



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 27, 2026** **8:45 a.m.**

***Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost***  
***Manna and Mercy: Year of Jubilee***



**Welcome** Rev. Kirk Tutterow

**Gathering Music** - “Rejoice the Lord is King” arr. by Cindy Berry  
Phyllis Jones, piano

***Call to Worship***

Leader: Listen, for God is still speaking.  
People: **Look, for God is still present.**  
Leader: Worship, for God is in our midst.

***Opening Prayer (in unison)***

**God of glory, grace us with your presence.**  
**Overwhelm us with your love.**  
**Guide us with your wisdom**  
**and fill us with your Holy Spirit,**  
**as we worship and praise you this day.**  
**Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise No. 61** Anonymous  
“Come, Thou Almighty King”

***Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer***

**Anthem** - “For the Beauty of the Earth” arr. by Mark Hayes  
Phyllis Jones, piano

***We Worship with our Tithes and Offerings***

***Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)***

**Embolden us, Mighty God,**  
**to give as fully as we have received.**  
**Multiply the gifts we return to you now,**  
**that they may empower the lives of many**  
**with your glory and your grace. Amen.**

**Hymn of Preparation No. 441** by Albert F. Bayly  
“What Does the Lord Require”

**Scripture Reading** - Exodus 23:1-13; Deuteronomy 15:1-15  
OT Pages 69; 171-172

**Sermon** - “Justice and Jubilee” Rev. Cheryl Skinner

**Affirmation of Faith No. 883** -  
“A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada”

**Hymn of Sending TFWS No. 2223** by Peter Scholtes  
“They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love”

***Benediction***

**Traveling Music** - “This is My Father's World” arr. by Cindy Berry  
Phyllis Jones, piano

**Wedding Announcement**  
We extend a heartfelt congratulations to Elizabeth Cook and Matthew Wall upon the occasion of their marriage on September 26, 2026. The floral arrangements were lovingly provided and graciously left for the enjoyment of their church family. We pray for God’s continued blessings upon their marriage and future together.

**Flowers**  
The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God in celebration of the marriage of Elizabeth Cook and Matthew Wall and in honor of the bride’s grandparents, Dot Cook and the late Bill Cook, by the bride’s parents, Leah and Dal Cook.

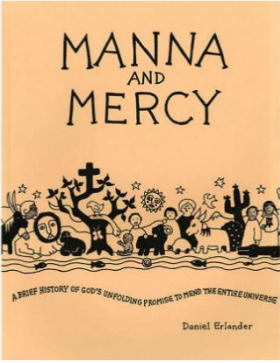
The flowers in the narthex are given to the glory of God and in memory of Ella Timberlake upon the occasion of her birthday, September 27, by Kay & Bob Timberlake and Tim Timberlake.

**We Welcome a New Member**  
Olivia Jane Hedrick, daughter of Jane & Bradley Hedrick and granddaughter of Peggy & Jimmy Everhart, will be confirmed and received into membership at First UMC during the 11:00a worship service today.

**Next Sunday: “The Gift of Worship”**  
• Read Manna & Mercy pages 14-15  
• Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Exodus 13:3-10; Deuteronomy 16:1-17

**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:**

- According to M&M, how are righteousness and mercy linked together?
- What is the purpose of worship for the Israelites? For us today?
- How can worship help God’s people, of any time or place, keep righteousness and mercy in balance and at the center of their lives?
- Why did the Israelites offer sacrifices and hold festivals as part of their worship of God?
- What is the most meaningful part of worship for you, today, and why?
- World Communion Sunday is October 4th. Are there similarities between the Christian celebration of Holy Communion and the Jewish celebration of Passover?
- How do they each remind their worshippers who and whose they are?

**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!**

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.

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>First UMC member:</b><br>Simi Harne<br>Terri Beck<br>Lauren Hall<br>Cindy Davis<br>Larry Langley<br>G. F. Smith<br>Gay Smith<br>Efird Wilson<br>Sandra Michael<br>Curtis Leonard<br>Lewis McMillan<br>Jim Dillon<br>Judy Hench                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Special Friends (7-28-26)<br>Tommy Hendrix<br>Aubrey Ward<br>Brad<br>Torrey Jackson<br>Tony Hill<br>Linda Cox<br>Jackie Truell Butler<br>Julie Milner Kendall Conner<br>Christine<br>Jon & Emerson Bethel<br>Cindy & Tom Smith<br>Beckey Griffith<br>Janet Fite Coyne<br>Ron & Kristie Wooten<br>Mark Frye<br>Special Friends (4-28-26)<br>Jim McCutcheon<br>Jane King<br>Kaitlin Deebel<br>Cheryl Crago<br>Anna Cruz<br>Jamie Vasquez<br>Kayla<br>Ginger Hill | <b>Member Care</b><br>*Dot Cook<br>*Ginnie Easter<br>*Hilda Flynt<br>*Louise Hawley<br>*Larlie Mae Knight<br>*Edna Morris<br>*Carolyn Smith<br>*Patricia Smith<br>*Dr. Hunter Strader<br>*Ruby (Buddy) Taylor<br>*Flonnie Thomason<br>Peggy & Wayne Wegwart<br>*Dare Wilson |
| <b>Friends &amp; Family:</b><br>Matt<br>Molly Pflueger<br>Margaret Fite McKinnon<br>Rev. Ed (Patty) Kelaher<br>Marlene Jones<br>Charlotte Froelich<br>Kimberly Wood<br>Lee Ann Bethel<br>Deborah Bisbee<br>Linda Green<br>Geoff Tookey<br>Ashlyn Tookey<br>Charm Ketner<br>JoAnn Hill<br>Darrell Shoaf<br>Peggy Klass<br>Sam Branson<br>Beth Graves<br>Becky Leonard<br>Debbie McNeill<br>Kelly Greathouse<br>Vernon Murray<br>Gary (Pat) Leonard<br>Fabi (India)<br>Tami Robinson<br>Phil (Sharon) Kinzer<br>Alec Rhodes<br>Mary Sue Leonard<br>Irene Foster | <b>Long Term (6 months or longer):</b><br>Jean McCrary<br>Richard Slater<br>Michael Wood<br>Elizabeth Morales<br>Judy Jordan<br>Kay Gilmer<br>Trevor Vermette<br>Joan Briggs<br>Amy McIntosh<br>Stan Larson<br>Betty Jean Whitaker                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>Brilliance Edgewater (Florida)</b><br>*Mary Norman                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>Missionaries</b><br>David, Hannah, Nicholas, & Samuel Mora—United States                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>Brookdale (Lexington)</b><br>*Libby & Max Lanning<br>*Ramona Phelps                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Piedmont Crossing (Thomasville)</b><br><b>Assisted Living</b><br>*Rachel Hendrix<br>*Bob Pearson                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Residents</b><br>*Joan & Dick Bisbee<br>*Betsy Buchanan<br>*Herman Crabtree<br>*Jim Dillon<br>*Becki & Tom Foust                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Serving in the Armed Forces</b><br>*Major Kacie Allred<br>*Sergeant McRay<br>Calderone<br>SGT Alan Ingram<br>Major Jarrad Thorley                                                                                                                                        |

Note of Sympathy

Sympathy of the ministers and congregation is extended to Ellen (Paul) Crago and their family upon the occasion of the death of their niece, Sarah Rakestraw, of Greenville, NC, on September 17, 2026.



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

Rev. Cheryl Skinner, Senior Minister, [skinnerrev@gmail.com](mailto:skinnerrev@gmail.com) 336-813-2626  
Rev. Kirk Tutterow, Executive Associate Minister, [kingtutt65@gmail.com](mailto:kingtutt65@gmail.com) 336-918-0275  
Rev. Amy Higgins, Assistant Minister of Next Generations Ministries, [ahiggins@wnccumc.net](mailto:ahiggins@wnccumc.net) 336-403-2413  
Lee Mabe, Director of Music, [maestromabe@gmail.com](mailto:maestromabe@gmail.com)  
Phyllis Jones, Pianist/Organist, [musician@att.net](mailto:musician@att.net)  
Kimberly Leonard, Nursery Staff, Kelly Leonard, Nursery Staff, Jill Michener, Nursery Staff  
Alma Carlton, Financial Secretary, [almacarltonfumclex@gmail.com](mailto:almacarltonfumclex@gmail.com)  
Donna Huskins, Administrative Assistant, [churchoffice.fumclexnc@gmail.com](mailto:churchoffice.fumclexnc@gmail.com)

United in Nurturing Fellowship

|                                |                                                                                             |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday, September 27</b>    |                                                                                             |
| 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 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor                                           |
| <b>Monday, September 28</b>    |                                                                                             |
| 7:00pm                         | Lexington Choral Society Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall                                         |
| <b>Tuesday, September 29</b>   |                                                                                             |
| 10:00am                        | “The Way of Blessedness” Bible study, Fellowship Hall                                       |
| 12:00pm                        | Prayer Warrior’s Lunch, B-B-Q Center                                                        |
| <b>Wednesday, September 30</b> |                                                                                             |
| 1:00pm                         | Restorative Yoga, Fellowship Hall                                                           |
| 7:00pm                         | Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room                                                         |
| <b>Thursday, October 1</b>     |                                                                                             |
| (7:30a-9:30a)                  | Triad Referral Partners, Fellowship Hall                                                    |
| 10:00am                        | Davidson Missional Network, Parlor                                                          |
| 10:00am                        | Event Set-Up, Kitchen/Fellowship Hall                                                       |
| 11:00am                        | United Women in Faith Lunch Meeting, Fellowship Hall                                        |
| 1:00pm                         | Event Clean-Up, Kitchen/Fellowship                                                          |
| 6:00pm                         | Chair Volleyball, Fellowship Hall                                                           |
| <b>Friday, October 2</b>       |                                                                                             |
| 4:00pm                         | First UMC Book Club, Parlor                                                                 |
| <b>Saturday, October 3</b>     |                                                                                             |
| <b>Sunday, October 4</b>       |                                                                                             |
| 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, 4 <sup>th</sup> Avenue porte cochere |



**Blessing of the Animals Sunday, October 4 (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.



**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.**

**United Women in Faith Silent Auction Fundraiser – in conjunction with the UMM Car Show event.** Please consider donating suggested items:

- **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.

**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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**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.

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 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.