The Weekly Newsletter of First Methodist Church Conover

February 25, 2025

## Our-NEW-Church-Directory-is-Online!¶ View-our-church-directory-online-or-viathe-FREE-mobile-app-today.¶

FREE App for iPhone, iPad & Android¶







Our NEW church directory is a great resource tool that will allow you to get to know our church family better.

We're asking everyone to try to log in this week and check your own family's entries. If you find errors or incomplete information, you can choose the "Edit my Household" option. From here, you can request changes such as:

Family photo
Name spelling
Email addresses
Phone numbers
Update family members
Birthdays and anniversaries

There are several options for accessing the directory: online on a computer or other device, through an app on a mobile device such as a phone or tablet, or a printed version (will be available after final proofs are completed). You also have the option to print it at home through the online version.

To view the directory online, go to members.InstantChurchDirectory.com and follow the prompts under "Sign In" to "Create a login now." Please remember, you must confirm your email address before you can sign in.

There is also a free mobile app available for download at the Apple® App store in iTunes®, Google Play™ store and the Amazon Fire App Store. Simply search for "Instant Church Directory" to get the download.

You will need to use your email address as listed in our directory to create a log-in the first time you use the directory online and via the mobile app.

If you're not listed in the directory, don't have an email address, OR if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact Beth Woods (336) 480-4551 or Woods777@aol.com.

By the way, this company has security measures in place and they cannot access your private information. Only those who are listed in the directory can see your information, but you can also choose to make your information private through the edit function. Again, if you need help with this, please contact 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, David & Marsha Phillips, Steve & Janice Pitts.

#### **MEMORIALS**

#### Pastor's Discretionary Fund

In memory of Donald Lingerfelt by: Jimmy & Cindy Clark

#### **Youth Fund**

In memory of Dolores Setzer by:

Cliff & Debbie Wike
Jean Slate
The Weaver Family (Caroline Weaver Keller,
Robert Weaver, Jonathan Weaver & Jane Weaver)
Eddie & Carol Warren
Brad & Kim Little
Dennis & Jo Ellen Knecht



#### BLOOD DRIVE SATURDAY, MARCH 8 9AM - 1:15PM FIRST METHODIST CHURCH OF CONOVER

We will have a Blood Drive with the American Red Cross in memory of Michael Moritz and in honor of Crystal Morrow. Please come out and show your support for this great cause. A flyer telling more about this is inserted in this Newsletter.

#### **IN/OUT OF HOSPITAL**

Dana Little at Wake Forest BMC Everest Hedrick at Levine's Children's Hospital

#### March 2, 2025

Anyone who wishes to be a greeter <u>or usher</u>, please call the church office at (828) 464-4635 to sign up. We need greeters this coming Sunday for the 8:45am service and the 11am service. Thank you.

#### SYMPATHY NOTE

Dolores Setzer, age 96 and a charter member of First Methodist Church of Conover, died Saturday, February 15, 2025.

A celebration of Dolores's life was held on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 11:45am at First Methodist Church of Conover. The family received friends prior to the service from 10:45am to 11:30am at the church. A private family burial was held at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family during this sad time.

#### **SYMPATHY NOTE**

Terry Woods, brother of Pat Woods, died Saturday, February 22, 2025.

Arrangements are incomplete at this time.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Pat, Alice and the family during this difficult time.

#### **SYMPATHY NOTE**

Harold Thornburg, age 79 and a charter member of First Methodist Church of Conover, died Monday, February 24, 2025. Harold is the father of Jeffrey Thornburg and Laurie Cashion, grandfather of Lee Thornburg and brother of Wayne Thornburg. Arrangements are incomplete at this time.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Jeffrey & Kim, Laurie & Michael, Lee, Wayne and the family during this difficult time.

#### **NEWS TO USE**

#### **ASHURE NEWS**

The Ashure Ministry food request for February is canned or boxed pasta, pasta sauce, or macaroni.

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.

Monday, March 3, 2025 is FMCC volunteer day at Ashure Ministries.



#### DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH

TURN YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD
ON SATURDAY NIGHT, MARCH 7TH TO
BE AT CHURCH ON TIME SUNDAY
MORNING.





#### **PASTOR'S QUIZ**

Jesus left Nazareth and went to dwell in Capernaum, when He

- a. was reminded of the prophecy by Isaiah
- b. was dared by the devil to do so
- c. thought He should be on the shores of Galilee
- d. heard that John had been cast into prison

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

#### STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence February 23, 2025

Sunday School: 99

Worship:

8:45am Service 173 11:00am Service 150

Total 323

#### God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund \$ 15,654.00 (Needed weekly for budget: \$15,258)

Children's Bank 91.65
Hoops for Christ 100.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund 1,050.00
Youth Fund 300.00

Total \$ 17,195.65



#### **Baton Recital: Gail Kale's Galaxies**

Join us for an exciting and inspiring Baton recital presented by **Gale Kale's Galaxies** featuring talented young twirlers showcasing their skills and routines.

Artistic Director: Gail Kale Bordner

Hosted by: DMA Teen Majorette Queen Lilly-Ann Stewart

This recital will feature girls from ages 5 and up, all performing their beautifully choreographed baton

routines. It is sure to be a wonderful display of talent, dedication, and teamwork.

Date: Sunday March 2nd

Time: 2:30 pm

Location: Connor Family Life Center, First Methodist Church of Conover

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

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

#### Ash Wednesday Service of Ashes

#### Wednesday, March 5th, 7:00-7:45 p.m. in the sanctuary



Ash Wednesday is a day of penitence. marking the start of the season of Lent. On this day we are reminded of our own humanity, mortality, and the hope of resurrection Jesus Christ offers each of us. Our sins and past

failures are put into the light of who we are yet to be, by the grace of God.

With our Ash Wednesday service, we officially begin the Lenten season with a Service of Ashes. During the service, you may choose to have the sign of the cross made with ashes (from last year's Palm Sunday palms) on your forehead as a sign of your repentance and faith. Join us for this spiritually moving service.

IN PREPARATION FOR THIS POWERFUL SERVICE. WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO FAST UNTIL YOUR **EVENING MEAL.** 

> Answer to this week's Pastor's Quiz: d. heard that John had been cast into prison (Matthew 4:12-13)

#### **CHURCH STAFF**

**Pastor** Rev. John Woods

> pastor@fmcconover.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@fmcconover.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@fmcconover.org

Lead Nursery Worker

Pilar Tobar

Custodian

Luisa Toro Bryan

Church Office

(828) 464-4635

Website:

www.fmcconover.org

#### **Blood Drive**

#### In memory of Michael Moritz Crystal Morrow

## In honor of

Saturday, March 8th 9:00am to 1:30pm

#### First Methodist Church of Conover

**Connor Family Life Center** 

Sign up for your appointment today at www.redcrossblood.org, or call 1-800-Red Cross (1-800-733-2767)

Michael Moritz was a great man. He served his community in many ways. He was a volunteer firefighter in Conover for 21 years, he volunteered at our church youth basketball program as a coach for 10 years and served as an assistant boy scout master for 15 years. He and I were married for 27 years, and we have 2 children.





On December 24, 2022, Michael entered his Heavenly home. He passed away with Myelofibrosis, a rare form of blood cancer. Michael received 19 units of blood and 3 bags of platelets. It is because of donors like you that we were able to have a few extra months with Michael. He is dearly missed every day.

Blood donations are a way that we can honor Michael's life and to keep his memory alive.

On December 21, 2024, Crystal was diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia called Mixed Phenotype Acute Leukemia, and Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, a blood cancer of the bone marrow. She has since received countless blood transfusions (up to 12+ pints), and up to 20 units of platelets. I don't know what we would have done without the help



of people who donated blood and platelets. She has undergone several rounds of chemo and will need another full round in the coming months before the bone marrow transplant. During this process, she will receive high doses of chemotherapy and will spend at least 30 days in the hospital and several months of recovery.

Thank you for coming out to support and honor Crystal. We love you, Crystal Morrow and Family



#### **EVEN MORE NEWS TO USE**



The Season of Lent is a time of reflection, prayer, service, and fasting as we await Easter and the celebration of the Resurrection of Christ. Many Christians choose to take on a Lenten discipline during this time. In the spirit of this season, Ashure Ministry is asking folks to consider doing their Lenten discipline with the ministry, and SERVE 40 hours of volunteer service during the Lenten Season from Ash Wednesday (March 5th) to Good Friday (April 18th).

If you are interested, or would like to find **out more**, please contact our Volunteer Engagement Director, Allen Sherrill at <u>a.sherrill@ashureministry.org</u> God bless **you all, and** we hope you will use this Lenten Season to reflect on the amazing victory we will celebrate on Faster!





Good morning, and welcome to our 7th Annual March Madness Challenge! Last year we collected over 42,000 pounds of food and over \$12,000, making a significant impact on hunger in our area. Our March Madness Challenge rallies businesses, churches, schools, and individuals to compete in donating food or funds under their favorite NCAA basketball team's banner, all while supporting a great cause!

The challenge works like this: from March 1st through April 9th we ask people to donate food or money on behalf of their favorite college basketball team. Food is always a slam dunk for us, so it will count as 1 pound = 2 points. Financial donations help us score even more, so money counts as \$1 = 3 points. The team with the most points at the end of the period wins the challengel. We will be announcing the individual, church, and business with the greatest contributions.

Achure Ministry PO Box 31 245 E N St Newton NC 28658

n sberrill@ashoremtnistep org 028-446 5418 ushoreministep org. mmc



At First Methodist, we will have donation boxes set up for your contributions. If your favorite team isn't represented, feel free to label your donations with team name!

#### Goodtimers March Recting

We will have a meal and program to celebrate St. Patrick's Day on Thursday, March 20 at 12 pm. (Note change to Thursday instead of Wednesday!). We will have a presentation by the St. Joseph's Irish Dancers. We will take up a love offering to show our appreciation for this group of about 25 young dancers. It's going to be a treat to see their talent!

The meal will be a baked potato (Irish potatoes!) bar. We will have potatoes and toppings for you to customize your meal. We invite you to bring a salad or dessert to share. If you have suggestions for good potato toppings, let us know!

If you have questions or want to let us know what you can bring, please contact Beth Woods (336) 480-4551 or Jean Slate (910) 624-9843.





#### **Volunteers Needed!**

This year, we are hosting 2 Easter events for children and we need help with both!

#### March 15 -- 10 -11:30 am

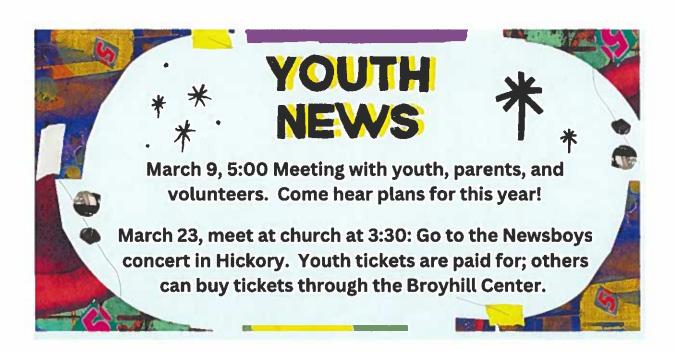
We will host our church and community children for a Holy Week experience on March 15 at 10 am. The children will hear stories and make crafts that represent the events of the week before Jesus' death and resurrection. We need a lot of volunteers – storytellers, craft helpers, table buddies, registration, etc -- to help make this experience run smoothly. Jo Ellen Knecht is coordinating the activities and will provide guidance for all the activities.

We will have 2 "training/organizational" meetings to prepare for this (choose 1 to attend): March 6 at 7 pm or March 8 at 9 am. We will also have an "assembly workday" on March 13 at 9 am.

#### April 12 -- 10 -11:30 am

We will walk the children through the Prayer Walk (low sensory version) and then have an Easter Egg Hunt. We need group leaders and a crew to hide Easter eggs.

We need YOU to come share the love of Christ with our children! Please come to one of the meetings if you can help. Contact Beth Woods if you have questions. (336) 480-4551 or woods777@aol.com





### Join the Adventure

#### **Kenya Mission Trip Meeting**

Come learn more about our Kenya mission trip on **March 2nd at 1 PM** in the youth room of the CFLC building and see how you can be a part of what God is doing around the world.

#### What We Do:

- Share the Gospel in Remote Villages
- Food Distribution
- Prayer Walk
- Serve at the Kissi Orphanage
- Equip the Local Church

#### CONTACT PASTOR JASON SHOUP

Cell: 828-381-1174

Must be at least 18 years of age.

#### September 2025



But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 1.8



### Join the Adventure

#### **Cambodia Mission Trip Meeting**

Come learn more about our Cambodia mission trip on **March 2nd at 2pm** in the youth room of the CFLC building and see how you can be a part of what God is doing around the world.

#### October 2025

#### What We Do:

- Share the Gospel in Remote Villages
- Fight Against Child Exploitation
- Prayer Walk
- Medical Clinics
- Equip the Local Church

#### CONTACT PASTOR JASON SHOUP

Cell: 828-381-1174



Must be at least 18 years of age.



#### Preparation for "Journey to Jerusalem" Prayer Walk April 13-18, 2025

The "Journey to Jerusalem" Prayer Walk is coming soon! This immersive walk-through experience tells the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, from Creation and the fall, prophecies to birth, through His ministry, and to His death and resurrection. It draws nearly 1000 visitors from our community each year. For the week of April 13-18, the Connor Family Life Center will be totally transformed into winding passageways that tell this moving story with scenes, sounds, scents, costumed characters, and live action. It is an enormous undertaking

that requires many hours of work from many people. And we can use YOUR help! We need people willing to set up room dividers, hang fabric, set up scenes, and act as costumed hosts.

#### Work days:

- ASSEMBLY workday Thursday, March 13. We can use many hands to assemble give-away items for both the Prayer Walk and the Easter 4 Children events. This will be mostly sitting down and low stress, with a good opportunity for fellowship too!
- On March 22, beginning at 9:00 am, a crew will begin to clear out rooms and move the crates and supplies from the storage building into the CFLC. All hands are welcome!
- On March 23, beginning at 2:00 pm, a crew will finish clearing out rooms and begin to assemble the displays. All hands are welcome!
- Week of March 23- March 29, the three classrooms in the CFLC will be set up. To volunteer to help with these, contact Beth Woods (336) 480-4551, Jimmy Clark, (828) 217-5102, Bev Swithenbank (828) 320 5542, Jeanette Stewart (828) 315-0821, Anita Deal (828) 320-3194, Cindy Clark (828) 302-3217, or Tamara Hite (828) 514-5604.
- On March 30 at 2:00, a crew will be assembling the divider walls and hanging fabric on them to create pathways through the CFLC. Work on this will continue through this week.
- There will also be work going on throughout April 1-12, watch for more details on this in future newsletters.
- On April 13, right after the late service, a crew will be setting up the last of the hallway scenery.
- Each night of the Prayer Walk (April 13, 14, 15, 16, and 18 not open on Maunday Thursday) we need about 25 costumed volunteers to sit quietly as part of the "scenery" and to provide assistance to visitors in the case of an emergency. Contact Beth Woods to volunteer (indicate which nights you are available) woods777@aol.com or (336) 480-4551.
- On April 19, beginning at 9:00, we will disassemble and pack away the entire set-up. This is an enormous task, and we need anybody who is willing to come donate even an hour or two.
- Prayers! Please begin now to bathe this ministry in your prayers. Please pray for the people working to provide this experience and for those who will visit. The story is powerful and God will use it to change lives!

#### 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

<u>James Davis</u> - Abernethy Laurels (Memory Care Center) 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

Mary Ann Simpson - Kingston Residence (Room 214) 904 2nd Street NE, Hickory, NC 28601

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



<u>Dottie Aycock-Harris</u> - Mailing address: 1449 Brookstone Drive, Hickory, NC 28602 (Ron's cell - (704) 460-4919

<u>Don Hedrick</u> - Mailing address: PO Box 542, Claremont, NC 28/610 Physical address: 4028 E US 70 Hwy, Claremont, NC 28610 His wife, Cheryl's phone# (828) 381-7956

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

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

# NOTES



-480-4550 1-381-1174 -480-4551

We have Sunday School classes for all ages. Hand & Foot is a card game; all are welcome to come play! Hand & Foot is a card game; all are welcome to come play! 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.  Under Manday TueSday Wednesday Thursday Friday  REMINDER: If you want to use the CFLC, please check availability with Robin in the office. Our facility is frequently used for events not listed on this calendar.  CFLC will be used by Prayer Walk set-up beginning March 23 (runs through April 18).

	8 9:00 Easter 4 Children Planning meeting 9:00 ALL DAY American Red Cross Blood Drive CFLC	15 10-11:30 Easter 4 Children Family Event 5:30 Neighbor's Table	920 Prayer Walk Workday 5:00 Fellowship dinner (Menu TBD)	29 10-12 NEST Women's event	
	7.80.00minnes	14 6:30 Dominoes	21 6:30 Dominoes	28 6:30 Dominoes	
	6:30 Hand & Foot 7:00 Easter 4 Children	13 9:00 Easter 4 Children assembly/workday 6:30 Hand & Foot	20 12:00 GoodTimers lunch and program 6:30 Methodist Men 6:30 Hand & Foot	27 <b>eeks)</b> 6:30 Hand & Foot	
Summaran do se	5 10:30-11:45 Bible Study 1:00 Hand & Foot	12 10:30-11:45 Bible Study 1:00 Hand & Foot 1:00 Queen Esther Circle 7:00 Choir practice	19 10:30-11:45 Bible Study 1:00 Hand & Foot 7:00 Choir practice	26 lays for next 3 w. 1:00 Hand & Foot 7:00 Choir practice	
Dy Flayer Walk s	7000	77 7-8:15 Bible Study	78 7-8:15 Bible Study	25 up begins (most d	
CIEC Will be used by rigyer walk sectop beginning march 25 (rolls all orgil April 10).	3 9:00 Volunteer day at Ashure Ministry 6:00 Handbell practice	10 6:00 Handbell practice Visioning Team Meetiing (time TBD)	17 6:00 Handbell practice Visioning Team Meetiing (time TBD)	8:45 Worship  24 20:00 Sunday School Prayer Walk set-up begins (most days for next 3 weeks) 2:00 Prayer Walk Workday. 3:30 meet at church Visioning Team Meetiing (time TBD)  6:30 I	31 6:00 Handbell practice Visioning Team Meetiing (time TBD)
	2 8:45 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 1:00 Kenya Meeting 2:00 Cambodia Meeting 5:00 AWANA Meeting	9 8:45 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 5:00 Youth parents & volunteers meeting	16 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 2:30 Trustees 4:00 Finance Comm 5:00 Church Council No Youth meeting	23 8:45 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 2:00 Prayer Walk Workda 3:30 meet at church - Youth going to Newsboys concert	30 8:45 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 2:00 Prayer Walk Workday

## March 2025

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

Saturday	ी Mackenzie Johnson @ David and Marsha Phillips	8 9 Jennifer Ball Steven Heafner	15 L Chip Hennessee	22 Chase Connor Debi Sprague Lynn Watson	29 Eric Connor Alexander Copeland David Little	
Friday		Gilda Pennell Blaire Putzer Sandra Woods	14 Coulton McGinnis Faith Pennell Chip & Mary Beth Hennessee	Lisa Johnson Ryan & Angela Garrison Evan & Sydney Matson	28 McCoy Keisler Morgan Williams  Finley & Carole Cloninger	
Thursday		Andrea Long	13 Tara Brackett Patrick Morrow David Stedman Danielle & Josh Sigmon	50	27 Parker Garrison Kim Reed & Ron & Ginny Ward	
Wednesday		۲۵	Nancy Clarke Tamara Hite Tina Hudson Gail Sanders Lee Thornburg	79 Michael Connor Kelly Little	26 g Sue Dwiggins	
Tuesday		4 Rebecca Lucas	Rita Deal Martha Johnson Randy Porter	J8 Jayden Kimsey Steven & Brenda Heafner Adam & Melissa Johnson	Mary Beth Hennessee Mary Hornick Janet Morrow Don Shook	
Monday		~	10 P Brian Kelly David Stewart	17 Ashley Mayberry Jeffrey & Jennifer Hefner	24 Elizabeth Pullen Rachael Simmons	31 Debbie Royals Rarl & Vickie Stryker
Sunday	*	2 Hayden Bandy Jeff Sierzenga & Buck & Anne Calloway	Chelsea Puga-Luna	16 Lauren Spencer	23 Laci Matthews	30