



FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
LEXINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA

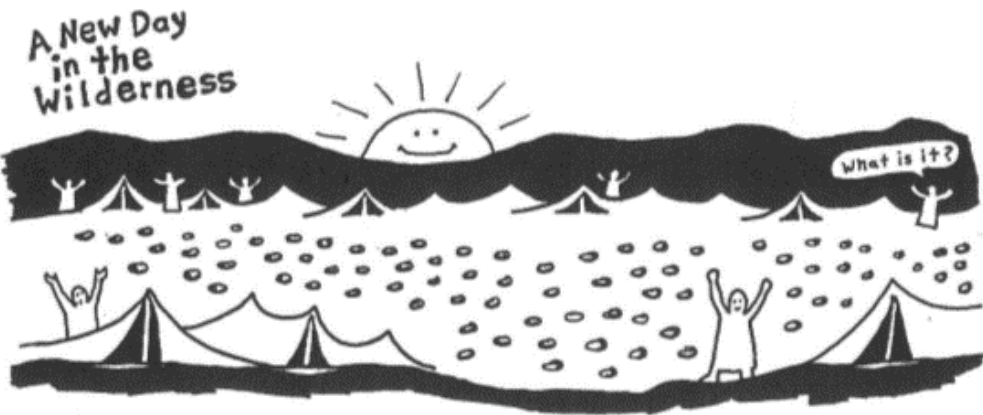
At First United Methodist Church we are each alive in Christ, united in nurturing fellowship, reaching out to share God’s boundless love.

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!

September 13, 2026

8:45 a.m.

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Manna and Mercy: The Wilderness School



Welcome

Rev. Kirk Tutterow

Gathering Music - “Breathe”

by Marie Barnett

The ALIVE! Praise Band

This is the air I breathe,
This is the air I breathe:
Your holy presence living in me.
This is my daily bread,
This is my daily bread:
Your very word spoken to me.

And I, I'm desperate for You.
And I, I'm lost without You.

This is the air I breathe.
This is the air I breathe.

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Call to Worship

Leader: In their wilderness wandering, the Israelites grumbled.
The Lord lighted their way and provided nourishment.

People: **In our life journeys, we will give thanks
for the providence of the Holy One.**

Leader: As we seek to live our lives by the example of Christ,
may we delight in God’s grace.

People: **We will offer caring presence
and abundant generosity.**

We will even endeavor to give up our own
grumbling!

Opening Prayer (in unison)

Gracious and Loving God, we give thanks
for the many ways we see your abiding presence
throughout scripture and within our own lives.

You hear not only our praise
but also our complaints.

Teach us to hear our own grumbling
as a signifier to redirect our thoughts and lives
to gratitude and generosity.

In hearing our own complaints,
may we look to Christ Jesus for examples of grace,
and may we follow your Holy Spirit
to offer presence to one another,
as we walk in faith together. Amen.

Song of Praise - “God of Wonders”

by Byrd & Hindalong

The ALIVE! Praise Band

Lord of all creation, of water, earth, and sky
The heavens are your tabernacle. Glory to the Lord on High

God of wonders, beyond our galaxy. You are holy, holy.
The universe declares your majesty. You are holy, holy.

Lord of heaven and earth. Lord of heaven and earth.

Early in the morning, I will celebrate the light.
And as I stumble through the darkness,
I will call your name by night

God of wonders, beyond our galaxy. You are holy, holy.
The universe declares your majesty. You are holy, holy.

Lord of heaven and earth. Lord of heaven and earth.
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth. repeat

God of wonders, beyond our galaxy. You are holy, holy.
The universe declares your majesty. You are holy, holy, holy, holy.

Lord of heaven and earth. Lord of heaven and earth.

CCLI Song # 3118757 - “God of Wonders” - Music & Lyrics by Marc Byrd and Steve Hindalong
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Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer

Anthem - “Carry Me”

by Josh Wilson

The ALIVE! Praise Band

I try to catch my breath, it hasn't happened yet.
I'm wide awake in the middle of the night, scared to death.
So I prayed, “God, would you make this stop?
Father please hold on to me, You're all I've got.”

Chorus

Carry me, carry me, carry me now,
From my sinking sand to your solid ground.
The only way I'm ever gonna make it out
is if you carry me, carry me, carry me now.
God carry me, carry me, carry me now.

Jesus calm my heart, come near me please.
Lord don't let these worries get the best of me.
Oh I believe that you're still here with me.

Cause You meant what You said when you said You'd never leave.

Chorus

I'm at the end of myself. I know I've got nothing left.
Feels like I'm stuck in the valley of the shadow of death,

And I've been down here so long. I just can't find my way out.
Oh God I don't stand a chance, unless you carry me now

Chorus

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We Worship with our Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

We offer these gifts, O God,
in gratitude for your provision in our lives.
We offer tangible gifts of money, where we are able,
and tangible gifts of our time, our prayers,
our service, and our witness
to your abundant grace. Amen.

Scripture Reading - Exodus 16: 2-35

OT Pages 62-64

Sermon - “The Wilderness School”

Rev. Cheryl Skinner

Affirmation of Faith No. 884 - “A Statement of Faith of the Korean
Methodist Church”

Song of Sending Forth - “Hold Us Together”

by Matt Maher & Steve Wilson

The ALIVE! Praise Band

It don't have a job, it don't pay your bills.
Won't buy you a home in Beverly Hills.
Won't fix your life in five easy steps.
Ain't the law of the land or the government.
But it's all you need.

Chorus

And love will hold us together,
make us a shelter to weather the storm.
And I'll be my brother's keeper,
so the whole world will know that we're not alone
It's waiting for you, knocking at your door
in the moment of truth when your heart hits the floor,
and you're on your knees

This is the first day of the rest of your life
This is the first day of the rest of your life
'Cause even in the dark you can still see the light
It's gonna be alright it's gonna be alright

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Benediction

Traveling Music

The ALIVE! Praise Band

Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of
the members of the Altar Guild for their devoted service by Kay
Wilson.

Note of Sympathy

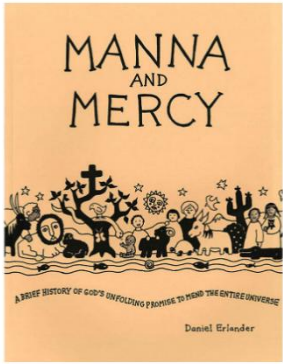
Sympathy of the ministers and congregation is extended to Libby (Rick)
Samuels and their family upon the occasion of the death of Libby’s mother,
Elizabeth Hinkle, on September 8, 2026. She was 101 years old.

Next Sunday: The Covenant Gift

- Read Manna & Mercy pages 10-11
- Read Exodus 19-20

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:

- Why did God give the Israelites the gift of the ten commandments? What is their purpose?
- Why should we consider the ten commandments a gift, rather than a burden?
- Which commandments do you find easy to keep? Which do you find difficult to keep? Why?
- In Godly Play the ten commandments are called “the ten best ways to live” --why do you think that is?
- How do the ten commandments help the Israelites define themselves as God’s people?
- How do they help us define ourselves as God’s people today?

Starting this week, 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
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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: Sandra Michael Simi Harne Curtis Leonard Efird Wilson Cindy Davis Larry Langley Terri Beck Kathy Oliver Gay Smith Daniel Cavender Lewis McMillan Jim Dillon G. F. Smith Louise Hawley Judy Hench	Charlotte Froelich Aubrey Ward Brad Torrey Jackson Tony Hill Linda Cox Jackie Truell Butler Julie Milner Kendall Conner Christine Jon & Emerson Bethel Cindy & Tom Smith Becky Griffith Janet Fite Coyne Ron & Kristie Wooten Mark Frye Special Friends (4-28-26) Jim McCutcheon Jane King Kaitlin Deebel Cheryl Crago Anna Cruz Deborah Bisbee Jamie Vasquez Kayla Ginger Hill Joyce Metters
Friends & Family: Glen O'Shea Charm Ketner JoAnn Hill Darrell Shoaf Sarah Rakestraw Peggy Klass Sam Branson Matt Molly Pflueger Beth Graves Becky Leonard Debbie McNeill Kimberly Wood Lee Ann Bethel Kelly Greathouse Vernon Murray Margaret Fite McKinnon Gary (Pat) Leonard Fabi (India) Tami Robinson Phil (Sharon) Kinzer Ashlyn Tookey Alec Rhodes Mary Sue Leonard Irene Foster Rev. Ed (Patty) Kelaher Special Friends (7-28-26) Tommy Hendrix Marlene Jones	Long Term (6 months or longer): Jean McCrary Richard Slater Michael Wood Elizabeth Morales Judy Jordan Kay Gilmer Kay Crouse Trevor Vermette Joan Briggs 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	

United in Nurturing Fellowship

Sunday, September 13 8:45am 9:30am 11:00am 11:00am 12:00pm (4pm-6pm) Monday, September 14 7:00pm Tuesday, September 15 10:00am 12:00pm 5:30pm 5:45pm Wednesday, September 16 7:00pm	Early Worship, Fellowship Hall Sunday School for ALL Ages Morning Worship Service, Sanctuary LIVE Stream on YouTube at First UMC Lexington NC Medical Response & Security Teams, Fellowship Hall Teens of Life Youth bowling @YMCA with our friends from FBC Lexington Choral Society Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall “The Way of Blessedness” Bible study, Genesis classroom Prayer Warrior’s Lunch, B-B-Q Center Altar Guild, Fellowship Hall Genesis class provides evening meal, DC First Hope Ministries Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
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Thursday, September 17 (7:30a-9:30a) 10:00am Friday, September 18 (10a-6p) (10a-1p) Saturday, September 19 Sunday, September 20 8:30am 8:45am 9:30am 11:00am 11:00am 2:00pm 3:00pm	Triad Referral Partners, Fellowship Hall Event Set-Up for Port-a-Pit, Fellowship Hall & Kitchen Kindermusik (Refer to website for details) UMM Port-a-Pit Chicken Fundraiser, State Street entrance UWinF Bake Sale Fundraiser, State Street entrance United Methodist Men, Fellowship Hall Early Worship, Sanctuary Sunday School for ALL Ages Morning Worship Service, Sanctuary LIVE Stream on YouTube at First UMC Lexington NC Trustees, Parlor Church Visioning, Fellowship Hall
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What has NOT gone UP in cost? An OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX filled for you by Judy Deal & Faith Seekers
Contact Judy Deal by **September 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.

United Women in Faith September Meeting has MOVED
Mark your calendars to join us on **Thursday, October 1st (11a-1p)** in the Fellowship Hall for a time of fellowship over lunch and our meeting.

An Opportunity to Serve from the Mission Committee
The Mission Committee is once again sponsoring the RISE Against Hunger experience on Sunday, November 1st. We are offering an opportunity to Sunday school classes, groups or individuals to contribute and help with the financing of the event. The total cost of the event is \$4,500. If your class/group can help with this cost, please contact Christa Weeks or Judy Deal no later than **Sunday, October 11th**.

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** on the right with your smartphone for details & registration, contact Richard Foust (336) 971-6158 or pick up a printed copy of the flyer/registration form at the Volunteer’s Desk.

100% donations & proceeds benefit helping local families & children.



United Women in Faith Silent Auction Fundraiser – Saturday, October 17 in conjunction with the UMM Car Show event. In preparation for the event, we are asking our church family to consider donating items for the Silent Auction. **Suggested donations: NASCAR memorabilia or other car related items, gift certificates to local stores & restaurants, BIG 4 memorabilia/collectibles of championship teams (no clothing) – accessories are okay, BIG 4 sporting event tickets, weekend getaways to the beach or mountains.** Questions? Please contact Marsha Garwood at 704-418-1947.

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.

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 UWV 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 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.