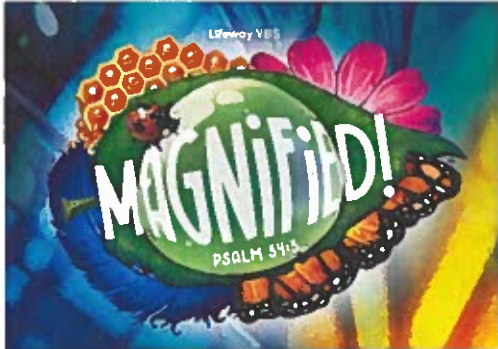




First Methodist Church OF CONOVER

The Weekly Newsletter of First Methodist Church Conover

June 3, 2025



By the time you read this, our 2025 Vacation Bible School will be about 5 weeks away from kick-off! How exciting! Most of us have fond memories of VBS from our own childhood or from when our children participated. Many people report that they gave their hearts to Jesus at VBS. It's still a relevant and important ministry!

Our theme is "Magnified!" We will be discovering the "Bigness of God in the Smallest of Things!" Magnified! VBS will encourage kids to look closely at the details of God's amazing world and magnify, or proclaim, the greatness of God. God made us, cares about us, loves us, forgives

us, and is faithful to keep all His promises to us. We can praise God together! We were made to magnify God!

Sessions for children ages 3- 5th grade will be held 5:30-7:30 on July 13; July 20, 21, and 22; and 10 am - noon on Saturday, Aug 9. Sessions for adults will be July 15 and 16: 10am-noon, followed by lunch.

Plans are well underway, our volunteers have begun to make decorations, and classroom leaders are getting ready for an amazing experience. But we still need YOU! Here are the team positions we still need someone to fill:

- 2 or 3 people to help with registration and check-in each session
- 3 or 4 people to help lead the music at the beginning of each session
- 1 or 2 more assistant shepherds for younger elementary students
- 1 or 2 more assistant shepherds for older elementary students
- 3 or 4 more assistants for preschool students
- 2 or 3 people willing to lead games (ideas provided) each session (except Aug 9)
- 2 or 3 people willing to lead crafts (ideas provided) each session
- 2 or 3 people willing to tell the Bible story each session
- 2 or 3 people willing to prepare snacks (ideas provided) each session
- 10 – 15 people willing to be a table buddy during dinner (just sit and talk with the families – maybe play a game at the table)

Upcoming Preparation Days:

June 19 5:30-7:30 (Dinner provided) Training/planning session for leaders of students, games and crafts.
Please RSVP to Beth.

July 10 at 10 am All hands-on deck to finish assembling pieces of crafts and decorations.

July 12 (Time TBA) Set up and decorate the CFLC.

Please pray and ask God to lead you to the right spot to serve...maybe it's at VBS this year?!? If you have further questions, or want to volunteer, please contact Beth Woods at woods777@aol.com or 336-480-4551.

PRAYERS, PRAISES AND NEEDS

Let Us Pray...



As an ongoing part of our Nurturing Ministry, we are asking all members of our church to pray for six specific families. Each week we will list a different group of six families as we work our way through our church roll. The families for this week are:

Rick & Nancy Wall, Leonard & Patricia Walling,
Ron & Ginny Ward, Eddie & Carol Warren,
Brenda Watson, Lynn & Rita Watson.

IN/OUT OF HOSPITAL

Bruce Cloninger at Wake Forest Baptist

GREETERS for June 8

8:45am - Mark & Rita Deal
11:00am - Carolyn & Jim Ball

June 15

8:45am - Susan (Long) Sigmon
11:00am - Beth Boston

If you would like to greet your church family on Sunday mornings, please contact Nancy Wall at (704) 325-0330.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

June 8

8:45am - Melissa Johnson
11:00am - Kim Reed

June 15

8:45am - Erin Moritz
11:00am - Donna Mull

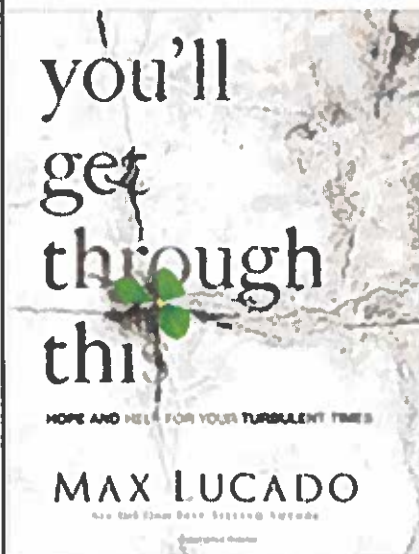
June 22

8:45am - Beth Travis
11:00am - Abella Barnabas

**JOIN US
FOR A
TIME OF
PRAYER**



**6:30 Every Tuesday
in the Parlor (upstairs)**



Summer Book Study

We will be studying the book "You'll Get Through This" by Max Lucado together, led by Beth Woods. This study helps you look at God's activity in your life during turbulent times.

Sessions will be Thursdays June 12 (intro), 19, 26, July 3, 10, 17, and 24. You can bring your own lunch and eat together at noon, or join the study from 12:30 until 1:45. Two of these sessions will be following the yoga class, but you will have time to change clothes if you wish to participate in both.

Please RSVP to Beth Woods by June 9 so that I can order books. 336-480-4551 or woods777@aol.com.

NEWS TO USE



Ashure The Ashure Ministry food request
MINISTRY **for June will be cereal.** All
canned food is useful and

appreciated, but cans with pop top lids are important for our homeless clients. These may be placed in the red bins in the hallway between the CFLC and Beth's office along with grocery bags.

ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS

Mark your calendars for June 26, at 5:30! This is the time for Ashure Ministry annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. The event is to be held at Abernethy Laurels in their Grand Ballroom. Golf carts will be used as a shuttle service from parking lot to the facility. This is a fun evening of food, fellowship, and much laughter with the funny awards. Also, serious awards will be given. The theme this year is superheroes which is what each of you are who Volunteer. So, feel free to dress honoring your favorite superhero. Please RSVP by June 12. You may RSVP at Ashure, online, or by texting Anita Deal at 828-320-3194.



Grief Support Program Save the Date! – June 23 at 6:00-7:30 pm

Annette Walker, member of First Methodist and Director of Grief Services at Carolina Caring, will be offering a program she calls "Grief 101" for us. This program, which will be held Monday, June 23 at 6pm, is aimed at helping people who have suffered a loss, but the information is good for all of us as we support loved ones in grief or prepare our own hearts for future grief.

Annette's program will be based on the book, "Tear Soup," a story centered around an old and wise woman, Grandy. She has suffered a big loss in her life and so Grandy heads to the kitchen to make a special batch of Tear Soup. It is a compassionate story that validates the grieving process and its impact on you- physically, emotionally, spiritually and cognitively. Learn how Tear Soup is a recipe for healing after a loss.

Galatians 6:2 reminds us to "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ."



PASTOR'S QUIZ

"Beware of false prophets," said Jesus, "which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly... are ravening

- a. leopards."
- b. wolves."
- c. hyenas."
- d. lions."

(The correct answer is on the back of the newsletter.)

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence June 1, 2025

Sunday School:
92

Worship:
8:45am Service - 156
11:00am Service - 127
Total 283

God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund	\$ 25,850.77
(Needed weekly for budget: \$15,258)	
Children's Bank	128.50
Kenya Mission Trip	400.00
Total	\$ 26,379.27

JUST A FRIENDLY HEALTH REMINDER....

that in this cold and flu season, please be respectful of those around you during church activities and worship.

If you have symptoms of a cold or the flu (fever, sneezing, cough, running nose), avoid some of the friendly contact many of us like to share (like shaking hands, hugs, etc.) until those symptoms have been gone for at least 24 hours.

Though we would miss you, it may even be a more loving gesture, for your own health and the health of all those at church, for you to stay home to rest and recuperate until "all clear."

First Methodist Church
410 First Avenue North
Conover, NC 28613
Return Service Requested

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Organization
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2025 FLOWER CHART

If you would like to sign up to place flowers in the Sanctuary one Sunday in honor of or in memory of someone, please call the church office at (828) 464-4635 to schedule a date.

Please do not write your name on the flower chart but call the church office.

A slide will be shown at both services on the Sunday that you choose with the information given by you.

The following florists have a key so that they can deliver the flowers on a Saturday:

Twigs & Twine - Conover
Newton-Conover Florist - Newton
Blooms Greenhouse - Conover

If you wish, you may make a donation in lieu of flowers and use the silk arrangements that are available.



Answer to this week's Pastor's Quiz:

b. wolves."
(Matthew 7:15)

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. John Woods pastor@fmconover.org (828) 464-4635 (336) 480-4550 - cell 208 2nd St NE, Conover
Minister of Youth/Outreach	Jason Shoup jsgodson@yahoo.com (828) 381-1174 1409 5th St. Ct. NE, Conover
Office Administrator / Financial Secretary	Robin Mays office@fmconover.org
Coordinator of Lay Ministries	Beth Woods woods777@aol.com (336) 480-4551 - cell
Music Director/Choir	Jon Rogers jsrogers99@gmail.com (828) 244-7019
Music Director/Praise Team/ Pianist	Shannon Rogers srog101@gmail.com (828) 244-6124
Organist	Kevin Haney khaney01@gmail.com (704) 914-6510
Preschool Director	Julie Robinson (828) 466-3158 preschool@fmconover.org
Lead Nursery Worker	Pilar Tobar
Custodian	Luisa Toro Bryan
Church Office	(828) 464-4635
Website:	www.fmconover.org

GOODTIMERS - - -

GOODTIMERS are out for another GOOD TIME!

Drive yourselves to two events, CATAWBA SCIENCE CENTER and LUNCH AT BOXCAR !!

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2025, drive West and arrive at 10:00 a.m. at

CATAWBA SCIENCE CENTER, 243 Third Avenue NE, Hickory, NC 28601

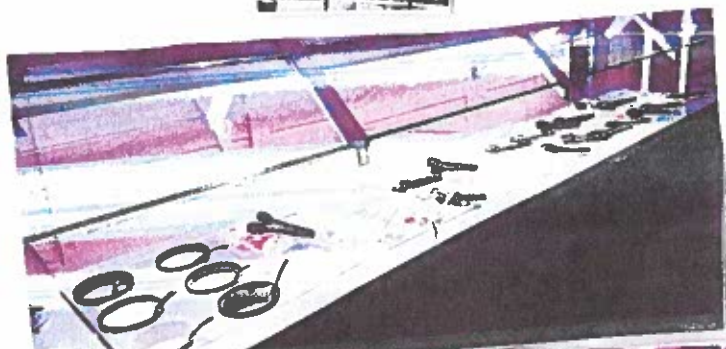
At the Science Center, you can experience:

Salt & fresh water aquariums
Planetarium shows
Hands-on science exhibits
35k s/f science & technology
animal habitats
turtle travel
flutterbys
and ever so very much more !!

\$10-

Around Noon, we will leave the Science Center and head East to Claremont and

BOXCAR GRILLE, 3140 N. Oxford Street, Claremont, NC 28610-9795



ORDER FROM MENU

≈ \$10 - \$20 -

Call
Jayne Davis
828-469-5196
to register and
maybe offer a
non-driver a ride.

MORE NEWS TO USE

Members in Nursing Facilities

Rev. Dixon Adams - TerraBella Newton (Room B7)
1088 Radio Station Road, Newton, NC 28658

Dottie Aycock-Harris - TerraBella Newton, (Room B1)
1088 Radio Station Road, Newton, NC 28658
Her husband, Ron's cell - (704) 460-4919

James Davis - Abernethy Laurels (Memory Care)
Mail to: Jeanette Davis 102 Leonard Avenue, Room 210,
Newton, NC 28658

Margaret Kilpatrick - Abernethy Laurels (Memory Care)
(Room 2010) 102 Leonard Avenue, Newton, NC 28658

Robert Matthews - Heritage Care (Room 16)
3430 Lester Street, Conover, NC 28613

Rick Parker - Catawba Valley Assisted Living (Room
107) 4174 Shook Road, Claremont, NC 28610
(828) 381-4988 - Rick's cell (828) 381-7328 - Linda's cell

Gilda Pennell - Abernethy Laurels (2103 Noble)
102 Leonard Avenue Newton, NC 28658

Mary Ann Simpson - Kingston Residence (Room 214)
904 2nd Street NE, Hickory, NC 28601

Sybil Windsor - TerraBella Newton (Room C1)
1088 Radio Station Road, Newton, NC 28658

Members at Home

Don Hedrick - Mailing address: PO Box 542,
Claremont, NC 28610

Physical address: 4028 E US Hwy 70,
Claremont, NC 28610
His wife, Cheryl's phone (828) 381-7956

Lee Moritz, Sr. - 103 County Home Road,
Conover, NC 28613
(828) 464-3383

Charlie Reed - (At son Greg's house)
4476 Red Hill Circle, Denver, NC 28037
His wife, Rona's cell: 828-244-3450



If you know of any members that should be added to our list, please contact the church office at (828) 464-4635.

Fundraisers for Kenya Mission Trip

- Rada Cutlery catalog sales
- June 22 - hamburger lunch eat-in or to-go
- donations



Cross Kingdom Ministries and First Methodist Church of Conover have partnered together to send a team of 10 people to Kenya in September!

Team members are: Jason and Alisha Shoup, John and Beth Woods, Ruth Brown, Lisa Johnson, Gerhardt Rheeder, Alexa Rodriguez, Tracy Parsons, and Catherine Frye. We are looking forward to bringing the Gospel to villages, along with food and Bibles, Vacation Bible School for the children, and discipleship to the local church leadership.

Your purchase will help us raise support for this exciting time of ministry. Use our exclusive link to place your order: <https://radafundraising.com?rfsn=7131642.ef0e230>

(This link is clickable on the post on the First Methodist Facebook page)

OR you can reach out to our team members to browse a catalog!

On June 22 we will be serving a hamburger lunch that can be eaten on-site or taken to-go. The team will have food ready at 10am and will serve until after the 11:00 worship service is over. We will take donations for the meal.

We are also grateful for donations made toward the cost of the trip (approximately \$2,000 per person will be needed, plus the cost of ministry supplies). These donations can be made through the church office, marked "Kenya Mission Trip." In the next few weeks, we will also set up collection boxes for donation of specific items that we will be taking for distribution there. We will publish a detailed list later.

Thanks for your prayers and support!

EVEN MORE NEWS TO USE



Our Nurture Committee has formed a group of caring "Sisters in Christ" who send cards, gift bags, and other encouragement to our members who are going through a difficult time.

If you would like to join this group, you are welcome to attend a meeting any 1st or 3rd Wednesday of the month. Upcoming meetings are 6/4 and 6/18 at 10:30 in the Prayer Shawl room. If you have other questions or know someone who would enjoy a card or visit, please contact Kim Reed 217-552-2853 or Cindy Clark 828-302-3217.

Sisters in Christ Birthday Luncheon Friday June 6th at 11:30 at Western Steer

All women of the church are invited to a luncheon at Western Steer in Newton on Friday, June 6th at 11:30. We will be honoring those who have birthdays in May and June. Lunch is on your own, except for the birthday girls who will be treated.

There will a sign-up sheet across from the conference room. Please sign up if your birthday is in May or June? Let us know by putting a star by your name. If you have any questions, call Jeanette Stewart (828) 315-0821, Cindy Clark (828) 302-3217, or Jean Slate (910) 624-9843.

Invite a friend and come enjoy the fun, food and fellowship.

Christian Yoga/Exercise Class for All



Karen Windham will be offering a once-a month yoga class with Christian music and prayer. This is a guided class offering modifications and is a class that is taught "to the class." You will be using chairs and the wall for support. You will begin to explore your capabilities; and as a result, learn strategies to adapt to external and internal stresses. You will examine your strength and balance through creative poses and shapes.

This class is open to anyone who wants to get stronger or improve balance and flexibility in a supportive environment.

Initial class dates for this class are: June 12, July 17, and August 14. Classes will begin at 10 am in our Connor Family Life Center and will run for about 60-70 minutes to allow participants to move at their own pace. Suggested equipment that will help you get the most out of the class include: a yoga mat, beach towel, yoga blocks, and a yoga strap.

If you are interested in participating or have other questions, *please contact Karen Windham at kafawindham4@gmail.com or (828) 381-9551.*