



# First Methodist Church OF CONOVER

*The Weekly Newsletter of First Methodist Church Conover*

*March 12, 2024*

## WHAT IS MY COFFEE?

*A friend sent this to me this past week and it resonated with me, so I thought I'd share it with you. The author is Pam Kearney who lives in Dawson County in north Georgia.*

I visited Matthew, the owner of Lucy's Flour Shop, a little while back. As I nibbled on an enormous chocolate chip cookie, I began to tell him a story.

A few years back, on a bitterly cold December evening, there was a visitation at the funeral home across the street from his bakery. The people, bundled up in coats, scarves, and blankets, were lined up around the building waiting to hug the family of the deceased. Seemingly out of nowhere, a man showed up and began giving away hot coffee to the people outside. People who entered the funeral home with coffee in their hands whispered of a mysterious man handing out free coffee, and how much they appreciated it.



I looked at Mathew and said, *"I have a suspicion that you were that man. Is that right?"*

Matthew very humbly replied, *"Yes. Felt so bad for them and wanted to do something, but all I could do was make coffee, so I made coffee."*

I responded that he blessed so many people that night by helping them warm up and by showing there's good in the world. He added a positive note to a devastating situation. I paused, then added, *"That visitation was for my sixteen-year-old son. Thank you for being so kind."*

That conversation has stuck in my head since then. *"All I could do was make coffee, so I made coffee."*

Somedays, I'm burdened with the reality that I can't do everything to help everybody. I truly do want to make a difference in people's lives and change the world. I dream big, but I can't do it all. Matthew's words came back to me recently. *"All I could do was make coffee, so I made coffee."*

I repeatedly asked myself, *"What is my 'coffee' in this situation?"* I can't do everything, but I can do something, so I figured out how to do it and I did it.

None of us can do it all, but we can all do something, and if so, we can make a difference in the world. I challenge you to ask yourself often, *"What is my coffee?"*, and then make your coffee.

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:

Charles Reed, Rona Saunders, Greg Reed,  
Stan & Kim Reed, Pierre, Laurette, Gerhardt & Jarrett  
Rheeder, Harold & Martha Robertson.

## IN/OUT OF HOSPITAL

Tony Garrison at Wake Forest Baptist MC  
Rev. Dixon Adams at CVMC (Room 154)

## MEMORIALS General Fund

In memory of Connie McCoy by:  
Voneva Allen McKeown

## Pastor's Discretionary Fund

In memory of Connie McCoy by:  
Linda Birchfield



## EASTER BLESSINGS

Can you believe that in just a few more weeks we will be celebrating Easter? We hope you will join us in spreading love and blessings to our homebound and nursing facility members.

Easter bags have been placed in the commons area with the names of our 11 recipients. Please bring an Easter card and/or treat to add to each bag, either on Sunday mornings or during the week. The names are also listed in the Newsletter.

The deadline will be March 17th so that the bags can be delivered before Easter.

Thank you so much for your amazing support of this ministry.



## ATTENTION GOODTIMERS!!!

The Goodtimers' Luncheon for this month has been cancelled. The CFLC will be unavailable as the Prayer Walk "Journey to Jerusalem" is being set-up.

Eddie hopes to get a trip together for the month of April. Keep watching the Newsletter for updates.

Thank you.

## **This SATURDAY! March 16**



We will host our church and community children for a Holy Week experience on March 16. The children will walk through the events of the week before Jesus' death and resurrection.

### **Volunteer information:**

First, we need some help setting up for this event on Friday, March 15.

We will need to set up some tables, distribute craft supplies, and make sure Prayer Walk scenery is secure. Contact Jo Ellen Knecht (828) 244-9437 for details.

On Saturday, if you are willing to tell a story (script provided) or help with a simple craft (supplies prepared), please come at 8:30 am and Jo Ellen Knecht will provide guidance for all the activities. If you are willing to help with registration or to guide groups of participants through the stations, please be there by 9:45. If you are willing to help hide Easter eggs, please come at 9:45 and see Beth Woods. If weather permits, we will hide the eggs outside between 10 and 10:30. We'll have a plan B if it is too rainy.

# NEWS TO USE



## Time to Register! A Few Spots Still Open! Noah's Ark/Creation Museum Trip

We will be taking a bus trip to visit the Ark Encounter in Williamstown, Kentucky, and the Creation Museum in Petersburg, Kentucky. Finley Cloninger will be our driver, with Harold Roberson serving as "Assistant Trip Director!"

We still have several slots open for more passengers. So, if you've been thinking about going or if you know anyone (doesn't have to be a church member) interested in this trip, please have them contact Beth Woods at 336-480-4551 or [woods777@aol.com](mailto:woods777@aol.com). Information and Registration sheets are on Beth's door. The information is also on our website, [www.fmccconover.org](http://www.fmccconover.org), accessible by the QR code below.

May 20-23, 2024 -- Price Per Person: Double room \$699; Triple room \$639; Quad room \$609; Single room \$889. You can choose who to room with.

If you want to join the trip, please fill out a registration form and return it to Burke Christian Tours or to Beth, with a \$200 deposit. (Checks made out to Christian Tours. There is also a credit card option if you call the tour office (800-476-3900).



## Ashure NEWS

Time for March Madness at Ashure Ministry!! Not so much the basketball games, but a friendly competition in the form of a food drive. Please donate food OR money on behalf of your favorite college team. Each pound of food counts as 2 points, and each dollar counts as 3 points. The team with the most points wins the challenge.

FMCC is participating in this March Madness food drive. Team designated boxes will be located in the Narthex in which you may place your food from March 1 - April 10. **Monetary donations may be taken to Ashure Ministry, mailed to Ashure Ministry at P O Box 31, Newton, or given to Anita Deal. Checks should include your team choice and FMCC in the memo line.**

The **March food request** for Ashure Ministry is March Madness Food Drive.



## PASTOR'S QUIZ

The Samaritan leper was appreciated by Jesus because he gave

- a. help without thanks
- b. thanks for help
- c. help and thanks
- d. help for thanks

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

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT By Our Presence March 10, 2024

Sunday School:  
92

Worship:  
8:45am Service 117  
11:00am Service 124  
241

### God's Tithe & Our Gifts

General Fund	\$ 14,789.00
(Needed weekly for budget: \$12,804)	
Bible Study Books	110.00
Children's Bank	29.00
Disaffiliation Fund	200.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	50.00
Total	\$ 15,178.00
Deposit of NC Sales & Use Tax	
Refund:	\$ 3,589.28

## Fellowship Meals at the Woods' Home

As of this week, we've had the amazing experience of hosting a total of 128 church friends for meals in our home. If you are one of those, THANK YOU for spending time with us! We hope it was as much a blessing for you as it was for us.

If you haven't been able to join us yet, you haven't missed your chance! We will set another round of dates after Easter. We will continue these as long as there is interest!

Pastor John and Beth



First Methodist Church  
410 First Avenue North  
Conover, NC 28613  
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Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Conover, NC

## THANK YOU

Dear FMCC Congregation,

There are no words to express what a blessing your generous donations will be to the Boston Blessing Box.

As you know, it takes a village to keep a project like this going, and you have truly stepped up to the challenge. The blessing box will be stocked about three times a week with your donations. What a blessing!!!

Thank you again for your generous donations to help feed the needy. May God bless you all.

Sincerely,

Your Boston Blessing Box  
Pals



Answer to this week's Pastor's Quiz:

b. thanks for help  
(Luke 17:11-19)

## CHURCH STAFF

Pastor

Rev. John Woods  
**[pastor@fmccconover.org](mailto:pastor@fmccconover.org)**  
(828) 464-4635  
(336) 480-4550 - cell  
208 2nd St NE, Conover

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Financial Secretary

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Music Director/Choir

Jon Rogers  
[jsrogers99@gmail.com](mailto:jsrogers99@gmail.com)  
(828) 244-7019

Music Director/Praise Team/  
Pianist

Shannon Rogers  
[srog101@gmail.com](mailto:srog101@gmail.com)  
(828) 244-6124

Organist

Kevin Haney  
[khaney01@gmail.com](mailto:khaney01@gmail.com)  
(704) 914-6510

Preschool Director

Julie Robinson  
(828) 466-3158  
**[preschool@fmccconover.org](mailto:preschool@fmccconover.org)**

Lead Nursery Worker

Pilar Tobar

Custodian

Luisa Toro Bryan

Church Office

(828) 464-4635

Website:

[www.fmccconover.org](http://www.fmccconover.org)



## MORE NEWS TO USE



### "Journey to Jerusalem" Prayer Walk

**Work days:** All hands are welcome!

- On March 17 at 2:00, a crew will be setting up scenery in the Commons Area and hallways. There will also be work going on throughout the week of March 17-24, so feel free to stop by and offer your assistance.
- On March 24, right after the late service, a crew will be setting up the last of the hallway scenery.
- Each night of the Prayer Walk (March 24, 25, 26, 27, and 29 – 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. SIGN-UP SHEETS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE PRAYER SHAWL ROOM.
- On March 30, beginning at 10:00, 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 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!

### Save the Date! April 20 – 9 am - Noon

#### First Methodist Hosting NC GMC Missions Conference!

The NC GMC is partnering with One Mission Society and their 1-day Church Training Workshops to provide regional workshops across the state. The intention is to help EVERY CHURCH in the NC GMC develop an intentional missions plan for their church, impacting the church's ministry from their neighborhood, their city, regionally, and globally.

First Methodist Church of Conover will host one of these events on April 20 (Saturday) from 9-12. It will be open to churches all around us. We will be responsible for providing refreshments, use of A/V equipment, tables & chairs, and housing the speakers. The training content will come from One Mission Society.

Churches of all types will be able to gain from this training- small churches needing to start a missions strategy to large churches who want to take a day to re-energize around a well-defined program, and every type in between. In a nutshell, this workshop will help both churches and Circles to grow missions and mission participation with a clear and compelling mission plan.

Watch this brief video to see the 5 ways that churches will come away with this clear and compelling plan to engage in mission: [vimeo.com/798873205](https://vimeo.com/798873205). The video talks about doing this training in each church but the GMC has chosen to broaden its impact by coming together to offer this training in groups across the state.

Remember, in the GMC, missions will arise from every local church -- from every church and every church's neighborhood -- to our regional, national, and global missions. As we hear God's call to "witness boldly," the GMC wants to equip churches to be effective in every area of mission God calls us to.

## EVEN MORE NEWS TO USE

### Children's Ministry News

#### VBS

Wow! It's March already! Our Children's Ministry will soon be turning attention to VBS and other summer programming. Please be watching this newsletter, our Facebook page, and Sunday morning announcements for information on a planning meeting to be scheduled in April.



### CONNOR SCHOLARSHIP

#### Applications Available

Applications are now being accepted for anyone wanting to apply for a Connor Scholarship. Application forms can be obtained from the church office. (828) 464-4635 or via email, [office@fmccconover.org](mailto:office@fmccconover.org).

Please state whether you need a high school application or a college application.



**DEADLINE** for applications is **April 19th**.

Scholarships will be awarded on Sunday, June 2, 2024 at the 11:00am service.

### "THE LIGHT OF CHRIST"

The Worship Committee met Sunday, March 10th and one of the subjects discussed was carrying and removing "The Light of Christ" at our services.

This has not been done since pre-Covid and is something that you have said you missed and would like to see it resume.

To do so we have to have volunteers. Before it was our kids that were pre-confirmation age. We talked about other churches and who their volunteers are. There is broad spectrum.

So we would like any one, age **10 to 100**, that would be willing to assist in carrying and removing "The Light of Christ", to please let us know.

You do not have to.....

Wear a robe (unless you want to)

Sit up front (unless you want to)

Pastor John and the Worship Committee will help so you know how, what, where and when

The more of us that volunteer, the less often your rotation would come around

Please reach out to Jeanne Laws, Anthony Price, Pastor John or any member of the Worship committee.

So let us resume carrying the "Light of Christ" for the Glory of Christ.

Your FMCC Worship Committee



## 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

**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

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**Carol Dickinson - 2069 21st Street SE Unit G**

Hickory, NC 28602

(828) 855-3968

**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



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



formerly known as



# ASHURE MINISTRY'S 6TH ANNUAL MARCH MADNESS CHALLENGE

## MARCH 1 - APRIL 10

Each pound of food  
donated = 2 points

Each dollar  
donated = 3 points

**THE TEAM WITH THE MOST POINTS WINS!**  
DONATIONS CAN BE BROUGHT TO ASHURE MINISTRY  
MONDAYS-THURSDAYS FROM 9-4PM.

**Include  
with donation:**

Team name, church or  
business name & your name

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!

**Give Today at [ashureministry.org/mmc](https://ashureministry.org/mmc)**

Ashure Ministry PO Box 31 245 East N. Street, Newton, NC 28658

For more information, contact: Allen Sherrill

[a.sherrill@ashureministry.org](mailto:a.sherrill@ashureministry.org) (828) 446-5418

