



First News

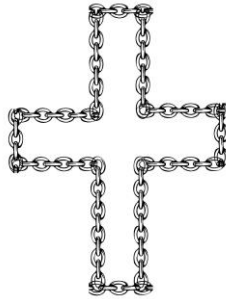
First United Methodist Church

Wadesboro, NC

First United Methodist Church, 118 E. Morgan St, Wadesboro, NC 28170

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Dear Disciples,

There are many, many reasons that I love being United Methodist. A primary one of those is that we are *connectional*. Some church traditions, while being tied together as denominations, operate in loose groupings or are *congregationalist* (where each congregation makes all of its own decisions, rules, and recruits its own pastor). I give thanks that we are connectional! There are lots of ways institutionally that we are grouped together (First-Anson Circuit charge, Anson-Union Missional Network, Uwharrie District, Western NC Conference, Southeast Jurisdiction, General Conference). I am thankful for those and the ways that it means shared resources and focused mission around the world. But recently, I've been thinking of all the beautiful ways our connection is really found in *relationships* between people.

Our founder, John Wesley, was emphatic that religion is not an individual pursuit, but *connected* by shared life. Our connectional network gives United Methodists a cruciform life: connected horizontally to one another through our doctrine, order, and mission; connected vertically from the smallest unit of charge conference up to our governing body, the General Conference. In other words, Connectionalism allows The UMC to be global in scope and local in action.

Being connectional means that we're always a phone call or conversation away from helping one another and sharing resources. The Nurture Team had a brilliant idea to shift our Easter Egg hunt to support mission through our denomination's fantastic aid organization United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR). In a UM Clergywomen's group, someone solicited ideas for Easter, so I shared the idea. A clergy person in our conference saw it and was inspired to share our story for the entire conference to see. This fantastic idea not only collected a whopping \$985.24 for UMCOR's efforts in Ukraine but allowed other UM Churches to utilize this great idea. Likewise, I find inspiration from other churches and clergy around the conference, and regularly pick up the phone or send an email to solicit advice and brainstorm with other clergy. Our fantastic Trustee Chair helped us navigate replacing the roof and getting a more cost-effective insurance policy by simply picking up the phone to talk to another Trustee chair at a local church. Our connection has real monetary value, increases our effectiveness, focuses our mission, and provides invaluable training for clergy and laity... but that pales in comparison to sharing this sort of generous spirit with one another. It was a life-giving balm to be able to gather in person last week for a District clergy gathering for the first time since the pandemic began! Our connection gives us energy, fresh ideas, and provides space to wrestle with important questions. I sure do love being United Methodist, don't you?!?! You can share the ways you love being Methodist with the hashtag #BeUMC on social media.

In Christ,

Pastor Stacey

Lectionary Readings

May 8

Acts 9:36-43; Ps 23
Rev 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

May 15

Acts 11:1-18; Os 148
Rev 21:1-6; John 13:35-36

*The Lectionary readings are for each Sunday of the church year, and for special days.
They provide a systematic way of reading the Bible and to aid you in your daily devotional time.*

Upcoming Opportunities

Sunday, May 8 – Mother’s Day

9:00 Sunday School
11:00 Worship in sanctuary

Monday, May 9

4:00 UMW
Office Closed

Tuesday, May 10

4:15 Confirmation Class
Office Open

Wednesday, May 11

6:30 Handbells
7:30 Choir
Office Open

Thursday, May 12

Office Open

Friday, May 13

Office Closed

Sunday, May 15

9:30 Sunday School
11:00 Worship
12:15 Leadership Council Meeting

Monday, May 16

Office Closed

Tuesday, May 17

4:15 Confirmation Class
Office Open

Wednesday, May 18

6:30 Handbells
7:30 Choir
Office Open

Thursday, May 19

Office Open

Reminders....

+The **Flower Calendar for 2022** is posted on the bulletin board in the education hall, across from the pastor’s study. Please sign up for any open Sundays as soon as possible to secure the date you wish.

+Also, the **Money Steward schedule** is posted on the same bulletin board.

+**The deadline for information for the bi-weekly newsletter is Tuesday before noon of that week.**



Worship in the sanctuary May 8

Message: *“Sheep, Shepherd, and Weaving Cloth”*

-Rev. Stacey Lundy

Reader: *Sandy Bruney*

Worship in the sanctuary, May 15

Message: *TBA*

-Rev. Stacey Lundy

Reader: *Cory Smith*

What Is a Mother?

*What defines a mother
It’s more than DNA
In fact, it seems biology
Will just get in the way
It’s not from whom we came from
It’s who made us who we are
It’s who gave us strength and courage
And the drive to travel far
Some mothers are there from the beginning
Some join us along the way
But always they’re supporting us
Each and every day
Thanks often is unspoken
In truth there is no need
Our deeper soul connection
Helps set our spirits free*

-Robert Longley

COVID Update

Thankfully the number of Covid cases has decreased in Anson County and across North Carolina. In many places, masks are now “optional”. While in Sunday School or Worship, please do as you feel comfortable in wearing or not wearing masks.

However, we still need to remember those that have compromised immune systems (Cancer patients, transplant recipients, heart patients, and others), especially when we are “visiting” with each other before, during, and after church events.

-Thank you!

Money Stewards for May: Jeff Crawford & Selene Hardison

June: Corrine Nicholson & Peggy Pinkston

**If you must be out, please remember to get someone to take your place!*

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Prayer List

Please help keep the prayer list up to date by letting the office know of any additions or deletions that should be made.

Lula Ann Davis
Lib Huntley
Nancy Huntley
Ruth Hickman
Catherine Wright
Judy Kalish
Charles Runkle – David Runkle’s brother
Linda Herold-Krista’s mother
Dustin Morton-Elizabeth Presson’s brother-in-law
Lillie Morton-Paulette Ridley’s friend
Donna Schindler – Pat Frost’s sister
Betty Martin – Patsy Brasington’s sister
Roy Lee Helms – Selene Hardison’s family
Jill Gullledge-Leigh Crawford Dawson’s friend
Harvey Leavitt
Linda Humble
Keith Marwitz
Peggy Pinkston
Gail Clonts & Gloria Prentiss (friends of Paulette Ridley)

Betty Hardison
Frank Wallace
Terry Helms
Don Baucom-Ralph Sikes’ brother-in-law
Lib Tucker (New Hope)
COVID 19 Victims and their families!
Citizens of the Ukraine
AND... all whom we name in our hearts!

Retirement/Assisted Living /Nursing Homes

*Ray Clayton – **Franklin Manor**,
100 Sunset Dr., Youngsville, NC 27596
*Chuck Kiser – **Meadowview**,
123 Anson High School Rd., Wadesboro
*Nancy Warren-**Wadesboro Health & Rehab**,
2051 Country Club Rd, Wadesboro, NC



Memorials

Budget Fund

In memory of Kelly Greene Petrill by Nancy Huntley

Seven Reasons Why I Love The United Methodist Church

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

By: Bishop Ken Carter, Resident Bishop of the Western North Carolina and Florida Conferences of the UMC

1. Our [doctrine of grace](#), which is not about our merit. We are on a journey to share this grace with a wider circle of people. We are not there yet. God has bid all humankind.
2. Our journey to holiness, being made [perfect in love](#). We love God because God first loved us. And we love our neighbor because we see the image of God in them.
3. Our connection for the purpose of mission. For example, right now this is [UMCOR in Ukraine](#) (war). A few months ago it was [Western Kentucky \(tornado\)](#). A few months before that it was Western North Carolina (flood). A few years ago it was Florida (hurricane).
4. Our work in discipleship, from [Upper Room](#) and Walk to Emmaus to Disciple Bible Study to Covenant Discipleship to Disciple's Path to The Bible Year to Fresh Expressions.
5. Our journey to inclusion, from [women in ministry](#) to the [black college fund](#) to becoming a global church to equitable compensation to struggling with our language about homosexuality. This is not a problem. This is the unfinished work of God in us.
6. Our [doctrinal standards](#), which have not changed and do not change, and [our theological task](#), which integrates our convictions about scripture with tradition, reason, and experience. I love that we are a church with sound doctrine, and I love that the theological task is to apply that doctrine to ever-changing human needs.
7. We are an imperfect church, the cross a reminder of our need for redemption, the flame a reminder of our hardened hearts in need of the warm fire of the Holy Spirit whose first fruit is love. We are an imperfect church because we are imperfect people—all have sinned. And we are better together, and no one is being asked to leave.

Grace. Holiness. Mission. Discipleship. Inclusion. Doctrinal Standards. Theological Task. Cross and Flame. Better Together.

#BeUMC

Bishop Ken Carter serves as the episcopal leader of the Western North Carolina and Florida Conferences of The United Methodist Church.

This content was first published by Bishop Carter on social media. Republished here with permission on April 27, 2022

<https://www.wnccumc.org/>





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Music Director.....	Emily Privette
Assistant Music Director.....	Gail Litaker
Audio/Video Coordinator.....	Rick Beann, John Crawford
Open Doors Director.....	Lyndsey Myers-Adams
Housekeeper.....	Diane Timmons

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