



# First Methodist Church OF CONOVER

The Weekly Newsletter of First Methodist Church Conover

October 8, 2024

## HURRICANE HELENE RELIEF

The images are horrific and the loss is catastrophic. Of North Carolina's 44 westernmost counties, **22 were directly impacted by Hurricane Helene**. As we continue to hear about the immense devastation caused by Hurricane Helene, I am overwhelmed not only by the damage and deaths, but also by the caring response of so many people — especially faithful Global Methodists across North Carolina. Paul Dunham (our NC GMC Disaster Response Coordinator), along with our conference, have been working hard to check in with affected community leaders, clergy, and disaster response teams.

The NC GMC organized swiftly after Helene devastated the western part of NC. **Many churches are serving as collection hubs for donated supplies**. From there, the supplies are being distributed to local communities, neighboring churches, local fire departments, and other partnering organizations.

Please prayerfully consider the list of ways you can help. I know that our Global Methodist family will continue to show up in abundance to help those whose lives and livelihoods have been impacted by this storm. Thank you for your generosity and support.

### How you can help:

**Pray** for those impacted by Hurricane Helene.

Participate in the **Special Offering** we will have **next Sunday, October 13th** or **donate directly using the QR code below**.

**Collect** needed items (we are gathering supplies here at the church):

### We are collecting all kinds of supplies, however, the most pressing needs are:

- First aid supplies, including over-the-counter medications (i.e. Tylenol, Benedryl), triple antibiotic ointment, any antihistamines, antifungal creams, and antiseptics
- Food or gas gift cards
- Paper products (plates, napkins, cups)
- Socks
- Non-perishable food
- Ensure supplemental drinks
- Manual can openers
- Diapers (adult and baby)
- Baby formula



*Pastor John*

# \*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:*

Keith & Tommie Hall, Mark & Rachel Hamilton,  
Ronnie & Jean Hampton, Kevin & Susan Haney,  
Sylvia Hansmann, Bill, Jenny & Michael Harris.

## **RESIDENTS GOING TO HERITAGE CARE**

We are collecting items for 23 long-term care residents who had to be evacuated from their facility in Sugar Mountain and taken to Heritage Care of Conover. Their facility was flooded and we are not sure how long it will take to repair the damage. The residents were only able to take five articles of clothing with them.

Below is a list of items people can donate:

Snacks

Personal care items-toothbrushes, hair brushes,  
toothpaste, shampoo, body wash, deodorant, etc.

Depends or other adult pull ups

Bottled water

Blankets

Coats (various adult sizes)

Socks

Flavor packets for water

Toboggans

Chap stick

Clothing (various adult sizes) All of the residents need clothes. They will make use of any sizes donated.

Please call me with any questions at (828)312-0740.  
My email is [matthews1100@charter.net](mailto:matthews1100@charter.net).

Kelly Matthews

## **Greeters for October 13**

8:25-8:45 – Jeannie Abernathy & Susan Long

10:40-11 – Joe & Tamara Hite, Jackie Lowdermilk &  
Gaye Hoke

Anyone who wishes to be a greeter, call  
Harold Thornburg at (828) 312-1953 - cell;  
(828) 464-6826.



## **IN/OUT OF HOSPITAL**

Ginny Ward at CVMC (At home)

## **MEMORIAL**

### **Music Fund**

In memory of Mary Rudisill by:  
Jimmy & Cindy Clark

## **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.

## **SAMARITAN'S PURSE SHOEBOXES**

Time to start preparing for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes!! Collection date will be about 5 weeks from now! Boxes are needed to be folded. If you would like to help with this, you may take some of the boxes in the CFLC, and return them folded. Boxes to fill will be available Sunday, October 20 in the narthex, upstairs Sunday School hallway, and the CFLC. What a wonderful outreach to families who may not know Jesus!!



# NEWS TO USE

## ASHURE NEWS

The Ashure Ministry food **request for October** is **hygiene items**. 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.

Ashure Ministry's Annual "Share the Harvest" Banquet is October 19, at Hickory Metro Center. Music is by The Extraordinaires and the meal is prepared by Iazzo's.

Tickets are \$40 and MAY BE PURCHASED FROM ANITA DEAL.



## CATAWBA COUNTY HUNGER WALK

**ATTENTION HUNGER WALK WALKERS:**  
Sunday is our walk!!

Please be in downtown Newton **by 2:30pm**. Walk starts at 3:00pm but I must turn in number of walkers from our church before 3:00pm. You may register or donate money that day. Look for the table for First Methodist Church Conover to let me know you are there.

Also, I will have t-shirts Sunday morning for those who registered by September 15. If I do not see you at church or Sunday School, I will have your shirt at the walk. Looking forward to seeing you!!

Anita Deal

## ATTENTION GOODTIMERS!

Because of all the damage in Western North Carolina, we are postponing our day trip this month. Please continue to read the Newsletter for details about our luncheon in November.

Eddie Warren



## PASTOR'S QUIZ

The "prince of the power of the air" is

- a. beneficent
- b. indifferent
- c. malign
- d. capricious

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

## **STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

**By Our Presence October 6, 2024**

Sunday School:  
107

Worship:  
8:45am Service 129  
11:00am Service 137  
Total 266

### **God's Tithe & Our Gifts**

General Fund	\$	31,062.00
<i>(Needed weekly for budget: \$12,804)</i>		
Children's Bank		160.00
Music Fund		<u>50.00</u>
Total	\$	32,277.00

## **HANDBELL REHEARSAL!**

Handbells will resume practice on Monday, October 14th at 6pm in the handbell room, just behind the Sanctuary.

Are you interested in joining? Try it out! You don't have to read music, just know your two favorite colors, your left from your right, and how to count to 4! You'll do great and we'd love to have you!

Contact Shannon Rogers at 828.244.6124 or [srog101@gmail.com](mailto:srog101@gmail.com)



First Methodist Church  
410 First Avenue North  
Conover, NC 28613  
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**2024 FLOWER CHART**

We still have some open dates on the flower chart in October, November & December.

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



Answer to this week's Pastor's Quiz:  
c. malign  
(Ephesians 2:2)

**CHURCH STAFF**

Pastor	Rev. John Woods pastor@fmconover.org (828) 464-4635 (336) 480-4550 - cell 208 2nd St 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



## STILL MORE NEWS TO USE



**Sunday School Weekly or fill-in** – We need a few more teachers and assistants in our children & youth Sunday School department. Specifically, we need another teacher/leader for the 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade class and a second person/assistant for the youth (6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade) class. (See Beth Woods.)

**Youth counselors** – our youth group is small but growing! And they are a lot of fun to hang out with. We need several more adults who are willing to give a bit of yourself and your wisdom and to be present for youth meetings. I promise you'll get blessed in return! (See Beth Woods.)

**Shut-in Visitation** - Wednesday, Oct 9, noon – join us right after the Chosen Bible Study for lunch and a special project for our shut-ins. We will go in teams to visit and deliver a treat to each of our home-bound or nursing home members. See Susan Hunsucker or Beth Woods for more details.

**Workday** -- Thursday, Oct 10, 10 am – we will be painting several hundred wooden crosses that will be given away at Harvest Festival. All materials, brushes, and paint will be provided. Just wear clothes that can get messy and plan to have a good time! At this time, we will also have materials for assembling visitor bags and Harvest Festival goodie bags.

**Directory Help** – We need photographers before early service and after late service on October 13, 20, 27, and November 3. We will also be taking pictures from 9 am – 7 pm on Wednesday, October 16 and **Friday, October 18.**

**Coming soon: Increased focus on prayer ministry.** This will be kicked-off with a 30-day study on prayer, followed by some new ways to engage in this vital ministry. Watch here for more details!



Sun, Oct 13: Catawba County Hunger Walk – Meet in downtown Newton at 2:00

Sun, Oct 20: 5:00-7:00 meet at church to help prepare for Harvest Festival (Dinner provided)

Sat, Oct 26: all day! Volunteer at Harvest Festival – set-up in the morning, run game 2-5, clean-up afterwards (Come for as much as you can!)

Sun, Nov 3: 5:00-7:00 Regular meeting with dinner – youth room

## EVEN MORE NEWS TO USE



# living loved

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

SAT. OCT 19

10AM-2PM

**Date:** Saturday, October 19

**Location:** First Methodist Church, Conover

**Time:** 10am – 2pm

**Cost:** Free

**Lunch** will be provided by Liazzo's Catering

Ladies of all ages are invited to attend a **free** women's conference, "Living Loved," at First Methodist Church in Conover. Enjoy fellowship, worship, food and free giveaways as we explore how to live loved in an un-loving world.

Our guest speakers, **Terri Broome** and **Sarah Deible**, will share insights and inspiration to help you embrace a life filled with love and purpose.

We hope you'll join us for this special day of connection, learning, and encouragement! Seating is limited.

**Please RSVP by October 12 to reserve your spot.** Register online at [cross-kingdom.org](http://cross-kingdom.org). See Beth Woods if you have trouble registering online.

## New Church Directory Coming Soon!

We are updating our church directory so that everyone can have accurate contact information for our church family. Here's what you need to know:

We need to confirm contact information for everyone. **You do not have to be an official member of First Methodist Church to be included in this directory!** Even if you've just been coming a few weeks, we invite you to be included.

A form for contact information has been mailed. If you didn't get it, you can access it on our website: [www.fmconover.org](http://www.fmconover.org). Scroll down to the button:

CONTACT INFORMATION FORM FOR DIRECTORY

The form will also be available in the church office.



We need current photographs for everyone. You may submit a photograph or have one taken by us.

We will be taking pictures on the front porch of the sanctuary (weather permitting) before early service and after late service on October 13, 20, 27, and November 3. We will also be taking pictures from 9 am – 7 pm on Wednesday, October 16 and **Friday, October 18.** (NOTE: This is a change in previously published schedule.) **Just show up any of these times.** We will add more dates if needed.

We need several people willing to take photos and enter data into a computer. You can sign up to help on Sign-up Genius (search for Beth's' email: [woods777@aol.com](mailto:woods777@aol.com)) or directly with Beth.

# HARVEST FESTIVAL

SAT, OCT 26 2-5 PM

Please let one of the area coordinators listed below know where you would like to serve.

This year's Harvest Festival for Jesus will be October 26 from 2-5. We will open our grounds for an afternoon of games, prizes, and sharing of our faith. An event of this magnitude needs a lot of workers, and we still have a place for YOU! Here's a list of SOME of our needs:

- volunteers to help for as little as 30 minutes, up to 3 hours helping children safely get on and off inflatable slides and bounce houses (CONTACT ANITA DEAL: 828-320-3194)
- volunteers to help children safely get on and off hayride wagons and volunteers to ride on the hayrides to help maintain safety (CONTACT LOIS GOODSON: 828-465-2005)
- groups or individuals to run a carnival game-type booth (we have resources to help you plan this!) and give away smiles, prizes, and a moment of God's love (CONTACT SUSAN HUNSUCKER: 828-612-4319)
- groups or individuals to assist children with crafts and to paint faces or hands (CONTACT BETH WOODS: 336-480-4551)
- golf carts or similar vehicles that we can borrow to help with set-up and clean-up and shuttling visitors from distant parking (CONTACT ANTHONY PRICE: 828-228-6467)
- music... do you know of a performer or group that would be willing to provide live music for 30 minutes – an hour? (CONTACT ANTHONY PRICE: 828-228-6467)
- volunteers to prepare and serve food (CONTACT RALPH HATCH: 910-340-2039)
- volunteers to give Bibles and pray with visitors (CONTACT BETH WOODS: 336-480-4551)
- Volunteers to monitor antique cars on display, or serve as floaters to help other workers (CONTACT BETH WOODS: 336-480-4551)
- items (think yard sale...) to give away (CONTACT KEN JOHNSON: 828-244-4759)
- volunteers to paint wooden crosses to be given away (In the CFLC on Oct 10 at 10 am!)
- candy and other prizes to be given away (Orange bins are in narthex & commons area.)
- anyone willing to hang a poster in a public location (Pick them up from Beth's door)
- PRAYERS FOR ALL WHO ARE INVOLVED AND ALL WHO WILL ATTEND!

Wednesday, Oct 23, Thursday, Oct 24, Friday Oct 25 and Saturday morning, Oct 26: Help set up boundary fences to keep children safely out of the road, set up tables, chairs, platforms, signs, and other infrastructure.

After the close of the festival:

- Take-down, Clean-up and Store-away EVERYTHING. Many hands make light work. Please plan to help if you can!

Thank you! Beth Woods (email: [woods777@aol.com](mailto:woods777@aol.com) or call/text: (336) 480-4551.)

# **“Murder at the Mall-Mart”**

**Please join us for a night of excitement at our annual murder mystery fundraiser dinner, “Murder at the Mall-Mart.” The Methodist Men are cooking the food again so you know it will be delicious!**

**We only have 175 tickets, so get yours before we sell out. To purchase tickets, use a colored envelope that will be available in the Narthex. Please write your name, how many tickets you wish to purchase and your guests’ names if you know who will be attending. Include your payment (cash or check made out to “The Nest”) and place completed envelopes in the offering plate or return to Dana Little (828-320-9904).**

**When: Saturday, November 2**

**Time: 5 PM**

**Where: Connor Family Life Center**

**Ticket Cost: \$20 adults and \$10 children 10 and under**

**Proceeds donated to “Carolina Caring’s Grief and Healing Center”**





## 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 - Terra Bella Newton (Room A5&6)  
1088 Radio Station Road, Newton, NC 28658  
(704) 460-4919 - Ron's cell phone  
noghost@bellsouth.net - email address



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

Nell Johnson - Kingston Residence  
904 2nd Street NE, Apt. 109, Hickory, NC 28601  
(828) 328-9962 - landline (828) 228-7396 - cell

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 Living at Rock Barn (Room 107)  
PO Box 1599, Conover, NC 28613  
(828) 381-4988 - Rick's cell (828) 381-7328 - Linda's cell

Mary Ann Simpson - Abernethy Laurels (Room 138)  
102 Leonard Avenue, Newton, NC 28658

Sybil Windsor - TerraBella Newton (Room C13)  
1088 Radio Station Road, Newton, NC 28658



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

Dolores Setzer - PO Box 1237, Conover, NC 28613  
(828) 256-1421

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