



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

December 28, 2025 11:00 a.m.

First Sunday after Christmas: “This, This...”

Like the iconic figures gathered around the Christ Child in our nativity scenes, we gather together because we want to know Jesus more as we seek to bring his Reign of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love on earth.

Welcome

Prelude - “Christmas Time Is Here” by Vince Guaraldi
Rev. Kirk Tutterow, piano

Call to Worship

Leader: During the Advent season,
we lit candles for those who need them most.

People: **For all who need more hope.**
For all who yearn for peace
For all whose joy lays dormant.
For all who long for the healing of God’s love.

Leader: Our question for the Christmas season is this:
“How do the messages of THIS child
reverberate into our time, our lives, our world?”

People: **What child IS this?**
This, this, is Christ the King who reigns with hope,
peace, joy, and love forever.

Prayer for the Journey

Here, at the nativity of your birth,
give us the courage to face this moment
with the desire for justice.
Open us to new understandings
of the unfolding story of your presence among us.
Show us the true gifts we must bring to our moment,
as we seek a better kingdom on this earth.
We pray in the name of the Child,
the One Who Reigns in our hearts and lives.
Amen.

Hymn of Celebration No. 246 - by Isaac Watts
“Joy To the World”

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer

Anthem - “Gesu Bambino” by Pietro A. Yon
Hadley Briggs, soloist

Worshipping God with Our Gifts, Tithes & Offerings

Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

God of generosity, may your peace and your love
seep into our hearts and our offerings,
of your light in a dark and hurting world.
Thank you for your many gifts–
especially the gift of this loving community,
which is continually formed by your grace.
May our gifts and our very lives
bring your blessings to the world. Amen.

A Time for the Child in all of Us Rev. Cheryl Skinner

Hymn of Response #217 - Anonymous
“Away in a Manger”

Responsive Reading - Psalm 96 (with Sung Response) 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!)

We Ask and We Answer

Leader: As we prepare to go into the world, let us ask and answer,
one more time, the question we came with.
People: **What child IS this?**
Leader: This is the Truth, the Way, and the Life.
People: **What child IS this?**
Leader: This is the one whose love is the measure
of true compassion and companionship.
People: **What child IS this?**
Leader: This, this is the “King of Kings”
whose grace is the measure of real leadership.

Hymn for the New Year No. 206 by Kathleen Thomerson
“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

Benediction

Chimes of the Trinity

Postlude - “God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen” Traditional English Carol
arr. by Cindy Berry
Rev. Kirk Tutterow, piano

Flowers
The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God to each member,
neighbor, friend, and family for renewal, growth, new beginnings of hope
and prosperity, positivity, kindness and joy for a new year as we work
together to share the love of Christ with our friends, neighbors and most
importantly our community by Sean Bishop.

Notes of Sympathy
Sympathy of the ministers and members of the congregation is extended
to Flonnie Thomason, Joni Rivas and their family upon the occasion of the
death of Flonnie’s twin sister, Swannie Rogers, on December 20, 2025.

Sympathy of the ministers and members of the congregation is extended
to the family of Carolyn Briggs upon the occasion of her death on
December 23, 2025.

Prayer Requests

Lifting up prayers for our First UMC members, friends, family, community, country, and the world. All are encouraged to review the list and contact the church office to add or remove a name from the prayer list.

First UMC member:

G. F. Smith
Peggy Everhart
Jemmietta Allred
Judy Hench
Dare Wilson
Dot Cook
Doster Wood
Cindy/Tom Smith

Friends & Family:

Emily Sink Cash & Family
Pam & Ron Sink
Lenny Wegwart
Linda Cox
Tricia Royster
Torrey Jackson
Steve Erickson
Carmen Russell
The Schlossberg Family
Special Friends
Julie Milner
Marlene Jones
Kimberly Wood
Lee Ann Bethel
Anna Cruz
Kaitlin Deebel
Jamie Everhart
Beth Graves
Rev. Ed (Patty) Kelaher
Mark Frye
Jackie Truell Butler
Tony Hill
Gary Elms
Jane King
Cathy
Spencer Davis
Phil (Sharon) Kinzer
Jon & Emerson Bethel
Michael Wood
Louise & Ray Kombau
Special Friends (CM)
Julie Griggs
Melba (Charles) Purvis
Sharon (Edsel) Beck
Edith Clement

Dana (Rodney) Colquitt
Brentley & Conley Castor
Dale, Mandy & Riley Castor
Curt (Lisa) Miller
Deanna Smith
Tami Robinson
Irene Foster
Dorey Thomas
Elizabeth Morales
Christine
Judy Jordan
Kay Gilmer
Cheryl Crago
Deborah Bisbee
Woody Bowman
Beckey Griffith
Kay Crouse
Ron & Kristie Wooten
Greg Leonard
Gary (Pat) Leonard
Tommy Hendrix
Sarah Rakestraw
Gloria Bulluck
Brandon (Jan) Kraft
Trevor Vermette
Joan Briggs
John McNeil
Amy McIntosh
Stan Larson
Betty Jean Whitaker
Kendall Conner

Missionaries

David, Hannah, Nicholas, & Samuel Mora—Honduras

Serving in the Armed Forces

*Major Kacie Allred
*Sergeant McRay Calderone
*SGT John Hall
SGT Alan Ingram
Major Jarrad Thorley

Member Care

*Dot Cook
*Ginnie Easter
*Hilda Flynt
*Louise Hawley
*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 (Lexington)
*Libby & Max Lanning
*Ramona Phelps

Piedmont Crossing (Thomasville)

Assisted Living
*Rachel Hendrix
*Bob Pearson
Residents
*Joan & Dick Bisbee
*Betsy Buchanan
*Herman Crabtree
*Jim Dillon
*Becki & Tom Foust

Westminster Canterbury (Virginia)

*Bettye Gray

United in Nurturing Fellowship

Sunday, December 28

11:00am First Sunday after Christmas
Morning Worship, Sanctuary
11:00am LIVE Stream on YouTube at First UMC Lexington NC

Monday, December 29

Tuesday, December 30

12:00pm Prayer Warriors Lunch, B-B-Q Center

Wednesday, December 31

12:00pm New Year's Eve
Church Office Closes for the Day

Thursday, January 1, 2026

New Year's Day
Church Office Closed

Friday, January 2

Church Office Closed

Saturday, January 3

(2p-5p) After Christmas Open House, Home of Judy & William Deal

Sunday, January 4

Epiphany Sunday
8:45am Early Worship, Fellowship Hall
9:30am Sunday School for ALL Ages
11:00am Morning Worship, Sanctuary
11:00am LIVE Stream on YouTube at First UMC Lexington NC
(2p-5p) After Christmas Open House, Home of Judy & William Deal

Estimate of Giving Card for 2026

As God's people at First UMC, our financial gifts are an important part of fulfilling our mission to offer Christ to the world around us. No gift is too large or too small, but every gift is important. If you haven't already turned in an Estimate of Giving card, please take a moment to fill one out and place it in the offering plate, which will aid the FUMC Finance Committee in planning our 2026 Ministry Budget. Thank you for your support for First UMC.

2026 Offering Envelopes are located on the usher/greeter pew at the back of the sanctuary and are ready for pick up. Thank you!



2026 Flower Calendar is located in the main hallway on the bulletin board near the water fountain by the fellowship hall. You are invited to select a Sunday and sign up to place fresh flowers in the narthex or on the altar in honor or in memory of someone, an occasion (birthday or anniversary), or a notable event. You may also contact the church office to sign up. The church office will need the information you would like printed in the bulletin.

After Christmas Open House

Saturday, January 3 & Sunday, January 4
(2pm-5pm)
Home of Judy & William Deal
337 Pinnix Drive, Lexington, NC

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL AFTER CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE BUT DECORATED DIFFERENTLY

Questions/directions? 336-479-7244

Donations accepted for Faithful Friends Animal Sanctuary in Salisbury. Feel free to bring a friend...hope to see you then!



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

Reaching Out and Sharing God's Boundless Love

Cancer Services of Davidson County

Sponsored by Missions Team
Items Needed:
Ensure Depends

Charles England & Pickett Elementary Backpack Programs

Sponsored by UW in Faith
Needed food items: A list is located on our website or at the donation site.

Other Items Needed: Children's Underwear

Small – X Large
Children's Socks
Size 13-4
Adult Underwear & Socks
Small

Communities In Schools

Items Needed:
Individual/Single Serve Sized:
Mac & Cheese, Soups, Spaghetti O's, Lasagna, Peanut Butter Crackers, Ramen Noodles

Hospice of Davidson County

Items Needed:
Small water bottles
Peanut Butter Crackers
Cheese Crackers
Granola Bars
Little Debbie snack cakes
Peppermint Candies
Canned drinks (12 oz. or less)
Single serve sized:
Goldfish, Pretzels, Teddy Grahams, Popcorn, Assorted Chips

Pastor's Pantry

Canned Food: green beans, tuna, chicken, soups, stews

Your kindly donated items can be dropped off at the collection site just outside of the church office workroom located on the main hallway. Thank You!

Open Hands of Davidson County

Items Needed:
Boxes of Cereal
Spaghetti Noodles
Saltine Crackers
Rice
Mac-n-Cheese
Stove Top Stuffing
Ramen Noodles
Canned Vegetables
Soups / Spaghetti Sauce
Cranberry Sauce
Peanut Butter
Cases of Water
Street Food Items:
Vienna Sausage
Potted Meat
Pop Top Cans of Ravioli, Spaghetti O's, etc.
Single serve sized: Peanut Butter Crackers, Chips, Pop Tarts
Instant Hot Chocolate
Clean & Gently Used: bath towels, washcloths
Personal Care Items:
Body wipes, disposable razors, shampoo, bar soap, deodorant, toothpaste/ toothbrush (Travel size items work quite well.)



The Sparrow Project is ready to help you short term, in the case of an emergency, illness, or surgery. We have volunteers to help you with simple household repairs, transportation, computer help, or to run an errand. For short term help, call Lauren Hall (336) 239-0860. Also, temporary meal assistance is offered to our church family short term. For temporary meal assistance, call Terri Beck (980) 234-0686 or Lisa Bonnaure (301) 609-1780 so that delivery can be arranged and an inventory of prepared meal items can be kept up-to-date. It's that simple. You let us know what you need and we will take it from there.



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