



First Methodist Church OF CONOVER

The Weekly Newsletter of First Methodist Church Conover

May 6, 2025

Going Global with the Gospel--Kenya Mission Trip



"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows..." – James 1:27

We're excited to share that a team from our church family will travel to Nairobi and Kisii, Kenya, September 19- 29, 2025. We will share the love and truth of Jesus Christ with widows, orphans, and others through evangelism and service, hosting a Vacation Bible School, distributing food, and assisting in a medical clinic.

How You Can Be a Part of This Global Mission

We believe missions are not just about those who go – the entire church family can make a global impact for the Kingdom. Here are three meaningful ways you can support us:

1. PRAY

Prayer is the most powerful support you can offer. Please join us in praying:

- For God's wisdom to lead and guide us as we travel and minister throughout Kenya.
- For protection—as we step into spiritually dark places, may His light shine through us.
- For provision—spiritual and physical needs- for the team and those we serve.



2. GIVE SUPPLIES

We are collecting the following items to bless those we'll minister to:

- Materials for salvation bracelets - We'll have a church-wide bracelet-making event soon!
- Travel-size hygiene items (toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, soap, etc.) to distribute.

3. FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Each team member is stepping out in faith to answer God's call, trusting Him to provide. The total cost of the trip is \$2,000 per person, with 10 people on the team – making our collective need \$20,000.

Financial gifts will help cover: Bibles and gospel materials, food and aid for distribution, and other ministry needs while in Kenya.



If you'd like to contribute financially, please make checks payable to:
First Methodist Church of Conover (Please note "Kenya Mission Trip" in the memo line)

To drop off supplies or materials, please contact Pastor Jason Shoup.

We are deeply grateful for your prayers, generosity, and encouragement. Stay tuned for updates on life-changing mission. Together, we are bringing hope, help, and the Good News to the ends of the earth.

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:

Billy Sprouse, Adam, Rebecca, Lilly-Ann & David Stewart,
Mike & Jeanette Stewart, Jake & Barbara Stines,
Burr & Betsy Stoker, Karl & Vickie Stryker.

A NOTE OF SYMPATHY

Evelyn Ruth Phillips Brooks, age 89 and a member of First Methodist Church of Conover, died Wednesday, April 30, 2025.

A funeral service was held Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at 11:00am at First Methodist Church of Conover. The family received friends from 10:00-10:45am at the church prior to the service.

Our thoughts and prayers are with her daughter, Debbie Huss and the family during this sad time.

GO - SEE - ENJOY!

Art work, paintings from most schools in Catawba County is on display at Valley Hills Mall. Located on the lower level at the Belk end of the mall in the walk way and in the Community Room. The kids have always created amazing work with their great talents! Enjoy!



A NOTE OF SYMPATHY

Tom Douglas, the brother-in-law of Nancy Wall, died Sunday, April 27th.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Rick and Nancy during this difficult time.

IN/OUT OF HOSPITAL

Everest Hedrick at home
Rona Reed at CVMC
Wayne Thornburg at CVMC

GREETERS for May 11

8:45am - Kim Reed

11:00am - Beverly Swithenbank

We are in need of greeters at both services on Sunday mornings. If you would like to greet your church family on Sunday mornings, please contact Nancy Wall at (704) 325-0330.

UPDATE FROM OUR METHODIST MEN

Thanks to everyone that donated to Methodist Men in honor and in memory of Harold Thornburg! Our Methodist Men have made a \$2500 donation in Harold's honor to two of his favorite "helpers," Ashure Ministry and The Corner Table!



MEMORIAL

General Fund

In memory of Priscilla "Sim" Horst by:
Harry & Cindy Hollifield

NEW ADDRESS

Charles, Mary & Matthew Hornick
94 Palmer PL
Greenwood, SC 29649

NEWS TO USE

ASHURE NEWS

The Ashure Ministry food request for May will be **condiments including salad dressings, mayonnaise, catsup, mustard, hot sauce and BBQ sauce.** 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.

For the month of April, our church contributed the following at Ashure Ministry: 170 pounds of food, 15 volunteers totaling 145.4 hours

Much, much appreciated!

Anita Deal



PASTOR'S QUIZ

"No man can serve two masters," said Jesus, because

- a. if one master loves him the other will hate him."
- b. no two masters can cooperate."
- c. no day is long enough for double service."
- d. he will love one master and hate or despise the other."

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

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence May 4, 2025

Sunday School:

31

Worship:

10:30am Service - attendance not recorded

God's Tithe & Our Gifts

| | |
|---|--------------|
| General Fund | \$ 15,125.00 |
| <i>(Needed weekly for budget: \$15,258)</i> | |
| Children's Bank | 118.85 |
| Kenya Mission Trip | 200.00 |
| Pastor's Discretionary Fund | 650.00 |
| Total | \$ 16,093.85 |

More Hands Needed in Our Nursery

Our church is growing and we need help to provide nursery services during all worship services! Maybe you could sign up to work during a service you don't usually attend? Or perhaps you could attend the "other" service one Sunday? In either case, you will be able to bless a family by helping to care for their young children in the nursery. You'll be working with our paid nursery caregiver, Pilar Tobar.

We will be passing a sign-up clipboard around for the next few weeks to let people volunteer for these slots. If you would like to volunteer, please watch for the sign-up or contact Beth Woods.

Thank you!

(336) 480-4551 or woods777@aol.com

NURSERY WORKERS

May 11

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 8:45am | 11:00am |
| Angela Garrison | Sue Prather |

May 18

| | |
|--------|---------|
| 8:45am | 11:00am |
| Open | Open |

May 25

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| 8:45am | 11:00am |
| Alisha Shoup | Donna Ross |



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

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Conover, NC

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:

d. he will love one master and hate or despise the other."
(Matthew 6:24)

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 |

DON'T FORGET OUR MEMBERS IN NURSING FACILITIES AND OUR HOMEBOUND

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
Ron's cell - (704) 460-4919



James Davis - Abernethy Laurels (Memory Care Center)
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



Don Hedrick - Mailing address: PO Box 542, Claremont, NC 28610
Physical address: 4028 E US 70 Hwy, Claremont, NC 28610
His wife, Cheryl's phone (828) 381-7956

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

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

MORE NEWS TO USE



Vacation Bible School 2025

Meeting & Workday

*Oh, magnify the LORD with me,
And let us exalt His name together!*

Save the dates! Evenings of July 13; July 20, 21, and 22; Morning of Aug 9. Lots of fun is planned... including a special opportunity for our congregation's adults!

If you are willing to help with VBS this summer, **please attend a meeting on Monday, May 19 at 7 pm.** At this meeting, we will form our teams and distribute leader guides. It's going to be a great program with a place for everyone to serve! Come find out more.

WORKDAY: We will meet at **10:00 on Thursday, May 29** to work on materials and decorations for Vacation Bible School. It's going to be BIG! All hands are welcome for this workday.

Almond Oatmeal Lace Cookies

(From Beth Woods)

1 Tablespoon plain flour

¼ teaspoon baking powder

½ teaspoon salt

¼ teaspoon cinnamon

1 cup of old-fashioned (not instant) oatmeal

1 cup thinly sliced almonds (about 3-4 oz)

Combine above ingredients and set aside.

*

1 stick of melted butter

¾ cup of sugar

Mix together and set aside.

1 egg (beaten)

1 teaspoon of vanilla extract

Mix well



Pour wet ingredients into dry ingredients. Stir all together by hand until the dough is wet. (It will look runny.) Drop small spoonful's onto parchment paper lined cookie sheet. Gently spread the dough out using a circular motion. Be careful... an uncooked 2-inch spot of dough will spread to 4-6 inches! So, use small amounts and don't place close together.

Bake at 325 degrees for 12-15 minutes. Watch them and remove when the edges are golden and the centers are semi-translucent. Let cool on the pan. Makes approximately 2 dozen.

**You can add chia/flax/hemp seed mix and coconut for variety and a bit of nutrition. You can substitute gluten-free flour with no problems. And you can substitute up to half of the butter with coconut oil to make it a bit healthier.*

This recipe originally came from Gayle Price, a wonderfully sweet lady from Tabernacle Methodist Church in Greensboro. She brought them to almost every covered dish meal and she shared the recipe freely!

NEW MEMBERS JOINED

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2025



Pictured right to left:
Jason Shoup, Alisha Shoup,
Gavin Shoup and Jadyn Shoup

1409 5th Street Circle NE
Conover, NC 28613
(828) 381-1174 - Jason
(828) 308-8447 - Alisha
Jason's Email: jsgodson@yahoo.com
Alisha's Email:
ashoup3712@yahoo.com

Pictured below left to right:
Becky & Scott Ross

4297 Dry Pond Lane
Conover, NC 28613
(828) 308-8728 - Scott
(828) 308-8726 - Becky
Scott's Email:
scottross2000@gmail.com
Becky's Email:
beckyross2000@gmail.com

Pictured below right to left:
Welby, Avril, Samina, Abella,
Ashley & Adam Barnabas

219 3rd Ave NE
Conover, NC 28613
(828) 851-6116 - Welby
(828) 816-1517 - Samina
Email: welby.jonathan@gmail.com

