First United Methodist Church

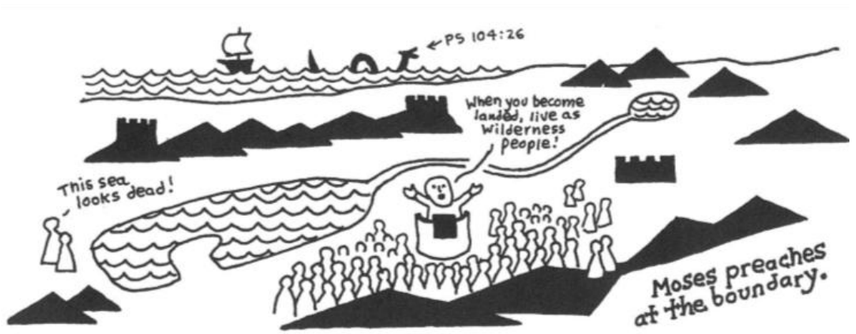
Lexington, North Carolina

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

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!

October 4, 2026 ***8:45 a.m.***

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday
Manna and Mercy: The Gift of Worship



Welcome Rev. Kirk Tutterow

Gathering Music - *"10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)"arr. by Mark Hayes*
Phyllis Jones, piano

Call to Worship
Leader: The heavens proclaim the glory of God!
People: We too proclaim what God has done in our lives.
Leader: Voices of praise shout to the ends of the earth.
People: May we join the chorus,
as we sing of God's great and abiding love!

Opening Prayer
Creating God, like the earth around us,
we gather to proclaim your glory.
We pray that you will revive our souls today.
We pray that you will help us become a little bit wiser.
We pray that our hearts will rejoice
at the sound of your name.
We pray that our eyes will be opened to your ways.
We pray that we might live in peace and harmony
with one another.
And we pray that today, and every day,
we will again choose to follow in the ways of Christ,
so that our lives may become an example
of your love and grace to the world.
In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Hymn of Praise No. 73 *by Robert Grant*
"O Worship the King"

We Worship with our Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)
Holy One, creator of all, we give you thanks
for all you have entrusted to us.
As good stewards, we now bring you these gifts
and ask that you use them to help your children
around the world.
As we bring our gifts, we also offer our lives,
praying that you will use us to bear good fruit
for all people. Amen.

Anthem - *"Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)"* *arr. by Victor Labenske*
Phyllis Jones, piano

Scriptures - *Deuteronomy 6:4-9* *OT Page 163*

Sermon - *"The Gift of Worship"* Rev. Cheryl Skinner

Hymn of Preparation #618 *African-American Spiritual*
"Let Us Break Bread Together"

Invitation to Holy Communion
Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin
and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession (in unison)
Holy Lord, following you is seldom easy.
When worry and doubt cloud our vision
bless us with your peace.
When work and social obligations rob our strength,
grant our rest.
We yearn to focus our hearts and minds
on things that are excellent, admirable,
and worthy of praise.
Shine the light of your love in our lives,
that we may bring your light to the world. Amen.
(You are invited to a time of silent confession…)

Words of Assurance
The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
is ours through Christ Jesus.
In Christ, we rest secure.

The Great Thanksgiving
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere...
...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ...
...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.
Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God. Now and forever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Bread and the Cup
(After receiving Holy Communion, you are welcome to use the seats and/or the kneelers in the two front pews for a time of silent prayer and reflection.)

Prayer after Communion
Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen.

Hymn of Hope - No. 548 *by John Oxenham & Laurence Hull Stookey*
"In Christ There Is No East or West"

Benediction

Traveling Music - *"Highland Cathedral"* *arr. by Phillip Keveren*
Phyllis Jones, piano

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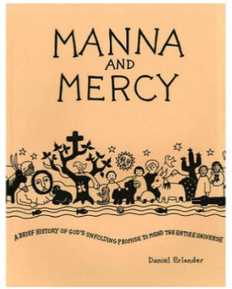
Next Sunday: "Graduation and Settling Down"

- Read Manna & Mercy pages 16-20
- Read Deuteronomy 8:7-20; Joshua & Judges (See M&M for specific passages.)

Remember the Four Questions to ask when reading scripture:

1. What does this scripture passage tell you about God?
2. What does this scripture passage tell you about human beings?
3. What does this scripture passage tell you about God's creation?
4. What does this scripture passage tell you about the relationships between God, human beings, and God's creation?



Additional questions to ponder:

- What wisdom did Moses share with the people before they crossed over into the Promised Land? How were they to live once they arrived?
- What trials and tribulations did they face entering the land, and who led them?
- Who were the judges, and why were they important?
- What part did stories play in helping the Israelites remember who they were as God's covenant people? What role do stories play in our remembering who we are in relation to God?
- What does it mean to be a "People of Memory" and a "People of Hope"?

Pastor Cheryl will be available in the Church Parlor on Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon to answer questions or discuss the readings and sermon from Sunday. Feel free to stop by!

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.

First United Methodist Church
310 South Main Street, Lexington, NC - 27292
Office phone: (336) 248-2886 Website: www.fumclex.org

Rev. Cheryl Skinner, Senior Minister, skinnerrev@gmail.com 336-813-2626
Rev. Kirk Tutterow, Executive Associate 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

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:
Simi Harne
Terri Beck
Lauren Hall
Judy Hench
Cindy Davis
Larry Langley
G. F. Smith
Gay Smith
Efird Wilson
Sandra Michael
Curtis Leonard
Lewis McMillan
Jim Dillon

Friends & Family:
Davis Tucker
Benny Huskins
Joan Briggs
Matt
Molly Pflueger
Margaret Fite McKinnon
Rev. Ed (Patty) Kelaher
Marlene Jones
Charlotte Froelich
Beth Graves
Jane King
Kimberly Wood
Lee Ann Bethel
Deborah Bisbee
Geoff Tookey
Ashlyn Tookey
Charm Ketner
JoAnn Hill
Darrell Shoaf
Peggy Klass
Sam Branson
Becky Leonard
Debbie McNeill
Kelly Greathouse
Vernon Murray
Gary (Pat) Leonard
Fabi (India)
Tami Robinson
Phil (Sharon) Kinzer
Mary Sue Leonard
Irene Foster
Special Friends (7-28-26)
Tommy Hendrix
Aubrey Ward
Brad
Torrey Jackson
Tony Hill
Linda Cox
Jackie Truell Butler
Julie Milner
Kendall Conner
Christine
Jon & Emerson Bethel
Cindy & Tom Smith
Beckey Griffith
Janet Fite Coyne
Ron & Kristie Wooten
Mark Frye
Special Friends (4-28-26)
Jim McCutcheon
Kaitlin Deebel
Cheryl Crago
Anna Cruz
Jamie Vasquez
Kayla
Ginger Hill

Long Term (6 months or longer:
Jean McCrary
Richard Slater
Michael Wood
Elizabeth Morales
Judy Jordan
Kay Gilmer
Trevor Vermette
Amy McIntosh
Stan Larson
Betty Jean Whitaker

Missionaries
David, Hannah, Nicholas, & Samuel Mora—United States

Member Care
*Dot Cook
*Ginnie Easter
*Hilda Flynt
*Louise Hawley
*Larlie Mae Knight
*Edna Morris
*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 Alan Ingram
Major Jarrad Thorley

Note of Sympathy

Sympathy of the ministers and congregation is extended to Monty (Joyce) Oliver and their family upon the occasion of the death of his son, Kevin Michael Oliver, on September 21, 2026.

United in Nurturing Fellowship

Sunday, October 4

8:45am	Early Worship, Fellowship Hall
9:30am	Sunday School for ALL Ages
11:00am	Morning Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:00am	LIVE Stream on YouTube at First UMC Lexington NC
4:00pm	**Blessing of the Animals, Front Lawn | In case of rain, 4th Avenue porte cochere**
5:00pm	**Teens of Life Youth together with FBC friends, American Children's Home**

Monday, October 5

7:00pm	Lexington Choral Society Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, October 6

10:00am	**"The Way of Blessedness" Bible study, Fellowship Hall**
12:00pm	Prayer Warrior's Lunch, B-B-Q Center

Wednesday, October 7

10:00am	**Staff Meeting, Library**
1:00pm	**Restorative Yoga, Fellowship Hall**
4:00pm	**Crocheting, Fellowship Hall**
7:00pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Thursday, October 8

(7:30a-9:30a)	Triad Referral Partners, Fellowship Hall
6:00pm	**Chair Volleyball, Fellowship Hall**

Friday, October 9

Saturday, October 10

Sunday, October 11

8:45am	Early Worship, Fellowship Hall
9:30am	Sunday School for ALL Ages
11:00am	Morning Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:00am	LIVE Stream on YouTube at First UMC Lexington NC
3:00pm	**Church Visioning, Fellowship Hall**

Toys, Tots, & Tailpipes Cruise-In Sponsored by the United Methodist Men – Saturday, October 17 (10a-2p) Join us for a day of classic cars, community fun, food, and fellowship! CAR SHOW ● YARD SALE ● SILENT AUCTION ● FOOD & MUSIC ● Toys for Tots DRIVE ● ON SITE CAR WASH & DETAILING - You may **SCAN the QR code** with your smartphone for details & registration, contact Richard Foust (336) 971-6158 or pick up a printed copy of the flyer/registration form from the church office. ***100% donations & proceeds benefit helping local families & children.***

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?

- Donate 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.

RISE Against Hunger Experience - Sunday, November 1st

Fellowship Hall - *Join us as we pack nutritious meals that represent the hopes and dreams of people worldwide. Volunteers are the heart of the mission to end hunger. RISE Against Hunger could not send millions of meals around the globe each year without YOU!* **You are asked to sign-up for the event.**

Choose an option below:

- **Contact the church office (336) 248-2886 and Donna can help you sign-up**
- Go directly to our website **EVENTS/NEWS** section & **Click & Go** on the RISE Against Hunger logo

Thank you for your support of this project that makes such a difference worldwide.

What has NOT gone UP in cost? ***An OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX filled for you by Judy Deal & Faith Seekers***
Contact Judy Deal by **November 16** if you would like for her & Faith Seekers to **fill an OCC shoebox for you**. The cost remains **$25** per shoebox stuffed with wonderful items and includes shipping.

You may choose to **fill your own shoebox** located in the displays in the church. Just follow the instructions from inside the shoebox and return your **filled shoebox by Sunday, November 22** to the table located under the OCC bulletin board in the main hallway.

Reaching Out and Sharing God's Boundless Love

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

Cancer Services of Davidson County Sponsored by Missions Team
Items Needed: **Ensure** and **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

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 Sausages, 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 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.