

# ECCLESIA

*November 2020*



FIRST  
UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH  
SALISBURY, NC  
EST. 1783



## IN THIS ISSUE

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### **On the cover: Vespers Worship**

In October we celebrated communion together during two evening worship services on the lawn. It was such a wonderful time to be together and worship, that we will be hosting another evening of vespers services in November!

### **Page 8: Re-Entering the Church Building**

Our Re-Entry Task Force has been working for the last several months to create a plan for welcoming worshippers back into the Sanctuary. They have waited for the right time to take the next step, and you can visit page 8 to read all about how we're welcoming 50 people back into in-person worship!

### **Page 11: Harvest Procession**

Pick up your reusable shopping bags, and use the list on the back cover of the Ecclesia to go shopping for our neighbors. All food collected will be donated to Rowan Helping Ministries.

### **Page 15: Advent**

Advent @ First will involve both some in-person and virtual opportunities to worship together! Look for a preview on page 15, order your poinsettias by December 6, and pick up your Advent Devotion Book (with contributions by church members!) later in November.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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The Reverend Doctor Mark Conforti, *Senior Pastor*  
The Reverend Stacey Lundy, *Associate Pastor*  
Mrs. Becca Blackmon, *Business Administrator*  
Mr. Mike Fansler, *Building Superintendent*  
Ms. Jen Fogt, *Director of Youth Ministries*  
Mrs. Christine Maloney, *Administrative Assistant*  
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## REMARKS

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As we make our way into November, I pray that we can keep a steady beat, staying in rhythm with God and one another.

Recently, as I was listening to The Beatles, this notion had a whole new resonance. Like an uncountable number of people, I have a deep appreciation for The Beatles. I grew up listening to “With The Beatles” and the “Rubber Soul” albums playing in the background of our home, because my mother has always been a tremendous fan. Her claim to fame is being in the third row of The Beatles concert at The Gator Bowl in Jacksonville, Florida. The date of September 11, 1964. The cost of the ticket was only \$12. And The Beatles threatened not to play the show due to the crowd being segregated. The venue’s producers eventually relented, so that people of all backgrounds could sit anywhere.

Taking a deeper interest in popular music throughout the years, I have always been interested in what makes a certain song or band successful. When it comes to The Beatles, the brilliance of Paul McCartney and John Lennon is well-documented. Their song-writing, work ethic, eclectic musical interests, and performing ability undoubtedly contributed to their success. The same is true for George Harrison, to a lesser albeit still valuable extent. But what about Ringo Starr?

Originally born “Richard Starkey,” Ringo Starr’s drumming has become legendary. The reason WHY is worth our reflection here. Into the 1960s, other drummers gained notoriety for their technique and style, such as Buddy Rich or Ginger Baker. During the 1970s, the percussion world was influenced by the speed, power, and precision of John Bonham, Neil Peart, and Keith Moon. Through it all, Ringo Starr kept a steady beat, with an innate “feel” for what the song needed. That is precisely what made his contribution to The Beatles so amazing. Never devastating the crowd with complicated drum fills, or commandeering the song, Ringo Starr’s drumming served the song so that the melody could be heard, the words understood.

I imagine that’s a cue for the Christian life these days. There are so many dissonant sounds in the world today. Instead of life being a pleasing symphony, it’s more like a cacophony of pain, loss, and fear. We are all deeply concerned for Salisbury, Rowan County, North Carolina, and indeed our beloved United States of America. I’m sensing that this concern is overwhelming for us, meaning our exhaustion leaves us bewildered and unsure about what’s next. This time of year typically invites us to count our blessings, because Thanksgiving is right around the corner. This simple task may seem harder this year.

Instead of creating a perfunctory list, let’s focus on keeping a steady beat. Like Ringo Starr’s drumming, we can simply keep playing. We can resist the urge to take over or have all the answers. Imagine, instead of imposing our will upon the situation, we keep a steady beat to the song of God’s love. When we stay in rhythm with God and one another, then the melody can be heard. And God’s wonderful words of life are understood.

May God bless you and keep you,  
*Pastor Mark*





## CHURCH PICNIC



Church Picnic  
November 8  
Front lawn  
12:30 & 1:30

## OUTDOOR VESPERS SERVICE



*Outdoor  
Vespers  
Service*

November 15  
3:30 & 4:30

Sign up for these events by visiting the church website.



## OUTREACH AND CARING

### Mums for Mission Sale Update

The FUMC United Methodist Women thank our congregation and friends for a very successful Mums for Mission Sale. A total of 345 plants were sold earning a profit of \$1,300 to support local missions.

Gifts were given to the FUMC Scout Troop 442; the ARC; Church Women United; Rowan Helping Ministries; Rowan One Church, One Child; and the Community Care Clinic.

Thank you,  
Ginny Champion (UMW President)



### Rowan Helping Ministries Food Packing

FUMC sends a team of volunteers weekly to pack food for our neighbors throughout Rowan County. Rowan Helping Ministries has seen an increased need for food during this time. There is still a lot to do as we assist RHM in meeting these needs. If you would like to volunteer contact Nancy Schoch or Jen in the church office ([jenni@fumcsalisbury.org](mailto:jenni@fumcsalisbury.org)).





## WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS



HENRY & MISSY BROWN



LLOYD & BETSY MOWERY



*We give thanks to God  
as we welcome our  
newest members who  
joined the church on  
October 18!*



RON HOWARD,  
WITH MEMBER JULIA HOWARD



JOSHUA STARNES

## STEWARDSHIP 2021

### Stewardship Update

Our projected budget to support all ministries of the church is \$894,000. To those of you that have returned your pledge card we on the stewardship committee truly want to thank you for all your support. The Stewardship Committee understands that 2020 has been a difficult year for all of us. God has blessed our church in so many ways. Rest assured that God will always be here for us. If for some reason you have not returned your pledge card, it's not too late!

Becca has received several pledge cards with no name. If you think you may be one of the ones without a name, please give Becca a call so she can make sure to record your pledge properly.

Following are the current pledge figures (10/28):

Operating: \$550,363

Capital: \$ 12,930

Missions: \$ 5,200



Blessed be the tithe that binds!  
Larry Cordts & Bob Roakes  
Co-chairs Stewardship



# CHURCH HISTORY

*"Looking back, moving forward"*

Both John and Charles Wesley endured unpleasant challenges during their brief missionary efforts in the Colony of Georgia. Charles particularly disliked sleeping on a dirt floor. He dealt with scurrilous gossip and persistent illness. Yet there was one good thing that came out of their American sojourn that changed their lives forever. They both developed a sincere appreciation for the piety of German Moravians. On returning to England, they sought out the spiritual guidance of a Moravian preacher named Peter Böhler. On May 21, 1738 Charles rose from his sick bed where he was fighting lingering pleurisy and attended a Moravian prayer meeting. That night he experienced a spiritual awakening. Three days later he imposed on his reluctant brother to attend another Moravian meeting where John Wesley also felt "his heart strangely warmed."



On the first anniversary of that conversion, Charles wrote one of the most beloved hymns in our Methodist hymnal. The inspiration came from Peter Böhler who announced that, "Had I a thousand tongues, I would praise him with them all!" Thus on Whitsunday, a day we now call Pentecost Sunday, Charles wrote "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing."

The hymn first appeared in print in eighteen stanzas titled, "For the Anniversary Day of One's Conversion." The familiar line that now forms the first verse in Methodist Hymnals was originally stanza seven. Most modern hymnals only include seven of the original eighteen verses. The most recent Methodist hymnal indicates that the current verse six can be omitted if people find it offensive.

Verse six includes a series of oxymorons or contradictions that only God's power can overcome: "Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb, your loosened tongues employ; ye blind, behold your Savior come, and leap, ye lame, for joy." The word "dumb" in this verse indicates an inability to speak and not a lack of intelligence. The hymnal revision committee considered replacing dumb with alternatives such as "mute" or "voiceless ones," but in the end retained Charles Wesley's original language.

First published in John Wesley's 1780 hymn collection, this great hymn has traditionally been the first in every Methodist hymnal. The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, hymnal was one of the very few exceptions to this priority placement. It is number 57 in our current hymnal but remains the first hymn listed after the liturgical worship material.

In the United States this hymn is sung to the tune "Azmon." The early nineteenth century German composer Carl G. Gläser composed this tune, and it is the only one of his composition still in common use in modern hymnals. In England, this hymn is sung to the tune "Lydia" by Thomas Phillips, "Richmond" (#417 UMH) by Thomas Haweis, or in larger churches "Lyngham" by Thomas Jarman.

The final stanza beautifully invites others to have their own spiritual experience.

"In Christ, your head, you then shall know, shall feel your sins forgiven;  
anticipate your heaven below, and own that love is heaven."

Fred Jordan, Church Historian



# CPR – CONGREGATIONAL PREPARATION FOR RE-ENTRY



## Worship on Sunday Mornings

In November, our Sunday mornings will take another step toward forward by welcoming up to fifty (50) people for worship at 11:00 am. Our church's own Re-Entry Task Force has been working to ensure the best possibility scenario for gathering safely to worship in the sanctuary. Toward this goal, our church will follow the CDC's COVID-19 safety precautions, the state's guidelines, and Bishop Leeland's advisory. Everyone's health and well-being are highly valued. Watch the CPR (Congregational Preparation for Re-Entry) video on the church's YouTube channel for details.

Here are some details:

- Worshippers need to register ahead of time either by calling the church office or signing up online.
  - Remember the 3W's – wash your hands, wear a face mask, and wait 6 feet.
  - Before entering, every worshipper will need to pass the simple health screening.
  - Enter through the sanctuary's main doors on South Church Street.
  - An offering plate will be available in the narthex for you to leave your offering.
  - Enter the nave by the side aisles. Every third pew will be available for seating. Sit as close to the front as possible. Family members can sit together; everyone else needs to keep six feet of distance.
  - After the worship service, worshippers will exit through the side doors near the front of the nave.
- Everyone is strongly encouraged still to wear the face mask and to keep the six feet of physical distance.

May our worship together, whether in person or online, stir within us our praise for God!





# VESPERS SERVICE LAST MONTH





## Reflections on the Meaning of Worship from Joshua Starnes

On Saturday, September 12, twenty-two volunteers of our worship and music ministry gathered in the Sanctuary for a morning retreat filled with prayer, worship, fellowship, and planning. We came away excited about all that God has in store for us in the coming year, and testified of His continued faithfulness to us, especially in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Though we haven't been able to resume regular rehearsal schedules and ministry programs, we are always looking for volunteers to use their gifts (musical, artistic, etc.) in worship of God and in service to others. I thought I would share some of my reflections with you, which I shared with those gathered at our retreat:

Recall with me this passage from John 4:1-30, the story of the woman at the well.

*Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."  
(John 4:21-26)*

Sitting in church makes you no more a Christian, than sitting in a garage makes you a car. Just as St. John's account in the Gospel lesson recounts Jesus's encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well, the location of our worship is not nearly as important as the attitude of our worship. Despite our beautiful façades and worship spaces, it is not WHERE we worship that counts, but HOW we worship. Is our worship genuine and true? Is it done "in spirit and in truth"? And what does that phrase even mean?

Let's ponder for a moment another passage of Scripture from I Corinthians 14.15: *"What am I to do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will pray with my mind also; I will sing praise with my spirit, but I will sing with my mind also."* Worship that pleases God involves two spheres simultaneously: spirit and truth.

The truth side we seem to cover fairly well, especially here in the South and the Bible Belt. The truth is the Word of God, fulfilled and Incarnate in the person of Jesus Christ. The spiritual aspect however may appear a bit more subjective or elusive, especially to those of us whose faith tradition is deeply marked by Reformed Anglican piety – but it still is an essential part of our faith and worship. That is to say, God the Holy Spirit ministers to us in both spirit and in truth, and our worship must also reflect that.

How does the Holy Spirit minister to us spiritually? By the sacraments and common means of grace. We are fed and nourished in Baptism and Holy Communion, but also in the context of the spiritual disciplines such as prayer and Scripture reading. The Holy Spirit uses these means to minister to us via our *pathos*, or emotions. God will only accept our worship if it is truthful (biblical) and spiritual. It is not a question of "either/or," but instead a biblical mandate of "both/and."



## WORSHIP & WONDER, CONTINUED

The term “worship” is derived from the Old English word “worth-ship.” It conveys that we are ascribing worth to that which we revere. We seek to worship God more fully because He alone is worthy of our worship, as we see witnessed in John’s vision of the heavenly worship scene in Revelation 4. **Worship is a response to a relationship we do not deserve!**

Our worship is a witness not only to other believers, but also those outside our community of faith. And as such, we cannot truly worship that which we do not already know, nor can we lead people somewhere to which we ourselves have not already been. The Lord’s Day morning corporate worship on Sunday is intended as an overflow of our private daily worship Monday through Saturday.

*EVERYTHING* we do is worship – it is only a matter of *Who* or *What* is the object of our worship. Let us recall the story of Cain and Abel from Genesis 4.1-15: Abel’s sacrifice was accepted by God, while Cain’s was not. As we enter into this season being mindful of gratitude and generosity, I leave each of us with these questions to ponder: “Am I presenting my body and life as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God? Am I being conformed to this world or the Word of God, which transforms and renews my mind? Is my life like the worship and sacrifice of Abel, or like that of Cain?” I pray that as we press on and sojourn together along this road of faith, that the Holy Spirit would mold us and fashion each of us to be more like our Lord Jesus Christ!

*Soli Deo Gloria (“Glory to God Alone”),*  
Josh

*If you’re interested in participating in the worship and music ministry,  
please email [josh@fumcsalisbury.org](mailto:josh@fumcsalisbury.org) for more information on opportunities for getting plugged-in!*

## HARVEST PROCESSION

*Supporting Rowan Helping Ministries*

# Harvest Procession

PICK UP YOUR BAGS AT THE FISHER STREET ENTRANCE

Fill & Return by November 22:

Drop off, Vespers on Nov. 15, Sun. am worship Nov. 22



**See back cover for the Harvest Procession shopping list.**



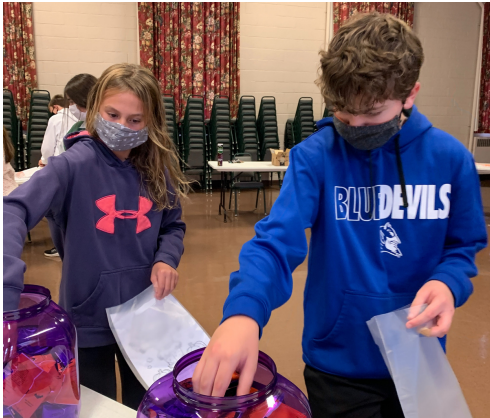
## SALISBURY YOUTH



### Youth Packing Treat Bags

In October the youth rented out the movie theater to watch Ghostbusters on the big screen! We also packed the treat bags for Fall Festival.

We've been talking about truths about God, and how we can then respond to those truths. Because of who God is we can: *Trust how God made us, do difficult things, embrace the unknown, and take risks for others.*



## KIDS FIRST IN CHRIST

### CHILDREN'S CHOIR

WEE-PRAISE!  
AGES 3- GRADE 1

KIDZPRAISE!  
GRADES 2-5

WEDNESDAYS  
@ 4:00PM

CONTACT:  
BAILEE@FUMCSALISBURY.ORG





# DEVOTIONS FROM PASTOR STACEY

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*It's almost cliché to focus on giving thanks and gratitude in November. But... 'tis the season, and gratitude is at the core of what it means to worship God and to human flourishing. So- why do we need this yearly reminder? We need to navigate regularly through circumstances that are enemies of gratitude.*



## **Week 1: NOSTALGIA**

**Read: Numbers 11:4-6**

The Israelites have been led by God through the sea to the wilderness, where they are provided with nutritious manna and meat. Now, they aren't in imminent danger, and their minds wander back to Egypt, and they long for melons, cucumbers, and other crops. If only we could go back to this food!

There's a "high side" and "low side" to nostalgia, as with most things. The great thing about calling forth good memories is a sense of home, safety, good memories is a sense of home, safety, and comfort. Longing for good times we've experienced can drive us to prioritize that which is truly important, and enjoy the celebrations in the year. The low side? We make our complicated history a simplified memory. The Israelites have forgotten that the leeks and melons probably did not make them feel very full when they were forced to do back-breaking work. They've 'flattened' the memory to the variety of food. When we look backward and expect a replica in the present or future, we get angry or hurt when things do not look like our flattened memory.

How can you approach this lean, disrupted Holiday season to plan for the high side of your memories? How can you savor the goodness of the present moment, while still hoping for a different kind of celebration in the years to come? What safeguards do you need to put on your heart and planning so that longing does not become disappointment & anger?

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## **Week 2: ENTITLEMENT**

**Read: Philippians 3:4b-14**

It's amazing how quickly it happens. Hand me a stack of Monopoly money, and I quickly begin acting like I earned it. I take windfalls from "Free Parking" and add them to the stash. It's all mine! I feel entitled to Park Place and Boardwalk even if I haven't yet landed there. And when other players begin taking my money in rent- I don't feel grateful. I feel cheated.

There's much in life that comes with good, hard, consistent work. But there's more that comes because of the families we're in or place that we live and work, and the grace of God. Paul has all of this- earned and given right to be proud of what he has and what he has done. When we come to Christ, we all come down to the same level at the foot of the cross. Sometimes, the things we've earned or own make that journey very difficult. If I'm entitled to these things and this status, what has God really done for me? Oof.



God has given us the gift of life, breath, community, and provision. Where do you see the danger of entitlement lurking in your life? Maybe, like Paul, you should list your titles, awards, assets, and physically set them aside. Perhaps you should even tear that page up. What do you have without that list? God's goodness and grace.

# DEVOTIONS FROM PASTOR STACEY

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## WEEK 3: WORRY

**Read: Philippians 4:6-7**

Worry consumes our thoughts and our imagination. All of us, to some extent need to think about what consequences our actions might yield. We need plans and resources set aside for when things unravel. Worry, however, takes us to a different place. We get stuck in a snarl- unable to imagine what good might happen, only endless possibilities of the bad. It steals our joy, it steals our gratitude, it steals our imagination. Frankly, a vast majority of our worries prove to be false. We don't imagine the future very well. We also cannot see what is right in front of us, and gratitude is stifled. Paul's solution is to put this snarled web of thoughts and emotions in the hands of God through prayer. God will help us sort it out, and replace it with peace that surpasses our understanding.

It may be helpful to name and write down your places of worry. When a worry pops into your mind, pause and pray. Entrust it to God, and ask for the gift of peace that passes understanding.

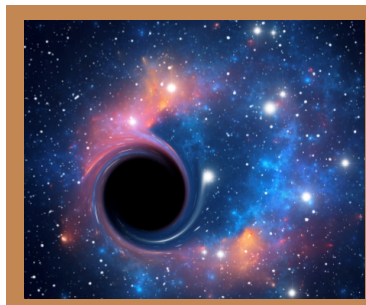


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## WEEK 4: GREED

**Read: Luke 12:13-21**

Black holes are fascinating- a star that has collapsed in on itself turns into a cosmic vacuum- sucking light and matter in, never to be returned. Space and time itself even seem to slow down and disappear at the event horizon. Erich Fromm described greed as "a bottomless pit which exhausts the person in an endless effort to satisfy the need without ever reaching satisfaction."



Greed changes from wanting more things to enjoy them to consuming everything in your path. The boundary between needs and wants breaks down, and we are left with an insatiable wanting. Most of us have not reached the "black hole" stage of greed, but we may have been punching holes in the boundary between needs and wants. When what we're after is consumption, nothing will satisfy- not even God.

Providing a check to greed is gratitude. Slow down and savor your food. Evaluate your budget and resources for where holes have been punched through. Take time for quiet reflection on what blessings are right in front of you.

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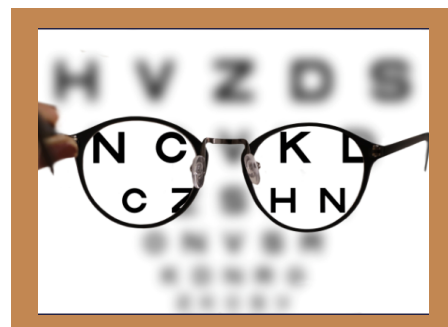
## WEEK 5: DISAPPOINTMENT

**Read: Deuteronomy 34:1-12**

Pay attention to the description of Moses in verses 10-12. Moses is beloved dearly by God, unequalled by other prophets in his relationship with God, his leadership, and acts of power. Despite all of this, Moses does not get to see the end result. He can't see the promised land with the people. Amidst the brokenness and fragility of the world, there is so much that ought to be, that is planned for, that is almost fulfilled that is cut short.

When we are disappointed, our vision for the future has been cut off at the knees. It is deflating. We had hope, and now it is gone. It is like our pair of glasses has been ripped off and our vision is now blurry.

This scripture is a model for us, though. Acknowledge your disappointment to God. Acknowledge the anger underneath. Then ask God to return vision to you. Deuteronomy 34 reminds us that even though there are things we do not see accomplished, that God loves and delights in us anyway. God's work continues, God's love continues. And, God can handle your disappointment. For that, I give thanks.







CELEBRATE ADVENT @ FIRST

# ADVENT BEGINS NOVEMBER 29

## VIRTUAL WORSHIP

CHILDREN'S SERVICE OF JOY - DECEMBER 13

A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS & CAROLS - DECEMBER 20

## IN-PERSON WORSHIP

CHRISTMAS EVE ON THE LAWN - DECEMBER 24

WATCH NIGHT COVENANT RENEWAL - DECEMBER 31

MUSICAL MEDITATIONS - FRIDAYS IN DECEMBER

DRIVE-THROUGH OPPORTUNITIES TO PICK UP AN ADVENT DEVOTIONS BOOK (WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM CHURCH MEMBERS) AND OTHER SEASONAL MATERIALS IN LATE NOVEMBER.

POINSETTIAS ORDER FORMS AVAILABLE THROUGH DECEMBER 6.

# ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

4-WEEK ZOOM ADVENT STUDY

Peace,  
Justice, Joy,  
& Salvation

STUDY ON ISAIAH

Mondays at 7 | 11/30-12/21  
REGISTER [fumsalisbury.org](https://fumsalisbury.org)

## AFTER SCHOOL CHILD CARE

### Happy Fall

Happy fall from the After-School Child Care Program! We are doing some fall crafts, reading seasonal books and enjoying playing outdoors while we still can. We are talking about counting our blessings and being thankful.

We still have openings in our program and would love to share what we have to offer. If you are interested in finding out more about us, please contact us at 704 433-6679.

*"You must first teach a child he is loved. Only then is he ready to learn everything else."* – Amanda Morgan





# SCOUTS

## Scouts Participate in National Public Lands Day

FUMC's Cub Pack and Scout Troop 442 teamed up to help clean debris from the water in October for their annual 'Falls Reservoir Cleanup' as part of National Public Lands Day. Even while social distancing our scouts are out there 'doing a good turn!' Scout and youth group member, Bruce Phillips III, led the devotion for the group who camped out that night.





# NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

**1** Christopher Austin  
Robin Daye  
Suzanne Roakes  
Emma Snyder

**2** David Duke  
Tony Yon

**3** Phillip Conrad  
Danny Hunt  
Clay Smith

**4**

**5** Alan Schroeder  
Ryan Snyder

**6** Anisten Cook  
Nancy Zimmerman

**7** Susan Fowler  
Matthew Langford  
Sue Pierce

**8** Samuel Allen  
Timothy Howard

**9** Susan Linn

**10** Taylor Conrad  
Henry Paul  
William Webb

**11** Virginia Nicholson

**12** David Collins  
Tish Hatley  
Rylee Hedrick  
Krista Watts

**13**

**14** Christopher Cook  
Richard Costello  
Lizz Johnson  
Laura Peltz  
Callie Slife

**15** Becca Blackmon  
Stephanie Kelly

**16**

**17** Wilbert Sadler, Jr.

**18**

**19** Ryan McCoy  
Merritt Menees

**20** Luke Miller

**21** Alfreda Chea  
Mary Jo Gouge  
Bobbie Melton  
Tommy Yarbrough

**22** Jeffery Daye

**23** Amy Harkrader  
Joshua Haynes

**24** Marissa Brinkley  
Linné Wallace

**25** Patricia Cooke  
Brad Walworth

**26** Joy Clement  
Bailey Riggs  
Brooke Riggs

**27** Benton Whitaker

**28** Thomas Fowler  
Rachel Seifert  
Becky Spencer

**29** Lynn Anderson  
Revonda Crowe  
Jesse McCartney

**30** Jude Smeltzer



# FUMC FAMILY AND EXTENDED FAMILY TRANSITIONS

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## *In Remembrance*

*Please keep these families in your prayers,*

**HARRIS (SONNY) EMERSON FAGGART**  
Father of Mike Faggart

March 4, 1929 - October 25, 2020

*"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." - Psalm 46:1*

## THANK YOU NOTES TO THE CHURCH

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Dear FUMC family,

Thank you for the dozens of cards you sent my family when Mom died. She loved her church and spent many happy hours there over the years. Your warm support and prayers have gone a long way to help our broken hearts to heal. Thank you for remembering her with visits, gifts, calls, and cards over these last years when she could not get to church. Your thoughtfulness is truly appreciated.

Nan, Bob, Gerri, and Kate Zimmerman



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### **SPRC: Love Offering**

During this season of giving, the Staff-Parish Relations Committee would like to ask for your participation in providing a Love Offering to be shared with our staff.

If you wish to participate, you may do so by making your check payable to FUMC and note Staff Christmas Love Offering in the memo line or church envelope. If you wish to give a gift, please do so by Sunday, December 6.

### **Charge Conference:**

Charge Conference will be Monday, November 16 at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.



## DIRECTORY UPDATES

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*Please note the following changes in your directory:*

**Andrew Langford**  
1235 Briggs Rd.  
Salisbury, NC 28147

**Sid & Cindy Oakes**  
102 Crimson Way  
Pittsboro, NC 27312

**Laura & Bill Shaffer**  
612 S. Jackson St.  
Salisbury, NC 28144

**Denny White**  
(704)798-2947

**Tonya & Daniel Coutu**  
584 River Birch Dr.  
Salisbury, NC 28146  
(704)603-6008



# ECCLESIA

## NEWSLETTER OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



### HARVEST PROCESSION Shopping list

- ☐ 2 LARGE CANS OF VEGETABLES
- ☐ LARGE CAN OF FRUIT
- ☐ BOX OF INSTANT MASHED POTATOES
- ☐ BAG OF RICE
- ☐ CAN OF GRAVY  
No glass please
- ☐ BOX OF CORNBREAD, BISCUIT, OR MUFFIN MIX
- ☐ BOX OF STUFFING
- ☐ BOX OF CEREAL OR OATMEAL
- ☐ OPTIONAL: BOX CAKE MIX AND CAN OF FROSTING

3 WAYS TO RETURN YOUR BAGS:  
-Drop off at Fisher St Entrance  
-Vespers services on November 15  
-Sunday worship November 22

We'll use these bags for many years to come!

ALL FOOD COLLECTED GOES TO ROWAN HELPING MINISTRIES. THEY DISTRIBUTE 2,000 POUNDS OF FOOD DAILY TO HUNGRY PEOPLE OF ROWAN COUNTY.

### HARVEST PROCESSION Instructions

1. Pick up as many bags as you can fill.
2. Go shopping!
3. Drop off your bags at the Fisher St Entrance or bring them *with* you to vespers on **November 15** or worship at 11:00 on **Sunday, November 22**.
4. During the first hymn, you will have an opportunity to bring your bags to the altar as as an offering to God.

Want to take another step?  
Join us Monday, November 23 at 8am to load & deliver food to RHM, or to ready for distribution at RHM. Contact [stacey@fumcsalisbury.org](mailto:stacey@fumcsalisbury.org) to volunteer!

