



First Methodist Church OF CONOVER

The Weekly Newsletter of First Methodist Church Conover

August 19, 2025

WHISPERS IN THE WOODS — GOOD PRAYERS

A number of years ago, one of our friend's daughters had a "going-off-to-college" shower/send-off. During part of this party (which, amazingly, included a short time of prayer and devotion from the Bible), this new college student handed out a list of prayer requests she was asking for as she began this new step in her life.

I'd like to share this prayer list with you and urge you to use it in praying for all of our FMC college students as they begin classes this week.

- ① To develop a good relationship with my roommate
- ② To make new friends who are Christians
- ③ Find a good church that will strengthen her faith
- ④ Safe travel to and from campus
- ⑤ Make personal devotions a priority
- ⑥ Work hard at classes
- ⑦ To have good, helpful professors
- ⑧ To be able to avoid bad influences on campus
- ⑨ To obtain a good work-study job



Statistically, these college-age years are overwhelmingly the most critical time in a young person's life. More life-changing, life-trajectory decisions are made then than at any other time: one's initial and perhaps life-long profession, personal habits and worldview as an adult, and frequently, life-partners.

Let's pray for all of our college students, particularly that God would grant His wisdom and protective grace to them. It's not just the "little children" who are precious in His sight.

With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of His calling, and that by His power He may fulfill every good purpose of yours and every act prompted by your faith. We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. — 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

Grace and Peace!

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:

Nancy Clarke, Bruce & Michelle Cloninger,
Finley & Carole Cloninger, Eric, Kim & Michael Connor,
Brooke Connor, Jean Connor, Fred & Ann Cook.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

August 24

8:45am - Beverly Swithenbank
11:00am - Cindy Clark

August 31

8:45am - Susan Hunsucker
11:00am - Kim Reed

September 7

8:45am - Leah Workman
11:00am - Tracy Workman

We need volunteers. If you are available to volunteer, please contact Beth via email at woods777@aol.com or call her at (336) 480-4551.

A NOTE OF SYMPATHY

Anthony "Tony" Dean Rowe, age 69 of Conover and a member of First Methodist Church Conover died August 6, 2025 at Little River, SC.

Tony is the son of the late Edward Rowe and Josephine Kerley Rowe. He is the brother of Rocky Rowe and the cousin of Anita Huffman, member of FMCC.

A service was held to honor Tony on Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at 2:00pm in the Chapel of Burke Mortuary in Newton.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sheila, Tony's wife, Rocky, Anita and the whole family during this sad time.

IN/OUT OF HOSPITAL

Nancy Clarke at CVMC

Greeters for August 24

8:45am - Angela & Ryan Garrison
11:00am - Jayne Davis

August 31

8:45am - Ruth Brown
11:00am - Diane & Randy Howard

September 7

8:45am - Pat & Alice Woods
11:00am - Linda Dooley

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



THANK YOU

Dear Church Family,

I just wanted to send out a huge thank you to everyone for the prayers, calls, texts, and cards that I received this past month and with the loss of my mom. My mom was an amazing woman, but I know she is looking down on me.

Love in Christ,
Christine Osborne and family

MEMORIAL Music Fund

In memory of Gilda Pennell by:
Charles & Lucy Rockett

Pastor's Discretionary Fund

In memory of Charles Reed by:
Methodist Men of FMCC



NEWS TO USE

The Ashure Ministry food request for **August** will be **canned food**. 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.

Thank you,
Anita Deal



HUNGER WALK

Catawba County Hunger Walk is October 5, 2025. First Methodist Church Conover has a team once again. It would be great if you would join our team of walkers and/or be a supporter. Proceeds from the walk are divided equally between Hickory Soup Kitchen, The Corner Table, and Ashure Ministry. This is an amazing way to raise funds for these organizations and raise awareness of hunger in our County. You may register for the walk until the day of the walk, but, if you would like a 2025 Hunger Walk t-shirt, you must register by Sept 7. Register online at cchungerwalk.com, or see Anita Deal for a registration form.

Thank you for your support in the past!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES

Yes, it will be Shoebox time soon! Right now with school supplies in many stores and summer toys reduced, it is a good time to start purchasing items for the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. This year, soap is not allowed in the boxes. All else remains the same as last year.

Happy shopping!!



STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence August 17, 2025

Sunday School:
129

Worship:

8:45am Service -	156
11:00am Service -	153
Total	309

God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund	\$	10,434.79
<i>(Needed weekly for budget: \$15,258)</i>		
Children's Bank		18.10
Kenya Mission Trip		300.00
Music Fund		25.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund		250.00
Youth Fund (Youth Camp)		100.00
Total		11,127.89

BACK PACK PROGRAM (CORNER TABLE)

The Corner Table is asking for volunteers on the 1st Wednesday of each month from 10am-11am beginning in September until June to help pack grocery bags with 7 to 8 items so school children otherwise would not have something to eat on the weekends. The address is 1925 Tate Blvd, Hickory, NC 28602.

The packed bags will be for school children who will have something to eat when not in school. There are **1600 bags** (not 160 as listed in the Newsletter last week) distributed weekly to all the schools in Catawba County.

It is not hard work, just walking in a long loop, placing canned or boxed food items in a plastic grocery bag, tying a knot in the bag and placing the bag in a large bin.

We would like to get at least 10 volunteers who could help with this ministry once a month to help feed these kids who may go hungry otherwise.

Thank you, Kevin & Nancy Boggs
(828) 381-9105



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

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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.

Several silk arrangements are available for you to use if you wish to make a donation in lieu of flowers. A flower fund was set up by the Harold Thornburg family in memory of Ruthie. Please call the church office if you wish to do so.

Thank you.



CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. John Woods pastor@fmccconover.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@fmccconover.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@fmccconover.org
Lead Nursery Worker	Pilar Tobar
Custodian	Luisa Toro Bryan
Church Office	(828) 464-4635
Website:	www.fmccconover.org

New Fall Bible Study lead by Pastor John

The CHOSEN

L A S T S U P P E R

The Chosen — The Last Supper (Season 5)

Tuesdays, 7:00-8:15pm and Wednesdays, 10:30-11:45am

Beginning September 16/17

Call the church office to sign up!

The Chosen is back for Holy Week, the most pivotal event in human history. Tables are turned. Friends are betrayed. And powerful leaders plot the death of Jesus.

From triumph to betrayal: Jesus enters Jerusalem acclaimed as king and confronts corrupt temple merchants. While religious leaders plot against His growing influence, Jesus shares a final meal with His disciples. In the shadows, Judas' treachery sets in motion events that would transform history. This tale of sacrifice becomes humanity's most profound story. Plan to join us for what promises to be a powerful study.

A FEW Q&A's

① *Do I have to have been part of the other "The Chosen" studies to be part of this one?*

No. While being caught up on previous seasons will help with knowing some of the characters in the story, you don't need to have watched anything previous to gain something from this study.

② *I have a doctor's appointment one of those days. Can I come to the other class that week?*

Absolutely! A number of folks in previous studies have needed to swap classes from time to time. You're welcome to come to either class, any time.

③ *I have a friend who doesn't come to our church. Can she come and be in this study too?*

Definitely! Anyone who would like to be a part of this is more than welcome to come. We have had several folks who have come from other churches to be a part of our Bible Studies. Having them with us will be a joy and a blessing.

Statewide GMC Laity Convocation to be hosted by First Methodist



“Tender Hearts, Strong Faith: The Ephesians 4:32 Experience”

Saturday, Sept 6, 9-3

**Come join us to be inspired in your area of
service and ministry!**

The Lay Ministry Team of the NC Global Methodist Church has planned this event for all laity and clergy (that's everybody!) to come together for inspiration, connection, and practical help for being in ministry together. Our church is hosting this convocation, but it is open to all (members or not...), so invite a friend!

Come together for a transformative time of fellowship, worship, and learning as we explore what it means to live more fully into our Global Methodist identity of Holy Love in all our ministries. This is your invitation to be renewed, equipped, and united in our calling to embody Christ's Holy Love in every aspect of ministry and life.

Lunch is also provided.

Register by calling the church office or Beth Woods. Register online on the NC Global Methodist Church Annual Conference Facebook page.

Service Opportunities

We will be setting up tables and chairs
for the Laity Convocation and the
African Children's Choir on
Friday, Sept 5 at 10 am.

We need 3-4 people to help set up and
serve lunch on Sat, Sept 6 (11:30 - 1:00).

**Good
timers**

SAVE THE DATE

**Lunch at church
Thursday
Sept 18**

**Good
timers***

**Wednesday
August 20**



**10:45am - Morning Worship / Senior's Day
at Balls Creek Campground
2090 Buffalo Shoals Road
Dr. Ray Rummage -
First Methodist Church, Maiden, NC**

Lunch on the grounds after this service; bring a covered dish to share. Cups, plates, utensils, ice water and drinks will be provided by the Campground. (We will take a cooler with ice from the church to keep food cool.) Seating is in pews or you may bring chairs.

Come join us -- rain or shine!

Meet at church to carpool at 10:15
or at the Campground by 10:30.
Parking around Arbor or on
Buffalo Shoals Road.

* Goodtimers is for retirees or anyone available during the day!

HARVEST FESTIVAL PLANNING MEETING

PLEASE COME HELP US MAKE PLANS!

SUN, AUG. 24  **2 PM**

CROSSROADS CLASSROOM

**JOIN US FOR A
TIME OF PRAYER**



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

Heartfelt meets weekly for about 45 minutes to pray for our church, specific needs, and our world! If you have a prayer request or would like to share in the blessing of this ministry, please join us or contact Tommi Anderson (828) 238-5717.

If you cannot join us on Tuesday evening, feel free to come by the church and pick up a weekly prayer list (left in the Parlor each week) and pray at a time that works for you. Also, feel free to leave prayer requests in the Parlor or on the Altar in the Sanctuary.

Methodist Men

Dinner and Fellowship



Thursday, June 19 - 6:30



**Canceled
for
Aug 23**

Kick-Off Party



Cubbies
3 - 5 Year Olds

Sparks
Grades K - 2nd

Truth & Training
Grades 3 - 5

Youth
Grades 6 - 12
will also meet
during this time

Sunday, August 24
5:00 – 6:30

Each night
consists of
Bible Study,
Games &
Snacks

All are invited to
kick-off the start
of **AWANA**
for the Fall

**Because Kids
Matter
to God**



TEACHERS & STUDENTS:
Bring your backpacks to
church Aug 24 for a blessing!