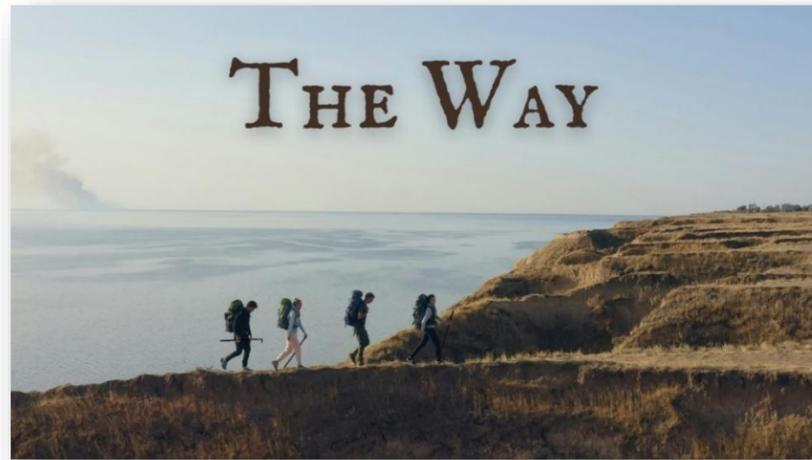


**FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
LEXINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA

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



March 8, 2026

**Second Sunday in Lent
"The Way Around"**

11:00 a.m.

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome

Rev. Kirk Tutterow

Opening Voluntary - "What Wondrous Love is This"

arr. by Lynn Trapp
Phyllis Jones, organ

Call to Worship

Jesus weeps for us,
because we do not understand his ways.
The Holy Spirit blows among us,
calling us along the right path.
The Creator waits with outstretched wings,
inviting us to rest in the warmth of her embrace.
So let us gather near the divine heartbeat.
Let us set our feet on the path of peace.
Let us open our hearts and minds to fully receive our God.

In our series about this journey called life, we focus today on how the journey changes us. This can lead to not always being understood. Jesus found this out as he pushed against the status quo of his day leading to a fair amount of rejection. Close family, friends and neighbors may cling to an idea of who we are and cannot imagine we have grown beyond that identity. And likewise, we may do the same to them. We are called to move ahead and do what we feel called to do, claiming who we know we are, taking the way around what others think we ought to do and be. And we offer the same steadfast love and encouragement to others.

Sung Response

by Jim Strathdee

**We are a wilderness wandering people
on a journey of the soul.
May we find our destination
in our longing to be whole.
Our Holy God is calling to us.
With Jesus by our side
may compassion be our compass;
may the Spirit be our guide,
on The Way,
on The Way,
on The Way.**

Prayer for the Path

**God of the Bending Road,
be with us on The Way.
We find ourselves changed by the things we encounter
and the people we meet.
We want to grow and yet sometimes
the growing pains can be disorienting for everyone.
Help us as we navigate the twists and turns,
and help us see that others are doing the same.
Amen.**

Hymn of Praise No. 454

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

by Clara H. Scott

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Anthem - "Sanctus (From Requiem)

First UMC Chancel Choir and Fabrice Dharamraj, viola

by Gabriel Faure

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus
(Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.)
Dominus Deus Sabaoth
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
(Heaven and earth are full of your glory.)
Hosanna in excelsis.
(Hosanna in the highest.)

Worshipping God with Our Gifts, Tithes & Offerings

Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

**Gracious God,
we dedicate to you not only these gifts,
but also ourselves, in deep gratitude
for your call on our lives,
your guidance in our journey with you,
and for blessing us that we may be a blessing to others.
Accept what we bring for your own good purposes.
In Christ we pray. Amen.**

A Time for the Child in All of Us

Rev. Cheryl Skinner



All children are invited to come to the front of the sanctuary for a time just for them! Afterwards, children in kindergarten thru 2nd grade are invited to follow the leader to the Godly Play Room for Children's Church.

Song of Reflection - "Pie Jesu" (From Requiem)

by Gabriel Faure

Torrey Jackson, vocal and Fabrice Dharamraj, violin

Pie Jesu Pie Jesu Domine,
(Blessed Lord Jesus,)
Dona eis requiem.
(Grant them rest.)
Dona eis sempiternam requiem.
(Grant them everlasting rest.)

Responsive Reading - Psalm 32:1-11

Happiness comes from having your rebellion taken away,
from having your failure completely covered.
**Happiness comes from YHWH not counting your mistakes,
from having nothing to hide.**
As long as I kept my stubborn silence,
my bones grew weak because of my constant complaints.
**Day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was sapped by a summer's heat.**

Finally I admitted my sin to you,
and stopped hiding my guilt, I said, "I confess my rebellion, YHWH,"
and you took away the guilt of my sin.

**That's why people of faith everywhere
should pray to you—they'll find you.**

Even when the flood begins rising,
it will never touch them.

**You are my hiding place;
you'll protect me from trouble
and surround me with songs of freedom.**

"I'll teach you and show you the way you should walk;
I will counsel you, and keep watch over you.

**Be wise! Don't be like horses and mules,
who need to be harnessed with bit and bridle
before they'll come to you."**

Wrongdoers are prone to many sorrows,
but those who trust in YHWH
are surrounded with unfailing love.

**Be glad in YHWH and rejoice, you who love justice!
Exult, you upright of heart!**

Scripture Reading - Luke 13:31-34

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Sermon - "The Way Around"

Rev. Cheryl Skinner

Prayer of Yearning

**Mothering God, we often feel scattered and lost,
separated from you and from one another.
Gather us in.
Comfort us in our loneliness.
Dispel our fears.
Correct our wayward feet and strengthen our faith,
that we might hear your voice, trust your promises,
and stand firm in your ways.
In your light and love, we pray. Amen.**

Hymn for the Journey TFWS No. 2236

"Gather Us In"

by Marty Haugen

(During the Hymn for the Journey you are welcome to come up and sit or kneel on the front row for a time of prayer as you feel led.)

Benediction

The Creator God filled you with breath,
inviting you to this journey called Life.

We will follow on The Way.

Jesus, our Guide, showed us what it means
to make a new way with Love.

We will follow on The Way.

The Spirit gives us strength to move forward
with Courage and Compassion for all we meet.

We will follow on The Way.

May this week be filled with opportunities
to let others share with you their journey stories,
and for you to share yours,
so you might come to know each other more fully.

May it be so. Amen.

"Buen Camino!"

Choral Benediction - "Were The Whole Realm of Nature Mine"

by Ellen Purchase

First UMC Chancel Choir

Chimes of the Trinity

Postlude - "Lift High the Cross"

arr. by Janet Linker

Phyllis Jones, organ

Giving Generously Together

Offering plates are provided at the back of the sanctuary.



Mail to First UMC, 310 S. Main Street, Lexington, NC 27292.

Online Giving for mobile device users, the [QR code on the left](#) 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.

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:

Terri Beck
Peggy Everhart
Louise Hawley
Terri (Richard) Hawley
Judy Hench
Larry Langley
Pat Harrison
Cindy/Tom Smith

Friends & Family:

Teddy McCoy
Bobbi Mukosiej
Ginger Hill
Peg Leahy
Ted Williams
Myrna Davis
Phil (Sharon) Kinzer
Joyce Metters
Special Friends
Spencer Davis
Kimberly Wood
Lee Ann Bethel
Richard Slater
Roger Thompson
Emily Sink Cash & Family
Pam & Ron Sink
Rev. Ed (Patty) Kelaher
Torrey Jackson
Cheryl Crago
Tami Robinson
Beth Graves
Bob Kuster
Marlene Jones
Deborah Bisbee
Anna Cruz
Linda Cox
Julie Milner
Kaitlin Deebel
Mark Frye
Jackie Truell Butler

Tony Hill
Jane King
Cathy Jon & Emerson Bethel
Michael Wood
Louise & Ray Kombau
Special Friends
Melba (Charles) Purvis
Sharon (Edsel) Beck
Edith Clement
Dana (Rodney) Colquitt
Brentley & Conley Castor
Dale, Mandy & Riley Castor
Curt (Lisa) Miller
Deanna Smith
Irene Foster
Dorey Thomas
Elizabeth Morales
Christine
Judy Jordan
Kay Gilmer
Becky 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—United States

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

Serving in the Armed Forces

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

Thursday, March 12

(7:30a-9:30a) Triad Referral Partners, Fellowship Hall
10:30am Event Set-Up, Fellowship Hall & Kitchen
11:30am United Women in Faith Lunch & Meeting, Fellowship Hall
7:00pm Chair Volleyball, Fellowship Hall

Friday, March 13

Sparrow Project Cook Day, Kitchen
9:30am Kindermusik, Ground Floor classroom
10:45am Kindermusik, Ground Floor classroom
1:30pm Crafting, Home of Terri Hawley

Saturday, March 14

Sunday, March 15

8:30am United Methodist Men, Fellowship Hall
8:45am Early Worship, Fellowship Hall
9:30am Sunday School for ALL Ages
9:45am Event Set-Up, Fellowship Hall & Kitchen
11:00am Morning Worship, Sanctuary
11:00am LIVE Stream on YouTube at First UMC Lexington NC
12:00pm Evangelism & Hospitality Fellowship Meal, Fellowship Hall
2:00pm Trustees, Parlor
(4pm-6pm) Teens of Life Youth

United Women in Faith Lunch & Meeting-Thursday, March 12 at (11:30am) in the Fellowship Hall -Please bring a salad (tossed, congealed, pasta, marinated, 7-layer, taco, etc.) Whatever salad you would like to bring and share. If you'd rather bring a dessert, it doesn't have to be homemade. **Please call or text Marsha at 704 418-1947 and let her know what salad or dessert you're bringing.** Hope to see you on Thursday at 11:30! If you need a ride, call Marsha.

REMINDER: Today is the last day to RSVP to the Evangelism & Hospitality Fellowship Meal scheduled for next Sunday, March 15 at (12p) in the Fellowship Hall. Ask a Greeter or Usher for a meal order form.

Lenten Church-Wide Mission Project – Items for parents and babies in the NICU. Detailed lists with instructions are located at the back of the sanctuary & online. Monetary donations are also appreciated. Make checks payable to: **Breanna Tysinger**. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Bre Cavender (336)250-7175 (Call or Text)

Upcoming Lent and Easter Events

Children's Easter Celebration & Egg Hunt

Sunday, March 22 (12p) –Call or Text Rev. Amy Higgins at 336-403-2413 or email: ahiggins@wnccumc.net

Palm Sunday Walk to the Square -Sunday, March 29 (12p)

Maundy Thursday -Thursday, April 2 (7p) First UMC Sanctuary

Easter Sunday -Sunday, April 5 -Bring fresh flowers to place on the flower cross.



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 almacarltonfumclex@gmail.com

Donna Huskins, Administrative Assistant churchoffice.fumclexnc@gmail.com

United in Nurturing Fellowship

Sunday, March 8

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
(4pm-6pm) Teens of Life Youth

Monday, March 9

7:00pm Lexington Choral Society Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, March 10

10:00am Companions in Christ Small Group, Conference Room
12:00pm Prayer Warriors' Lunch, B-B-Q Center
6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, March 11

12:00pm Lenten Midday Prayer, Sanctuary
1:00pm Chair Yoga, Fellowship Hall
4:00pm Scholarship Applications Due
6:00pm Chancel Bell Rehearsal, Bell Room
7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

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.