



# First United Methodist Church

Newton, North Carolina

*A Church that Loves All People into a Relationship with Jesus Christ*



## TWO WORSHIP SERVICES ON EASTER SUNDAY

Alleluia! He is Risen! Our Lenten journey culminates on April 1, Easter Sunday, as we celebrate the day of Resurrection, when the stone was rolled away. We will have two special worship opportunities. Join us at 9 a.m. in the Garden for our contemporary service or at 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary for our traditional service. This is a wonderful opportunity to practice hospitality, welcoming our visitors and inviting friends, family and neighbors to attend with you. We also invite you to bring fresh flowers to place on the Easter cross and take pictures with your family and friends.



## EASTER EGG HUNT BRINGS CHILDREN FROM THE COMMUNITY TO OUR CHURCH

Despite the light rain and cool temperatures, children from our community filled the front lawn at First Church on Saturday, March 24 for our annual Free Community Easter Egg Hunt. Invitations were sent out through area elementary schools inviting children to the event. In addition to the over 2000 eggs hidden for the hunt, there was face painting, crafts and the Startown PE Club entertaining the crowd. Thank you to our hospitality team of volunteers who made the event possible.



# APRIL IS A GREAT TIME TO GET INVOLVED . . .

## ECCCM WORKDAY

The first Wednesday of each month has been designated as the day for First Church to volunteer at ECCCM (Eastern Catawba Cooperative Christian Ministry). No registration or sign-up is required, just show up! Join us on Wednesday, April 4. Work a couple of hours or the whole day depending on what your schedule allows.

For more info, contact 828-465-1702.



## METHODIST WOMEN

You're invited to join Methodist Women for their monthly meeting on Monday, April 9 at 2 p.m. in the Gomedela Room. They will have devotions, refreshments and a program on "The Good Old Days." For more information, contact Martha Sowers at 828-464-6954.



## YOU'RE INVITED TO



Join us Thursday, April 12 at 7:30 a.m. for coffee and cookies in the Fellowship Hall.

Our program starts at 10:00 a.m. Our devotion will be led by Rev. Bob Silber from ECCCM. Our program is "Tech Savvy Seniors" presented by Kathleen Cook. Lunch is available immediately following the program and this month features Chicken Pie, Rice & Gravy, Slaw, Roll and Homemade Desserts. Please call the church office (828-464-8422) by noon on Tuesday, April 10 to RSVP for lunch.



## PRAYER ON THE SQUARE

Please join us for Prayer on the Square in Newton at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 29. To learn more about this event, please contact the church office at 828-464-8422.

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: APRIL 10, 7 P.M.

Church Council Meetings take place the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Gomedela Room. As a reminder these meetings are OPEN to the whole congregation. First Church made the switch to a one board governing model to minimize the number of meetings we schedule, and maximize our time passionately worshipping Jesus and practicing unprecedented acts of hospitality. We hope you will join us! **CALLING ALL GOLFERS!**

Eastern Catawba Cooperative Christian Ministry (ECCCM) is hosting their Annual Benefit Golf Tournament on Thursday, May 10 with a 1 p.m. Shotgun Start.



They will be playing at Glen Oaks Golf Club in Newton. There is a lunch prior to the tournament at 11:30 a.m. If you are interested in playing, please contact Ken Moss at 828-464-1244. Good luck!



## "LOVE IN ACTION" CLOTHING DRIVE

Beth Eden Lutheran Church upper elementary class is working on a service project "Love in Action." They are having a FREE clothing giveaway on Saturday, April 21, for people in need in our community. They are collecting donations for men, women, children and newborns. If you have clothes, shoes, pocketbooks, jewelry, children's books and toys please drop off donations at Beth Eden Monday- Friday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Please have all donations dropped off by April 16. They need all size clothes to make this event a success.

## MEAL MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

As Christians we are taught to follow the teachings of Jesus that are given to us in the Bible. In the book of 1 Peter 4:8-9 "Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling." What a great command to follow. First Church is already following this scripture by graciously providing bereavement meals to families of our dearly departed. We would like to expand this ministry as well as expand the team of people involved. If you would like to assist with this very fulfilling program, please join in an open meeting on Tuesday, April 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the Gomedela Room. Please contact Julie Braswell in the church office 828-464-8422 or office@fumc-newtonnc.org with any questions.

## NEW SAFETY TEAMS FORMING

The church will be creating Safety Teams for each Sunday service time. Anyone interested in serving on a church safety team may contact Tim Hayes at [Thayesnpd@gmail.com](mailto:Thayesnpd@gmail.com) for more info.



Nursery – Available Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Children’s Sunday School** (10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.)

Ages 3 through 5th grade meet on the floor below the Sanctuary. The theme for the K-5th grade class will be Doubting Thomas.

**Kids 4 Christ** (Wednesdays 3-5:30 p.m., Activity Room)

Please note, we will not meet on April 4 due to Spring Break. Children ages K-6th grade are welcome anytime. We have snacks, crafts, science, dramas, outside play and even some homework time!

If you have any questions regarding Children’s Ministries, please contact Julie Braswell, 828-464-8422 or juliebraswell@gmail.com

*Thank you to our Girl Scouts and their leaders for participating in Scout Sunday at First Church on Sunday, March 18.*



Thank you to all of the youth and parents that helped with the Holy Thursday meal. Your hospitality to our church members and visitors was a wonderful gift. We also appreciate everyone who attended and made donations. The money raised will be used to help supplement the cost of our upcoming mission trip to Pennsylvania this summer.

**Please note the following Youth dates:**

- April 1 & 8 No Youth activities during Easter break
- April 20 30 hour Famine! More info to follow but save the date for this overnight event at the church.
- June 24-30 Youth summer mission trip to Pennsylvania
- July 22-28 Wilderness Trail - \$75 deposit is due by June 2

For more info contact Lisa at lisadjohnson71@gmail.com or 828-381-9337.



**SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATION INFO**

Attention High School & College Students! Applications and guidelines for the Methodist Women, Wellborn and Odum Scholarships are now available on-line @ [fumcnewtonnc.org/scholarships](http://fumcnewtonnc.org/scholarships) or at the Welcome Desk. **Deadline is April 19, 2018.**

**ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP AT ERSKINE COLLEGE**

For more information about this week-long motivational, leadership training, and free enterprise seminar for rising high school juniors and seniors, visit the church website: [fumcnewtonnc.org/scholarships](http://fumcnewtonnc.org/scholarships) or contact Wayne Swofford at [wswofford@charter.net](mailto:wswofford@charter.net). **Deadline is April 10, 2018.**

**NEWTON**  
**METHODIST PRESCHOOL**

**ENROLLING FOR FALL**

Newton Methodist Preschool is now enrolling for the 2018-2019 school year. Our preschool offers quality childcare in a safe, happy, Christian environment for ages One Year through Pre-K. We are open to all children regardless of race, religion, or special needs. We operate Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Our schedule for the school year starts the Tuesday after Labor Day and runs until the Friday before Memorial Day.

For more information or to schedule a tour of the preschool, contact Kristi Harvell, Preschool Director at: [newtonmethodistpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:newtonmethodistpreschool@gmail.com) or call 828-465-6397.



*Thank you to all our Preschool and Church families for donating items for the Catawba County Backpack Program last month. We collected over 300 items!*

Sunday	Attendance	Tithes & Offerings	Capital Building Fund
March 4, 2018	177	\$ 11,028.50	\$170.00
March 11, 2018	156	\$ 7,632.70	\$85.00
March 18, 2018	196	\$ 7,186.95	\$65.00
March 25, 2018	196	\$ 5,125.00	\$410.00



## BIRTHDAYS . . . . .

Ian Canrobert	4/1
Braelyn Cavin	4/2
Bryce Cavin	4/2
Jim Chapman	4/2
William Johnson	4/2
Jane Harvell	4/3
Diane Colletta	4/5
Bill Powell	4/5
Marjo Erickson	4/6
Ruth Boland	4/7
Ethan Clark	4/8
Heather Clontz	4/8
Phillip Martin	4/8
Eunice Mauney	4/8
Harriett Wyatt	4/8
Gordon Kerley	4/9
Joe Killian	4/9
Spencer Rayfield	4/9
Pat Simmons	4/9
Jim Hardin	4/10
Nancy Killian	4/10
Gina King	4/10
Logan Martin	4/10
Dewayne Setzer Jr.	4/10
Stephen Sims Jr.	4/10
Stuart Smith	4/11
Jeff Elledge	4/13
Angela Drum	4/15
Matt Wilkinson	4/17
Angela Gantt	4/18
Anne Lemons	4/20
Bobby Benson Jr.	4/21
Beth Morgan	4/23
Gigi Ervin	4/24
Michael Roberts	4/24
Margaret Benfield	4/25
Vickie Drum	4/26
Judy Beaman	4/27
Megan Johnson	4/29
River Stephens	4/29
Mac Wellborn	4/29

## ANNIVERSARIES

Don & Anne Lemons	4/3
Matt & Staci Miller	4/18
Dale & Cindy Boger	4/20
Jim & Debbie Chapman	4/20
Mark & Mary Killian	4/22
Kyle & Angela Drum	4/24

## MEMORIALS

Louise Barkley	Capital Building Fund
Louise Barkley	Methodist Women Scholarship Fund
Louise Barkely	Methodist Women
Mary Teague (Sonia Foster's Mother)	Capital Building Fund
George Petree	Current Expense Fund
George Petree	Capital Building Fund
Bertha Cook (Fred Cook's Mom)	Capital Building Fund

## HONORARIUMS

Rev. Lara "Willis" Greene	Current Expense Fund
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## IN MEMORIAM

"Blessed are the dead who died in the Lord for they cease from their labor and their works do follow them."

**George Edward Petree**  
July 31, 1967 - March 17, 2018

## FIRST CHURCH SEEKING A PART-TIME NURSERY LEADER

Candidates should be called by God to create a welcoming and nurturing environment for children ages birth - 3 years. High School Diploma or GED equivalent required. Responsibilities include nursery duty on Sunday mornings from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and coordinating the volunteer work schedule. For a complete job description and to submit a resume, please contact the church office by e-mail at [office@fumcnewtonnc.org](mailto:office@fumcnewtonnc.org) or mail to FUMC, P.O. Box 926, Newton, NC 28658.

## FIRST CHURCH STAFF

**Lara "Willis" Greene**, Pastor

Cell: 828-461-5918 | E: [willis.fumcnewton@gmail.com](mailto:willis.fumcnewton@gmail.com)

**Julie Braswell**, Church Administrator

P: 828-464-8422 | E: [office@fumcnewtonnc.org](mailto:office@fumcnewtonnc.org)

**Sarah Luhrs**, Choir Director

E: [fumcnewtonchoir@gmail.com](mailto:fumcnewtonchoir@gmail.com)

**John Coffey**, Organist

E: [johnnyjava@earthlink.net](mailto:johnnyjava@earthlink.net)

**Michael Roberts**, Praise Team Director

E: [jasper.angeline@gmail.com](mailto:jasper.angeline@gmail.com)

**Kristi Spencer**, Communications Director

P: 704-607-3280 | E: [kristispencer1@gmail.com](mailto:kristispencer1@gmail.com)

**Kristi Harvell**, Preschool Director

P: 828-465-6397 | E: [newtonmethodistpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:newtonmethodistpreschool@gmail.com)

