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: Vickie Andrews, 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, Betty Parker, Joann Parker, Steve & Suzanne Peeler, Randy Ramsey, Linda Shields, Randolph & Teresa Shives, Rev. Sarah Underwood, Linda Wolfe.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Family of Carolyn Wirth, 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, Anthony & Cathy Davis, Janice Dellinger, Kenny Dellinger, Greg Eldridge, Ronnie Engle, Callen Evans, Barbara Fitzpatrick, Kim Fitzpatrick, Jim Fortenberry, 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, Grant Newsome, Danny Nicholson, Patsy Nicholson, Mary Novotny, Suzy Otterman, Joyce Parlier, Kristin Parrish, Rachel Roy, Gracie Sceascea, Shedlass Family, Kenny Shrum, Anna Shuford, Laura Smallwood, Rhonda Swafford, Greer Stamey, Doris Taylor, Harold & Cindy Towery, Kevin Turner, Jamie VanDohlen, Veofa Wilfong, Margret Wetz, 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:	Steve Herman
GREETERS:	Jerry & Gayle Park
ACOLYTE:	Brooks Hardin
HEAD USHER:	Carl Henline
MEDIA TECHS:	Tim Leonard, Ron Metzger & Thurman Melton, Levi Stroud, Mike Owen
PEW KEEPERS:	Chase & Katie Hardin
ROVER:	Rosalind Welder
VALET/SECURITY:	Jeff Noles & John Lantz

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***

October 11, 2026 **20th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST** 11:00 A.M.

GATHERING MUSIC Neil Underwood

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHIMING OF THE HOLY TRINITY

PRELUDE Neil Underwood

Lead On, O King Eternal

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP Chancel Choir

Surely The Presence

***OPENING PRAYER: (in unison)**:

O God of peace, who has taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength: By the might of your Spirit, lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN** UMH #420

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** UMH #881

The Apostle's Creed

***GLORIA PATRI** UMH #71

TIME FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN Billy Howell

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 22: 1-14

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER Chancel Choir

Open My Eyes, That I May See

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER

ANTHEM Chancel Choir

Breath of God

SERMON *The Wedding Banquet* Rev. Sarah Underwood

***HYMN** UMH #398

Jesus Calls Us

***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 loving memory of Sherry Noles on the anniversary of her October 10th birthday, by Jeff Noles.

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)

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.

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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.

CPR CLASS: Steve Valentine has offered to again teach a CPR class for our church members. If you are interested, please contact the church office your name, phone number and whether you would prefer a daytime class or an evening class. Betty will contact you regarding scheduling the best time and date to make the CPR class available.

OCTOBER LYNC: For the month of October, LYNC Youth and Kids activities will be at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 2639 NC Hwy 150. The next LYNC youth night is Oct 18th from 6:00 pm until 7:30 pm, and LYNC Kids will be Wednesday, Oct 21st, from 5:00 pm until 6:30 pm.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS: A big thanks to those who came out for the Blessing of the Animals last Sunday. We had a great time and look forward to making next years' service bigger and better.

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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SAVE THE DATE: Homecoming 2026!! November 15th!! Special worship as we welcome back Rev. Philip Cole as our Homecoming speaker, with musical offerings from our handbell and chancel choirs, as well as a fellowship feast following worship! Invite friends and former members to relive fond memories of First UMC

TRUNK OR TREAT: We will hold our Trunk-or-Treat on Saturday evening, October 31st from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm, in the parking lot of the Lighthouse building. Come and decorate your car trunks, pick up truck beds or whatever vehicle you have, and help as we provide this outreach opportunity to our friends and neighbors. Costumes are encouraged but not necessary, although I hear we may have a bunch of gingerbread people hanging around!! If you're interested in taking part, contact Robbie or Pastor Sarah.

UNITED METHODIST MEN: United Methodist Men will hold their monthly meeting on Sunday, October 25th at 8:00 am in the fellowship hall. All men of the church are invited to attend.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – Oct 18, 2026
Liturgist: Katie Hardin
Acolyte: Helen Claire Hames
Greeters: Jason & Jennifer Ellis
Time for All God's Children: Cale Thornburg
Pew Keeper: Jeremy & Emily Krech
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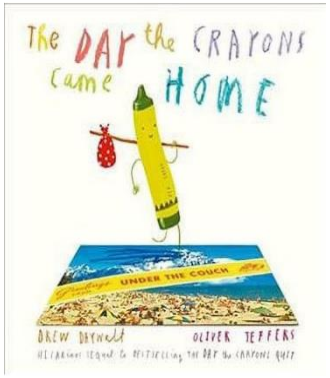
The Day the Crayons Came Home

A Skit



When we first met the hilarious and mischievous crayons, Duncan was a young boy who opens his crayon box one day and finds a surprise. Now, the hilarious sequel to the prize-winning international bestseller The Day the Crayons Quit! Is here. Watch out - the crayons are back and they're crosser than ever! One day Duncan receives a set of postcards from his crayons who have been lost, forgotten, broken - or even melted in a clothes dryer and stuck to a sock! A hilarious text and joyful illustrations combine to show that crayons have feelings too in this laugh-out-loud sequel to bestselling picture book The Day the Crayons Quit.

This second hilarious book also translates well into a short skit teaching us how we should care for one another. I will need adults, youth, and children to volunteer to be crayons. Help is also needed to create simple props. All those interested in helping please let me know as soon as possible. We will perform the skit on October November 22ndth. If you wish to volunteer, please sign the registration sheet on the front pew and take a copy of the script. Practice dates are October 18th & 25th at 10:00.
Thank you, Pastor Sarah

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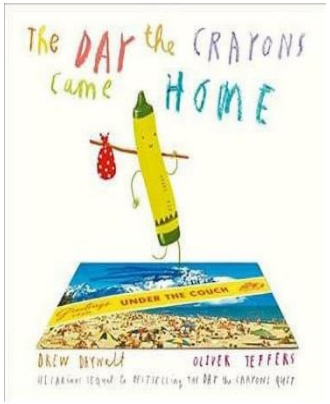

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