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), Linda & Phillip Graham (The Wexford House, Denver)

THOSE SERVING YOU TODAY

MINISTERS:	All Members of First UMC
LITURGIST:	Jan Duncan
GREETERS:	Chase & Katie Hardin
ACOLYTE:	Brooks Hardin
HEAD USHER:	Carl Henline
MEDIA TECHS:	Tim Leonard, Ron Metzger & Thurman Melton, Levi Stroud, Mike Owen
PEW KEEPERS:	Vickie Andrews
ROVER:	Liz Strachan
VALET/SECURITY:	Steve Morton & Mike Owen

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@fumclincolnton.com
PARISH NURSE	Betty Parker	bparker2787@gmail.com

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

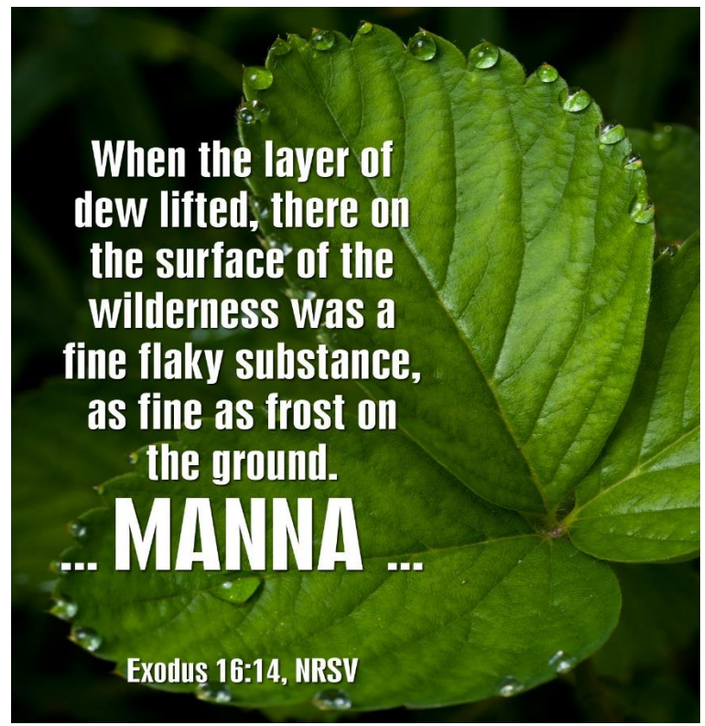
201 East Main Street, Lincolnton, North Carolina 28092

704-735-7489

First United Methodist Church

Lincolnton

Love God. Love All. Be Like Jesus.



LIGHTHOUSE Congregation

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Enter to Worship ***Kneel to Pray*** ***Rise to Serve***

Sept 20, 2026 **17th Sunday After Pentecost** 11:00 A.M.

GATHERING MUSIC Neil Underwood

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHIMING OF THE HOLY TRINITY

PRELUDE Neil Underwood

To God Be The Glory

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP Chancel Choir

Surely The Presence

***CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsively)**:

L:Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!
P:Serve the LORD with gladness!
L:Come into his presence with singing!
P:Know that the LORD, he is God!

***HYMN** UMH #731

Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** UMH #881

The Apostle's Creed

***GLORIA PATRI**

TIME FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN Steve Herman

SCRIPTURE READING Exodus 16: 1-15

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER Chancel Choir

Open My Eyes, That I May See

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER

ANTHEM Chancel Choir

We Are One, Lord

SERMON *Bread of Heaven* Rev. Sarah Underwood

Series: Lessons in Leadership

***HYMN** UMH #396

O Jesus, I Have Promised

***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 beautiful flowers gracing our sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in honor of Rev. Sarah Underwood for her September 19th birthday, from your church family.

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

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.

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)

COVERED DISH MEAL: All are invited to join us for our fellowship meal following morning worship in the fellowship hall, whether you brought a dish or not. All are welcome!!

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NOTICE: Update to church campus safety and security.
Our church nursery is now located downstairs from the sanctuary. This allows parents to have their children cared for during the Sunday School and Worship hours (9:45 to12:00 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 for your generosity in providing the shoeboxes for Project Agape. We will be delivering the showboxes to the pick-up location this week.

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

LYNC: We had a great first week of LYNC gathering for both our Youth and Kids. Thanks to Cale Thornburg for leading our activities, and to our volunteers for your help with the meal. We will continue with our theme on "Holidays and Holy Days", featuring "Hands On" activities! Our next Youth activities will be on Sunday, 27th from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm, and our Kids activities will be Sept 30th from 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm. For this week, we will be cooking and helping the kids make their own pizzas! We would love to have some additional adult helpers for this month. Contact Robbie or Pastor Sarah.

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

CHARGE CONFERENCE: Our annual Charge Conference will be held on Sunday, Nov. 1, following morning worship. All members are invited to attend, but only CLC members are considered voting members for this annual business session.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – Sept 27, 2026
Liturgist: Jason Ellis
Acolyte: Noah Hardin
Greeters: Steve & Kathy Valentine
Time for All God's Children: Beverly Beal
Pew Keeper: Beverly Beal
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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, Lincolnton, 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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