

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

LEXINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA

At First United Methodist Church, we are each alive in Christ, united in nurturing fellowship, reaching out to share God's boundless love.

December 26, 2021

11:00 a.m.

First Sunday after Christmas Day



**Without Exception. God Loves Everyone.
Come Join Our Journey at First UMC.**

We warmly welcome you to First UMC and our worship service! We are glad you are here with us today! We'd love to help you connect with God and with other people through First UMC.

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome

Rev. Cheryl Skinner

Gathering Music - "Christmastime Is Here"

by Vince Guaraldi

Rev. Kirk Tutterow, piano

Call to Worship

Leader: God's love has come to earth to dwell with us.

People: **Sing for joy with the angels.**

Leader: We are God's chosen people, loved and cherished.

People: **Sing for joy with the angels.**

Leader: The birth of Love has changed us forever.

People: **Sing for joy with the angels.**

Leader: Let us sing, praise, rejoice, and worship together!

Christmas Prayer (in unison)

God of the Incarnation,

**even as we celebrate the Love that was born at Christmas,
we know that your love continues to grow
far beyond Christmas Day.**

**Even as parents watch tenderly and proudly
as their children grow into adulthood,
you hold us in your compassionate embrace
throughout our lives.**

continued

**Guide us into mature faith, O God,
that we might be like Jesus in our love,
in our humility and wisdom, and in every word and deed.
Shape us, inspire us, challenge us, and bless us
with the music to sing your praises. Amen.**

Hymn of Celebration No. 238 - "Angels We Have Heard on High"
Traditional French Carol
*(All children in Kindergarten through Fifth Grade are invited to depart
with our Godly Play leaders for Children's Church downstairs.)*

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Anthem Isabella Ellis and Asher Ellis

Worshipping God with Our Gifts, Tithes & Offerings

Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

**God of miracles, when Jesus was born,
angels, shepherds, sages, and even animals
rejoiced and gave thanks.
Today, we delight in our chance
to join the Christmas party of gratitude.
Thank you for naming us your beloved children.
We offer you our hearts, our deeds, and our entire lives
in thanksgiving for the gift of Christ Jesus,
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

Anthem Isabella Ellis and Asher Ellis

Responsive Reading - Psalm 96 *UMH Page 815*
"O sing to the Lord a new song..."

Singing the Songs of Christmas

*(You are invited to request a favorite Christmas carol from the United
Methodist Hymnal and share why it is meaningful to you!)*

Affirmation of Faith No. 883 - A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada

Hymn of Joy No. 249 - "There's a Song in the Air" *by Josiah G. Holland*

Benediction

Chiming of the Trinity

Traveling Music - "Kingdom Praise" *arr. by David Clydesdale*
Rev. Kirk Tutterow, piano

Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of their parents, Ella and Casper Timberlake, by Kay and Bob Timberlake; Teen and Tim Timberlake.




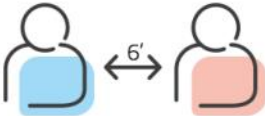

Altar Guild Flower Calendar for 2022 is displayed in the main hallway. If you are interested in placing flowers in the Narthex or on the Altar in honor or in memory of someone or an occasion, please sign up on the calendar **and contact** the church office (336) 248-2886 so that we may note your flowers in the bulletin.



The Sparrow Project is a central registry of folks who are willing to offer their services, to help you, short term in case of an emergency, illness, or surgery. The types of tasks we are able to help you with are: picking up groceries or prescriptions, running an errand, transportation to and from appointments, simple household repairs like replacing a light bulb, temporary meal preparation, computer help.

If you need help, all you have to do is call Lauren Hall (336) 239-0860 or the church office (336) 248-2886. It's that simple. You let us know what you need and we will take it from there. We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity.

Know your 3 W's

 <p>WEAR a cloth face covering.</p>	 <p>WAIT 6 feet apart and avoid close contact.</p>	 <p>WASH your hands often or use hand sanitizer</p>
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(Open to continue on center panel)

Announcements

Remember to visit our website www.fumclex.org or join our **Tuesday Ties (That Bind) & Friday Wrap Up** weekly emails through **Constant Contact** to stay connected with the latest news, calendar updates, recorded worship services, bulletin, and newsletter.

Midday Prayer will return on **Wednesday, January 5 at 12 noon**. We will not meet on Wednesday, December 29.

Nominations Report for 2022 is 98% complete. You may pick up a copy from the display racks at the 4th Avenue & State Street entrances, the Volunteer's Desk and on our website under the "Members Menu" tab.

Planning for meetings, activities or events in 2022? Be sure to contact the church office so that we may double check the church calendar and begin publicity in the bulletin, newsletter and on our website. Happy New Year to one and all!

Stewardship Corner

Thanks to all who have generously supported First UMC's financial goals in December.

As of Sunday, December 19, we have received \$29,601.55 out of the \$44,000 December goal from pledges, tithes, and offerings for the General Ministry Budget.

Note - to receive tax credit in 2021, all offerings must be received either in the mail postmarked by December 31st, or in person in the office by December 31st, or drop your envelope in the mailbox under the portecochere.

We have also received \$8,300 so far for the Children, Youth, and Families Fund for 2022. We want to raise \$100,000 for this fund by the end of next year as getting our Children, Youth, and Families ministries off to a great start in 2022 and beyond is one of the most important things we can do as a church to build a strong foundation for our future..

Most importantly, we have received \$2,820.00 for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) for tornado relief in the mid-west.

We will post another year-end financial update on Tuesday, January 4th.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support for the ministries here at First UMC.

General Ministry Budget Monthly Snapshot – through Nov. 30, 2021

Offerings, Pledges, & other income	\$414,393.30
*One-time grant income	<u>\$ 63,150.00</u>
Total Income through Nov. 30	\$477,543.30
Total Expenditures through Nov. 30	<u>\$484,026.08</u>
Net Total	(\$ 6,482.78)

*The One-time grant income includes a one-time \$29,000 Payroll Protection grant from the Federal Government's COVID-19 program. It also includes \$3,100 a month through December 2021 from the 2020 appeal to the congregation for the new Children, Families, and Youth ministerial position.

First United Methodist Church is a vital, growing, life-giving church because of the support of all its family and friends. As your giving continues at current levels, or even increases this fall and into the new year, our ministries will be even more ready to grow and flourish. So, please continue to support the church as best you can through your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness.

You will find the General Ministry Budget Monthly Summary on our website.

Prayer Requests:

Please note the date beside of each name representing when the request was made and/or an update. All are encouraged to review the list and contact the church office to add or remove a name from the prayer list.

Short Term (8 weeks or less)

*Bill Cook (12-22-21)
Peggy Horn (12-22-21)
*Mary Niner (12-19-21)
Vicki Ulrich (12-15-21)
Doug Rowe (12-15-21)
Ellen Easter (12-14-21)
Marc Frye (12-8-21)
*June Craver (11-17-21)
*Sharron Moody (11-15-21)
Gordon Milbrath (11-11-21)
*Libby Simpson (11-3-21)

Long Term

*Jane Cook Harris (12-19-21)
*Libby & Max Lanning (12-19-21)
Alma Kernodle (12-19-21)
Claire Dowling (12-18-21)
Sandy Moroney (12-18-21)
Jim McDermott (12-18-21)
*Steve & Gay Smith (12-15-21)
Curri Hairston (12-15-21)
*Linda Fisher (12-12-21)
*Shane Martin (12-1-21)
Nicholas Melomo (11-24-21)
Bill Bingham (11-22-21)
Ron & Kristie Wooten (11-22-21)
Kate Gwaltney (11-17-21)
Jason/Stacy Heitman Family (11-10-21)
*Mary Louise Wilkerson (10-17-21)
Lynn Mack (10-15-21)
Gary Leonard (10-6-21)
Stan Larson (10-5-21)
Tami Robinson (9-26-21)
Keith Tutterow (9-22-21)
Ann Leonard (9-15-21)
Gina & Russ Parrot (8-11-21)
Kendall Conner (7-26-21)
Rae Hall (5-20-21)
Caroline Wagner Loder (5-13-21)
Jane King (4-15-21)

Doris Brown (3-29-21)
*Lacy Carol Belcher (3-7-21)
Mark Milligan (2-12-21)
Betty Jean Whitaker (2-9-21)
*Kathy Baragona (1-1-21)
Bentley Leonard (12-27-20)
Martha Shore Winters (10-12-20)
Shannon & Steve Ford (1-22-20)

Homebound

*Dean Davis
*Jean Gosnell
*Bettye Gray
*Earl Hester
*John Scarff
*Patricia Smith
*Dr. Hunter Strader
*Flonnie Thomason
*Dare Wilson

Abbott's Creek

Tempie Almstead

Benton House (Charleston, SC)

*Janice Bacon

TerraBella Salisbury

*Sandra Shoaf

Piedmont Crossing

(Thomasville)

Health Care

*Barbara Proctor
*Nancy Wilkinson

Piedmont Crossing

(Thomasville)

Residents

*Jo Doris Beck
*Joan & Dick Bisbee
*Betsy & Jim Buchanan
*Herman Crabtree
*Adrian Neal
*Madeline Palmer
*Karen & Bob Pearson

Summerfield Suites (Florida)

*Mary Williams

The Laurels at Highland Creek (Charlotte)

*Carolyn Briggs

Serving in the Armed Forces

*Capt. Kacie Allred
*Specialist McRay Calderone
*SGT John Hall
SGT Alan Ingram
Major Jarrad Thorley

Ways To Give financially back to God through the ministries of First UMC

We Worship with our Tithes and Offerings—On Sunday, place your tithes and offerings in the baskets provided at the back of the church.

Mail to First UMC, 310 S. Main Street, Lexington, NC 27292.

Online Giving for mobile device users, the QR (Quick Response) code on the right will take you to a secure mobile site for Online Giving from your smartphone or tablet. **On your first visit**, you will need to create a profile.

Text to Give – 855-222-3109—Text the amount you wish to give and follow the directions.



WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, December 26

First Sunday after Christmas

- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Sanctuary
Godly Play for ages Kindergarten thru 5th grade
11:00 a.m. LIVE streamed Morning Worship on YouTube

Monday, December 27

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, December 28

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, December 29

- 12:30 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Lunch, Bar-B- Q Center

Thursday, December 30

Friday, December 31

Church Office Closed

Saturday, January 1, 2022

Happy New Year!

Sunday, January 2

Epiphany Sunday

- 8:45 a.m. Early Worship, Sanctuary
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Sanctuary
Godly Play for ages Kindergarten thru 5th grade
11:00 a.m. LIVE streamed Morning Worship on YouTube



First United Methodist Church
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Office phone: (336) 248-2886 Website: www.fumclex.org

Rev. Cheryl Skinner, Minister skinnerrev@gmail.com 336-813-2626

Rev. Kirk Tutterow, Minister kingtutt65@gmail.com 336-918-0275

Lee Mabe, Director of Music and Youth Ministries maestromabe@gmail.com

Phyllis Jones, Organist musician@att.net

Amanda Bostick, Children's Ministries Coordinator aebostick@gmail.com

Kimberly Leonard, Nursery Staff, **Kelly Leonard**, Nursery Staff, **Jill Michener**, Nursery Staff,
Claire Norris, Nursery Staff

Alma Carlton, Financial Secretary acarlton@firstumclex.org

Donna Huskins, Administrative Assistant dhuskins@firstumclex.org