

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 20, 2026

11:00 a.m.

**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Manna and Mercy: The Covenant Gift**



Chiming of the Hour

Welcome

Rev. Cheryl Skinner

Opening Voluntary - "Impromptu No. 3 in Gb" by Franz Schubert
Phyllis Jones, piano

Call to Worship

Leader: Come to Christ, that living stone,
rejected by the world,
but in God's sight chosen and precious.

People: **We have responded to Christ's call,
and seek to be built into a spiritual house,
a living reminder of God's presence on earth.**

Leader: Once we were no people, but now we are God's people,
called out of the darkness into God's marvelous light.
Therefore, we sing with the people of God in all ages:

People: **Blessed be your name, O God our Redeemer.
By your mercy we have been born anew to a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.**

Opening Prayer (in unison)

**Creating and Redeeming God,
in mystery and silence, you are present in our lives,
bringing new life out of destruction,
hope out of despair, relationship out of brokenness,
and growth out of difficulty.**

**We thank you that you do not leave us alone
but labor to make us whole.
Help us to perceive your unseen hand
in the unfolding of our lives,
and to attend to the gentle guidance of your Spirit,
that we may know the joy you give your covenant people.**
Amen.

Hymn of Praise No. 577 by Harry Emerson Fosdick
"God of Grace and God of Glory"

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Anthem - "Write Your Blessed Name" by K. Lee Scott
First UMC Chancel Choir

Write your blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart,
there to remain so indelibly engraved that no prosperity
that no adversity shall ever, ever move me from your love.

Be to me a strong tower of defense, a comforter in tribulation,
a deliverer in distress, and a faithful guide to the courts of heaven
through the many temptations and dangers of this life, of this life.
O Jesus, my only Savior!

We Worship with our Tithes and Offerings Judy Deal
Operation Christmas Child

Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

**God of Covenant relationship,
you call us beyond our resumes and our trophies,
beyond what we have been
toward who we are becoming in Christ.**
**As we lay these gifts before you,
free us from clinging to what we think gives us worth.**
Turn our eyes toward the future you are unfolding.
**Let our giving press us deeper into your covenant,
widen the circle of friendship,
and shape us into people who embody your justice and grace.**
**Keep us moving; keep us growing; keep us following
in we say and do and are. Amen.**

A Time for the Child in All of Us Rev. Cheryl Skinner
All children are invited to come to the front of the church at this
time. Afterwards, children in kindergarten thru 2nd grade are invited
to follow the leader to the Godly Play Room for Children's Church.

Hymn of Preparation No. 730 by R. B. Y. Scott
"O Day of God, Draw Nigh"

Scripture Reading - Exodus 20:1-17 & Galatians 5:13-14
OT Pages 63-64 & NT Page 179

Sermon - "The Covenant People" Rev. Kirk Tutterow

Affirmation of Faith No. 883 -
"A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada"

Hymn of Sending No. 664 by Omer Westendorf
"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

Benediction

Choral Benediction - "Allelulia, Amen" by Carl Wiltse

Chimes of the Trinity

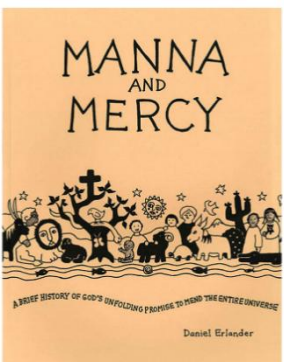
Postlude - "Voluntary in d minor" by William Boyce
Phyllis Jones, organ

Next Sunday: "Year of Jubilee"

- Read Manna & Mercy pages 12-13
- Read Exodus 23-24; Deuteronomy 14-15

**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 are the three forms of Sabbath, and why are they each important?
- What is required during the jubilee year? How does it serve to restore/rebalance society? How is jubilee part of God's justice?
- Imagine if we practiced jubilee today...what would be different? Would our country/the world be more just? What else could we do to restore balance in our society today?
- How does practicing Sabbath help make the Israelites a "contrast society?" What does that mean, and why is it important?
- Are Christians called to be a "contrast society" today? If so, how do we live out that calling?

**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!**

New & Returning Members

Cathy & Greg Lemly joined our church this morning at the 8:45a service. Cathy is the daughter of Maywood and the late Mary Louise Wilkerson and grew up at First UMC. Welcome to you both!

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

Note of Sympathy

Sympathy of the ministers and congregation is extended to Debbie (Rick) Hill and their family upon the occasion of the death of Debbie's father, Richard Lee York, on September 9, 2026.

Sympathy of the ministers and congregation is extended to Joyce (Monty) Oliver and their family upon the occasion of the death of Joyce's brother, Donald Black, on September 11, 2026.

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.

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 20	
8:30am	United Methodist Men, Fellowship Hall
8:45am	Early Worship, Sanctuary
9:30am	Sunday School for ALL Ages
11:00am	Morning Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:00am	LIVE Stream on YouTube at First UMC Lexington NC
2:00pm	Trustees, Parlor
3:00pm	Church Visioning, Fellowship Hall
Monday, September 21	
7:00pm	Lexington Choral Society Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, September 22	
10:00am	“The Way of Blessedness” Bible study, Fellowship Hall
12:00pm	Prayer Warrior’s Lunch, B-B-Q Center
Wednesday, September 23	
7:00pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
Thursday, September 24	
(7:30a-9:30a)	Triad Referral Partners, Fellowship Hall
6:00pm	Chair Volleyball, Fellowship Hall
Friday, September 25	
Saturday, September 26	
3:00pm	Wedding of Elizabeth Cook & Matthew Hall, Sanctuary
Sunday, September 27	
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	Davidson Missional Network Service Project, Fairview UMC
3:00pm	Member Care, Parlor
5:00pm	Youth & Parents, Youth Room 2nd Floor

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 Invitation to Serve in the Community – Saturday, October 3rd (9a-12p) St. Stephens UMC – As an extension of Open Hands Ministry, St. Stephens is serving breakfast from their location. They are inviting anyone who would like to help in the clean-up & organizing (*all work is indoors*) in the Open Hands Ministry area of St. Stephens to join them on October 3rd.

An Opportunity to Serve from the Mission Committee
We are offering an opportunity to Sunday school classes, groups or individuals to contribute and help with the financing of the Rise Against Hunger 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**
Proceeds from the fundraiser will provide continued support to the Backpack Programs at Picket and Charles England Elementary Schools which remains vital to the students in the Lexington School System. 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.

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.

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

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 UVV 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 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.