

Scripture Reading - Psalm 18:16-24 Evan Weeks

Message Passport Reflections First UMC Youth
Wide Open Spaces Rev. Amy Higgins

Slideshow from the Passport Experience

Song for the Journey - “Break the Cages” by Jackie & Matt LeFevers
The ALIVE! Praise Band

Verse 1
God of everyone, not only those who think like me.
King of every truth, not only those that I believe.
Alpha and Omega, and every letter in between
The space between the stars could not contain your glory.

Chorus
Come, break the cages we have tried to place you in.
You are more, you are more.
So much greater than these words we draped you with,
you are more.
You are more than this, you are more.
You have always been.

Verse 2
God of everyone, of all the Earth, not only me.
Source of every truth, not only those I choose to speak.
Alpha and Omega, no letters serve to spell your name,
as distant as the stars and closer than the words I pray - Chorus

Bridge 1
Every knee will bow, and every tongue will speak of love
Every knee will bow, and every tongue will speak of love.
We will meet your eyes, and every voice will speak your name.
We will see your face, and all our words will fall away.

Chorus 2
Come break the cages we have tried to place you in.
You are more, you are more.
So much greater than these words we draped you with.
You are more, you are more than this. You are more.
The space between the stars could not contain Your glory.

Jackie LeFevers, Matthew LeFevers - CCLI Song #7111483 © 2015 Map & Compass - For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com - First UMC CCLI License # 1519707

Benediction Evan Weeks
Leader: God has stood us up in this Wide Open Space,
so now let us go create

Youth: a space to welcome
Adults: a space to wonder
Parents & Pastors: a space to act
All: a space to dance
Leader: So others may know and experience God’s abundant love.

Chimes of the Trinity

Traveling Music - “My Lighthouse” by C. Llewellyn & G. Gilkeson
The ALIVE! Praise Band

Flowers
The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God and in loving support of those who are grieving the loss of loved ones past and present by Sean Bishop.

United in Nurturing Fellowship

Sunday, August 24
8:45am Early Worship, Fellowship Hall
9:45am Sunday School for ALL Ages
11:00am LIVE Stream on YouTube at First UMC Lexington NC
4:00pm Church Council, Fellowship Hall

Monday, August 25
4:00pm Deadline for Appreciation Dinner RSVP
7:00pm Lexington Choral Society Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, August 26
12:00pm Prayer Warrior Lunch, BBQ Center

Wednesday, August 27
12:00pm Midday Prayer Service, Sanctuary
6:00pm Appreciation Dinner, Fellowship Hall

Thursday, August 28
6:00pm Faith Seekers, Home of Norris’ Lake House

Friday, August 29
Saturday, August 30
Sunday, August 31
8:45am Early Worship, Fellowship Hall
9:45am Sunday School for ALL Ages
11:00am Morning Worship, Sanctuary
11:00am LIVE Stream on YouTube at First UMC Lexington NC

Announcements



Appreciation Dinner
Wednesday, August 27
(6p) Fellowship Hall
In appreciation of the
Chancel Choir & Bells,
ALIVE Praise Band, Sound &
Video Teams,
Ushers/Greeters, and Office
Volunteers. SCAN the QR
code with your smartphone
to RSVP or call the church
office no later than
Monday, August 25.

Port-a-Pit Chicken Fundraiser
Sponsored by the UNITED
METHODIST MEN – Friday,
September 12 (10a until 6p)
Pick up at the State Street
entrance - \$12/plate – TICKETS
ON SALE until September 5.

Bake Sale Fundraiser
Sponsored by the UNITED
WOMEN in FAITH – Friday,
September 12 (10a until 1p)
State Street entrance – Be sure
to purchase your homemade
dessert for the weekend!



AMTRAK TRAIN to NC State Fair
Tuesday, October 21
Amtrak Train Ride:
\$50/person round trip
Admission to State Fair:
(Ages 13-64) \$13
(Seniors) \$7
Payment is due at the time of your
reservation is made. Gentle reminder:
You will not have a reservation until
payment is made. Simply turn in your
name and payment to Judy Deal or Alma
Carlton no later than Monday,
September 1.
FULL details can be found in The Story.

Toys, Tots, & Tailpipes Cruise
In Sponsored by the United
Methodist Men – Saturday,
October 11 (10a-2p) Registration is
OPEN! You may scan the QR code
with your smartphone for details &
registration or contact Richard
Foust (336) 971-6158. Visit our
NEWS section online or pick up a
printed copy of the detailed
flyer/registration form at the
Volunteer’s Desk.

Prayer Requests

All are encouraged to review the list and contact the church office to add or remove a name from the prayer list. (*denotes FUMC members)

First UMC member:
*Pat Langley (PL 8-14-25)
*Dinah Browne (CM 8-14-25)
*Judy Hensch (JH 8-12-25)
*George Hunt (JH 7-17-25)
*Cindy/Tom Smith (AC 5-15-25)

Friends & Family:
Steve Erickson (8-13-25)
Phil Kinzer (CM 8-12-25)
Beth Graves (MG 8-5-25)
Kimberly Wood (CM 8-4-25)
Arlette Walser (BF 7-29-25)
Midway Methodist (7-29-25)
Irene Foster (BF 7-29-25)
Sharon/Edsel Beck (JD 7-25-25)
Edith Clement (JD 7-25-25)
Dana (Rodney) Colquitt (JD 7-25-25)
Brenda/Conley Castor (JD 7-23-25)
Arnold Miller (KW 7-23-25)
Geri/Chuck Bowyer (CM 7-21-25)
Dale, Mandy, Riley Castor, JD 7-21-25)
Dorey Thomas (JL 7-21-25)
Elizabeth Morales (JL 7-18-25)
Jon & Emerson Bethel (CM 7-16-25)
Michael Wood (CM 7-16-25)
Anna Cruz (CM 7-16-25)
Lee Ann Bethel (CM 7-16-25)
Tami Robinson (CM 7-15-25)
Christine (CM 7-14-25)
Judy Jordan (CM 7-11-25)
Kay Gilmer (CM 7-10-25)
Cheryl Crago (EC 7-8-25)
Deborah Bisbee (JB 7-4-25)
Deanna Smith (JD 7-3-25)
Curt (Lisa) Miller (JD 7-3-25)
Gil Walser (AB 6-18-25)
Torrey Jackson (LM 6-10-25)
Betty Dix (LH 6-11-24)
Woody Bowman (TF 6-10-25)
Special Friend (MG 6-3-25)
Becky Griffith (CM 5-20-25)

Rick LeBaube (CB 5-13-25)
Special Friends (CM 5-13-25)
Laura Turlington (HC 4-29-25)
Major (DB 4-28-25)
Kay Crouse (TB 4-28-25)
Ron & Kristie Wooten (OE 4-28-25)
Lenny Wegwart (CM 4-13-25)
Greg Leonard (LL 4-2-25)
Gary (Pat) Leonard (LL 4-2-25)
Tommy Hendrix (LL 4-2-25)
Special Friend (DB 4-1-25)
Mark Frye (CM 4-1-25)
Faye & Family (LH 3-27-25)
Amanda Hall (LH 3-23-25)
Tricia Royster (TB 2-19-25)
Martha S. Winters (LH 2-19-25)
John McCutcheon (LH 2-19-25)
Sarah Rakestraw (EC 2-11-25)
Gloria Bulluck (GF 12-7-24)
Brandon/Jan Kraft (CM 11-12-24)
Trevor Vermette (GS 11-8-24)
Betty Dix (LH 6-11-24)
Fred Craven (BP 6-4-24)
Jackie Truell Butler (CM 6-4-24)
Joan Briggs (CM 3-25-24)
John McNeil (AC 3-1-24)
Anonymous (JA 1-31-24)
Amy McIntosh (JO 1-31-24)
Stan Larson (1-31-24)
Betty Jean Whitaker (1-31-24)
Kendall Conner (1-31-24)

Missionaries
David, Hannah & Nicholas
Mora—Honduras

Member Care
*Eddie (Jemmetta) Allred
*Dot Cook
*Ginnie Easter
*Hilda Flynt
*Larlie Mae Knight
*Edna Morris

*John (Rebecca) Scarff
*Carolyn Smith
*Patricia Smith
*Dr. Hunter Strader
*Ruby (Buddy) Taylor
*Flonnie Thomason
Peggy & Wayne Wegwart
*Dare Wilson

Brilliance Edgewater
(Florida)
*Mary Norman

Brookdale (Falling Creek)
*Mary Hooks

Brookdale (Lexington)
*Libby & Max Lanning
*Ramona Phelps

The Pines (Davidson)
*Carolyn Briggs

Piedmont Crossing
(Thomasville)
Assisted Living
*Rachel Hendrix
*Joyce Inabinett
*Bob Pearson

Residents
*Joan & Dick Bisbee
*Betsy Buchanan
*Herman Crabtree
*Jim Dillon
*Becki & Tom Foust

Westminster Canterbury
(Virginia)
*Betty Gray

Serving in the Armed Forces
*Major Kacie Allred
*Sergeant 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 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, the QR 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.

First United Methodist Church
310 South Main Street - Lexington, NC - 27292
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

Rev. Amy Higgins, Assistant Minister of Next Generations Ministries ahiggins@wnccumc.net 336-403-2413

Lee Mabe, Director of Music maestromabe@gmail.com

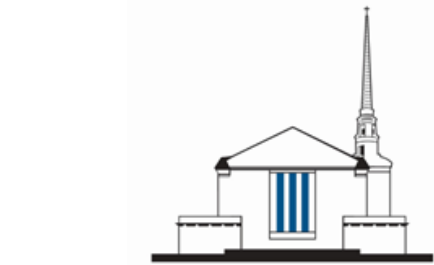
Phyllis Jones, Pianist/Organist musician@att.net

Kimberly Leonard, Nursery Staff, Kelly Leonard, Nursery Staff, Jill Michener, Nursery Staff

Alma Carlton, Financial Secretary acarlton@firstumclex.org

Donna Huskins, Administrative Assistant dhuskins@firstumclex.org





FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
LEXINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA



*Let your light shine before others, so that they may see
your good works and give glory to your Father in
heaven. Matthew 5:16*

**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!

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

August 24, 2025 **8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.**
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Youth Sunday

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome Rev. Amy Higgins

Welcoming the Light Nick Leahy

Call to Worship Abigail Wood

Leader: God is waiting for you.
People: We open wide our eyes.
Leader: God welcomes you.
People: We open wide our hands.
Leader: God has a beautiful future for you.
People: We open wide our minds.
Leader: God loves you.
People: We open wide our hearts.
Leader: May the God of Wide Open Spaces meet you here.
All: Amen.

Song of Praise - "Wide Open Spaces" by David Burroughs
The ALIVE! Praise Band & Youth Group

Chorus

Welcome to wide open spaces,
we're looking for traces of God's love.
Welcome to wide open spaces,
the grace that the world is dreaming of.
Wide open spaces, wide open spaces,
wide open spaces of God's love.

Verse One

We are called to welcome others,
making space where all feel safer.
When we do, we can love like Jesus,
and the world gets a little bigger,
the world gets a little bigger. - **Chorus**

Verse Two

Faith will come with many questions
and it's okay for us to wonder.
When we do, we can hear the Spirit,
and the world gets a little clearer,
the world gets a little clearer. - **Chorus**

Verse Three

We are all part of God's story
as we love with truth and action.
When we do, the story grows,
and the world gets a little brighter,
the world gets a little brighter. - **Chorus**

Verse Four

When we're free, it's like a party,
you can grab a hand and dance.
When we do, we hear God's laughter,
and the world gets a little better,
the world gets a little better. - **Chorus**

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Litany - Welcoming the Stranger (from Deut. 10:19) Nick Leahy

God, help us welcome those who have come to dwell among us.
For those who have come fleeing oppression and persecution-
God, help us welcome those who have come to dwell among us.
For those who have come fleeing hardship and hunger:
God, help us welcome those who have come to dwell among us.
For those who have come to join loved ones already here:
God, help us welcome those who have come to dwell among us.
For those who have come seeking freedom and opportunity:
God, help us welcome those who have come to dwell among us.
For those who are looking for a place to belong:
God, help us welcome those who have come to dwell among us.
Let us remember the words of Christ, who said:
*"I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me a drink,
I was a stranger and you welcomed me."*
When, Lord, were you a stranger that we welcomed among us?
"Truly, as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me."
**When we welcomed the stranger,
We welcomed you, Christ Jesus, in our midst! Amen.**

Adapted from Interfaith Worker Justice, "Immigration Litany," www.iwj.org/pdf/imm-litany.pdf Posted on Acts of
Faith. http://actsoffaith.org/resources/downloads/Year_A/09%20Immigration_final.pdf

Song of Prayer- "Beautiful Things" by Matt Maher & Steve Wilson
The ALIVE! Praise Band & Youth Group

Verse 1

All this pain,
I wonder if I'll ever find my way;
I wonder if my life could really change at all.

Verse 2

All this earth.
Could all that is lost ever be found;
could a garden come up from this ground at all?

Chorus

You make beautiful things,
you make beautiful things out of the dust.
You make beautiful things,
you make beautiful things out of us.

Verse 3

All around
hope is springing up from this old ground.
Out of chaos, life is being found in you.

Chorus 2x

Bridge

You make me new, you are making me new.
You make me new, you are making me new.

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The Lord's Prayer Ava Moore

A Time for the Child in All of Us Pastor Amy & Youth

Worshipping God with Our Gifts, Tithes & Offerings Ava Moore

Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

**God of love and compassion,
our hearts are filled with gratitude
for all that you have given us.**

**As we share these gifts with you,
bless them and our ministries,
that they may bring love, compassion and justice
to your world. Amen.**

Song of Preparation - "My Lighthouse" by C. Llewellyn & G. Gilkeson
The ALIVE! Praise Band & Youth Group

Verse 1

In my wrestling and in my doubts,
in my failures you won't walk out.
Your great love will lead me through.
You are the peace in my troubled sea,
you are the peace in my troubled sea

Verse 2

In the silence, you won't let go.
In the questions, your truth will hold.
Your great love will lead me through.
You are the peace in my troubled sea,
you are the peace in my troubled sea

Chorus

My Lighthouse, my lighthouse,
shining in the darkness, I will follow you
My Lighthouse, my lighthouse, I will trust the promise,
you will carry me safe to shore, safe to shore,
safe to shore, safe to shore.

Verse 3

I won't fear what tomorrow brings.
With each morning I'll rise and sing.
My God's love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea,
you are the peace in my troubled sea. - **repeat chorus**

Bridge

Fire before us, you're the brightest.
You will lead us through the storms - **repeat two times**

repeat chorus

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