



First Methodist Church

OF CONOVER

The Weekly Newsletter of First Methodist Church Conover

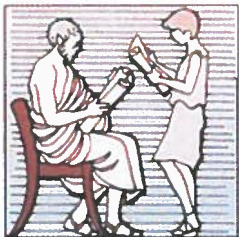
August 13, 2024

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.

We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting Him, He endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now He is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne. Think of all the hostility He endured from sinful people; then you won't become weary and give up.

—Hebrews 12:1-3

The main reason Jesus died on the cross was to save us from our sins, so that we might be reconciled to God. But the New Testament also teaches that Jesus' suffering was an important example to us as well.



The Greek word for example comes from school life in ancient times. It refers to something written down by the teacher so it could be copied exactly by a student learning to write. In the same way, Jesus is our "copybook." We look to Him as our teacher and we follow His example. We can learn how to handle adversity and suffering by looking at what He did.

All people everywhere will suffer at some point in their lives. How did Christ bear it? By not giving in to hopelessness or doubt or fear. By looking beyond it and seeing the joy that was to come. By knowing the Father was with Him and would use that suffering for good.

When we face difficulties, trials or suffering, we can remember to look to Jesus and follow His example. Hebrews 12:3 says. ***"Consider Him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart."***

I bet there's someone you might know who's going through a hard time right now...maybe even you. My prayer is that you will hear these words from the Bible and take them to heart. And if you know someone who's struggling, maybe you could point them to Jesus so they might find encouragement, resolve and hope!



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:

Jackie Cagle, Buck & Anne Calloway,
Michael & Laurie Cashion, Donna Chipley,
Cathy & Ellie Choppa, Jimmy & Cindy Clark.

NEW ADDRESSES

Elizabeth Hornick
101 W Markham Avenue, Unit 3
Durham, NC 27701
Email: banana9054@gmail.com

SR FISHER, ANDREW, F
SHIP 04 DIV 280
RECRUIT TRAINING COMMAND
3600 OHIO STREET
GREAT LAKES, IL 60088-7103
(Please DO NOT decorate the outside of the
letter/card, it needs to remain plain.
Also, please DO NOT send any musical cards.)



SAMARITAN'S PURSE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES

Even though Christmas is several months away, it is not too early to start purchasing items for the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. Right now, stores are inundated with school supplies. Pencils, paper, crayons, erasers, colored pencils, and stickers make such great shoebox items. Along with the school supplies, summer toys and games may be found at reduced prices. If you have any questions concerning appropriate items, contact Anita Deal. What an awesome opportunity to share God's love and blessings!!

IN/OUT OF HOSPITAL

Barbara Stines at WFBH (At home)

MEMORIALS Sound System Fund

In memory of Mary Rudisill by:
Janet Scott
Alex & Sharon Little



CATAWBA COUNTY HUNGER WALK

The Corner Table, Ashure Ministry, and Hickory Soup Kitchen will be hosting this year's Hunger Walk on Sunday, October 13. The purpose of the walk is to raise funds for hunger relief in Catawba County, and to heighten awareness of hunger issues within our community.

All proceeds from the Hunger Walk will be shared evenly between these 3 organizations. Please note the name change with deletion of "Eastern " and the addition of Hickory Soup Kitchen to the Hunger Walk as we now serve the entire county.

Registration forms are available for our church team. Please see Anita Deal for a form or to make a donation. You may also register online at cchungerwalk.com or by scanning the qr code on the flyer on the bulletin board outside Beth's office. Be sure to join First Methodist Church Conover team.

Registration will be due September 15.



Greeters

Greeters for Aug 18:

8:25-8:45 – Brenda & Steve Heafner
10:40-11 – Tommi Anderson, Joy Watts, Marie Mull

Greeters for Aug 25:

8:25-8:45 – Brenda & Steve Heafner
10:40-11 – Tommi Anderson,
Can you help here?



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

NEWS TO USE



ASHURE NEWS

The Ashure Ministry food **request for August** is **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.

Thanks to the 12 First Methodist Church Conover volunteers last Monday at Ashure Ministry. Your help was appreciated. Also, thanks to the ones who came again on Wednesday to "stuff the envelopes". Over 1500 of those envelopes to stuff!!

Coffee and Conversation at Ashure will be Wednesday, August 21, at 8:30 am. This is a time to meet with a staff member to learn more about the Ministry and have a tour of the facility. All are welcome to attend. Please call 828-465-1702 to make a reservation.

FOLLOW FIRST METHODIST CHURCH OF CONOVER!

If you use Facebook and haven't already "Followed" our church page, please do that as soon as you can! We have increased the frequency of posts there and it's a great source for information about upcoming events. On Facebook, just search for "First Methodist Church of Conover" and click the "follow" button.

Very soon, you'll be "in the know" about all the great things happening at our church. If you have anything you would like us to post on this page, please send it to Beth Woods (woods777@aol.com)

ALSO, if you are already following our page, feel free to "Share" any of our posts so that your friends can also see them! That's a great way to multiply how far out our church's message can reach!



PASTOR'S QUIZ

"In my Father's house are many mansions," said Jesus, implying that

- peoples of all backgrounds could aspire to heaven
- once He had gone it would be impossible to trace Him
- He would prepare a place for them
- God was the architect of many worlds

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

STEWARDSHIP REPORT By Our Presence August 11, 2024

Sunday School:
134

Worship:
8:45am Service 158
11:00am Service 150
Total 308

God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund \$ 11,270.00
(Needed weekly for budget: \$12,804)

Children's Bank 35.50
Gray House Improvements 100.00
Sound System Fund 100.00
Total \$ 11,505.50

NC DOR Sales & Use Tax Refund 2,291.40

Pick Up a Sign for Your Yard!

I have more yard signs available for anyone who wants to claim one! These are available in the narthex and in my office until they run out.

In His Service Together,
Beth Woods

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



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

Newton-Conover Florist - Newton

Blooms Greenhouse - Conover



Answer to this week's Pastor's Quiz:

c. He would prepare a place for them
(John 14:1-4)

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

MORE NEWS TO USE

School Supplies and Backpack Program

School will be starting in a few weeks and we want to help where we can to assist children that may not have the funds to purchase school supplies. The Corner Table handles the Backpack Program. They are collecting food items to be sent home with children who need food over the weekend. Please look at the lists of items below and bring them July 21 – August 25. Containers will be located in the narthex and the commons area near the church offices. Thank you for loving and caring for the children of our community.

Missions and Outreach Committee

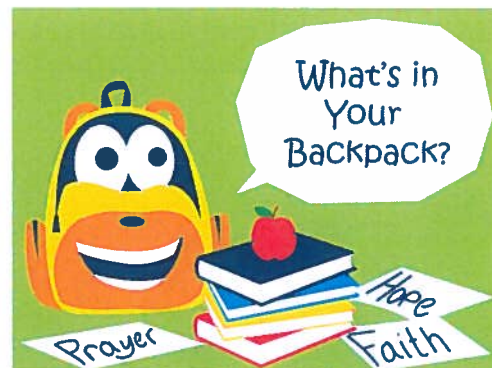
School Supplies: Some of the most requested items:

Backpacks/book bags (no wheels), 24 count boxes of crayons, 24 count boxes of colored pencils (Crayola products are the best.), composition notebooks, paper, glue sticks, pencils, scissors (K- 5th sizes), headphones (Some brands can be found at Walmart for around \$10.00.) NO ear buds, pencil top erasers, pencil boxes, pencil pouches with clear fronts

Backpack Program:

Kid-Friendly Individual Snack Items: Granola Bars, Peanut Butter Crackers, Peanuts, Popcorn, Goldfish, Fruit Snacks, Cheez-Its.

Breakfast Items: Cereal Bars, Oatmeal Packets, Cereal Cups, Muffin Mix Packets



EVEN MORE NEWS TO USE

Global Methodist Church General Conference Info Sessions

Are you curious about the GMC General Conference coming up in September? Do you have questions about what will be decided? Are you willing to pray for the issues being discussed?

Then mark your calendars for two information sessions being planned for **September 10 at 7:00 and September 11 at 10:30 am**. (This is during Pastor John's normal Bible Study time, but Bible Study will not be meeting that week.). Come to one or both sessions to hear Beth and Pastor John explain the business of the General Conference and the plans being made. (Same information will be presented at both, but the question-and-answer part may vary.) We will then also pray together for God's guidance to prevail in all discussions and decisions.

If you would like to read more about General Conference, check out the website: <https://www.sotheworldwillknow.org/> There you can find a list of all the delegates from around the world, the legislative committees that will be meeting, the petitions that will be debated and voted on, a proposal for electing bishops, information about connectional commissions (these will direct the GMC in the future), the proposed constitution for the GMC, the current version of the Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline, the plan of organization for the General Conference, and more.



Youth (rising 6th - 12th grade) are invited to a youth rally at Balls Creek Campmeeting on Wed, Aug 21. Rally starts at 7:30, but we will meet at the church at 5:30. We will get dinner together, then drive to the Campmeeting. Please RSVP to Beth by Aug 19 so we can make transportation plans. (336) 480-4551

STILL MORE NEWS TO USE

Annual Prayer Walk Volunteer Luncheon

We had so much fun at last year's Prayer Walk Volunteer Luncheon (about 30 of us) that we've decided to do it again! So, anyone who had any part in putting on the **Journey to Jerusalem Prayer Walk** is invited to come and bring a friend! Bring your favorite covered dish and a folding lawn chair too!

When? Sunday August 18th - 1:30 PM

Where? Tent No 94 at Ball Creek Campmeeting. Tent backs up to Buffalo Shoals Road. I will have a chair with blue balloons behind the tent. Pull in to unload, then park across the road. (If there is a mobility issue - no concern - pull in and we will unload and then take your car and park it for you.)

LOVE YOU GUYS!!

GOD is good all the time.....

Anthony Price. 828-228-6467 text if you have any questions

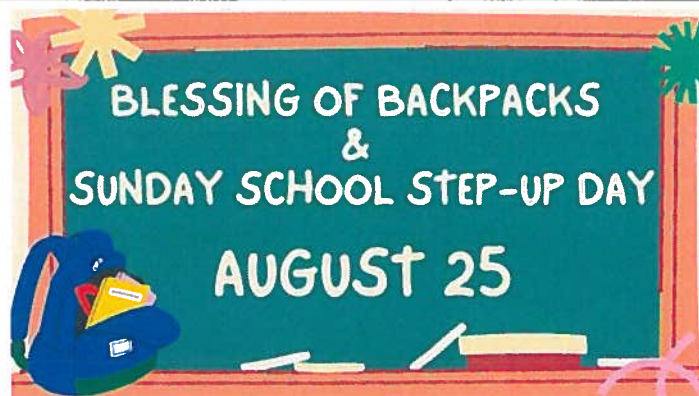
Youth & Children's Ministry Opportunities Ahead!

It's August, which means a new school year is close at hand. I (Beth) am making plans for our children and our youth to have regular meetings as well as special activities. In order to do this, I need other adults who are willing to help. I can't do this alone!

If you would be willing to provide a meal for (always) hungry youth, share your time and love as a children's or youth counselor (regularly or occasionally), help chaperone an outing or retreat, provide a program (regularly or occasionally), teach Sunday School, or help in any other way, please let me know.

As always, I ask you to pray for our young members and their families and all who help shape the faith of these children and youth.

Thank you! Beth Woods (336) 480-4551 or woods777@aol.com



Students, teachers and others involved in school: Please bring your backpack or work bag to church on August 25! We will take a few moments to bless your bag and YOU! Your church family wants you to know that we care about education and we will be praying for a great year!

Also, during the Sunday School hour on August 25, all K-12th grade students will meet together for a kick-off of our AWANA Sunday School program. Details will be given to teachers and will be announced in next week's newsletter, so be on the lookout!



That means our Harvest Festival for Jesus is coming SOON! This year's Harvest Festival will be held October 26. We will open our grounds to the community for an afternoon of fun, 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
- 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
- groups or individuals to assist children with crafts and to paint faces or hands
- people to serve food, give away Bibles, pray with visitors, or serve as floaters to help other workers
- golf carts or similar vehicles to help with set-up and clean-up
- music... do you know of a performer or group that would be willing to provide live music for 30 minutes – an hour?
- people to paint wooden crosses to be given away (workday will be announced later!)
- candy and other prizes to be given to our visitors
- people willing to hang a poster in a public location
- 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 to volunteer: woods777@aol.com or call/text with questions: (336) 480-4551.

The Corner Table

Feeding Needs of Catawba County

COMMUNITY KITCHEN • BACKPACK PROGRAM • FROZEN MEALS



The Corner Table's 9th Annual **PARADE OF CANS FOOD DRIVE**

August 1-31st

Help us feed our community!

Scan the QR code for a list of our most needed food items, more info on the drive, or make a donation towards the drive!



Food donations can be left in the
Narthex or the Crossroads Sunday
School classroom.

Call Jenny Harris at (828) 358-5900 with
any questions.

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

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

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

Alice Spencer - 1608 Hwy 16 North, Conover, NC 28613
(828) 464-6403

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