



First Methodist Church OF CONOVER

The Weekly Newsletter of First Methodist Church Conover

February 20, 2024

HELLO
MY NAME IS

Oops! I forgot my nametag! (Is that familiar??)

It's easy to do! And I promise, a nametag is not a requirement for entry to our sanctuary! But I would like to share a few of the reasons why we like nametags and the benefits they provide.

1. **Most of us don't know everybody's names!** As our church continues to grow, this truth becomes even more relevant. We want to be a fellowship of friends, and the first step to that is learning names. Nametags help with that.
2. **Nametags invite conversations.** Knowing another person's name breaks down one barrier to allow conversations to begin. It's simply easier to talk to someone if you know their name. We encourage you to take conversations deeper when you can, but every friendship has to have a first conversation!
3. **Nametags save embarrassment.** We've probably all called someone by the wrong name, only to realize it later. While calling each other "brother" or "sister" sounds good (and is theologically on target), it's often a cover-up for "I'm sorry I don't know your name, and I'm embarrassed to ask." That's uncomfortable for both parties.
4. **Name tags foster a welcoming environment.** Simply knowing someone's name creates an instant connection. When you don't have to ask their name and you can introduce yourself without pressure, you will feel more confident and make more acquaintances. After all, a stranger is just a friend you haven't met yet.

So, now that we see the benefits, how can we help make this ministry more effective?

1. **If you can, find a convenient place to keep your nametag.** Some people keep it in their car. I keep mine in my purse. Do whatever works for you.
2. **Don't fret if you forget.** We believe in grace here! We will have a supply of blank nametags on hand in the narthex. Just make a new one.
3. **Let Robin (in the church office) know if you don't have a nametag or have lost yours!** Even if you haven't yet joined, you can have a nametag made. We want to know your name!
4. **Nametags will be available to visitors too!** This is an especially important step in helping all of us welcome visitors and make them feel comfortable.

Along the same lines, I'm still working on updating our church directory, so please let me know if your information is incorrect, incomplete, or totally missing!

Blessings,

Beth Woods

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:

Courtney Patterson, Ray Penley, Gilda Pennell,
Mark, Faith & Saryn Pennell, Steven & Janice Pitts,
Caroline Porter.

IN/OUT OF HOSPITAL

None

UPPER ROOMS

The Mar. / Apr. "Upper Room" devotional books are available for pick-up. They are located on the sofa table outside the Conference Room and upstairs by the water fountain. You can read the same daily devotional that is in the book each day by going online to this website:

<http://www.upperroom.org/devotional/>



EASTER BLESSINGS

Can you believe that in just six more weeks we will be celebrating Easter? We hope you will join us in spreading love and blessings to our homebound and nursing facility members.

Easter bags will be placed in the commons area with the names of our 11 recipients by Sunday. Please bring an Easter card and/or treat to add to each bag, either on Sunday mornings or during the week. The names are also listed in the Newsletter.

The deadline will be March 17th so that the bags can be delivered before Easter.

Thank you so much for your amazing support of this ministry.



MEMORIAL General Fund

In memory of Connie McCoy by:
John & Kathy Smith, Jon & Megan Klever & Family,
Michael & Kelly Smith



Volunteers Needed!



EASTER
4
CHILDREN

We will host our church and community children for a Holy Week experience on March 16. The children will walk through the events of the week before Jesus' death and resurrection. We need a lot of volunteers to help make this experience run smoothly.

March 16 -- 10 am

We need people to lead groups of children through the stations, tell a portion of the story, or lead a craft. Jo Ellen Knecht is coordinating the activities and will provide guidance for all the activities. We also need a crew to hide Easter eggs. We just need YOU to come share the love of Christ with our children! Please let Beth Woods know if you can help! (336) 480-4551 or woods777@aol.com

NEWS TO USE



Time to Register! Noah's Ark/ Creation Museum Trip

We have about 40 people interested in going on a bus trip to visit the Ark Encounter in Williamstown, Kentucky, and the Creation Museum in Petersburg, Kentucky. That means we will have a bus to ourselves. (And Finley Cloninger will be our driver, with Harold Roberson serving as "Assistant Trip Director!")

May 20-23, 2024... Price Per Person: Double room \$699; Triple room \$639; Quad room \$609; Single room \$889 You can choose who to room with.

By the way, the capacity of the bus is 46. We have almost that many on the "Interested" list. So, if you want to move from the "Interested" list to the "I'm Going!" list, you must fill out a registration form and return it to Burke Christian Tours or to Beth, with a \$200 deposit. Checks should be made out to Christian Tours. **There is also a credit card option if you call the tour office (800-476-3900).**

Information and Registration sheets are on Beth's door. If you would like them by email, please contact Beth Woods at 336-480-4551 or woods777@aol.com.

I (Beth) have visited the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter and can wholeheartedly recommend them. Both venues are expertly crafted and Biblically accurate and both will educate and encourage you. They are well worth the effort to visit!



PASTOR'S QUIZ

When you are invited to a marriage feast, said Jesus, go and sit in the lowest room (place) so that you may

- a. appear not covetous of the bride
- b. leave early without disturbing others
- c. allow the lowly to be seated above their expectations
- d. avoid the shame of being moved down and have a chance of being moved up

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

STEWARDSHIP REPORT **By Our Presence February 18, 2024**

Sunday School:
101

Worship:
8:45am Service 124
11:00am Service 130
254

God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund	\$ 13,209.00
<i>(Needed weekly for budget: \$12,804)</i>	
Children's Bank	<u>29.00</u>
Total	\$ 13,238.00



MARCH MADNESS AT ECCCM!!

Time for March Madness at ECCCM!! Not so much the basketball games, but a friendly competition in the form of a food drive. Please donate food OR money on behalf of your favorite college team. Each pound of food counts as 2 points, and each dollar counts as 3 points. The team with the most points wins the challenge.

FMCC is participating in this March Madness food drive. Team designated boxes will be located in the Narthex in which you may place your food from March 1 through April 10. **Monetary donations may be taken to ECCCM, mailed to ECCCM at P O Box 31, Newton, or given to Anita Deal. Checks should include your team choice and FMCC in the memo line.**

Thank you for your ongoing support of this ministry and our community.

The **February food request** is canned or boxed pasta, pasta sauce and macaroni. These items along with any grocery bags may be placed in the red bins in the hallway between the CFLC and Beth's office.

Thank you.



ECCCM
Eastern Catawba Cooperative Christian Ministry, Inc

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

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

2024 FLOWER CHART

The new 2024 Flower Chart has been posted in the hallway outside the church office.

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

ABC Florist - Newton

Newton-Conover Florist - Newton

Blooms Greenhouse - Conover



Answer to this week's Pastor's Quiz:

d. avoid the shame of being moved down and have a chance of being moved up
(Luke 14:7-11)

CHURCH STAFF

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

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

James Davis - Abernethy Laurels (Memory Care Center)

255 Geitner 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

Rick Parker - Catawba Valley Living at Rock Barn (Room 107)

4174 Shook Road, Claremont, NC 28610
(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



Dottie Aycock-Harris - 1449 Brookstone Drive, Hickory, NC 28602
(704) 460-4919 - Ron's cell phone
noghost@bellsouth.net - email address

John & Betsy Hemmings, 2537 Birdie Lane, Conover, NC 28613
(828) 459-9444

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.