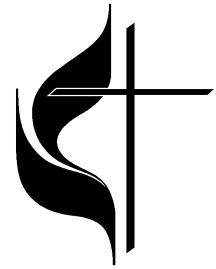


THE

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

In one of his books, James Moore tells a story about Ignacy Paderewski. Ignacy was one of the world's most famous pianists and served for a time as the Prime Minister of Poland. During his long and illustrious career, Paderewski periodically scheduled concerts in small out-of-the-way villages in hopes of cultivating the arts in his homeland.

One of those concerts was attended by a young mother and her son. The boy was taking piano for the first time, he was just a beginner. But she brought him to the concert to encourage him in his piano training. After they arrived at the auditorium and found their seats, the mother spotted one of her friends and began a conversation. As she turned back around to check on her son, she was stunned to see that her little boy was not in his seat. He had slipped away and gone out of sight.

Suddenly the house lights came down and the spotlight came up. The auditorium grew quiet ... and only then did anyone notice the little 10-year-old boy seated at the concert piano on the stage innocently pecking out "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star."

The boy's mother almost fainted. Stagehands ran out to grab the boy, but suddenly Paderewski appeared on the stage and waved them away. Paderewski quickly moved to the piano bench and whispered into the ear of the boy. "Don't quit! Keep playing! Don't Stop!" Leaning over the boy, Paderewski reached down with his left hand and began filling in the bass part. Soon his right arm reached around the other side of the boy, encircling the boy to add a running obbligato. Together, the old master and the young novice mesmerized the crowd with great music in a magical moment.

Isn't that a great story? The master coming alongside of the novice and saying, "Don't quit! Keep playing!" That's what the Risen Christ said to the disciples on that first Easter and that's precisely what He is saying to you and me still today. He is saying to each one of us, "Don't stop! Don't be afraid! Don't give up! Don't get discouraged! Keep on keeping on! I'm here, surrounding you with my love and strength, and I will help you. So don't quit on Me now!

That is what Jesus Christ does for us. He came to be with us; and, though the music of our lives may be incomplete, he will help us to make something beautiful out of it.

See you Sunday, **David**

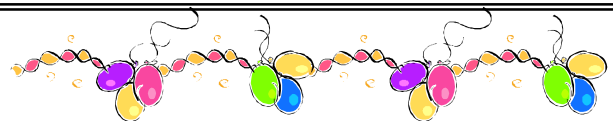
PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY are extended to Roger Johnson and family following the death of his father, Tommy Johnson, of Stony Point on Wednesday, May 12.

CONGRATULATIONS to Trebor and Asheley Vaughn Berkshire on the birth of their son, Trebor Marcobe Berkshire, on Monday, May 17.

RECENT VISITORS:

Richard & Erma Yaussy, Sherry Kirby, The Donleys, Bobby & Ashley Watson, Ernestine Helms

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR IMPACT DAY ON SATURDAY, JUNE 5th. Would you consider volunteering to help transport food items to a central site, disperse food to those receiving the food bags, or help at our district-wide celebration? Your help would be greatly appreciated by many. Please sign up at the table in the breezeway, or you may call Susan Reinhardt at (828) 381-9841 or email her at afsrgr@charter.net.



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!

THIS SUNDAY IS BEANS SUNDAY! Please bring one or more 1-lb. bags of dried beans (any variety) to church this Sunday, May 23, and place them in the grocery cart outside of the Gomedela Classroom (side entrance of church.) Also, some people have asked if they can still bring the other items we have collected for Impact Community Day (tuna, peanut butter, oatmeal, boxes of macaroni and cheese, rice, and instant potatoes). The answer is a definite YES! The church has been terrific to bring in items, but we certainly can use more. We are particularly short on oatmeal and rice. If you would like to contribute to the food giveaway on Impact Day but haven't been able to go by the grocery store, please consider a donation. Checks may be made to the church, and please write "Impact" on the memo line at the bottom left of your check. We will take any donated money and purchase more food to give to local residents in need. These are items that the food pantries are lacking. The deadline for food and monetary contributions is Sunday, May 30th. Thanks for giving! Susan Reinhardt, Missions/Outreach, 381-9841.

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.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT, May 16, 2010

Attendance: 8:45 a.m. 87 11:00 a.m. 176
 Sunday School 149 9:00 a.m. Praise Service 85

Offering:	Tithes & Offerings	\$9,063.50
	Altar Flowers	190.00
	Music Fund	85.00
	Renovation Fund	<u>225.00</u>
		\$9,563.50

Weekly Budget Needs	\$10,963.00
Budget Needs as of 5/16/10	\$219,260.00
Contributions Received as of 5/16/10	188,144.00
Under Budget for Year	-\$31,116.00

OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEXT WEEK

*** May 23-29, 2010 ***

SUN.	8:45	Worship Service
	9:00	Praise Service
	9:30	Sunday School
	11:00	Worship Service
	3:30	Finance Committee
	5:30	Administrative Council
	6:30	Bible Study
MON.	9:00	Preschool
	7:00	Youth Praise Band
TUES.	9:00	Preschool
WED.	6:45	Youth Prayer Breakfast
	9:00	Preschool
	10:00	Parsonage Committee Meeting
	3:10	Kids for Christ
	6:00	Praise Team
	7:30	Chancel Choir
THURS.	9:00	Preschool
	1:00	Prayer Shawl
FRI.	9:00	Preschool
	3:00-11:00	Fellowship Hall Reserved
SAT.	10:00-2:00	Gomedela Room Reserved
	5:00	Wedding Rehearsal

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

ECCCM GOLF TOURNAMENT

You are invited to join a team of golfers from First United Methodist Church at the June 3rd ECCCM Golf Tournament to be held at Glen Oaks Golf Course in Maiden. The cost will be \$25 per golfer and the 4 person team will be put together on a first come basis. The 1:00 PM shotgun start will benefit ECCCM and their wonderful ministry in Catawba County. Lunch, sponsored by Bennett's, will be served from 11:30 am until play begins. Call the church office to join this team.

Other classes and groups are invited to sponsor a hole. Contact Ken Moss for more information for a sponsorship.

ATTENTION!!!

Several tables are missing from the church. Please help to locate and return them as soon as possible!



NEW MEMBER

On Sunday, May 16, we welcomed Donna Yoder into membership of FUMC, Newton. She joined by Letter of Transfer from Bethany United Church of Christ in Claremont.



PRESCHOOL GRADUATION was held on Friday, May 14 with eleven students receiving their diplomas. A reception followed in the fellowship hall. The graduates are: Anthony Sabeti, Cade Spencer, Fletcher Cromer, Greyson Palomares, Haleigh Icard, Julianna Ly, Kyle Hager, MacKenzie Cline, Matthew Pettit, Samantha DeCoursey, and Sydney Stephens.

MEMORIALS RECEIVED RECENTLY

Music Fund:

Doris P. Gordon

Caroline Heffner Dixon, Trudy Muse,
Central Office Employees-Catawba Co. Schools

Youth Fund:

Doug Benfield

Paege Abernathy

Renovation Fund:

Frances Raymer & Helen Raymer

Charles Davis, Dr. Allen H. Bandy, Sr.

Maxine Morrison

LOVE LABOR CORPS is in need of a few good men or women who would be willing to join their team. If you enjoy the outdoors, like working with tools and building things, or just want to help out in any other way needed, please consider helping the Love Labor Corps. This is one of our hardest working church groups, and it has been operating for more than 20 years. They work to build handicapped ramps and decks and also make home repairs for persons who are unable to do these things themselves. They have three upcoming projects of building handicapped ramps. If you are interested, please sign up at the table in the breezeway, or call the church office. There are opportunities to help both on weekdays and on Saturdays. Please specify whether you prefer working on weekdays or Saturdays.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Pray For:

Reggie Little & Family
Lena Simmons
Chris & Ashley Riddle
Sue Peacock
Dean & Jane Reavis
Corinna Driscoll
Jenny Hamrick
Heather Coffman
Nancy Ryan
William Yount
Brendon Cole
Susan Proctor
Family of Tommy Johnson

Requested By:

Angela Drum
Nancy Burgess
Karen & Steve Arndt
Jean Childs
Vicki Yount
Friends
Sherry Kirby
Lisa Martin
Jean Childs
Jim Yount
Paul Campbell
Anne Hunsucker

Out-of-Country Military—Scott Beal, Jacob Campbell, Brent Cossich, Gary Hogan, Todd Houtz.

In-Country Military—Bobby Benson, Andy Blanton, Stan Josey, Corey Lail, Laird Lambeth, Brad McRee, Tai Orange, Kyle L. Sigmon, Ryan Windham, President Obama & Leaders.

GROUP WORKCAMPS—LADDERS

The Group Workcamp week is fast approaching and we can use your help. We are needing to borrow several ladders of all sizes (6, 8 & 10 ft. step ladders, and extension ladders) for use during the Workcamp week of June 27th to July 3rd. If you have a ladder you are willing to lend us, please contact me. I promise it will be returned.

We would also like a person to “step up” and volunteer to coordinate this effort. If you have a desire to help in some capacity, this just might be the job for you. Thank you in advance for your consideration of both the ladders and possibly the volunteer position.

Jim Ten Kate, GWC Steering Committee
(828)459-1243 or jtenkate@charter.net

YOUTH SCHEDULE**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**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR YOUTH AND LEADERS**

Our Senior High Youth will be on an adventure at Dr. Bandy's cabin. They will be riding the Virginia Creeper Trail by bicycle on Saturday if weather permits. Donald, Susan, Lisa and Dr. Bandy will be the leaders on the Senior High trip. Some of our Middle School girls and their mothers will be at the beach with Peggy participating in a retreat entitled "In Search of a Princess" Please be in prayer for all of us. We thank you for all your support.

ROTATION SUNDAY SCHOOL-May 23, 2010*"Pentecost"*4 Years: **Science**Grades K-1: **Movie**Grade 2-3: **Computer**Grades 4-5: **Storytelling****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

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.