



First Methodist Church OF CONOVER

The Weekly Newsletter of First Methodist Church Conover

July 2, 2024

LET THE CHILDREN COME

I remember having a conversation with someone (years ago, not at this church), who wanted me to “hurry and get the children out of worship” and into their own program so “we” can worship without the distraction and noise that comes from having children present while we worship. As you might imagine that conversation didn’t end up the way she thought it would go.

Let
the
Children
Come



I remembered that conversation last Sunday while looking around our sanctuary and the many families we have in worship – including several new families with small children. It brings joy to my heart to see these families in worship, and I believe, to the heart of God. And I’ve heard from so, so many of you that it fills you with joy as well.

Our church’s children are a gift from the Lord and are part of His blessings to us all. The Bible clearly articulates the duty of parents to instruct their children in the things of the Lord. Psalm 78 provides one of the most beautiful statements of this calling. Asaph reminds his generation that they must pass on the glorious story of their faith to their kids. We tell this story each Lord’s Day morning as we gather—as our children participate in the worship, they hear this story. They can’t miss it.

With our children in worship, they begin to learn for themselves the story of God’s mighty acts and His sacrificial love and commitment along with us. They enter the great academy of the Christian faith. We teach, instruct, and form our children into worshipers. Participating in the worship of God shapes our children.

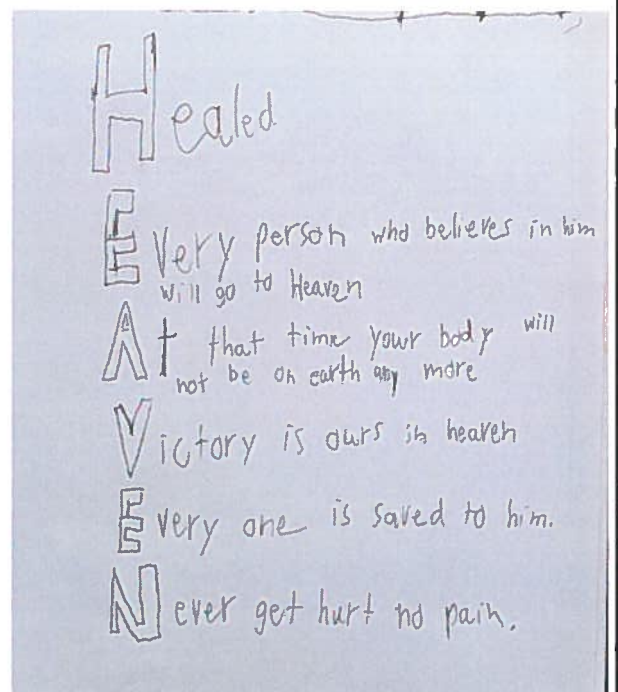
Our children also learn that God is *for them*. When we include children in worship, we communicate that *they* can worship the one true living God as well. Christianity isn’t an “adults-only” religion, and worship isn’t adult-only either. God calls on *all* people to worship.

And in case you ever wonder if those sometimes squirrely, squirmy, fidgety kids are “getting anything out of worship,” one of our families shared the notes their child took during this Sunday’s sermon on heaven.

Wow! Isn’t it astounding?! It raises the bar for me and my own listening skills.

Thank you for helping us be a church who embodies the truth that Jesus welcomes even the little children.

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:

Jeanne Abernathy, Rev. Dixon & Margery Adams,
Neil Adams, Tad & Janet Adams,
Margaret, Frances & Christopher Allen,
Charlie & Tommi Anderson.

IN/OUT OF HOSPITAL

Jeanne Abernathy at CVMC
Connie Henderson at CVMC (At home)

A NOTE OF SYMPATHY

James Leonard Little, age 75 and father of Scott Little, died Tuesday, June 25, 2024.

Arrangements are incomplete at this time. A phone tree message will be sent out when the arrangements are completed.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Scott, Andrea and the family during this difficult time.

ASHURE NEWS

The Ashure Ministry food request for July is **healthy snacks for children**. These may be placed in the red bins in the hallway between the CFLC and Beth's office along with grocery bags. Thank you for your ongoing support of this ministry!



THANK YOU

Thank you for the "Prayer Shawl" that Pastor John brought to Alice (mom). She thought it was so beautiful. She enjoyed her visit with Pastor John and she really appreciates all the thoughtful cards. It truly made her smile. Please continue to keep her and us in your prayers.
Much love,
Mike & Anne Spencer & Family

THANK YOU

To Whom It May Concern:
Thank you for the gift given in our honor to the church. We are grateful and humbled.

Your kindness is appreciated.

Our love and prayers,
Harold & Martha Robertson

HAMBURGER DINNER &

ICE CREAM SOCIAL!



SAT. JULY 13

5:00PM CFLC

Hamburgers provided. Please bring ice cream and/or toppings!

NEWS TO USE



Ice Cream Social

DINNER & ICE CREAM SOCIAL SATURDAY, JULY 13TH AT 5:00PM IN THE CFLC

For July's Dinner & Game Night, dinner will be provided. We ask that anyone who has an ice cream churn to make a batch and bring with you.

If you do not have a churn, feel free to bring your favorite flavor from the store or bring different toppings to add.

We will fellowship over dinner and then follow that up with delicious ice cream!

Invite a friend, family member or a neighbor!

NEW ADDRESS

Charles, Mary & Matthew Hornick
115 Hamilton Park Circle
Apt. J
Greenwood, SC 29649



PASTOR'S QUIZ

Bethany was distant from Jerusalem about

- a. two miles
- b. five miles
- c. nine miles
- d. fourteen miles

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

STEWARDSHIP REPORT By Our Presence June 30, 2024

Sunday School:
108

Worship:
8:45am Service 139
11:00am Service 132
Total 271

God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund \$ 14,116.00
(Needed weekly for budget: \$12,804)

Children's Bank 79.00
Ashure Ministry 50.00
Disaffiliation Fund 200.00

Total \$ 14,445.00
Refund from Brotherhood Mutual = \$6.00

Summertime Blessings

Summer is almost here, and it is time to warm the hearts of our homebound and nursing home members. Bags have been placed in the commons area with the names of our 13 members.

Would you use your creativity and fill the bags with items that will bring a smile to someone's face and a hint of summer? Please place the items in the bags either on Sunday morning or during the week. You can find the names listed in the newsletter. The deadline will be July 7th, and we will start delivering bags that week.

If you would like to help deliver bags and visit with someone on the list, please contact Susan Hunsucker at (828) 612-4319. This would be a great opportunity for families with young children to serve together.

Thank you once again for your amazing support of this ministry.

Susan Hunsucker,
Caring Ministry



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:

a. two miles
(John 11:18)

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. John Woods pastor@fmconover.org (828) 464-4635 (336) 480-4550 - cell 208 2nd St NE, Conover
Office Administrator / Financial Secretary	Robin Mays office@fmconover.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@fmconover.org
Lead Nursery Worker	Pilar Tobar
Custodian	Luisa Toro Bryan
Church Office	(828) 464-4635
Website:	www.fmconover.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

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.

Greeter Schedule Sign-ups

Sign up sheets for greeters will be available on Beth's door and at both worship services next week, so check your calendar and pick a day to help our ushers welcome members and visitors as they arrive on Sunday mornings.



The job is simple... be present outside the sanctuary for about 20 minutes before the service starts, smile, say, "Welcome! Would you like a nametag?" and "Would you like some information about our church and our ministries?" Then assist by opening the doors to the sanctuary and direct them to the ushers for a bulletin and further assistance.

Greeters for July 7:

8:25-8:45 – Lindsay Keisler, Michele Moritz, McCoy Keisler, Powell & Virginia Sigmon

10:40-11:00 – Tommi Anderson, Michelle Cloninger

Greeters for July 14:

8:25-8:45 – Rona Saunders, Charlie Reed, Lisa Johnson, Donna Mull, Ron & Ginny Ward

10:40-11:00 – Tommi Anderson, Michelle Cloninger, Jamie Tremble, Jackie Lowdermilk, Gaye Hoke

Greeters for July 21:

8:25-8:45 – Can you help?

10:40-11:00 – Tommi Anderson, Michelle Cloninger, Bev & Gene Swithenbank

Greeters for July 28:

8:25-8:45 – Rona Saunders, Charlie Reed

10:40-11:00 – Tommi Anderson, Michelle Cloninger, Cliff and Debbie Wike

Transformation is taking place!

A big shout-out to the Trustees, youth and youth parents, library committee, and other volunteers who have helped us transform the church library and an old classroom into a new classroom for the Clark Bible Class! Both rooms have been cleaned, carpeted and updated. The Clark Classroom got new lights (that don't blink hypnotically!) and new paint. We now have two more shiny new spaces for our ministry groups to meet!

Watch out soon for the "old" Clark Classroom as it's being converted to a "new" youth space! Great things are in store!





YOUTH SUMMER PLANS

Sun, July 7 * 5:30-7:30

Sun, July 28 5:30-7:30

**Regular meeting in new youth room.
Dinner included.**

**All rising 6th - current 12th grade youth are
welcome to join us. We will hold regular
meetings in our new youth room in the CFLC.**

We will eat dinner together!

**Contact Beth Woods (336) 480-4551 for
questions.**

WHAT A MESS!

VBS!



We had a fun, messy time at our kick-off! Join us for the next sessions!

DINNER, BIBLE STORIES, CRAFTS, SNACKS, GAMES, SCIENCE AND MORE!

JULY 16, 17, 18: 5:30-7:30 At First Methodist Church

AUG 3: 10:30-12:30 410 First Avenue N Conover

REGISTER or QUESTIONS

woods777@aol.com

336-480-4551

www.fmconover.org



Come join the messy fun!

Age 3 -
current 5th graders