

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.

September 21, 2025

11:00 a.m.

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Jill Alventosa-Brown

Opening Voluntary - "Adagio"

by Tommaso Albinoni

Phyllis Jones, organ

Call to Worship

When we are surrounded on every side, wondering which way is up and which way is down...

Help us, God, for the glory of your name.

When we question which way to go

and how to follow God's path for us...

Help us, God, for the glory of your name. When we find our rest in God

and long for others to know the sweet peace of God's embrace...

Help us, God, for the glory of your name.

Today, as we gather for worship, may we come ready to listen and discern God's help that meets us right where we are.

Help us, God, to receive your help

and to extend your help to our neighbors, all for the glory of your name. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, April 2025. https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/i-will-call-upon-the-lord/fifteenth-sunday-after-pentecost-year-c-lectionary-planning-notes & liturgical-resources

Opening Prayer

Eternal and Gracious God,

you hear the cries of your people for justice and mercy; you answer our prayers with the gift of your Son, who bears our burdens and sets us free.

Speak your truth to us;

purge and refine us:

that we may love and serve you alone. Amen.

Hymn of Praise No. 139 bv Ioachim Neader "Praise To the Lord, the Almighty

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Anthem - "Sing, Praise & Rejoice" First UMC Chancel Choir

Sing praise! Sing praise! Sing to the Lord for his strength and goodness. Sing praise! Sing praise! Sing to the Lord and rejoice! Praise the Lord with the lyre, with trumpets and the sound of the horn. Clap your hands, all ye people. Sing praise! Sing praise to the Lord! Sing praise! Sing praise! Sing to the Lord for his strength and goodness.

Sing praise! Sing praise! Sing to the Lord and rejoice! Therefore we will not fear though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea. Even though the earth changes we will not fear for the Lord is our strength. Sing praise! Sing praise! Sing to the Lord and rejoice!

Sing praise! Sing praise! Sing to the Lord and rejoice!

Worshipping God with Our Gifts, Tithes & Offerings

Worship Experience Enhancements - John McWhorter

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God,

source of our daily bread and Sabbath trust, you feed us with your love

and equip us to share in your purpose.

Receive the offerings of our wounded spirits, our guarded purses.

our meager strength,

and continue to expand our hearts,

until we live with the boldness and joy of Easter morning; for we pray in the name of your son, Jesus,



A Time for the Child in All of Us

All kids are invited to join us down front for a time just for them! Afterwards, kids in kindergarten thru 2nd grade are invited to follow the leader to the Godly Play Room for Children's Church.

Hymn of Preparation No. 474

by Thomas A. Dorsey

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Scripture Reading - Luke 16:1-13

NT Page 79

by Margaret Vance

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Lauren Anderson

Hymn of Response TFWS No. 2197

by Jan Struther

"Lord of All Hopefulness"

Benediction

Choral Benediction - "Amen" by Allen Pote

First UMC Chancel Choir

Chimes of the Trinity

Music Appreciation Focus

What if we took the time to sit back down after the Chimes of the Trinity and let the music of the postlude filter into our souls to inspire us to follow *God throughout the week?*

After the Chimes of the Trinity at the end of the service, you may choose to be seated and join together in thoughtful meditation while listening to the beautiful music of the postlude as a way to get your week of Christian discipleship off to a great start.

Postlude - "Joyful, Joyful"

arr. by Douglas Wagner

Phyllis Jones, organ

Revs. Skinner and Tutterow extend a gracious welcome to Rev. Jill Alventosa- Brown and Rev. Dr. Lauren Anderson for leading worship at First UMC today. Jill and Lauren and their families are close personal friends of Cheryl and Kirk, and have also faithfully served at First UMC. We welcome them with joy and gratitude on this day!

Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of Judy Stoner upon the occasion of her 80th birthday on September 22nd by Julie & Glenn Griggs, Wayne Gwaltney, Tim Gwaltney & their families.

A Note of Sympathy

Sympathy of the ministers and the members of the congregation is extended to Jimmie Jean Hunt and family upon the occasion of the death of her husband, George Hunt, on September 15, 2025.

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)

Rick LeBaube (CB 5-13-25)

Laura Turlington (HC 4-29-25)

Kay Crouse (TB 4-28-25)

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)

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)

Brandon/Jan Kraft (CM 11-12-24)

Trevor Vermette (GS 11-8-24)

Gloria Bulluck (GF 12-7-24)

Betty Dix (LH 6-Ì I-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 I-31-24)

Betty Jean Whitaker (1-31-24)

David, Hannah, Nicholas, &

Serving in the Armed Forces

*Sergeant McRay Calderone

Samuel Mora—Honduras

*Major Kacie Allred

*SGT John Hall

SGT Álan Ingram

Major Jarrad Thorley

Kendall Conner (1-31-24)

Stan Larson (1-31-24)

Missionaries

Mark Frye (CM 4-1-25)

Ron & Kristie Wooten (OE 4-28-25

Lenny Wegwart (CM 4-13-25)

Major (DB 4-28-25)

First UMC member:

*Judy Hench (CS 9-11-25) *Peggy Everhart (CS 9-11-25)

*Bob Pearson (CS 9-11-25)

*Cindy/Tom Smith (AC 5-15-25 Friends & Family: Myrna & Spencer Davis (CM 9-16-25) Beth Graves (MG 9-16-25) lamie Everhart (MG 9-15-25) Phil (Sharon) Kinzer (CM 9-15-25) Donese (Peter) Carpenter (PE 9-9-25) Melba (Charles) Purvis (PE 9-9-25) Steve Erickson (VO 9-7-25) Torrey Jackson (LM 9-3-25) Sharon/Edsel Beck (JD9-3-25) Edith Clement (JD 9-3-25) Dana (Rodney) Colquitt (JD 9-3-25) Brentley & Conley Castor (ID 9-3-25) Dale, Mandy, & Riley Castor (JD 9-3-25) Curt (Lisa) Miller (ID 9-3-25)

Deanna Smith (ID 9-3-25) Beverly Leonard (CM 9-2-25) Kimberly Wood (CM 8-25-25) Lee Ann Bethel (CM 8-25-25) Tami Robinson (CM 8-25-25)

Arlette Walser (BF 7-29-25) Midway Methodist (7-29-25) Irene Foster (BF 7-29-25)

Arnold Miller (KW 7-23-25) Geri & Chuck Bowyer (CM 7-21-25)

Dorey Thomas (JĹ 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)

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 (IB 7-4-25)

Woody Bowman (TF 6-10-25)

Beckey Griffith (CM 5-20-25) **Member Care** *Eddie (Jemmietta) Allred Special Friends (CM 5-13-25)

*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 *loyce Inabinett

*Bob Pearson Residents

*Joan & Dick Bisbee *Betsy Buchanan *Herman Crabtree

*lim Dillon *Becki & Tom Foust

Westminster Canterbury (Virginia)

*Bettye Gray

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.

United in Nurturing Fellowship

Sunday, September 21

8:30am United Methodist Men, Fellowship Hall

8:45am Early Worship, Sanctuary 9:45am Sunday School for ALL Ages Morning Worship, Sanctuary II:00am

II:00am LIVE Stream on YouTube at First UMC Lexington NC

2:00pm Trustees, Fellowship Hall

5:00pm Teens of Life Youth, Youth Room, 2nd Floor

Monday, September 22

6:00pm Children's Council, Conference Room, 2nd Floor Visitation for George Hunt, Davidson Funeral Home (6pm-8pm) 7:00pm Lexington Choral Society Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, September 23

10:00am Companions in Christ, Conference Room 12:00pm Prayer Warrior Lunch, BBQ Center

2:00pm Funeral Service for George Hunt, Sanctuary

7:00pm lesus' Parables Study, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, September 24

12:00pm Midday Prayer Service, Sanctuary

5:00pm KINDERMUSIK, Ground Floor Classroom 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Thursday, September 25

Friday, September 26

9:30am KINDERMUSIK, Ground Floor Classroom 10:45am KINDERMUSIK, Ground Floor Classroom

Saturday, September 27 Sunday, September 28

8:45am Early Worship, Fellowship Hall Sunday School for ALL Ages 9:45am II:00am Morning Worship, Sanctuary

II:00am LIVE Stream on YouTube at First UMC Lexington NC

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 5 | (4p) | First UMC Front Lawn

In case of rain, join us under the 4th Avenue porte cochere. Gentle reminder: All animals should be on a leash or in carrier for the safety and comfort of all who participate.

United Women in Faith Backpack Program Polo Shirt Fundraiser

Due to unforeseen shipping/receiving problems, the fundraiser has been rescheduled for early 2026. A monthly reminder will be included in the weekly emails & bulletins so that you may keep the children who will benefit from this fundraiser in your prayers. ALL proceeds benefit Communities in Schools Backpack Program. Thank you in advance for your support!

Toys, Tots, & Tailpipes Cruise In **Sponsored by the United Methodist Men**

Saturday, October 11 (10a-2p)

You may scan the OR code with your smartphone for details & registration or contact Richard Foust (336) 971-6158. Visit the NEWS Section on our website or pick up a printed copy of the



Fall Train Rides and Wiener Roast



Sunday, October 12 (4p until 6p)

detailed flyer & registration form at the Volunteer's Desk.

Home of Judy and William Deal - Train Rides begin at 4p. The wiener roast will begin when the train rides are completed.

Make a Donation to Help with RISE Against Hunger Event Cost



Please submit your donation to Christa Weeks, Judy Deal or Alma Carlton by Wednesday, October 15. If you have questions, please contact Christa Weeks or Judy Deal. Event Date: Sunday,

November 2. Our goal is \$4,400.00. Thank you for your support of this project that makes such a difference worldwide.



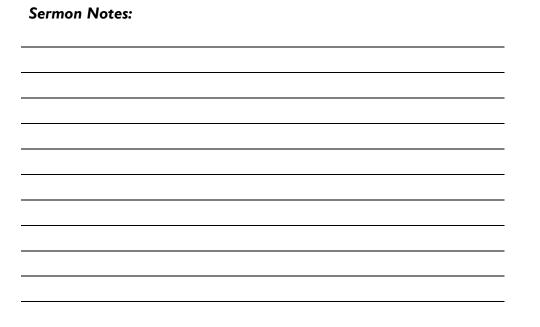
BLOCK Party and Trunk or Treat Sunday, October 19 (5p--6p)

Wear your favorite costumes, invite your neighbors, and join us for a fun time of fellowship, games, food, and Trunk-or-Treat! Everyone is welcome & invited to

participate!

How Can You Participate?

- Bring bags of candy to be given away at Trunk-or-Treat Collection Site: Table outside of Donna's office near Volunteer's Desk
- Decorate your car trunk and/or truck tailgate OR simply park your vehicle & sit in chairs, hand out candy & greet the community in the State Street parking lot during the event.
- Please arrive **before 4p** to park & set-up.





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: Peanut Butter Crackers Ramen Noodles Individual/Single Serve Sized: Mac & Cheese, Soups,

County

Small water bottles

Cheese Crackers

Granola Bars

Chips

Peanut Butter Crackers

Little Debbie snack cakes

Goldfish, Pretzels, Teddy

Canned drinks (12 oz. or less)

Grahams, Popcorn, Assorted

Peppermint Candies

Single serve sized:

Spaghetti O's, Lasagna deodorant, toothpaste/ toothbrush (Travel size items **Hospice of Davidson** work quite well.) **Items Needed:**

Pastor's Pantry Canned Food: green beans, tuna, chicken, soups, stews

Open Hands of

Davidson County

towels, washcloths

Personal Care Items:

Shampoo, bar soap,

Clean & Gently Used: bath

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!



Prayer Gifts 4 Missions Outreach This interfaith outreach ministry combines the gift of prayer with the gift of a handmade tied fleece blanket, knitted or crocheted shawl or a twin-size quilt for those needing prayer in our church and community. During Sunday worship services & Prayer Gathering on Wednesdays, you are invited to

come to the altar and pray for those who will receive the prayer gifts. As you pray, tie a double square knot with a print and solid strip on the fleece blanket or lay hands on the knitted and crocheted shawls that are presented.



The Sparrow Project

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. If you need short term help, call Lauren Hall (336) 239-0860 or the church office (336) 248-2886. The Sparrow Project temporary meal assistance is offered to our church family short term, in case of an emergency, illness, or

surgery. If you need 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.



First United Methodist Church

310 South Main Street - Lexington, NC - 27292

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Rev. Amy Higgins, Assistant Minister of Next Generations Ministries ahiggins@wnccumc.net

Lee Mabe, Director of Music maestromabe@gmail.com Phyllis Jones, Pianist/Organist <u>musician@att.net</u>

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