

First United Methodist Church
264 North Main Street
Rutherfordton, NC 28139
www.fumcrutherfordton.org
Vol. 7, No. 3

The First Word

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS: COMING UP!

NOV. 4: is the deadline for **SPECIAL MISSION PIN** recognition nominations. Forms on bulletin board, place in box in office.

NOV. 13: The Betty Wolfe Circle will meet on November 13th at 10:00 am in the Youth Center to make Chrismons. It's fun and easy!! We'll have lunch, too.

NOV 13: The Agape Circle will meet on November 13th at 6:30pm at the Perry-Moore House. Sonja Stobie will present the program and Joy Deck will provide a light refreshment. The Mini Mission project for November is the Church Bazaar. Members are reminded to make baked goods or frozen foods for the bazaar. Members are also reminded that all dues for the year are to be paid at this meeting. All ladies of the church are invited to join us.

Sharing Christ's Light

...on Main Street & beyond



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN ANNUAL BAZAAR

Saturday, November 10, 2018
8:00 am – 2:00 pm
Fellowship Center

Come early and enjoy breakfast, shopping, a delicious lunch and fellowship with family, friends and neighbors.

8 am—Sausage Biscuits and Coffee
11 am—Hot Dogs, Desserts and Drink

FROZEN FOODS – SOUPS – BAKED & CANNED GOODS
SILENT AUCTION – NUTS FOR COOKING
CRAFTS – NOTE CARDS
CHRISTMAS ITEMS TO DECORATE YOUR HOME & TREE
AND MANY MORE SURPRISES

SANTA'S WORKSHOP AT THE UMW BAZAAR

The Youth Center is being transformed into Santa's Workshop during the 2018 UMW Bazaar!

Volunteers will guide children through the workshop and help them select gifts for moms, dads, grandparents, sibling, etc!

THINGS TOO WONDERFUL FOR ME
— A Pastoral Word from Sydnor

As we enter the fall season, the trees have begun their colorful transformation. Some leaves have fallen to the ground, while others seem to be holding on, struggling against the cooler weather, not wanting to let go of summer sunshine. There is great beauty in a tree's life journey. I am reminded of a now deceased dear friend, Dr. Sheldon Stephenson, who wrote about the connection between the autumn season and his experience of aging.

"It is the Fall time now, the Fall time of my living. I am holding in my hand two leaves, both from the same tree, one totally green, the other a multicolored beauty. People have asked where did this beautiful color come from? Of course, it was in the green leaf and its life all the time; and only as the green in the leaf gave itself, helping bring life to the tree and oxygen to the world did the new beautiful color emerge. My trust is that a human life is like this. We all have unrealized beauty, talents, spirit-potentials, known only by God—qualities we cannot give ourselves. To live the greater, more nearly eternal life God is holding before us, we have to, as Jesus taught us, be born again in the Spirit of God. God is love and only the Holy Spirit of God within us can enable us to love and live love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self control. In our prayer time we come to know these are the fruit of the Holy Spirit abiding within us. Our God is infinite and eternal. God had a plan of unimaginable beauty and meaning for each of us—so He loved us into life."

Autumn blessings,



F O U N D A T I O N

First Church has the opportunity to help the less fortunate by supporting the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program. The program is collecting new, unwrapped toys to distribute as Christmas gifts to needy children in Rutherford County. Please consider donating a new, unwrapped toy to the Toys for Tots program. Place your toy donation in the box outside the Church office on or before December 15, 2018.

Thank you for your support!

**RUTHERFORDTON COMMUNITY
THANKSGIVING SERVICE**

Sunday, November 18th at 7:00pm

First United Methodist Church

Come and be part of this wonderful community event sponsored by the churches of Rutherfordton. The Reverend Tim Marsh of Frist Baptist Church in Rutherfordton will preach. Come, let us give thanks to the Lord!

WELCOME TABLE

Volunteer help is needed. First Church serves the first three Mondays of every other month; January, March, May, July, September, and November.

You could volunteer to cook, serve, or help clean up. The hours of cooking are 11:00 until 4:00, serving 4:00 until 6:30, and clean up from 6:00 until 7:30. Some individuals cook, serve, and clean up, so any extra help is appreciated. You can get with Linda Jeanne Harrill when you arrive and let her know where you are willing to serve.

If you are unable to volunteer, please join us for a delicious meal and make friends with our Welcome Table neighbors.

November Dates - - - November 5, 12, and 19

CONVERSATIONS ON A WAY FORWARD

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2018

6:30 PM

"A Way Forward" is a term to refer to the commission formed as part of the 2016 General Conference. Their mission was to examine, and make recommendations, about human sexuality and how the United Methodist Church would address it. Three plans came out of their work, all would have impact on the current guidelines. John & Deb Vincent, who joined our church several months ago, have volunteered to lead a congregational discussion, led by prayer, and thoughts of unity, related to how our church is going to react to whatever comes out of the General Conference in February of 2019.

Deb & John will be facilitating a prayerful discussion, not on our individual views but on how we remain focused on unity, despite what will be the inevitable personal differences in whatever comes out of the General Conference. On Sunday, November 11th at 6:30 pm they will lead a discussion on how we remain focused on two things post conference: How we as a congregation continue to live out our mission statement, "Sharing Christ's Light on Main Street and Beyond" and how we as a congregation continue to honor the United Methodist slogan of, "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors." Deb & John will lead those who attend in a very high-level review of the three plans being discussed at the General Conference, as well as facilitate small group discussions on individual feelings, and how we keep Christ, love and unity at our core. We hope as many people as possible attend to share in this discussion.

ALL SAINTS' DAY

Sunday, November 4, 8:45 and 11:00

On Sunday, November 4 at both services we will celebrate Holy Communion and give thanks for those from our church and families who have died in the past year. Plan to be part of this special day of worship.

CHURCH OFFICE NEWS

The church office will be closed for Thanksgiving beginning at noon on Wednesday, November 21 and will be closed all day on Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23.

CHRISTMAS MISSION ORDER FORM

I (we) would like to participate in the Christmas Mission and give the designated amount of \$15.00 in honor or memory of a loved one or friend.

In Honor of _____

Given By _____

In Honor of _____

Given By _____

In Memory of _____

Given By _____

In Memory of _____

Given By _____

The list will be shared in the Sunday morning bulletin on December 23rd and in the email update on December 20th.

Please include your money with this order form and return it to the church office or place it in the offering plate. All orders must be received **NO LATER** than Sunday, December 16th.



**Daylight Saving Time
Ends on Sunday,
November 4, 2018.**

CHASE CORNER UNITED METHODIST MINISTRIES FUNDRAISER

The Carolina Gospel Association is holding a great line up of Southern Gospel music concerts each month at RS Central High School Nov-March. Chase Corner United Methodist Ministries Food Pantry is having a Spaghetti Fundraising meal prior to each concert to help needy in our community with food and crisis needs. We will be serving in the cafeteria at RS Central High School from 5.30-6:45pm prior to each concert. Buy a season pass to the concert or even one special event and come and support us by eating prior to event.

The November concert will on November 15, 2018. You are also welcome to just stop by and bring your family out to eat a meal with us even if you are not going to the concert.

Please Share, Share, Share with friends and family. As of September 2018 we are at (negative) - \$15,678.50. This is not unusual (not comfortable, but not unusual) as we try to give away more than we take in. Like most Christian organizations most of our funding comes in at the end of the year, but not consistently through the year. We are blessed, but our budget always runs very tight. God has sustained us since 1979 and is allowing us to serve all of Rutherford county.

We need your help, without God's people and community support we could not continue doing the work we do.

YOKEFELLOW

First Church has been asked to donate Instant Potatoes in November and December. Please leave donations in the Yokefellow bin located next to the Front Room in The Donation Station.

If you have questions, please contact our Yokefellow Representative, Andrea Harmon at 828-429-3880.

Thank you



How can church members help grow our Stephen Ministry?

Our Stephen Ministry has trained Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders who are ready to listen, care for, pray for and encourage persons who are facing a personal crisis or event. We each pray for this ministry and hope that we will identify people who may need our care. The congregation can help by keeping in mind this powerful ministry. If you feel a person, either in our congregation or in our community, needs confidential Christian care, please mention Stephen Ministry or contact a Stephen Leader. If you are facing challenges and need someone to talk to, please contact a Stephen Minister or Leader. A relationship may last for a month or two or a year or two, depending upon the need. As a congregation, we can support this ministry by praying and by recommending this support to those who need it. All of our ministers have had intensive training and are committed to serving. We need to consider ourselves a Stephen Ministry "Congregation". We hope that through the love of Jesus Christ, we can bring healing to those to hurt.

WINTER COAT COLLECTION

With the drop in temperature it is a reminder that cold weather is coming. We will be collecting coats for our Welcome Table guests. Please place coat donations in the tote in the church office. Thanks for all that you do for our community neighbors.

THE FOLLOWING MONETARY GIFTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED:

In memory of Donna Carver, by Delphine Borden, designated for the General Fund; by Steadfast Chapter No. 479, designated for the General Fund.

In memory of Lucy Daniel, by Joe & Nancy Carson, designated for the Fellowship Center Roof Fund.

In memory of S. G. Gabriel, by Ralph Barnhardt, Harry & Patricia Harrelson, designated for the Audio Visual Fund; by Joe & Nancy Carson, designated for the Fellowship Center Roof Fund.

In memory of Eric Gibson, by Shirley Koone, designated for the Audio Visual Fund; by James & Sharon Still, Jane Waters, designated for the General Fund; by Joe & Nancy Carson, designated for the Fellowship Center Roof Fund.

In memory of Virginia Lewis, mother of John Lewis, by Ron & Dorothy Parker, designated for Soul Food.

In memory of John Logan, by Gene & Jane Shuford, designated for Soul Food.

In memory of Laura Pocock, by Jim & Robin Van Jura, designated for the General Fund.

In honor of Bill & Vickie Thompson, by Charles Quarles, designated for Welcome Table.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Our Sunday worship each week is enriched by the participation of members of our congregation. We appreciate your prayerful consideration in being a part of the Worship Assistant ministry in 2019.

Sign-up forms will be available in the church bulletin beginning in December.

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NOVEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Greeters (8:45)

- 1st Sunday John & Deb Vincent
- 2nd Sunday Sandra Turner & Mabel Satrape
- 3rd Sunday Rory & Jeannie Kiser
- 4th Sunday Russ & Linda Armentrout

Greeters (11:00)

- 1st Sunday Jeep & Johnnie Martin
- 2nd Sunday Van & Susie King, Ann Almond
- 3rd Sunday Joyce Gray & Margaret Britt
- 4th Sunday Connie Hicks & Ginny Moore

Sound System

- 1st Sunday Mike Fields
- 2nd Sunday Don Suttles
- 3rd Sunday Steve & Alice Wright
- 4th Sunday Ralph Hier

Ushers (8:45)

- Rory Kiser, Earl Furbish, Russ & Linda Armentrout

Ushers (11:00)

- Alan Henderson, First Church Youth

Bread Makers

- 1st Sunday Debbie Best
- 2nd Sunday Donna Watkins
- 3rd Sunday Diane McMillan
- 4th Sunday Emily Yelton

Acolytes

- 1st Sunday Meg Prevatt
- 2nd Sunday Dee Dee Majors
- 3rd Sunday Campbell Powell
- 4th Sunday Johannah Deese

Communion Stewards

- 1st Sunday Ken & Diane Sanford

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

November 16 at 12:00 noon

SUNDAY BULLETIN DEADLINE

Every Monday at Noon

Send information for Newsletter & Bulletin to pcraft@fumcrutherfordton.org

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We're on the Web!
www.fumcrutherfordton.weebly.com



Find us on Facebook!

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