



The Story

July 2020

310 S. Main Street • www.fumclex.org • 336-248-2886

A Moment with Our Pastors

Dear Friends at First UMC in Lexington,

We are almost there! As we write this we are in the midst of final packing and cleaning projects, but we are looking forward to beginning our time with you starting July 6. As a way of introduction, we thought we would share a bit about ourselves...

Cheryl was born in the small coastal city of Bath, Maine. She graduated from the University of Maine with a B.A. in Anthropology & Biology in 1988 and moved to North Carolina the following fall to pursue a Ph.D. in Immunology at UNC-Chapel Hill. (Go Heels!) After 10 years working in biomedical research at UNC, she experienced a call to ministry and went to Duke Divinity School, graduating with an M.Div. in 2002. Kirk was born in the small mountain town of Newland, North Carolina. He attended N.C. State University for two years (Go Wolfpack!) and graduated from UNC-Greensboro with a B.A. in Music in 1992. Upon graduation he moved to Boston, Massachusetts to attend seminary at Boston University School of Theology, earning his M.Div. in 1995. After graduation Kirk moved back to North Carolina and began serving churches in the Western North Carolina Conference.

How did this Maine girl and Mountain guy meet? At a district minister's meeting, of course! We were both serving as youth ministers in the High Point district at the time, and married in 2004, much to the delight of Kirk's 8-year old daughter, Ellen. Since marrying we have served churches in Pinnacle/Winston-Salem, Advance, and most recently, Concord/Kannapolis. For the past year Cheryl has been a part-time associate at Kirk's church, but First Lexington will be our first time serving together as co-pastors, and we are excited! As time goes on we will communicate to you what that looks like, but for now know that we will be sharing worship leadership, preaching, and pastoral care responsibilities in the hopes that you will get to hear both of our voices and feel comfortable with each of us as your pastors.

When we are not at church, we enjoy day trips and travel. (The accompanying picture is of us at a rooftop restaurant in Asheville just a few weeks ago.)

We both love the outdoors and look forward to exploring the Uwharrie Mountains. Reading and music are at the top of our list of pastimes, and we both enjoy baseball (Go Red Sox!) and basketball, although, if you were paying attention, our college teams of choice differ!



Continued

Please know that in this time of pandemic we are seeking creative ways to meet you and begin to know you. In the coming weeks there will be opportunities to meet with us in small groups, either in person (with appropriate social distancing, masks, etc.) or online. Although we may not be able to gather as we usually would at the beginning of our ministry, we sincerely look forward to getting to know you over the summer and into the fall. Again, we are so excited to be with you!

Blessings,
Pastors Cheryl & Kirk

Our Stewardship for God's Work Everyone is a part of God's stewardship. Just a gentle reminder that you may continue to give during this "stay home" period we are currently observing due to COVID-19. You may send your tithes and offerings by mail, drop by the church office (*remember to be mindful of social distancing*) and online.



Online Giving For mobile device users, the QR (Quick Response) code 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.

Finance Team Income and Expense Report

Date	YTD Income	YTD Expenses	Net Income (Loss)
5/31/2020	\$215,659.27	\$170,394.97	\$45,264.30
6/7/2020	\$229,829.12	\$188,129.65	\$41,699.47
6/14/2020	\$239,704.12	\$188,249.55	\$51,454.57
6/21/2020	\$246,836.46	\$198,537.24	\$48,299.22
6/28/2020	\$260,751.46	\$213,551.42	\$47,200.04

Communication is the KEY



There are large amounts of information being shared through phone messages and email during this time of "staying at home" all over the world.

With that being said, many of the internet service providers as well as phone providers are making their safety protocols stronger to protect everyone.

Here are some tips to help you stay connected with the church:

- **Add the church phone number 336-248-2886** to the contact list of your mobile phone. By making this simple update, your phone will recognize the number when the church office sends a phone message and will not mark it as "potential spam."
- Some of you have asked, **"what happened to my church emails?"** Check the junk folder of your email account. Do you have church emails located there?
 - Point at the email and right click your mouse.
 - Depending on your email provider, you will be given a drop down or an option to select, for example, "This is not spam" or "Do not block this sender" or "Never block this sender."
 - Once this is done, future church emails will be delivered to your inbox.
- **Notify the church office** with phone number, email and address changes.

You may contact Donna at the church office if you need any assistance.

Staying Home, Staying Healthy and Staying Connected!

HOW CAN I STAY CONNECTED?

You are encouraged to visit the website: www.fumclex.org

Once on the website, click on the “word” across the top of the website to go to the section you are searching for:

Worship	Ministries	News & Events
> Sermons on YouTube Click on a blue sermon title to view & listen	> Children Children’s Message Stay at Home Pen Pal Fun Pages Printable—click the blue link	> The Story > Calendar > News

Prayer Breakfast Group

Prayer List updated weekly and sent via email & regular mail with a devotion.

<u>Adult Sunday School via Zoom</u> Sunday mornings (10a-11a) <u>Church Staff Meetings via Zoom</u> Mondays (10:00a) <u>Reopening Response Team via Zoom</u> Thursdays (10a-11a) <u>United Methodist Women</u> Thursday, July 9 (2p)	<u>Finance Team via Zoom</u> Sunday, July 19 (5p) <u>Newsletter Articles Due</u> July 15 for August Issue <u>Serve meal at Crisis Ministries</u> Tuesday, July 21 (5:45p) <u>Adult Fellowship Sunday School</u> Contact: Buddy & Ruby Taylor Please contact Crisis Ministries for their protocol during this time.
---	---

Instructions to join a meeting via Zoom:

- The church office has established a Zoom account.
- You may join a Zoom meeting with a computer (desktop or laptop), Ipad or Iphone. **Make sure the church office has your current email address so that you may receive email invitations to meetings.**
- When a Zoom meeting is schedule, the meeting host will send an email invitation.
- You will receive an email with a [blue](#) Zoom link, please write down the Meeting ID and Password. Click on the [blue](#) link **minutes before** the scheduled meeting.
- Once **you have** clicked on **the** link, you will be sent to the Zoom.us website.
- Select **Join a Meeting**.
- You may be asked to **Sign Up** (*create an account*), but that is **not required** to **participate** in a **Zoom meeting**.
- You will select **Test Audio**, if requested.
- Type in the **Meeting ID** and **Password** when requested.
- You will be able to see and hear other participants as well as talk back and forth if you have audio (*microphone*) and/or video (*camera*).
- Contact Donna Huskins if you would like to try a **Test Meeting**.

Face Mask Project Update

The team of ladies from surrounding churches and the community are still making face masks for healthcare providers, hospitals, law enforcement agencies, schools and more.

At the publishing of this newsletter, more than 5,000 face masks have been handmade and delivered.

On July 1st, 245 orange and blue face masks were received by the Lexington City School District athletes so that they may practice and maintain social distancing protocols.



Pastor's Pantry Green Beans & More

We continue to collect green beans & more for Pastor's Pantry. Drop off your kind donations of canned green beans or any type of canned vegetables, canned pasta and crackers.

They will be delivered to Pastor's Pantry by volunteers from the church.

Photos Needed

The bulletin board in the main hallway needs to be updated. My thoughts are moving in the direction of a "Welcome to First UMC" theme with photos of the congregation. The bulletin board will welcome Kirk & Cheryl when they arrive in the office. Plus, I will get to see all of your smiling faces.

So, your opportunity to make a difference today is... snap a photo with your mobile phone and email it to me at: dhuskins@firstumclex.org

Or, select a current photo you would like to share and mail it to the office or drop it by the office leaving it on the volunteer's desk or slide it under my office door.

Also, Betty Pope has volunteered to "snap" a photo of you, if you are unable to do so. She will come to your home and take a photo of you on your front porch while she follows social distancing protocol and stands at least 6 feet away.

Contact the church office (336) 248-2886 if you would like an appointment.

Thank each of you for helping make this project great!

Donna Huskins



Remember the 3 W's
WEAR a mask or face covering
WAIT at least 6 feet apart
WASH your hands often

Are you comfortable using a computer?

Do you enjoy using a computer?



Are you comfortable using a video camera?

Do you enjoy using a video camera?



Are you familiar with social media platforms?
File management?



If you answered YES to any of these questions,



Join the First UMC
Audio/Video Team

Training Provided

Contact:

John McWhorter (336) 249-2641

Ron Leonard (336) 225-6160

An Opportunity to Support Pastor’s Pantry

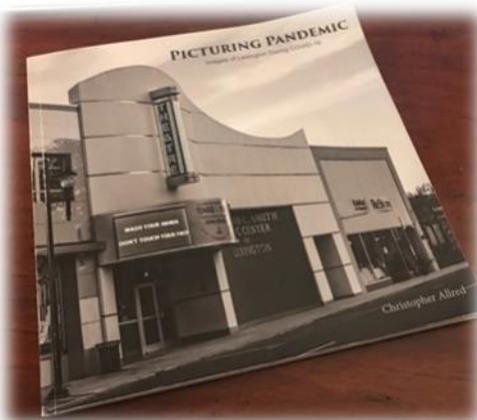
Picturing Pandemic is a 60 page, 8x8 softcover bound small book or “zine” consisting of 46 images captured by Christopher Allred, photographer during a 30 day period beginning April 18, 2020. The images evoke the quietness, emptiness and the loss experienced during the shutdown prior to entering Phase I of the recovery. It also imparts a bit of humanity and hope.

The “zine” was created specifically as a fundraiser for Pastor’s Pantry. 100% of the proceeds go to Pastor’s Pantry.

The presale cost for the book is \$22 (\$20 + \$2 shipping). Again, 100% of the profits go to Pastor’s Pantry. Checks should be made payable to **Pastor’s Pantry**.

After the presale, the book cost will increase to approximately \$27 due to increased shipping and tax.

For information & details, contact Pastor’s Pantry: 336-249-8824



The Story

Published Monthly
First United Methodist Church Newsletter

We're on the web!

www.fumclex.org



Join us on
Facebook

Sympathy

Sympathy of the ministers and the members of the congregation is extended to Lacy Carol Belcher and family upon the death of her sister, Virginia Dare Everhart Conrad Hill, on June 7, 2020.

Sympathy of the ministers and the members of the congregation is extended to Lloyd (Debby) Brown and family upon the death of his mother, Annie Bell Bost Brown, on June 9, 2020.

Sympathy of the ministers and the members of the congregation is extended to Mickey McCrary, Marsha Garwood and their family upon the death of their mother, Margaret McCrary Carver, on June 18, 2020.

Prayer Requests

Kathy Baragona
Lacy Carol Belcher
Sue Corn
Dean Davis
Jane Cook Harris
Judy Hench
Rachel Hendrix
Earl Hester
Creth Holman
Larlie Mae Knight
Chasen Martin
Shane Martin
Robert Phelps
John Scarff
Flonnie & Jimmy Thomason
Steve Weeks
Mary Louise Wilkerson
Dare Wilson

Shut-Ins

Dot Kinsey
Caroline McCree
Sandra & Jimmy Shoaf
Evelyn Sink
Dr. Hunter Strader
Mary Williams

Piedmont Crossing (Thomasville)

Health Care

Camille Lawrence
Barbara Proctor
Nancy Wilkinson

Residents

Jo Doris Beck
Herman Crabtree
Adrian Neal
Madeline Palmer

Benton House (Charleston, SC)

Janice Bacon

Brookdale (Lexington)

Joe Sink

Brookstone (Lexington)

Albert Gobble

The Laurels at Highland Creek

(Charlotte)

Carolyn Briggs

Rolling Green Village

(Greenville, SC)

Peggy Trollinger

Spring Arbor (Albemarle)

Bonnie Cates

Wood Haven (Albemarle)

Louise Pope

Extended Family & Friends

Cindy Hunt
Nicholas Melomo
Jason, Stacy & Trent Heitman
Tempie Almstead (Abbotts Creek)
Charles & Mary Lee
Maria Hilliard
Mark Milligan
Louise Michael
Tracy Michael
Dana Michael
Ron & Kristie Wooten
Shirley Langley Dennis
Emily Hounshell
Gail Hill
Peggy Wegwart
Larry Starnes
Clay Jensen, his parents & siblings
Jan Greer
Pat & Gary Leonard
Debbie Bowman
Clayton Hepler
Norma S. Trotter
Jimmy McDermott

Shannon & Steve Ford

Sandy Balsler

Lynn Mack & family

Tami Robinson

Kelli Jones

Faye Graham

Kendall Conner

David Ogle

Kristin Harris

Claire Dowling

Anna Smathers

Pat Wilson

Jack Smith

Jane King

Breanna Wilson

Ethan Reavis

Jenny Rains

Jimmy Davis

Bentley Leonard

John Bruce Davis

Eric Leonard

Debra Ann Leonard

Betty Jean Whitaker

Len & Dottie Harris

Jordan Beswick

Regina Chrest

Bruce Thornton

Serving in the Armed Forces

Capt. Kacie Allred

SGT John Hall

Major Jarrad Thorley

SGT Alan Ingram

Church Staff

Rev. Kirk Tutterow, Minister
kingtutt65@gmail.com

Rev. Cheryl Skinner, Minister
skinnerrev@hotmail.com

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

Phyllis Jones, Organist
musician@att.net

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

Alma Carlton, Financial Secretary
acarlton@firstumclex.org

Donna Huskins, Administrative Assistant
dhuskins@firstumclex.org