK CLUB:** Our first 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Book Club meeting of the year will be held Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, at noon in the church library. Last year a total of 65 books were read by the women in this group! Please come join us and hear about the great reads that are already on our shelves and help pick out some new ones for the coming year. We follow our meeting by having lunch together at The Meating Place. Come join us!!

**SOUPER BOWL FELLOWSHIP MEAL:** Please join us after worship on February 9<sup>th</sup> for our “Souper Bowl” Fellowship meal. Let’s enjoy a great midwinter warm-up with your favorite soups and stews, cornbread and dessert! Everyone bringing a crock pot of soup or any of the extras scores a big touchdown with us!! The kitchen will be open to accept your food items at 10 Sunday morning and will be ready to serve you a good hot meal after church. This meal has been a big winner in the past and we look forward to a great turnout.

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

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS (contd)

**COMMUNICATION OPTIONS:** One of our means of communicating important updates to the congregation is our OneCall system. However, there may be some, especially newer members, who may not be receiving calls or emails through this system. If you are not receiving these calls or emails, and would like to, please contact the church office and we will make sure you are added to the database.

**5<sup>th</sup> WEDNESDAY BOOK CLUB:** Our first 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Book Club meeting of the year will be held Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, at noon in the church library. Last year a total of 65 books were read by the women in this group! Please come join us and hear about the great reads that are already on our shelves and help pick out some new ones for the coming year. We follow our meeting by having lunch together at The Meating Place. Come join us!!

**SOUPER BOWL FELLOWSHIP MEAL:** Please join us after worship on February 9<sup>th</sup> for our “Souper Bowl” Fellowship meal. Let’s enjoy a great midwinter warm-up with your favorite soups and stews, cornbread and dessert! Everyone bringing a crock pot of soup or any of the extras scores a big touchdown with us!! The kitchen will be open to accept your food items at 10 Sunday morning and will be ready to serve you a good hot meal after church. This meal has been a big winner in the past and we look forward to a great turnout.

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

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

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE**

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING:** The Souper Bowl of Caring is an annual event where we take action to fight hunger on the local level in our community. We will be collecting both monetary donations, and donations of canned goods during our morning worship service on February 9<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds collected from Souper Bowl of Caring will go to support the Soup Kitchen at Lincoln County Christian Ministries.

**LINCOLN CO. CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES NEEDS:** The following are the current needs for Christian Ministries:

- Emergency Services – toboggans, gloves, hand warmers, slightly used or new blankets
- Soup Kitchen Wish List – Parchment Paper, black pepper, cups (12 and 16 oz.), Olive Oil

### **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – February 2, 2025**

Liturgist: Vickie Andrews

Acolyte: Lucas Demofonte

Greeters: Steve & Jane Morton

Time for All God's Children: Cale Thornburg

Pew Keepers: Dianne Putnam

Valet: Calvin Thornburg

Communion Stewards: Jennifer & Jason Ellis; Molly Tweed

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE**

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING:** The Souper Bowl of Caring is an annual event where we take action to fight hunger on the local level in our community. We will be collecting both monetary donations, and donations of canned goods during our morning worship service on February 9<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds collected from Souper Bowl of Caring will go to support the Soup Kitchen at Lincoln County Christian Ministries.

**LINCOLN CO. CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES NEEDS:** The following are the current needs for Christian Ministries:

- Emergency Services – toboggans, gloves, hand warmers, slightly used or new blankets
- Soup Kitchen Wish List – Parchment Paper, black pepper, cups (12 and 16 oz.), Olive Oil

### **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – February 2, 2025**

Liturgist: Vickie Andrews

Acolyte: Lucas Demofonte

Greeters: Steve & Jane Morton

Time for All God's Children: Cale Thornburg

Pew Keepers: Dianne Putnam

Valet: Calvin Thornburg

Communion Stewards: Jennifer & Jason Ellis; Molly Tweed

## UPCOMING WNC CONFERENCE EVENTS FOR CLERGY AND LAITY

We are confronted with signs of trauma, division and rising tensions all around us, and yet, as leaders of the church, we are called to live and serve as ambassadors of healing and peace. To respond faithfully, we have two upcoming opportunities for Clergy and Laity.

**HEALING CENTERED CHURCH SUMMIT:** Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm at St Luke's UMC, 52 16<sup>th</sup> Ave NW in Hickory. This trauma-informed summit, led by Brett Loftis, the staff at Crossnore Communities, and other WNCC leadership, includes plenary presentations and worships to explore the intersections of trauma, peace building, anti-racism, inclusion and allyship.

Registration is FREE! You may register now through the following link: [wnccumc.org/newsdetail/healing-centered-church-summit](http://wnccumc.org/newsdetail/healing-centered-church-summit)

**BREAKING DOWN THE DIVIDING WALLS-PEACE CONFERENCE 2025:** April 4-6, 2025 at the Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center. Enjoy beautiful Lake Junaluska in the spring for three days of worship, interactive plenaries, workshops, hands-on shalom experiences, film screenings and informal dialogue. We will learn from front-line peace practitioners how to build bridges of peace across political, theological and social divides,

Register NOW through the following link: [wnccumc.org/peace-conference-2025](http://wnccumc.org/peace-conference-2025)

## UPCOMING WNC CONFERENCE EVENTS FOR CLERGY AND LAITY

We are confronted with signs of trauma, division and rising tensions all around us, and yet, as leaders of the church, we are called to live and serve as ambassadors of healing and peace. To respond faithfully, we have two upcoming opportunities for Clergy and Laity.

**HEALING CENTERED CHURCH SUMMIT:** Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm at St Luke's UMC, 52 16<sup>th</sup> Ave NW in Hickory. This trauma-informed summit, led by Brett Loftis, the staff at Crossnore Communities, and other WNCC leadership, includes plenary presentations and worships to explore the intersections of trauma, peace building, anti-racism, inclusion and allyship.

Registration is FREE! You may register now through the following link: [wnccumc.org/newsdetail/healing-centered-church-summit](http://wnccumc.org/newsdetail/healing-centered-church-summit)

**BREAKING DOWN THE DIVIDING WALLS-PEACE CONFERENCE 2025:** April 4-6, 2025 at the Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center. Enjoy beautiful Lake Junaluska in the spring for three days of worship, interactive plenaries, workshops, hands-on shalom experiences, film screenings and informal dialogue. We will learn from front-line peace practitioners how to build bridges of peace across political, theological and social divides,

Register NOW through the following link: [wnccumc.org/peace-conference-2025](http://wnccumc.org/peace-conference-2025)