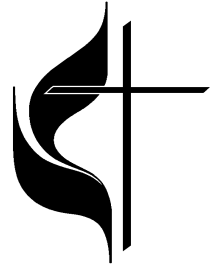


THE

FIRST

WORD



The Weekly Newsletter for Members and Friends of First United Methodist Church, Newton, North Carolina
Phone (828) 464-8422 Fax Number (828) 464-8423

www.fumcnewtonnc.org

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Do It Anyway

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered;
Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind,
people may accuse you of selfish ulterior motives;
Be kind anyway.

If you are successful,
you will win some false friends and some true enemies;
Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank,
people may cheat you;
Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building,
someone could destroy overnight.
Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness,
they may be jealous;
Be happy anyway.

The good you do today,
people will often forget tomorrow;
Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have,
and it may never be enough;
Give the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis
it is between you and God;
It was never between you and them anyway.

This poem is engraved on the wall of Mother Teresa's home for children in Calcutta.

AT WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

January 3, 2010

THE SHARED WORD: Rev Dr. David Greene

"Getting Ready for the New Year"

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

THE TIME IS NOW!!! THE CHILDREN NEED YOU!

We have been notified that it is not too late to sign up for the Lunch Buddy Program at South Newton Elementary School. The lunch times are 11:00 AM-12:30 PM. There will be sheets in the church on Sunday for you to sign up or you can call Peggy at the church (464-8422) or 336-940-7246 **ASAP**. We want to start with this program when school starts back in January. I want to be a Lunch Buddy and I hope you do too. Peggy

FELLOWSHIP SUPPER—JANUARY 13 SPECIAL GUEST PARKER MARTIN

Parker Martin will present an overview of his experiences working for 8 weeks last summer in Uganda with a United Methodist Church sponsored program. The program centered on the growing issue of HIV/AIDS in Africa and the world. A majority of his time was spent with The AIDS Support Organization in Uganda where he worked in various departments including HIV testing, child care, and outreach."

PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY are extended to the family of Vivian Hager who died on Sunday, December 27th. A funeral service was held on Tuesday at Drum Funeral Home.

UNITED SINGLE ADULTS (USA) dance will be held on January 1st at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. This replaces the one that was cancelled in December due to the bad weather.

SPECIAL THANKS to two "Secret Santa" families who donated to families in need this Christmas. A total of seven families were helped. God bless you.

Susan Reinhardt, Outreach Chairperson

STEWARDSHIP REPORT, December 20, 2009

Attendance: 8:45 a.m.: 50 11:00 a.m.: 168
 Sunday School: 104 9:00 a.m. Praise Service: 47

Offering:	Tithes & Offerings	\$6,928.01
	Parsonage Fund	555.93
	Poinsettias	18.00
	Preschool Fund	25.00
	Youth Christmas Gift	325.15
	Prayer Breakfast	7.00
	Garden Fund	35.00
	Children's Department	35.00
	Love Labor Corps	200.00
	Helping Hands Fund	20.00
	Renovation Fund	<u>1,685.00</u>
		\$9,834.09

Attendance 12/24/09
 Come & Go Communion 176
 9:00 p.m. Candlelight Service 275

STEWARDSHIP REPORT, December 27, 2009

Attendance: 8:45 a.m.: 68 11:00 a.m.: 142
 Sunday School: 138 9:00 a.m. Praise Service: 101

Offering:	2010 Pledge	\$ 5,200.00
	Tithes & Offerings	10,078.26
	Hunger Fund	20.00
	Altar Flowers	260.00
	Garden Fund	60.00
	Music Fund	200.00
	Helping Hands Fund	25.00
	Renovation Fund	<u>555.00</u>
		\$16,398.26

Weekly Budget Needs	\$10,969.00
Budget Needs as of 12-27-09	\$570,366.00
Contributions Received as of 12-27-09	499,521.00
Under Budget for Year	-\$ 70,845.00

YOUTH MEAL

PLEASE CALL AND SIGN UP TODAY!

- Sunday, Jan 3 Pizza _____
- Sunday, Jan 10 Chicken Nuggets _____
- Sunday, Jan 17 Soup _____
- Sunday, Feb. 7 Taco Salad _____
- Sunday, Feb. 14 Lasagnas _____
- Sunday, Feb. 28 Hot dogs _____

THE PACEMAKERS will be going to North Lake Mall in Charlotte on Tuesday, January 12th. We will be leaving the church at 9:00 a.m.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEXT WEEK

*** January 3-9, 2010 ***

SUN.	7:30	United Methodist Men
	8:45	Worship Service
	9:00	Praise Service
	9:30	Sunday School
	11:00	Worship Service
	2:00	Women's Bible Study
	4:00	Middle School Youth
	5:00	Senior High Youth
MON.	10:00	UMW Group II
	2:00	UMW Group I
	7:00	UMW Group III
	7:00	Youth Praise Band
TUES.	9:00	Preschool
	7:00	Disciple I
WED.	6:45	Prayer Breakfast
	9:00	Preschool
	3:10	Kids for Christ
	6:00	Praise Team
	6:30	Adult Handbells
	7:30	Chancel Choir
THURS.	9:00	Preschool
	1:00	Prayer Shawl
FRI.	9:00	Preschool
SAT.	12-5:00	Gomedela Room Reserved

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Help is needed on Saturday, January 2, 9:30-10:00 a.m. to take down the Christmas decorations.

HOSPITAL REPORT

Gayle Lowder is recovering at home following surgery on December 16th.

Doug Benfield is at home following tests on December 21st.

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR 2010

A calendar is being prepared for those wishing to furnish altar flowers in 2010. Please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office to reserve the Sunday of your choice.

I will furnish altar flowers in 2010 as follows:

Date: _____

In Memory/Honor of _____

By _____

THE CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE will meet Sunday, January 10, at 3:30 PM. This is an important meeting. We will be making plans for 2010. The members are: Debbie Bandy, Cindy Boger, Kim Boston, Suzanne Cadwallader, Willis Greene, Leah Hayes, Lisa Johnson, Gayle Lowder, Lisa Martin, Dawn Martin, Rhonda Pawlik, Jill Sias, Keri Setzer, Caroline Sitzer, Kristy Smith and Peggy Correll.

RECENT VISITORS

Kim Britt, Janice Davis, Ed & Bett Walk, Karen Stryeski, Catherine Abernethy, Terry Abernethy, Millicent Crawford, Danny & Lynn Delancey, Celia Drum, Andrea, Donna & Tom Grimm, Harold & Martha Robertson, Micky Smith, Dexter & Karey Warren, Jean Holmes, Ernestine Holmes, Paula Williams, Will, Bill, Angela Anna Grace Trailkill, Michael, Angela, Camryn, Abby and Anna Gantt

ATTENTION!!!

For information on cancellations of church services and activities due to the weather, watch WSOC Channel 9, Charlotte or listen to radio station WNNC (1230 AM).

THANKS to the entire congregation for coming out and supporting the Christmas Angel Tree. This project was a great success. We filled the basic needs of many people. Your response was overwhelming.

HONORARIUMS RECEIVED RECENTLY

Debbie & Rob Rights have given a donation to the **Renovation Fund** in honor of **Melba and Brooks Nichols**.

Jerry and Martha Sowers and Dot Feimster have given donations to the **Garden Fund** in honor of **Melba and Brooks Nichols**.

Tommy and Patricia Howard and Sara W. Caldwell have given donations to the **Parker Class Memorial Garden Fund** in honor of **Melba and Brooks Nichols**.

Maxine Morrison has given a donation to the **Preschool Fund** in honor of **Gaye and Kenneth Keener**.

Wanda & Fred Reynolds have given a donation to the **Renovation Fund** in honor of **Jackie Bandy**.

Dot Feimster has given a donation to the **Helping Hands Fund** in honor of **Jimmy Newsome and Scott Coley**.

Anna Lee Cook has given a donation to the **General Fund** in honor and in memory of all those members who have been such a great part of her life, especially those in the Parker Class.

MEMORIAL RECEIVED RECENTLY

Renovation Fund:

Cecil Kiser

Earl & Evelyn Johnson, Debbie & Rob Rights
Ken & Pat Simmons

Phyllis Brooks

The UWHARRIE Players, Inc.(Albemarle, NC)

Dr. Allen H. Bandy, Sr.

Catawba Valley Optometric Society, Forrest Lawing
Faith & Fellowship Class, Mary Ann Cathey,
UCHAS, Inc.-Abernethy Laurels,
Newton Optometric Center, PLLC,
Dr. & Mrs. J. Rick Davis, Dale & Cindy Boger,
Susan & Mack Hunsucker, Debbie & Rob Rights,
Gaye & Kenneth Keener, Jerry & Martha Sowers,
Max & Judith Bolick, Earl & Evelyn Johnson,
Howard & Wadine Smith, Gozelle A. Ham,
Bill Cox, Donna Johnson, Christopher Cox,
Barbara & Scott Sell, Duane R. Reynolds,
William H. Flake, Wanda & Fred Reynolds,
Thomas W. Warlick, David & Karen Boone,
Susan Fulbright, Bob & Pat Hollar, Sara Caldwell,
Ken & Pat Simmons, Jim & Trilby Stockner,
Frank Cloninger, Mark & Mary Killian,
Dot Feimster

Helping Hands Fund:

Cecil Kiser

Maxine Morrison

Garden Fund:

Dr. Allen H. Bandy, Sr.

Betty & Merv McGee

Parker Class Memorial Garden Fund:

Dr. Allen H. Bandy, Sr.

Parker Class

FELLOWSHIP DINNER RESERVATIONS

Wednesday, January 13, 6:00 p.m.

Hosts: Faith Builders Class
Menu: Spaghetti, Salad, French Bread
Assorted Desserts

Program: Parker Martin on summer trip to Africa

Number _____

Name _____

YOUTH SCHEDULE

Starting Sunday, January 3 we will begin a new adventure with our youth! We will have small groups and will be doing a study on "Following Jesus" by Kevin Johnson. The youth will be given the material this Sunday and the study will start next Sunday. Our counselors are really excited about this and I hope our youth will be too. We will still have a meal and time for play. **Remember Parents, have your youth at church.**

SUN., January 3, SUN., January 10, SUN., January 17

4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m. Middle School Youth

5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Senior High Youth

FRI.-January 22-TUES. January 26, Tennessee Trip

SUN., January 24 No Youth

SUN., January 31, 1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Bowling at Pin Station

YOUTH WINTER TRIP TO TENNESSEE**JANUARY 22-26**

The youth will be going to Sevierville, Tennessee on Friday, January 22 at 3:30 PM. We will return on Tuesday, January 26. School is out in Newton and Catawba County. The trip will cost \$60.00 per person. We are staying in a condo that has an indoor water park. Each family will be receiving more information in the mail. Please contact Peggy by January 10 if your youth plans to go on this trip.

ROTATION SUNDAY SCHOOL-January 3, 2010

"Christmas Messengers"

4 Years: **Art**

Grades K-1: **Games**

Grade 2-3: **Cookery**

Grades 4-5: **Music**

Teachers: December 6, 2009-January 3, 2010

Storytelling: Caroline Sitzer

Games: Lisa Johnson/Gayle Lowder

Cookery: Cindy Boger

Art: Susan Reinhardt

Music: Nikki Cavin/Debbie Bandy

CAROLINA CROSS CONNECTION

It is time to sign up for our Mission Trip with Carolina Cross Connection. This trip will be for youth who will be rising 9th graders to 12 graders. If we get the week we ask for, it will be June 13-19. Our registration needs to be turned in ASAP. Deadline for sign up is Sunday, January 17th. The cost for the week is \$299.00 per person. Your cost will be \$60.00. The remainder of the amount will be paid with money given by the church and money we have raised. If your youth wants to go and the \$60.00 is a problem, please come and talk with Peggy. We have scholarship money available.