



First Methodist Church OF CONOVER

The Weekly Newsletter of First Methodist Church Conover

February 4, 2025

PRESCRIPTION FOR THE WEARY

When Walt Disney animated the story of Snow White, he created seven memorable, even if short characters - the seven dwarfs. I'm not one of them! Now, I'm not going to ask you to name them; we'll save that for a game of Trivial Pursuit or something. But I always loved that little song they sang on the way to work.



Heigh Ho...

And they didn't exactly work in an environmentally-controlled office building. They worked in a mine all day. Not the greatest place to work! But each day they would merrily march off to work singing, (I bet you know it...here we go.) "*Hi-ho, Hi-ho, it's off to work we go.*" Wow! What a great way to approach your responsibilities. Anyone who does that has a giant heart, not one that's "dwarfed."

Some time back, I attended a meeting and one woman expressed a feeling that, as it turned out, everybody in the room agreed with. She said, "*You know, people are working around here, and they get very discouraged, or they quit because of one word — weariness.*" And I watched a lot of heads nodding in that room.

Turns out, there are a lot of folks who struggle with a deep weariness, and it's far beyond physical. They're just tired of pushing, or of being one of the few who seem to care. They're tired of little results for a lot of work, and maybe not being appreciated. It can even happen in our Christian walk.

Which leads me to this Word from God. Hebrews 12:2-4 says "***Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider Him who endured such opposition from sinful men...***" Then it continues, "***...so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.***"

Weariness, according to Hebrews 12, seems to result from taking your eyes off Jesus. Maybe you're weary because you've been doing life in your strength. You know better, but you've gone from God working through you to the crank-it-out weariness of you suddenly working for God. Oh, you're doing the same things, but it's not Him through you. Or it could be that you've been looking at the results you're getting instead of the Savior you're serving. He gives the results, He gives the rewards - people don't.

Is it time to get your eyes back toward the Jesus whose love compelled you to serve in the first place? I like how that praise song encourages us to "*Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus.*"

This week, take the time to really concentrate and focus on the Lord — on His provision for your life, on His ongoing, unending grace, on His Spirit who undergirds your day and will pour into you all you need.

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:

Lee & Michele Moritz, Lee Moritz, Sr.,
Dave & Jan Morrow, Matthew Morrow,
Patrick, Crystal & McKenzie Morrow, John & Donna Mull.



SOUL SISTERS SOUP SALE

Join the Soul Sisters Circle at First Methodist Church of Conover for another heartwarming fundraiser!

➤ Soup Options: 1. Cheesy Potato, 2. Chicken with Wild Rice & Vegetables 3. Hamburger Taco

➤ Price: \$6 per pint. Payment can be remitted at pick-up.

All proceeds will be dedicated to supporting local missions. Your generosity will make a meaningful impact on our community, reaching those in need.

Make sure to place your orders by Wednesday, February 5th. To place your orders, you may call Rita Deal at (828) 234-0632.

➤ Pickup Details: 1. Date: Saturday, February 8th
Time: 12pm-1pm 2. Date: Sunday, Feb. 9th
Time: 10am-11am 3. Location: CFLC, FMCC

Don't miss out on this opportunity to savor delicious soups while contributing to a great cause. Thank you for supporting the Soul Sisters Circle and local missions.

QUEEN ESTHER CIRCLE

The Queen Esther Circle will meet Wednesday, February 12th at 1:00pm in the Crossroads classroom. Pastor John will be speaking about the meaning of Lent, and the members will assemble Lent bags for the shut-ins.

Those who would like to have additional time to socialize are invited to bring a bag lunch and meet at 12:30pm. All ladies are welcome!

IN/OUT OF HOSPITAL

Wayne Thornburg at CVMC (At home)

February 9, 2025

8:45am -

11:00am - Tommi Anderson, Michelle Cloninger

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



THANK YOU

Church Family,

On behalf of The Corner Table thank you for your recent donation. We appreciate your care and concern for those we serve. Through your generosity we are able to serve a warm meal to those who pass through our doors!

Blessings!

The Corner Table

MEMORIALS Pastor's Discretionary Fund

In memory of Donald Lingerfelt by:
Jean Slate

In memory of Nell Johnson by:
Jean Slate

NEW ADDRESS

Hank Beck
Turning Point West Campus
1015 West Blvd.
Moultrie, GA 31768

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.



SPECIAL DELIVERY

Thank you for sharing your love with our homebound and nursing home members this Valentine's Day. We will be delivering the bags on February 11th. If you would like to help get the bags delivered, please join us in the Conference Room on February 11th at 1:00. We will go in groups to visit and deliver the special treats. If necessary, we will finish delivering on Wednesday.

You don't want to miss being a part of this special ministry!!

The Caring Ministry Team



PASTOR'S QUIZ

Jesus was then led up into the wilderness by

- a. the Spirit of God
- b. the devil
- c. John the Baptist
- d. no one

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

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence February 2, 2025

Sunday School:
86

Worship:
8:45am Service 135
11:00am Service 140
Total 275

God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund	\$ 21,848.00
<i>(Needed weekly for budget: \$15,258)</i>	
Children's Bank	45.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	<u>3,950.00</u>
Total	\$ 25,843.00



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

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Organization
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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

CHURCH STAFF

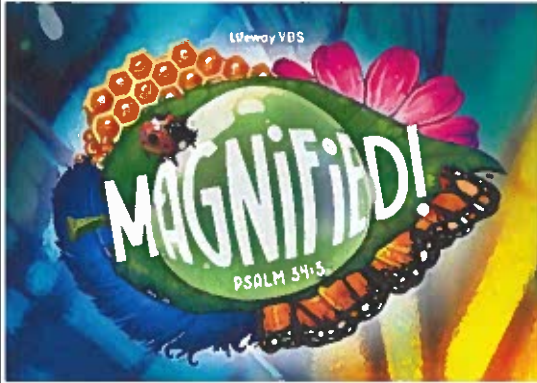
Pastor	Rev. John Woods pastor@fmconover.org (828) 464-4635 (336) 480-4550 - cell 208 2nd St NE, Conover
Minister of Youth/Outreach	Jason Shoup jsgodson@yahoo.com (828) 381-1174 1409 5th St. Ct. NE, Conover
Office Administrator / Financial Secretary	Robin Mays office@fmconover.org
Coordinator of Lay Ministries	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

Answer to this week's Pastor's Quiz:

a. the Spirit of God
(Matthew 4:1)

EVEN MORE NEWS TO USE

Vacation Bible School 2025



*Oh, magnify the LORD with me,
And let us exalt His name together!*

Save the dates! July 13; July 20, 21, and 22; Aug 9.
Lots of fun is planned... including a special opportunity
for our congregation's adults!

More details to come soon!

Chili Fellowship Meal



Mark your calendars for Feb 8 at 5:00 for our February fellowship night and Chili meal. We need about 20 people to bring chili, others to bring cornbread, crackers, or biscuits, and others to bring toppings or desserts. We'll have divided bowls to allow you to sample several chilis at once. And you can vote for your favorite!

You can sign up to bring one of the items for the meal on Beth's office door or online at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084CAFAC29A7FE3-54528357-chili>

See the church Facebook page for a clickable link.

If all of the slots are filled, PLEASE just join us for a fun evening! You can bring something next time!

HEY, MORE NEWS TO USE



Special Activities for Children Feb 9 During Both Worship Services

During both worship services on February 9, all children are invited to leave the service at the time normally set aside for their time with Beth. The children will have a lesson, snack, and arts & craft service project during this time and will be returned to the sanctuary to be reunited with their parents at the end of the service.



Heartfelt ministries will be launching our first prayer gatherings next week (February 9-15). We are still working out the dates and times, so watch for details in the announcements on Sunday and on Facebook!

These will be short (45 minute) gatherings for sharing scripture, praise and prayers. You will be blessed! Please join us if you can.

Journey to Jerusalem Prayer Walk

Organizational Meeting – Sunday, February 9 at 2:00



We have just a little more than 2 months until the opening day of our 2025 Journey to Jerusalem Prayer Walk. For those who have never experienced it, this is an immersive walk-through experience that tells the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, from creation to Jesus' birth, through His ministry, and to His death and resurrection. 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, scents, sounds, 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.

Set up will begin 2-3 weeks in advance, but there are some tasks that can be done even earlier. We need help with publicity, planning, preparing guides in Spanish and English, as well as help during set-up and the run of the event.

If you are interested in helping, please attend the first organizational meeting on Sunday February 9 at 2:00 in the Faithbuilders Classroom in the Connor Family Life Center. For more information, contact Beth Woods or Anthony Price (828) 228-6467.

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)
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



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

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

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.