310 S. Main Street, Lexington, NC 27292

# The Story

September 2025

<u>www.fumclex.org</u> 336-248-2886

#### **Monthly Calendar**

Subject to change

**Church Office Closed** 

Monday, September I Labor Day observance

United Women in Faith (Lunch provided)

Thursday, September 11 (12p)

Fellowship Hall

Port-A-Pit Chicken Fundraiser

Friday, September 12 (10a-6p)

State Street entrance

United Women in Faith Bake Sale

Friday, September 12 (10a-1p) State Street entrance

**Medical Response Team** 

Sunday, September 14 (12p) Fellowship Hall

Altar Guild

Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, September 16 (5:30p)

Agape Class provides evening meal

Tuesday, September 16 (5:45p)

DC First Hope Ministries

**Endowment** 

Wednesday, September 17 (5p)

Fellowship Hall

Faith Seekers

Thursday, September 17 (6p)

Home of Fran Coppley

**United Methodist Men** 

Sunday, September 21 (8:30a)

Fellowship Hall

Trustees
Sunday, September

Sunday, September 21 (2p)

Fellowship Hall

### Weekly Events

Subject to change

#### Sundays

- Early Worship (8:45a)
- Sunday School (9:45a)
- Morning Worship (11:00a)
- You Tube Live (11:00a)
- Godly Play (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)
- Teens of Life Youth (Refer to Page 2)

#### **Spiritual Formation Studies for Fall**

Jesus' Parables – Led by Jack Tookey **Tuesday evenings** (7p) Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday evenings** (7p) Fellowship Ha Beginning September 2

Companions In Christ Small Group Experience Led by Cheryl Skinner

**Tuesday mornings** (10a) Conference Room Beginning September 9

The Fruit of the Spirit – Led by Norman Hubbard

Monday mornings (10a-11:30a)

Conference Room

Beginning September 29

#### **Mondays**

Lexington Choral Society (7p) Fellowship Hall

Tuesdays
Prayer Wa

Prayer Warrior Lunch (12p) Barbeque Center

#### Wednesdays

Midday Prayer Gathering (12p) Sanctuary

KINDERMUSIK

(5p) Ground Floor beginning September 10

Chancel Choir

(7p) Choir Room

**Fridays** 

KINDERMUSIK

(9:30a and 10:45a) Ground Floor

#### The Partners in Care Award

First UMC was recognized with The Partners in Care Award on July 30, 2025 at the Hospice of Davidson County campus. The award recognizes passionate community partners that have made significant contributions to Hospice of Davidson County and was presented by Laura Owen, CEO HODC to Lauren Hall and Clark Smith as church representatives.



Robin Honeycutt, Executive Liaison HODC, shared with us the giving history for First UMC.

The lifetime giving total in our donor base software system shows \$51,573. The first recorded donation that is visible in the history is \$416.66 on August 6, 2001 (that's 24 years ago)!! However, there were other donations made in the years before 2001, which are included in the total. The system noted that there are another 121 transactions by First UMC prior to August 6, 2001, but due to space constraints, they do not show the earlier individual transactions. First UMC made a \$5,000 contribution to the capital campaign in 2007, when HODC built the 12-bed inpatient unit, the Hinkle Hospice House. The last monetary donation was received on December 23, 2022, in the amount of \$500. Since that time, we have also received in-kind donations in 2022, 2023, and 2024. The in-kind gifts consist of items for the patients— blankets, prayer shawls, pillows, etc. HODC is very grateful for all gifts, monetary or handmade, which benefit our patients and their families and caregivers. The stewardship shown by First UMC over the years is deeply appreciated.



#### From the Smith Young YMCA:

We have a Tai Chi class that began on August 25 that meets twice per week and lasts 8 weeks, Mondays and Wednesdays from 9-10am. There is a small fee for the class because spots are limited, but it's only \$10 for YMCA members for the entire 8 weeks. It's \$15 for nonmembers. Call 336-249-2177 to register!

### Spiritual Formation Studies for Fall Jesus' Parables

This short-term Bible study will be led by Jack Tookey on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm beginning **September 2**<sup>nd</sup>. Jack's discussion-based study will use the Lifeguides study materials and will begin with the foundational Parable of the Sower from Matthew 13. Weekly preparation will enhance class discussion and ease you into the rhythm of regular Bible study.

Companions in Christ Small Group Experience

Companions in Christ is a 28-week experience in spiritual formation meant to further develop our lives as followers and disciples of Jesus Christ. Along the way we will practice different spiritual disciplines as we ponder the Way of Christ, the Mind of Christ, the Heart of Christ, the Work of Christ, and the Spirit of Christ, culminating with an overnight retreat

at a local spiritual retreat center. Pastor Cheryl will lead this group on Tuesday mornings at 10:00am beginning **September 9th**. The cost for a participant's book is \$15.

#### The Fruit of the Spirit

Another gifted retired UM minister, Norman Hubbard, will lead a study he developed to explore the Fruit of the Spirit found in Galatians chapter five. He will lead this five-week study on Monday mornings at 10:00am beginning September 29. Please bring a Bible and notebook or paper for making notes—the Bible will be the text.

As you can see, we have three great opportunities to grow spiritually this fall—please prayerfully consider joining a class. You may contact the class leaders or the church office to sign up now!

#### First UMC Small Groups for Fall 2025

To encourage and promote fellowship among First UMC members, the Evangelism/Hospitality Committee is sponsoring small social groups for Fall 2025. Participation is voluntary. If there is not a group that you find interest in, please let them know, and they will try to include that interest for the First UMC Small Groups for Spring.

Currently, there are (9) small groups ready for your participation. Plus, they are promoting the Tai Chi class at the YMCA. The time and location for each class will be determined by the group leaders with input from the group. Classes will start mid to late September.

In an effort to encourage participation from First UMC members, they will be accommodated first, and then the groups will be opened up to friends and community.

#### **GROUPS**

Crafting

Led by Terri Hawley Group Size: up to 10 Length: 6 weeks Learn to make beautiful wooden crosses and pumpkins for fall

#### Butterfly Pillow Led by Judy Deal

Led by Judy Deal
Group Size: Open
Length: 2-hour morning
OR evening session
Learn how to make a
butterfly pillow.

#### Chair Volleyball

Led by Lisa & Gil Bonnaure Group Size: Open Length: 6 weeks Play volleyball with a beachball while sitting in a chair – ALL ages welcomed!

#### Line Dancing

Led by Karen Bias Group Size: up to 15 Length: 6 weeks Learn beginner line dances – ALL ages welcomed!

#### **Photography**

Led by William Deal Group Size: Open Length: 3-4 weeks Learn photographic skills and make a display at the end of sessions

#### Crochet

Led by Karen Bennett Group Size: 8-10 Length: 6 weeks Learn basic crochet techniques

#### I Phone & MacBooks

Led by John McWhorter Group Size: 4-6 Length: 3-4 weeks Learn how to better use your I Phone and/or MacBook

#### Trains

Led by William Deal Group Size: Open Length: As long as there is interest Learn about trains and the history of trains (First meeting at church To determine interest)

Sign Up forms available Sunday, September 7!

## Port-a-Pit Chicken Fundraiser Sponsored by UNITED METHODIST MEN

Friday, September 12 (10a--6p)
Pick up at the State Street entrance
\$12/plate – TICKETS ON SALE until
September 5.

# Bake Sale Fundraiser Sponsored by UNITED WOMEN in FAITH

Friday, September 12 (10a--1p)

State Street entrance – Be sure to purchase your homemade dessert for the weekend!



The United Women in Faith want to continue providing hunger relief to the children in the local community. With the cost of food items soaring higher, they are taking action to help gain some ground to continue their support to these children who desperately need their help.

On Sunday, September 7, the UW in Faith will begin a fundraiser with an opportunity for you to purchase a high-quality First UMC embroidered logo polo shirt in a variety of colors and sizes. A detailed order form will be included in the bulletin that Sunday. You are invited to stop by the fellowship hall from 9:30a until 10:55a to view a color chart, samples of the polo shirts, and place your order. A \$40 minimum prepaid donation is required for each shirt. Cash or check payable to FUMC (For: Backpack Fundraiser). ALL PROCEEDS go to Communities in Schools' Backpack Program. The United Women in Faith will be accepting orders on Sunday, September 7 and September 14. Thank you in advance for your support!

# Toys, Tots, & Tailpipes Cruise In Sponsored by United Methodist Men



LOOK for these flyers at the Volunteer's Desk, on our website under the NEWS section, or scan the QR code for FULL details and to register.

Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>
10am until 2pm
Come and Enjoy a Day filled with Exciting
Cars, Great Food, and Christ Centered
Fellowship. Bring your Family and Friends
For Great Fun!

100 % OF DONATIONS AND PROCEEDS WILL GO TO TOYS FOR TOTS, SALVATION ARMY: ANGEL TREE, AND AMERICAN CHILDREN'S HOME.

**NEW** OR **UNOPENED** TOY DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

#### Fall Train Rides and Wiener Roast



Sunday, October 12 (4p until 6p)
Home of Judy and William Deal
Train Rides begin at 4p. The wiener roast will

begin when the train rides are completed.

R¥se

**AGAINST HUNGER** The Missions' Committee is once again sponsoring "Rise Against Hunger" which will be held in the First UMC fellowship hall on Sunday, November 2.

The cost for this project this year is \$4,400. Although the Missions' Committee has some money in their annual budget, they are asking Sunday school classes, United Women in Faith, United Methodist Men, individuals, etc. to consider making a donation for this worthwhile project to completely fund it.



Please submit your donation to Christa Weeks, Judy Deal or Alma Carlton by **Wednesday**,

October 15. If you have questions, please contact Christa Weeks or Judy Deal.

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



#### 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?**

- Bring 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.



#### **Operation Christmas Child**

Collection week is November 17 - 24 and the last date to turn in shoeboxes at First UMC is Sunday, November 23.

Because she shops year-round and finds great deals to fill a great shoebox, Judy Deal will once again offer to fill a shoebox for anyone for only \$25 which includes the \$10 shipping. Deadline is Sunday, November 23.

Individual shoeboxes will be available early in September. If you have any questions, please contact Judy Deal at 336-479-7244.

More from Operation Christmas Child! Project Leader Workshops Coming in September! In just a few weeks, Project Leader workshops will begin! Year-round volunteer teams will host these special events nationwide throughout September to equip you with powerful resources, key messages, and project updates. This is a great time to cultivate strong local relationships with other Project Leaders in your area. You're sure to be encouraged as you meet others who share your passion for proclaiming the Gospel through shoebox gifts!

Visit: samaritanpurse.org to Get Involved

# Missions' Committee feed JV & Varsity LSH Football Teams







First UMC Welcomes Sacred Dancers
Joy Brindle and India Cockrell





Ice Cream Social PLUS Games & Fellowship





#### **MORE Ice Cream Social**



















### YOUTH SUNDAY

Teens of Life Youth and FBC Youth led our II:00am worship service on Sunday, August 24 sharing through music, prayer, their personal experience, and message "Wide Open Spaces" brought to us by Pastor Amy.











#### **YOUTH SUNDAY**













# Teens of Life Youth Ministry Deepening Our Discipleship & Sharing God's Love

Sun Sep 7	5:00pm	Planning Meeting		
sep /		Youth and Parents		
Sun Sep 14	4:00pm	"New Year" Kick-off Party		
		Pizza and games at FBC		
Sun	5:00pm	Youth Meeting		
Sep 21		Let's work on the Youth Room!		
Sept	R	etreat at Mount Shepherd w/FBC!!		
26-28		\$50 each - RSVP by 9/14		

For more information about Teens of Life Youth Ministry: Rev. Amy Higgins, Assoc. Pastor of Next Generation Ministries c: 336-403-2413 e: ahiggins@wnccumc.net

#### **Notes of Sympathy**

Sympathy of the ministers and the members of the congregation is extended to Rick Hicks (Betty Pope) and family upon the occasion of the death of his brother, Ron Hicks, on July 29, 2025.

Sympathy of the members of the congregation is extended to Rev. Cheryl Skinner (Rev. Kirk Tutterow) and family upon the occasion of the death of her mother, Pat Skinner, on August 3, 2025.

#### Our Participation in the Worship of God

	8:45a	11:00a	YouTube	Mailer	On Demand	WED	Total
August 3	16	93	68	29	13	12	231
August 10	23	105	80	28	21	12	269
August 17	18	114	111	28	44	12	327
August 24	24	133	68	28	26	12	291
August 31	17	95	77	27		·	216
TOTAL	20	108	81	28	26	12	267

### Just 4 Kids (or the kid in all of us!)



### Welcome Autumn!

