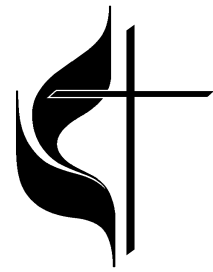


THE

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

Recently, someone shared with me a magazine article by the spiritual teacher and author Marianne Williamson. It is entitled "Ten Ways to Stay Spiritually Connected." Here are the ten ways she suggests:

- (1) **Recognize your Creator.** There is a supreme power in the universe that is bigger and more powerful than you. *This step makes you humble.*
- (2) **Seek opportunities to put more love into the world.** Strive to ... fill the world with more compassion and kindness. *This step makes you loving and lovable.*
- (3) **Set aside time each day to spend in spiritual reflection and contemplation.** Your path may be to pray, meditate, read spiritual material, take a long walk through nature, or all of the above. *This step makes you strong.*
- (4) **Become more accepting.** With every interaction, surrender the tendency to judge another person. *This step makes you gracious.*
- (5) **Forgive anyone you have not forgiven.** Whenever you withhold forgiveness, you keep yourself bound to your own feelings of guilt. *This step makes you kind.*
- (6) **Recognize your mistakes.** Admit where you yourself have been wrong, and be willing to be corrected. *This step makes you responsible.*
- (7) **Try to see the good in others.** When you're tempted to judge someone, make an effort to see their goodness. Your willingness to look for the best in people will subconsciously bring it forth. *This step makes you positive.*
- (8) **Take stock of your thoughts and behavior.** Each night ask yourself, when were you negative when you could have been positive? When did you withhold love when you might have given it? When did you play a neurotic game instead of behaving in a powerful way? Use this process to self-correct. *This step makes you grow.*
- (9) **Bless the world.** Pray not just that your own life will be blessed but that blessings will be poured on everyone. *This step makes you beautiful.*

(10) **Use each interaction to be the best, most powerful version of yourself.** Try to rise to the occasion. Be the most wonderful expression of you that you're capable of. *This step makes you a conduit of God's love.*

See you Sunday, **David**



You're invited to A PENTECOST CELEBRATION

Sunday, May 23 at 10:00am

In the Garden

Come and celebrate the Birthday of the Church
With fun & fellowship, birthday cake & balloons!



Dating back to the first century, Pentecost, or as it's called in some traditions, Whitsunday, is the 50th day after Easter. It was on this day that the Holy Spirit appeared to over 3000 believers. Through the sound of a rushing wind and the display of tongues as of fire, the Spirit came upon those first Christians, thus giving birth the church and testifying to the power of God. Join First United Methodist Church as we celebrate for a few moments prior to Sunday School with cake and punch in the Garden!

IT'S POTATO SUNDAY! Please bring one or more boxes of instant mashed potato flakes on Sunday, May 16 and place them in the grocery cart outside the Gomedela classroom (side entrance to the church.) This will go toward the food collection for Impact Community Day, a Western NC Conference initiative. All food goes to local residents in need. Thanks to all of you who have been giving. You are amazing! I know God will take our offerings and reach many. Thanks again, Susan Reinhardt, Missions/Outreach Committee, 381-9841.

AT WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

May 16, 2010

THE SHARED WORD: Rev. Lara "Willis" Greene

"...if I should WAKE before I die..."

Luke 10:25-28

APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

On behalf of the Western North Carolina Cabinet, I received a letter dated May 3, 2010 from Statesville District Superintendent Dr. Mary John Dye confirming that Dr. David Greene and Rev. Lara "Willis" Greene will be re-appointed to serve at First United Methodist Church, Newton for the new Conference year beginning July 1, 2010. She stated that this confirmation of appointment comes with the prayers of the Bishop, herself, and the entire Cabinet along with the wish that members of First United Methodist Church, Newton will have another fruitful and rewarding year of ministry in the coming year.

Please join me and members of the Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee in congratulating "Willis" and David upon their re-appointment to our church as we look forward to another successful year of ministry together.

In Service with Each of You, Joe Beaman

Chairperson, Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee

HONORARIUM

Gaye & Kenneth Keener have given a donation to the **UMW Scholarship Fund** in honor of **Don and Anne Lemons** on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

SCHEDULE FOR THE CORNER TABLE

Please review the following schedule for serving lunch at the Corner Table. We serve on the 4th Tuesday, approximately 250 servings. Please call Debbie Leatherman two weeks prior to your date to confirm your menu.

May—Faith Builders Sunday School Class

July—New Life Sunday School Class

September—UMW

November—Joe Love Sunday School Class

If you have any questions, please call!

Thank You, Gayle Lowder (work) 464-0604, (cell) 261-5627

STEWARDSHIP REPORT, May 9, 2010

Attendance: 8:45 a.m. 84 11:00 a.m. 151
Sunday School 125 9:00 a.m. Praise Service 64

Offering:	Tithes & Offerings	\$8,029.90
	Prayer Breakfast	96.50
	Music Fund	315.00
	Renovation Fund	425.00
		<u>\$8,866.40</u>

Weekly Budget Needs	\$10,963.00	
Budget Needs as of 5/9/10		\$208,297.00
Contributions Received as of 5/9/10		179,080.00
Under Budget for Year		-\$29,217.00

OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEXT WEEK

* May 16-22, 2010 *

SUN.	8:45	Worship Service
	9:00	Praise Service
	9:30	Blood Pressure Check
	9:30	Sunday School
	11:00	Worship Service
	12:00	Mission Committee
	3:00	VBS Meeting
	4:00	Middle School Youth
	5:00	Senior High Youth
	6:30	Bible Study
MON.	9:00	Preschool
	6:00	Disciple I
	7:00	UMW Executive Committee
	7:00	Youth Praise Band
TUES.	9:00	Preschool
WED.	6:45	Youth Prayer Breakfast
	9:00	Preschool
	8:30-10:00	Gomedela Room Reserved
	12:00	Ladies Luncheon
	3:10	Kids for Christ
	6:00	Praise Team
	6:30	Handbells
	7:30	Chancel Choir
THURS.	9:00	Preschool
	1:00	Prayer Shawl
FRI.	9:00	Preschool
	7:00	USA Singles (Fellowship Hall)
	6:00-9:00	Parent's Night Out
FRI.—SUN.		"Princess Retreat"
FRI.—SUN.		Virginia Creeper Trail

THE PRESCHOOL CORNER

Our school year is quickly coming to a close. The last day is Friday, May 28, and the church is sending our little ones for a day of fun at Hickory, Dickory, Dock. We thank you so much for how you love the school.

We are currently registering for the Summer of 2010 and the next school year 2010-2011 which begins on Tuesday, September 7. Open House is Friday, September 3.

Please be sure to invite your neighbors and friends to visit and enroll in the Newton Methodist Preschool.

Julia Macemore

DAY CAMP @ CAMP CAROLWOOD:

Just a reminder that all paperwork and money is due **May 15** to register your child (rising first-fourth graders) for Day Camp. The week of Camp is July 12-16. If you have any questions, please call Amy Cable (294-4811). We will have a parents meeting to arrange the van, snacks, and parent volunteers schedule for the week of Camp at the end of June.

MEMORIALS RECEIVED RECENTLY

Music Fund:

Doris P. Gordon

Joe & Jane Long, Gary, Sherry & Joseph Reitzel,
Helen Clapp, Robert & Pamela Liljeberg,
Catawba County Principals Assoc., John H. Smith

Youth Fund:

Doug Benfield

Boxcar Grille Memorial Fundraiser

UMW Scholarship Fund:

Frances Raymer & Helen Raymer

Gaye & Kenneth Keener

Renovation Fund:

Frances Raymer & Helen Raymer

Brooks & Melba Nichols

WHITEWATER RAFTING & CAMPING TRIP

The USA singles will take the month of May as vacation. Many persons' summer schedules need to be worked along side of our schedule. My prayer is that we may be flexible in scheduling our events. There has been some planning of a white water rafting trip on The New River in West Virginia on June 4-6: Saturday rafting with a guide including lunch on the river; camping in your own tent Friday and Saturday nights; breakfast on Saturday and Sunday mornings; and heavy dinner (choice of steak, chicken or salmon) Saturday night after rafting. I will need to know by **May 24** for reservations. Best whitewater, second only to the Colorado River! Cost will be \$142 per person. Contact Kenny Campbell at 465-4650.

PLAYGROUND

It is that time of year again that our Playground Committee meets and works on the playground. Last year a gracious donation was received and we still have some money in the playground fund. We would very much like to put the rubber mulch down, but we are many dollars short. If you would like to make a donation to our playground it would be greatly appreciated by the children, youth, parents and all. We would like to make our playground beautiful and safe. Thank you for the donations in the past and for the ones yet to come. Playground Committee clean up day is Saturday, July 17th, at 7:30 AM. Mark your calendar because if you have a servant heart and want to work, we welcome everyone to come out and help.

ATTENTION!!

The church has been given two plots at Catawba Memorial Park located in the fountain area. It has been decided to sell these plots by submitting a silent bid to the church office. The Finance Committee will then decide whether to accept the bids.

All bids should be turned into the office by **Friday, May 21st**.

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

Sponsored by the Missions Committee

Friday, May 21, 6:00-9:00 pm

For children 4 years through 5th grade

Donation of the following items is requested:

1 lb. bag of rice	1 lb. bag of dry beans
canned tuna	saltine crackers
dried potato flakes	macaroni & cheese
canister of oatmeal	peanut butter

Registration forms are available in the church office. Deadline is May 19th.

For additional information, please contact Lori Sigmon at 465-1081 or the church office at 464-8422.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Pray For:

Kay Jettinghoff
Elaine Dillingham
Johnny Goforth
Lena Simmons
George Quinney
Helen Butterworth
Gina & Pat Humphries
Dana Bowman
Jerry McGee
Nancy Ryan
JoAnn Fowler
Corinna Driscoll
Ruth Richardson
Gayle Lowder
Deb Chapman

Requested By:

Ann Cook
Pat Britt
Jean Childs
Friends
DeWayne Setzer
Katie Fleming
Susan Reinhardt
Lindy Caldwell
Merv McGee
Jean Childs
Evaleene Fowler
Friends
Katie Fleming
Friends
Friends

RECENT VISITORS:

Sherry Kirby, Nelie Prince, Jessie Prince,
Evon Brockwell, Terry Abernethy, Ellen Brown,
April McDaniel, Lori & Mike McDaniel,
Christie, Drew & Richard Martin,
James Ratcliffe & Angela

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK will be available on Sunday, May 16, 9:30-10:00 am in David and Willis's offices.

REMINDER—Sunday, May 23

Finance Committee Meeting at 3:30 pm
Administrative Council Meeting at 5:30 pm

LADIES LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS Wednesday, May 19, 12:00 pm

Cost: \$6.00

Number _____ Name _____

YOUTH SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 16th Regular Youth—
4:00-5:30 PM Middle School; 5:00-6:30 PM Senior High

Friday, May 21—Sunday, May 23

Sr. High: Virginia Creeper; Middle School Girls: Beach
NO REGULAR YOUTH

Sunday, May 30—All Youth (Notice of change) Please attend the 9:00 AM worship service, and we will leave the church at 11:00 AM to go to Don's place at the lake. Bring your swimsuits. We will have lunch at the lake and return back to the church at 5:00 PM

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

TUESDAY, JUNE 22:

FAMILY DAY –EMERALD POINT

JULY 25-29: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Galactic Blast is our theme!!!!

SUNDAY, MAY 16, 3:00 PM—VBS MEETING

Plans are being made for our Vacation Bible School to be held July 25 thru July 29.

Volunteers are needed and all who are interested in helping in any way with VBS should attend this meeting.

ROTATION SUNDAY SCHOOL-May 16, 2010

"Pentecost"

4 Years: **Storytelling** Grades K-1: **Science**
Grade 2-3: **Movie** Grades 4-5: **Computer**

Teachers: May 2-June 20, 2010

Storytelling: Caroline Sitzer Art: Susan Reinhardt

Drama/Games: Lisa Johnson/Gayle Lowder

Cookery: Cindy Boger/Terra Butler

Music: Debbie Bandy

Movie: Rhonda Pawlik Computer: Gina & Scott King

Science: Michelle White/Amy White

VIRGINIA CREEPER FOR SENIOR HIGH YOUTH

We will meet at the church on Friday, May 21 at 3:30 PM. If you have a bike, bring it. If you do not have a bike, you can rent one for \$24.00. We will be taking the church trailer to haul the bikes, fixing our own food, and staying at Dr. Bandy's cabin. The phone number there is 336-982-4221. Cell phones do not work very well at the cabin. The cost for the trip (if you have your bike) is \$25.00. If you need to rent a bike, the total is \$49.00. The bike trail we will be taking is from Whitetop to Damascus. We will visit Virginia Highlands State Park before returning home on Sunday. If you have any questions please contact Peggy at 336-940-7246 or 828-464-8422. **LAST DATE TO SIGN UP IS SUNDAY, MAY 16!!!!**