



First Methodist Church

OF CONOVER

The Weekly Newsletter of First Methodist Church Conover

June 24, 2025

WHISPERS IN THE WOODS — NEW WOOD

When the great poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow was well along in years, his head as white as snow and his eyesight beginning to fade, an admirer came and asked him how it was that he was able to keep so vigorous and write so beautifully – even in his old age.

Pointing to a blooming apple tree nearby, he replied:

"That apple tree is very old, but I never saw prettier blossoms upon it than those it now bears. The tree grows a little new wood every year, and I suppose it is out of that new wood that those blossoms come. Like the apple tree, I try to grow a little new wood every year."

As Christians, we want to nurture our spiritual life in Christ so that it continues to grow consistently and refuses to be idle or stagnate. We can continue our growth as God's children in several ways: by searching and studying His Word, taking time for regular prayer and meditation, worship, and Christian conversation.

We want our lives to bear fruit for Jesus. We want a life that is strong and will be vital and dynamic, whether we're new to the faith or have been a disciple for decades.



Psalm 1:1-3 tells us ***"Blessed is the man [or woman] who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on His law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers."***

I've been thinking about this psalm as we are getting ready for a summer exploring the Psalms. (In fact, Psalm 1 is the topic of this coming Sunday's sermon.) As you'll see from this newsletter, there are a lot of opportunities for you to grow your faith. I hope you'll take advantage of some of the opportunities to grow your faith this summer.

Today, let's make a personal commitment to growing new wood and blossoming into the children of God that we have been created to be.

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:

Hollie Williamson, Dan & Karen Windham,
Wayne & Sybil Windsor, Jim Wofford,
John, Beth & Hannah Woods, Sandra Woods.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

June 29

8:45am - Beverly Swithenbank
11:00am - Diane Howard

July 6

8:45am - LaRue Black
11:00am - Cindy Clark

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



IN/OUT OF HOSPITAL

None

Greeters for June 29

8:45am - Robin Little
11:00am - Brenda Davis

July 6

8:45am - Brenda Heafner
11:00am - Sylvia Hansmann

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

NEW ADDRESS

Elaine Biles, a church member who lived in Indian Land, SC with one of her sons has moved to be closer to her other son, Jim. She is in a nursing facility but would like her mail sent to Jim's address below:

Elaine Biles
c/o Jim Biles
1140 S. Michigan Ave.
Greensburg, IN 47240



Bible Quiz



For years, King David showed special kindness to the son of King Saul's son Jonathan, because David and Jonathan had been dear friends. Which of the following statements is not accurate?

- A. The name of King Saul's grandson was Mephibosheth.
- B. He was lame in both feet.
- C. His feet had been injured when he was 5.
- D. He was injured while playing with his brothers.



The correct answer is located on the back of the Newsletter.

NEWS TO USE



The Ashure Ministry food request 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.

Thank you,
Anita Deal

VBS Preparation Days:

July 8 at 3 pm Last batch of cutting and collating for VBS. (All hands welcome! Some of this can be done at home in advance. Stop by Beth's office after July 2 to pick up materials.)

July 10 at 9:30 am All hands-on deck to finish assembling pieces of crafts and decorations.

July 12 from 3-5 pm Set up and decorate the CFLC.

July 13 - first day of VBS Volunteers please arrive by 4:00 to get everything in place.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence June 22, 2025

Sunday School:
112

Worship:
8:45am Service - 128
11:00am Service - 142
Total 270

God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund	\$ 12,156.00
(Needed weekly for budget: \$15,258)	
Children's Bank	127.00
Kenya Mission Trip	<u>1,605.00</u>
Total	\$ 13,888.00

BIRTHDAYS / ANNIVERSARIES

Please remember your July birthdays and July wedding anniversaries **Sunday, July 6th** by bringing your offering to the altar. Please give \$.10 for every year old and \$.25 for every year married. This is to help the children's church bank.



Red, White and Blue Surprises

Would you join us in welcoming summer with some special cards or surprises for our nursing home and homebound members? Bags are placed in the commons area for you to share your love and care with the 12 members listed in the newsletter. **Deadline will be June 29.**

Then on July 1st, you are invited to go with a group to visit and deliver the bags. As a special treat, some of you might want to make some special red, white or blue goodies to take to each person. (Can't wait to see how many different things you come up with!) . Package each treat individually to make sharing them easier. You would only need to bring 12 individual treats and meet in the commons area on July 1st at 1:00 to spread some summer cheer!

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 was injured while playing with his brothers.
(2 Samuel 4:4, 9:1-7, 21:7)

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

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

Elaine Biles - In a nursing facility in Indiana.
Send mail to her son, Jim at:
1140 S. Michigan Ave.
Greensburg, IN 47240

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)

Fundraisers for Kenya Mission Trip

- **THANK YOU** for supporting the hamburger lunch!
- **Rada Cutlery catalog sales due this week.**



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 Cathiryn 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.

We have several efforts to raise support for this exciting time of ministry. From now through June 27, we are taking orders for Rada Cutlery. 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!

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, our mission committee 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

Vacation Bible School

Age 3 - just completed 5th grade

5:30-7:30

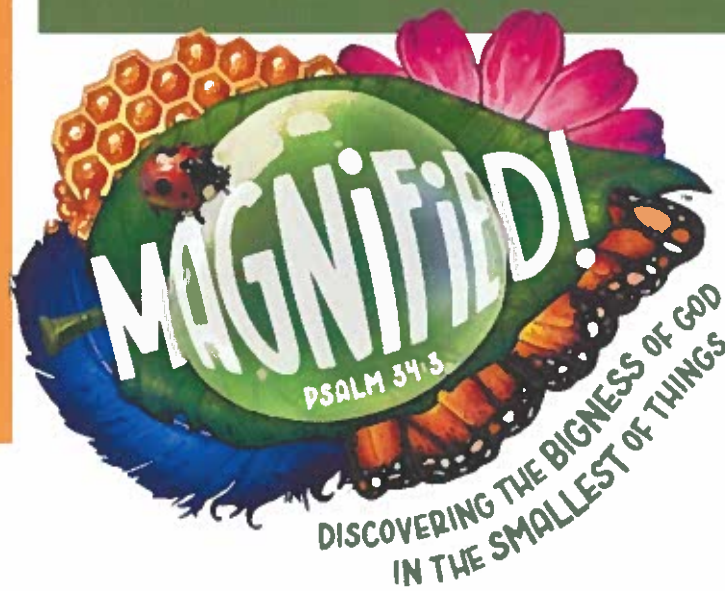
July 13, 20, 21, 22
at First Methodist
Church of Conover
(dinner included)

10am - noon

August 9 at
Conover City Park
(bring bathing suits and
towels for splashpad!)

REGISTER NOW!

(use QR code or
clickable link on
Facebook or website:
www.fmccconover.org)



SPECIAL MORNING SESSIONS FOR ADULTS

July 15 & 16

10:00 am

lunch provided

RSVP to Beth Woods

336-480-4551 or
woods777@aol.com




First Methodist Church
OF CONOVER

OF CONNOVI

John Woods: 336-480-4550
Jason Shoup: 828-381-1174
Beth Woods: 336-480-4551

Office: 828-464-4635
office@fmconover.org
www.fmconover.org
On Facebook & YouTube



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 1:00 Visitation team deliver "goodie bags" 6:30 Heartfelt Prayer	2 10:30 Sisters in Christ 12:30 Hand & Foot 7:00 Choir practice	3 NO Lucado Study 6:30 Hand & Foot	4  6:30 Dominoes	5 3:00 VBS set-up 5:00 Fellowship meal
6 8:45 Worship 10:00 S.School 11:00 Worship	7 9:00 volunteer day at Ashure Ministry	8 3:00 VBS workday 6:30 Heartfelt Prayer	9 12:30 Hand & Foot 1:00 Queen Esther Circle 7:00 Choir practice	10 9:30 VBS workday 12:30 Lucado Study	11 6:30 Dominoes	12 3:00 VBS set-up 5:00 Fellowship meal
13 8:45 Worship 10:00 S.School 11:00 Worship 4:00 VBS volunteers VBS 5:30	14 VBS 5:30	15 Adult VBS 10:00 6:30 Heartfelt Prayer	16 Adult VBS 10:00 12:30 Hand & Foot 7:00 Choir practice	17 10:00 Christian Yoga 12:30 Lucado Study 6:30 Methodist Men Dinner 6:30 Hand & Foot	18 6:30 Dominoes	19 5:30 Neighbor's Table
20 8:45 Worship 10:00 S.School 11:00 Worship 4:00 Youth & parent meeting VBS 5:30	21 VBS 5:30	22 VBS 5:30 6:30 Heartfelt Prayer	23 12:30 Hand & Foot 7:00 Choir practice	24 12:30 Lucado Study 6:30 Hand & Foot	25 6:30 Dominoes	26 4:30 Youth meet at church for Crawlads game - open to everyone all ages!
27 8:45 Worship 10:00 S.School 11:00 Worship	28 VBS 5:30	29 6:30 Heartfelt Prayer	30 12:30 Hand & Foot 7:00 Choir practice	31 6:30 Hand & Foot		

We have Sunday School classes for all ages.
Hand & Foot is a card game; all are welcome to come play!
Queen Esther is a women's group with a monthly program.
Goodtimers is for retirees or anyone who is free during the day.

NOTES

We have Sunday School classes for all ages.
Hand & Foot is a card game; all are welcome to come play!
Queen Esther is a women's group with a monthly program.
Goodtimers is for retirees or anyone who is free during the daytime.
Neighbor's Table is a monthly meal for anyone in need.



July

BIRTHDAYS

1	Armando Lagunas Brenda Novotny Hannah Woods	12	Jason Shoup Joy Watts Kent Walker Kim Little	23	Marsha Williams Rona Reed
2	Cole Hendren	15	Keith Hall Mack Hunsucker	25	Justin Hendren
4	Ginny Ward	16	Brenda Putnam Michele Danner	26	Samantha Hawn Sandy Loftin
5	Dana Little Susan Sigmon	17	Eli Matson Patsy Isaac	28	Peggy Rudisill
6	Mary Ann Simpson	18	Mark Hamilton	29	Kaela Briggs Margaret Garrison
8	Jessie Ross	19	Andrew Thompson, Sr Margaret Putzer	30	Saylor Spencer
9	Welby Barnabas	21	Beverly Swithenbank Kim Hentschel Mack Putzer McKenzie Becker		
10	Billy Boston Karen Windham				
11	Jeanne Laws Zoey Boston				



ANNIVERSARIES

1	Daniel and Karen Windham
8	JC and Luisa Bryan
17	Debbie and Randy Bernhardt Taylor and Fara Dellinger
19	Lee Jr. and Michele Moritz David and Tracy Workman
28	Charlie and Tommi Anderson
30	David and Brenda Putnam
31	Donna and John Mull

**NEWEST MEMBERS OF FMCC
SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 2025
AT THE 11:00AM SERVICE**



Cindy & Ed Surrett
158 Ridge Point Drive
Stony Point, NC 28678

(336) 391-8131 - Cindy's cell
(828) 298-5426 - Ed's cell
Cindy's email: ctsurrett@gmail.com
Ed's email: samored@gmail.com