

**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 Larry Parker, Family of Mary Heavner, 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,, 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, Randy Ramsey, Linda Rudisill, Gracie Sceascea, Taryn Schou, Artie & Linda Shields, Randolph & Teresa Shives, Kenny Shrum, Laura Smallwood, Rhonda Swafford, Rev. Sarah Underwood, Jamie VanDohlen, Robin Wooten Wood, Rev. David Wyant,
NURSING FACILITIES: Shirley Combs (Cardinal Care-Rehab), Ann Ford (The Addison), Carroll 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

MINISTERS:	All Members of First UMC
LITURGIST:	Vickie Andrews
GREETERS:	Steve & Jane Morton
ACOLYTE:	Lucas Demofonte
HEAD USHER:	Carl Henline
MEDIA TECHS:	Tim Leonard, Ron Metzger & Thurman Melton
PEW KEEPERS:	Dianne Putnam
ROVER:	Carol King
VALET:	Calvin Thornburg

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

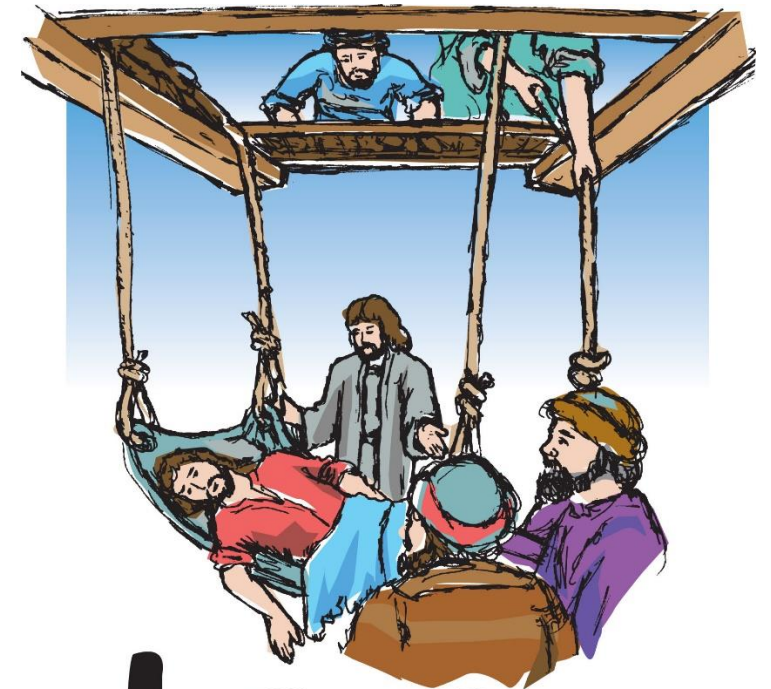
201 East Main Street, Lincolnton, North Carolina 28092
704-735-7489

email: firstumclinc@gmail.com website: fumclincolnton.com



**First United Methodist Church
Lincolnton**

Love God. Love All. Be Like Jesus.



Jesus Heals
a Paralyzed Man



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Enter to Worship
February 2, 2025

Kneel to Pray
4th Sunday after Epiphany

Rise to Serve
11:00 A.M.

GATHERING MUSIC

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHIMING OF THE HOLY TRINITY

PRELUDE Robbie Combs

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP Chancel Choir
Sweet, Sweet Spirit

***OPENING PRAYER:**

Almighty God, who has led us apart from the busy world into the quiet of your house: Grant us grace to worship you in spirit and in truth. May we worship you now not with our lips only, but in word and deed all the days of our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN** *Lord of the Dance* UMH# 261

TIME FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN Cale Thornburg

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 2: 1-2

CALL TO PRAYER Chancel Choir
Breathe on Me, Breath of God

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM *Just Two Words* Chancel Choir

SERMON *The Power of a Rumor* Rev. Sarah Underwood

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION UMH# 8

***HYMN** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

UMH# 384

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION** Chancel Choir
Amen

***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!

Communion Stewards: Jason & Jennifer Ellis; Molly Tweed

United Methodists practice “open communion.” By this we mean that all are invited to the Lord’s Table to partake of the sacrament and that none are refused. You do not need to be a member or a Methodist to take communion at any United Methodist Church. A Gluten Free Station is also available at the front of the center pew section.

The Flowers on the alter are given to the glory to God, and in honor of Jett Brady Houser who was born January 20th 2025. Jett is the son of Morgan and Dylan Houser, and the grandson of Jason and Jennifer Ellis and Wayne and Vicky Houser.

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 13th 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.

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.

SOUPER BOWL FELLOWSHIP MEAL: Please join us after worship on February 9th 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.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS (contd)

SCOUT SUNDAY: On February 9th, we will have our annual recognition of our Boy Scout Program, where our Scouts will take leadership in our morning worship service. We hope you will join us for this special Sunday, and help us welcome our Boy Scouts and their families.

SCOUT PANCAKE BREAKFAST: There will be a Scout Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser on Saturday, February 22nd, from 9:00 am until 11:00 am in our fellowship hall. This fundraiser is to help raise money for an Eagle Project from one of our scouts, Marcus Collie. He is collecting funds to purchase supplies for emergency buckets he is making for the classrooms at Lincoln High. We hope you will come out and support Marcus in his project goals.

GRIEFSHARE: The next session of our Griefshare Group will begin on Monday, February 24th at 10:00 am in the Annex. If you would like to register for this session, you may do so at the following link: <https://www.griefshare.org/groups/257893> or see Joe Lockman, Sheila Beeker, Katie Hardin or Jane Finger.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS: Blood pressure checks will be available immediately following morning worship in the Education building.

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

MAIN STREET DINNER THEATER: The Lincoln Theatre Guild is celebrating 43 years with a Main Street Musical Revue on February 14-15 at 5:30 pm in our fellowship hall. Tickets are available online at lincolntg.booktix.com. Get your tickets now!

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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 9th. 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 9, 2025

Liturgist: Steve Morton

Acolyte: Karson Shrum

Greeters: Michael Powers & Charles Stevens

Time for All God's Children: Kathy Douglas

Pew Keepers: Ernie & Betty Parker

Valet: Keith Dedmond

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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 8th from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm at St Luke's UMC, 52 16th 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

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

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