

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:

OUR CHURCH FAMILY: Deanie Auton, Elvie Cranford, Jody Cronland, Shirley Drum, Jan Duncan, Jennifer Ellis, Jane Finger, Steve Ford, Ed Hatley, Carl Henline, Susan Henthorn, Billy Howell, Randi Kolseth, Ginger Lowe, Judy Lowe, Pat Maddux, Faye Morris, Jerry Owen, Joann Parker, Steve & Suzanne Peeler, Randy Ramsey, Linda Shields, Randolph & Teresa Shives, Rev. Sarah Underwood, Linda Wolfe.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Steve Abernethy, Avery (Mountain Top Leader), Thomas Allen, Laurie Anne Beyer, Terry Bruner, Jeremiah Buff, James Calvert, Lyn Campbell, Les Canipe, Eddie Cannon, Greg Clarke, Rob Coles (son of Lyn Campbell), Janice Dellinger, Kenny Dellinger, Greg Eldridge, Ronnie Engle, Callen Evans, Barbara Fitzpatrick, Kim Fitzpatrick, Jim Fortenberry, Rev. Keiko Foster, Dale Gilmore, Nancy Harris, Donald Hartsell, Jayce Heff, Denise Hobbs, Butch Humphrey, Mark Johnson, Shelby Jones, Dolly Jones, Jack Jones, Isla Keener, Jane Kerr, Danny Kirkpatrick, Jim Love, Ellis Grace McPherson (Jason Ellis' great niece), Grant Newsome, Danny Nicholson, Patsy Nicholson, Mary Novotny, Suzy Otterman, Joyce Parlier, Kristin Parrish, Rico (from The Meating Place), Rachel Roy, Gracie Sceascea, Shedlass Family, Kenny Shrum, Anna Shuford, Laura Smallwood, Rhonda Swafford, Doris Taylor, Harold & Cindy Towery, Kevin Turner, Jamie VanDohlen, Veofa Wilfong, Margret Wetz, Carolyn Wirth, Rev. David and Denise Wyant, Joe & Josephine Young

HOMEBOUND: Lou Beal, Winnon Cashion, Mary Robinson

CARE FACILITIES: Ron Ballard (Lincoln Rehab)

THOSE SERVING YOU TODAY

MINISTERS:	All Members of First UMC
LITURGIST:	Kathy Douglas
GREETERS:	Bo & Carol King
ACOLYTE:	Noah Hardin
HEAD USHER:	Carl Henline
MEDIA TECHS:	Tim Leonard, Ron Metzger & Thurman Melton, Levi Stroud, Mike Owen
PEW KEEPERS:	Steve & Jane Morton
ROVER:	Mike Owen
VALET/SECURITY:	Mike Shrum & 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
FACILITIES MGR.	Steve Herman	paherman@charter.net
PRESCHOOL DIR.	Kristen Willis	preschool@fumclinton.com
PARISH NURSE	Betty Parker	bparker2787@gmail.com



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



First United Methodist Church
Lincolnton

Love God. Love All. Be Like Jesus.



<i>Enter to Worship</i>	<i>Kneel to Pray</i>	<i>Rise to Serve</i>
Sept 13, 2026	16 th Sunday After Pentecost	11:00 A.M.

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHIMING OF THE HOLY TRINITY

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP Chancel Choir
Surely The Presence

HYMN UMH #176

Majesty

*GLORIA PATRI

TIME FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN Robbie Combs

SCRIPTURE READING Exodus 14: 1-21

Open My Eyes, That I May See

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER

ANTHEM Chancel Choir
Treasures

SERMON *The Parting of the Red Sea* Rev. Sarah Underwood
 Series: Lessons in Leadership

HYMN *My Hope is Built* **UMH #368**

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 flowers given today are for God's glory and honor; in loving memory of David Duncan on his 43rd birthday; and to everyone affected by 9/11 events by Jan Duncan

Chancel Choir

Chancel Choir

UMH #368

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.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

☐ Check here to have your prayer request to be shared with the church. Otherwise, it will remain confidential.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign the pew pads and pass them to your neighbor.

Nursery is located downstairs from the sanctuary. See an usher for directions. Restrooms are located in the sacristy through the right side door, with a handicapped accessible restroom in the Middle Building.

Important! Be certain all doors are closed when you exit a building.

PRAYGROUND: At First UMC, all of God's children are invited to worship together as family. Being in church helps kids learn how to pray, listen, and sing while they strengthen their relationship with God. Our Prayground is designed for young families with children aged 4 to 4th grade. It is situated at the front of the sanctuary so children and parents have a good view of how our love of God is shared together at First United Methodist Church.

GRIEFSHARE: Our next Griefshare group will begin on Monday, October 12th at 10:00 am. For more information, see Joe Lockman, Katie Hardin or Sheila Beeker.

HEALTHCARE TEAM: The Healthcare Team will meet today immediately following morning worship in the church library.

PUMPKINS, PUMPKINS!!! The Grounds Committee would like you to bring a pumpkin to the church to be used in decorating our flower beds on Academy Street for Apple Festival on October 17th. We would like to have the pumpkins at church by Sunday, October 11th. Bring as is or decorate if you wish. We would also welcome anyone interested in helping with the grounds!!! (See Carol King or Rosemary Leonard)

NEWSLETTER CORRECTION: In the September newsletter, we inadvertently left our Pastor Sarah Underwood's Sept 19th birthday. Sorry for this omission!

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COVERED DISH MEAL: All are invited to bring your favorite covered dish for a fellowship meal following morning worship on Sunday, Sept. 20th.

NOTICE: Update to church campus safety and security.

Beginning September 6th, the church nursery will be located downstairs from the sanctuary. This will allow parents to have their children cared for during the Sunday School and Worship hours (9:45 to 12:00 noon) in the same building without having to navigate multiple locked doors between the sanctuary and the education building. Please direct parents to the sanctuary by way of the courtyard or portico doors. Signage will be posted. For those who wish to use the restroom during the worship hour, please use the door at the right front of the sanctuary to access the restroom in the sacristy. During these hours the nursery is to be used by the nursery attendant(s) and the children in her care only.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS: We will have a “Blessing of the Animals” service on Sunday, Oct 4th in the Drums parking lot at 3:00 pm. See the September newsletter for all the details.

PROJECT AGAPE: Thank you to all who have already picked up your shoebox for Project Agape. Completed shoeboxes should be returned to the front pew near the piano on Sundays, or to the church office Monday-Thursday by Sept. 20.

5TH WEDNESDAY BOOK CLUB: The UMW 5th Wednesday Book Club will gather in the church library on Wednesday, Sept. 30th at 12:00 pm.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS: The offering plates are located at each entrance for you to give your weekly tithe and offerings. Our online giving portal may be accessed through the “Give” page on our church website, or you can scan the QR code to the right:



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OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

BLOOD DRIVE: A Big “THANK YOU” to all those who helped make our Blood Drive a success: the donors, volunteers and all who made the delicious goodies. We met our goal of 36 pints collected. Our next Community Blood Drive will be on Wednesday, January 13th from 2:00 pm until 6:30 pm in the fellowship hall.

LYNC: Our regular LYNC meetings are starting back up this month, and we are hosting for the month of September. Our theme for the fall is “Holidays and Holy Days”, and for Labor Day, we will be “Hands On” with our activities! Our Youth activities will be on Sunday, Sept 13th and 27th from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm, and our Kids activities will be Sept 16th and 30th from 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm. The first week will be about the Potter and the Clay, and for the second week, we will be cooking. We would love to have some additional adult helpers for this month. Contact Robbie or Pastor Sarah.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL: The CLC will meet on Monday, Sept 14th at 6:00 pm in the Annex.

SAVE THE DATE: Homecoming 2026!! November 15th!! Special worship and fellowship meal! More details to follow!

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – Sept 20, 2026

Liturgist: Jan Duncan

Acolyte: Brooks Hardin

Greeters: Chase & Katie Hardin

Time for All God’s Children: Steve Herman

Pew Keeper: Vickie Andrews

Valet/Security Monitor: Steve Morton & Mike Owen

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**Be Present: How Can We Support Foster
Families and Children?
Every Church, Every Child**

Tuesday, September 29, 2026
Dinner at 5:30 PM
Events on Main, Lincoln, NC

What does it look like for your church to care for the vulnerable children and families in our own community?

Lincoln County does not have enough licensed foster families for the children who need one. Some children spend their first night in a Lincoln County DSS office. Siblings are separated because there is not a home that can take them together. This is happening here, in our community, right now.

Be Present brings pastors, mission leaders, and outreach leaders from Lincoln County and surrounding communities together for a dinner of real stories, a short word from Scripture, and a clear, low pressure way for your church to get involved.

To learn more, or to register, follow this link, <https://theadvocatemission.org/be-present-lincoln-county>

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