



First Methodist Church OF CONOVER

The Weekly Newsletter of First Methodist Church Conover

January 14, 2025



The Staff Parish Committee is pleased to welcome a new staff member to First Methodist! Jason Shoup (pronounced like "shout," but with a "p"), formerly pastor at Cross Kingdom Church, will be our new Minister of Youth and Outreach.



L-R Jadyn, Jason, Alisha, Gavin Shoup

Hi Church family,

I'm Pastor Jason, and I'm thrilled to begin my journey here at First Methodist Church in Conover. My wife, Alisha, and I have been married for 20 wonderful years and currently live in the Conover area. We are blessed with two children: Jadyn, a senior at Bunker Hill High School, and Gavin, a 9th grader at Christian Family Academy. Our family also includes our two German Shepherds, Tank and Stella.

Twelve years ago, we started a church plant here in Conover, which has been an incredible season of ministry. Recently, we felt God calling us to a new chapter, and we are excited to see what He has in store for us in this next season of ministry. In addition, we've been deeply involved in our international ministry, Cross Kingdom Ministries, which we began in 2011. Through this ministry, we've had the privilege of supporting an orphanage in Kenya, combating human trafficking in Cambodia, and engaging in other impactful work both locally and internationally.

We are eager to see how God will work in and through our family as we serve alongside you to further His Kingdom. We're so grateful to be part of this church family and look forward to the journey ahead!

Please pray for Jason and his family as they make this transition. Be sure to welcome them and introduce yourself (as you are wearing your nametag!) God has exciting things in store for His family here at First Methodist!

Grace and Peace!!!

Pastor John Et Beth

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:

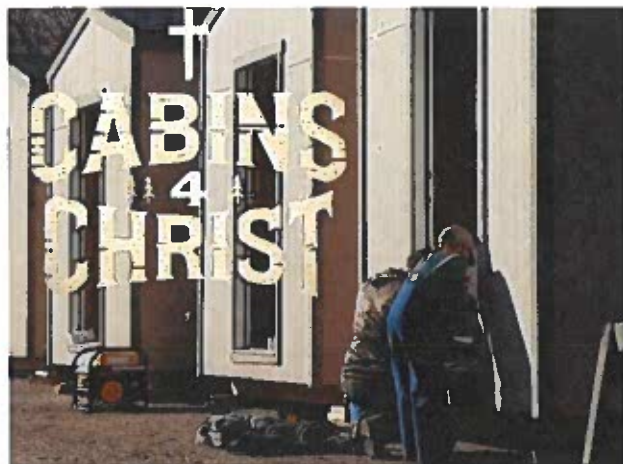
Andrea Long, Susan Long,
Bart & Jackie Lowdermilk & Jessie Crooks,
Kurtis Lowdermilk, Larry, Pam & Bryson Lowdermilk,
Dave, Cheryl & Bradley Markland.

Cabins4Christ

FYI – Thank you for the money you donated last year to NC Global Methodist Church Annual Conference to be used to help our brothers and sisters in western North Carolina after Hurricane Helene. On December 29, 2024, a post was on Facebook that stated that enough was donated by our conference to financially support 25 cabins with Cabins4Christ. Later a post gave details about how you or a team could volunteer to work on these cabins. The host church is Providence GMC in Forest City. Here we will have the ability to construct these cabins and house teams. Those wanting more details about this mission project can go to the NC Global Methodist Church Annual Conference website or

Greg Grabbs
GMC NC Disaster Relief Ministry
336-583-5557
outreachchair@concordchurchrox.org
ggrabbs@gmail.com

Mission and Outreach Chairperson
Lois Goodson



IN/OUT OF HOSPITAL

Jimmy Clark at CVMC (At home)
Ray Penley at Frye Regional MC

January 19, 2025

8:45am - Christine Osborne, Carter Rathbone

11:00am - Gene & Beverly Swithenbank

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



ATTENTION GOODTIMERS!!!

The Goodtimers will get together on Wednesday, January 15th for a luncheon at 12:00 noon. Traditionally we will have a variety of soups and desserts! Please contact Eddie Warren at (828) 464-9643 or via cell phone at (828) 612-5564 and let him know what you are planning to bring.

Invite a friend to join us!



MEETINGS SUNDAY, **JANUARY 19TH**

2:30pm - Trustees meeting (Crossroads)

4:00pm - Finance Comm. Mtg. (Conf. room)

5:00pm - Ch. Council meeting (Sanctuary)

NEWS TO USE

ASHURE NEWS

The Ashure Ministry food request for January is **canned soup and broth**. 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 eleven FMCC volunteers who helped at Ashure Ministry last Monday. What a way to start the new year!!!



You Are Cordially Invited.....

Sunday, January 19th, 2025

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Remembrance Service

6:00 PM

Location:

***Newton-Conover Middle School
Auditorium***

***873 Northern Drive NW
Conover, NC***

***Sponsored by: The Conover Ministerial Association
For More Information Call: (704) 325-3232***



PASTOR'S QUIZ

John the Baptist's food was

- a. locusts and wild honey
- b. wild honey and manna
- c. locusts and manna
- d. Manna and troglodytes

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

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

By Our Presence January 12, 2025

Sunday School:
N/A

Worship:
8:45am Service N/A
11:00am Service 142
Total 142

God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund \$ 32,738.00
(Needed weekly for budget: \$12,804)

Ashure Ministries	50.00
Children's Bank	12.00
Gray House Improvements	8,196.82
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	<u>1,500.00</u>

Total \$ 42,496.82

Correction to last week's General Fund amount: Should have been \$15,987.50. The \$15,015.00 was the check amount.



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

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Organization
U.S. Postage
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Conover, NC

FLOWERS



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
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. locusts and wild honey
(Matthew 3:4)

HEY, MORE NEWS TO USE



WOW! We had 23 teens and tweens at youth on Sunday for fun and games and learning about building friendships in God's family! Lots of exciting plans are being made for this year, so come and join us!



Sun, Jan 26, 5:00-7:00 Regular meeting; Includes dinner – youth room

Mark your calendars and invite a friend!

Questions? Call or text Jason Shoup at (828) 381-1174 or Beth Woods (336) 480-4551

MLK Day Basketball Skills Camp with Ronshad Shabazz

Monday, January 20th
9:30 AM - 12:00 PM
First Methodist Church, Conover
Cost: \$50 (scholarships available)
Lunch Provided



Join us for an incredible Skills Basketball Camp led by Ronshad Shabazz, a standout player at Appalachian State (conference player for three consecutive years) and a former G-League professional. This camp is perfect for 5th to 9th graders looking to sharpen their basketball skills and learn from one of the best.

Expert coaching from Ron Shabazz. * Skill development drills. * Devotional Scholarships available!

For more information or to inquire about scholarships, please contact Pastor Jason Shoup 828 381 1174.

Don't miss this opportunity to improve your game and be inspired!

EVEN MORE NEWS TO USE



Introductory Meeting for Your Input January 28 -- 6:00 - 6:45 in the Faithbuilders Classroom in the CFLC

Romans 12:15 encourages believers to "Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn." The church is the best place to find comfort and strength in the face of life's difficulties. Personal stories of God's provision can inspire and encourage. Knowing that others are walking the journey with you or have walked it ahead of you brings hope and comfort.

We are launching a group of new ministries (Heartfelt Ministries) to help support our congregation's prayer needs. Initial plans include a regularly meeting prayer group, areas in the church building designated for prayer and for leaving prayer requests, some online or telephone options for prayer requests, a grief and loss support group and other related ministries.

If you are interested in helping shape these ministries or in participating (or if you're just curious!), please come to the introductory meeting on **January 28**. We will meet for less than an hour just before the Joshua Bible Study. Plan to meet from **6:00 to about 6:45** in the Faithbuilders Classroom in the Connor Family Life Center.



Our Hoops for Christ Youth Basketball ministry still needs YOU!

We need a few more people willing to provide encouragement and witness to the spectators by sharing a short (3-5 minute) devotional during half-time for each game. (4 games per Saturday – but you can split these with someone else). Would you be willing to do this one Saturday? Be the face and voice of Christ for our community?

Devotionals still needed for Saturdays: January 25 and February 1.

We'd love to have you come cheer for these players at a few of their games! It's the best free fun you can find on a Saturday morning! (Games on Saturdays through Feb 1.) Most of all, pray for this ministry... the coaches, players, families, and all who will be impacted.

Please let me know if you are willing to help. Beth (336) 480-4551 or woods777@aol.com

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
210 Leonard 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 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



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.

**NEWEST MEMBER OF
FIRST METHODIST CHURCH OF CONOVER
SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025**



Mary "Jayne" Davis

**103 Deal Avenue
Conover, NC 28613**

**Email: pajaynetx@yahoo.com
Home - (828) 469-5196
Cell - (346) 445-2327**