



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

Lexington, North Carolina



We love you. We care about you. We're here for you.
We offer a grace-filled welcome to all who come through our doors!

THE STORY

AUGUST 2023

310 S. MAIN STREET • WWW.FUMCLEX.ORG • 336-248-2886

Calendar of Events

(subject to change)

Faith Seekers

Thursday, August 3 (5p)
Home of Norris' Lake House

United Women in Faith

Monday, August 14 (10a)
Spruill/Koinonia Classroom

September Newsletter

Articles Due: August 15

Blood Drive

Tuesday, August 15 (2p-6:30p)
Fellowship Hall

Missions Team

provides evening meal

Tuesday, August 15 (5:45p)
Davidson County First Hope
Ministries

Staff-Parish Relations

Thursday, August 17 (7p)
Parlor

United Methodist Men

Sunday, August 20 (8:30a)
Fellowship Hall

United Women in Faith Ladies' Tea

Saturday, August 26 (2p-4p)
Fellowship Hall

Promotion Sunday

Sunday, August 27

Appreciation Dinner

Wednesday, August 30

Weekly Events

Sundays

Early Worship (8:45a)
Sunday School (9:45a)
Morning Worship (11a)
Livestream on YouTube (11a)
Godly Play (11a)

Mondays

Boy Scouts (7p)
Youth/Scout House

Tuesdays

Prayer Warriors Lunch
(12p) Barbeque Center

DC Connect

(5p-7p) Fellowship Hall

Wednesdays

Midday Prayer Gathering
(12p) Sanctuary

Chancel Choir

Rehearsal resumes
August 23

Fall Partnership with DC Connect

The First UMC Missions Team is excited to announce a new partnership with DC Connect, a local non-profit agency that helps connect people with needed resources in Davidson County. We will serve as a host site for their "Getting Ahead In a Just-Gettin'-By World" workshop that teaches life skills to help keep folks out of poverty. Each Tuesday night this fall beginning August 8, a group of 6-12 participants will meet in our fellowship hall for dinner and a 2-hour class designed to identify the causes of poverty and help navigate the transition to self-sufficiency. At the end of the 16-week program, each participant will be assigned a mentor who will help navigate the resources presented during the workshop.

But we don't want to just provide a place to meet, we want to partner with DC Connect by serving as gracious hosts for the people who will come! That said, there are a few important ways you can get involved...

1. **Serve as a host** for a night, to greet people, orient the folks bringing food to the kitchen, and answer any questions that arise.
2. **Help with childcare**, which is provided for participant's children each week.
3. **Volunteer as a mentor** at the end of the program. Training and resources are provided by DC Connect.

Contact Rev. Cheryl Skinner at skinnerrev@gmail.com or call her at church if you are able to help in any of the above ways. We want to make people feel welcome and comfortable as they take this important step!

To help us learn more about the reality of poverty in our community, you are invited to participate in the "Bridges Out of Poverty" seminar we will be hosting at First UMC in September—date and time coming soon!



Do you need a house sitter or pet sitter while on vacation this summer?

If the answer is **YES!** Contact Cheri Murray, by phone: 336-249-6872 or email: cherimurray01@gmail.com.



Beat the Heat Blood Drive - Chill Out, Cool Off, and GIVE Blood! Tuesday, August 15 (2:00pm—6:30pm) Fellowship Hall

For an appointment, please visit RedCrossBlood.org OR call 1-800-733-2767 - You may also call the church office (Donna) 336-248-2886 OR Show Up & We'll Work You In!



United Women in Faith Ladies Tea

Saturday, August 26 (2:00pm) in the Fellowship Hall

Our focus and fundraising this year are the Backpack Programs at Pickett and Charles England Elementary Schools. **Tickets are now available from a United Women in Faith member.** Please contact Marsha Garwood 704-418-1947 with questions.

Loaves & Fishes GOLF FOrE! GOOD Saturday, August 26

Lexington Golf Club Registration: 1:00pm Tee-Off: 2:00pm Cost: \$70/player (\$280/team)

A fundraiser for Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry located at Trinity UMC (902 S. Main Street, Lexington)—a partner of Second Harvest Food Bank of NWC. **Detailed registration forms are located** on the volunteer's desk in the reception area near the fellowship hall.

Promotion Sunday - August 27

On Sunday, August 27, we will celebrate the beginning of a new school year with our annual **Blessing of the Backpacks during the 11:00am worship service.** The youth will share their experience from PASSPORT Mission Camp this June.

Discipleship formation for all ages will kick-off for the fall that morning as well—here are the options for Sunday mornings:

Children & Youth Sunday school at 10:00am

Preschool—Children's Area, Ground Floor
Elementary—Second Floor
Youth—Second Floor

Adult Sunday school at 10:00am

Adult Fellowship—Second Floor
Agape—Second Floor
Friends in Faith—Second Floor
Koinonia/Wesley-Spruill—First Floor

Godly Play/Children's Church

Available to children in K-5 during the 11:00 worship service
Children leave with a Godly Play leader during the opening hymn
Pick-up from the Children's Area, Ground Floor

Our **Teens of Life Youth Ministry** will also resume on August 27 with a **lunch following the 11:00am service**—all youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join us in the fellowship hall to learn about upcoming fall events, including dates for a retreat at the beach!

As you can see, it's the perfect time to get back into the groove as we bid summer farewell and look forward to changing seasons, fall sports, upcoming holidays, and a new rhythm for the entire family.

Appreciation Dinner Wednesday, August 30 (6:00pm) Fellowship Hall

We are happy to announce the return of our Appreciation Dinner. The event offers appreciation to the **Chancel Choir, Chancel Bells, ALIVE! Praise Band, Sound/Video Team, & Usher/Security Team** for their devoted ministry to the church. Please note that spouses are invited.

Please make your reservation: Online: fumclex.org - *RSVP details provided in mailed letter*

Email the church office: dhuskins@firstumclex.org OR Call the church office: 336-248-2886

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Disciple Bible Study

Starting in September, First UMC will offer the fourth and final installment of Disciple Bible Study, which covers the Writings in the Old Testament (Ruth, 1 and 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon) and the Gospel of John and Book of Revelation in the New Testament. Anyone who has taken Disciple I is eligible to take **Disciple IV: Under the Tree of Life**—you don't need to have taken Disciple II and/or Disciple III first. If you are interested, please let Pastor Cheryl know—you can email her at: skinnerrev@gmail.com or call the church office. Student books are \$35, but are for the entire year.

If you haven't taken **Disciple I: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study** and are interested in this 24-week through-the-Bible survey class, also let Pastor Cheryl know—if there are enough interested folks we will start a new class. All of the Disciple Bible Studies are wonderful ways to increase your knowledge of the Bible and your understanding of what it means to live as a Disciple of Jesus Christ!

National Gold Star Mother's Day - Sunday, September 24



On the last Sunday in September, Gold Star Mother's and Family Day honors the mothers, fathers, and families of fallen military service members. Also known as National Gold Star Mother's Day, the day serves as a reminder of the losses suffered by military families.

The **United Methodist Men** invite you to join them for a special meeting event with guest speaker, **Cole Masear**, a Gold Star Mother, whose son, Specialist Jake Carroll, U. S. Army, was killed in action serving in Afghanistan in 2010.

Please **mark your calendar now** so that you don't miss the opportunity to hear Cole Masear share her story.

8:15am Breakfast served in Fellowship Hall (Cost: \$5/person) *You may choose to **join us for breakfast. RSVP details coming in September!**
 9:00am Gold Star Mother's Day — UMM Program *You may choose to **attend the program only—please arrive shortly before 9:00am**

United Women in Faith Reading Program

Summer brings more opportunities to read books on the beach, by a mountain lake or wherever the road may take you on vacation. In our church library, there are books available for people of all ages and reading levels.

If you are interested in any that have been read by United Women in Faith (UWF formerly United Methodist Women), they are shelved by five categories: Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action and Spiritual.

In addition, anyone and any age can earn a Certificate of Recognition gained from The Reading Program 2018-2023. Refer to the folder on the top shelf of the bookcase providing information about the Reading Program Plans and Lists (books by title, author, year, category, "Suitable for Children or Youth"). We have a few current Reading Program books in our library donated by UWF members. Also, most of these books can be found at Davidson County Public Library in Lexington.

On **September 11, 2023, 6:30pm, Centenary UMC**, (646 West Fifth Street, Winston-Salem) welcomes Dr. Ashley Boggan, General Secretary of the General Commission of Archives and History of the United Methodist Church and author of **Methodist Women Boldly Make History**. In her talk Dr. Boggan will explore the following topics: *The history of women in Methodism. The challenges and opportunities facing women in the church today. The importance of preserving and promoting United Methodist history.* **RSVP by September 1st** to Laura Young (lyoung517@gmail.com) (336-745-1431). Books will be available at the event.

Teens of Life Youth Ministry Events & Happenings

Welcome to our rising 6th & 9th graders!

YOUTH KICK-OFF

When: Sunday, August 27 Time: 8:45a & 11a Worship Services

MEET TOGETHER AT 8:30a & 10:45a before services

The youth that traveled and served at PASSPORT Mission Camp in June will share their experiences with our church family during Promotion Sunday. Youth are asked to wear their **PASSPORT t-shirt**.

ALL YOUTH are encouraged to join us at the 11:00a service.

Following the 11:00a service, we (**parents & youth**) will meet in the **Fellowship Hall** for our **Youth Kick-Off meeting and lunch!**

Youth Beach Retreat!

When: September 15-17 —We will travel to North Myrtle Beach with our friends from FBC (First Baptist Church). We need **a minimum of 10 youth to attend** to make this happen. Please plan to join us and you are welcomed to bring a friend. We will talk about the details at our **Youth Kick-Off meeting and lunch** on **Sunday, August 27**.

For more information about Teens of Life Youth Ministry:
 Lee Mabe, Director of Youth Ministry 336-248-2886 or maestromabe@gmail.com

Notes of Sympathy

Sympathy of the ministers and the members of the congregation is extended to Ruby (Buddy) Taylor and family upon the occasion of the death of her sister, Judy Jean Laws Stanley, from Thomasville, NC on July 14, 2023.

Sympathy of the ministers and the members of the congregation is extended to Andy (Libby) Calvert and family upon the occasion of the death of his sister, Kim Calvert, on July 25, 2023.

The Sparrow Project

Ready to help you short term, in the case of an emergency, illness, or surgery. We have volunteers who are willing to help with simple household repairs, transportation, computer help, or to run an errand. Also, emergency food assistance is now available. **If you need short term 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.

JULY	Weekly Mailer	8:45a	11:00a	You Tube	On Demand	WED	Weekly Total
2	32	17	90	54	12		205
9	32	22	105	49	39	18	265
16	32	16	107	50	38	19	262
23	32	15	82	71	29	15	244
30	32	18	99	65	6		220
Avg.	32	18	97	58	25	17	239

Our Participation in the Worship of God

- Weekly mailer (to those without computer access)
- 8:45a (in-person)
- 11:00a (in-person)
- YouTube Livestream (participating on Sunday)
- On Demand Livestream (participating at other times)
- WED Midday Prayer Gathering (in-person)

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 plates provided at the back of the church.
- **Mail** to First UMC, 310 S. Main Street, Lexington, NC 27292.
- **Online Giving for mobile device users**, using the camera on your smartphone or tablet, scan the QR (Quick Response) code on the right to visit a secure mobile site for Online Giving. **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.



Church Staff

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