



YADKINVILLE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

🌻 June 2026 Newsletter 🌻

A message from our Pastor

Siblings in Christ,

When I arrived in 2018 the church looked different, the world looked different, my life looked different. In 2018 the biggest things going on in my life was moving to Yadkinville and waiting for Henry to be born (and we handled both of those within 3 weeks of each other.) we spent the last half of 2018 getting to know one another, and 2019 was an exceptional year in the life of the Church. Our attendance and community impact grew and we were looking ahead at 2020 with excitement and momentum.

COVID brought the world to a standstill. While COVID helped us make some positive changes that continue to today, I still wouldn't do it again! Thanks to COVID we now have a robust worship streaming set up. Every week we have 10-20 people who worship with us online in real time, plus another 30-40 who view the service throughout the week. This is a reach we didn't have before COVID and has kept people connected and engaged while they have been ill or traveling. During COVID we also gathered in driveways and yards to celebrate communion together. I will remember and cherish the time when the sky started pouring buckets and we had to all jump under the pop-up tent together. In 2021 we began gathering together inside for Worship again. We began the transition to a one board leadership model that we implemented in 2022. This helped streamline decision making and allowed new folks to step into leadership.

In 2023 we worked to get out ahead of the coming General Conference of the United Methodist Church and spent time in prayer, study, and discernment around what YUMC believes and how we want to live our faith in the world. While the congregation was overwhelmingly supportive of taking a more inclusive stance around welcoming LGBTQ+ folks into the full life of the congregation and supporting them in ministry, this wasn't a universally held belief. We had several members and families step away from membership to find new church homes. While we wish them well, those departures still carried with them a significant amount of grief. This grief followed us in 2024 and for the first time since 2018 our worship attendance dipped slightly and grief was palpable in the congregation. I don't know that I allowed that grief time to be recognized and honored enough, and I consider this to be one of my shortcomings of time with you.

My last two years here have been something of a light as we have turned a Post-COVID/Post-General Conference corner. While there have been challenges: we have reset the budget to a more manageable level, welcomed new people into fellowship, continued strong outreach and presence in the community, and explored new possibilities for ministry!

I am happy with what I am leaving to Pastor Sharon in July. Yadkinville UMC has a clear identity and understanding of its place in the community. There are multiple initiatives that are on the brink of coming to fruition and providing exciting new opportunities for ministry. Reflecting on the next

A message from our Pastor *(continued from page 1...)*

year in the life of YUMC, I was a little irritated to find a pang of jealousy of what you and Sharon will get to do together! Ultimately, I am glad to be in a place where there is so much good and potential to hand off. As Paul writes in 1 Corinthians "Paul planted the seed and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it Grow." As I step away from being your Pastor, I know that God has been with us over these last 8 years. I also know that God has prepared Sharon to be your pastor and that the Holy Spirit is resting heavily upon us all in this season of change.

On June 30th I will lay down the pastoral mantel for Yadkinville UMC, and on July 1st Rev. Sharon Lee will pick it up. After July 1st if an emergency or something unusual comes up I will only come back under Pastor Sharon's invitation. God brought me here, and now God is bringing Sharon.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the last 8 years. I have been honored to be your Pastor. I have stood with you at the baptismal font, told the story of the last supper, heard your wedding vows, anointed the sick, visited in homes and hospitals, and celebrated the lives of your departed loved ones. I have blessed: meals, graduates, homes, pets, Helen's bread, students, teachers, and more. You were the congregation that took the baptismal vows for both of my children on behalf of the whole Church. You prayed for us during Leo's surgery and fed us when we brought both boys home. You have been an amazing blessing to me and my family.

I will continue to pray for you, and ask that you would keep me, Keri, Henry, and Leo in your prayers as we make this big transition! God has amazing things in store, let us all keep our eyes open for where God is calling!

God Bless,,
Pastor Jonathan

From Paul's Letter to the Church in Philippi:

I thank my God for every remembrance of you, always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I hold you in my heart, for all of you are my partners in God's grace,...And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what really matters, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Mission Focus for June 2026

The Trevor Project is the leading crisis intervention organization for LGBTQ+ young people. They are dedicated to providing support guidance to the community that is four times as likely to attempt self harm.

According to Trevor's research 39% of LGBTQ+ young people seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year—and young people who are transgender, nonbinary, and/or people of color reported higher rates than their peers.

God created everyone. God loves EVERYONE. YUMC is proud to celebrate LGBTQ+ individuals just as they are.

This year, especially as the rights of the community (specifically individuals that are part of the Trans community) are under attack, I ask you to not only support The Trevor Project, but reach out to your family, friend, neighbor that may be part of the community. Remind them that God's grace is for everyone, all months of the year.

- Chris Riddle

Learn more about getting involved at thetrevorproject.org



Greetings, we had a time update for the BOONE UMC location- It will be at 10:00 AM and not NOON. Thank you :)

Katie Hutton

Grace and peace in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Your stateside Project AGAPE team is thrilled to announce that Nara Melkonyan, our In-country Director, will be traveling to the Western North Carolina Conference Area June 21 – July 12. She will be visiting the Appalachian, Smoky Mountain, and Blue Ridge Districts June 21-27 to share powerful updates on our shared ministry in Vayk, Armenia.

Project AGAPE 2026

Your Support Makes All of This Happen



...and more!

P.S. Your gift today - whether one-time or through the Fellowship of 1,000 - will make an immediate difference for families rebuilding their lives in Armenia.

Thank you for helping keep the light of Project AGAPE shining brightly!

What is Project AGAPE?

For those who may be unfamiliar, Project AGAPE is a joint humanitarian ministry formed over 33 years ago by our WNC Conference, the NC Conference, and the Armenian Apostolic Church. For three decades, our Conference has faithfully sent material goods, mission teams, and financial support to the oldest Christian nation in the world.

Today, our focus is in Vayk, Armenia, where Nara and our dedicated staff work tirelessly to support many of the 120,000 displaced Armenians forced to flee their homes due to recent wars. We provide daily essentials—like clothing, bedding, and Christmas shoeboxes—as well as compassionate care. We also recently opened a Vocational Training Center to teach displaced individuals cosmetology, computer skills, and sewing so they can build sustainable futures.

Your Next Steps: Connect with Nara!

We hope that laity and clergy alike will set aside time to learn about the life-changing difference Project AGAPE is making. As you hear Nara's incredible stories you can also learn how your church can partner with this vital ministry. There are two ways to get involved during her visit:

1. Attend a Scheduled Gathering

You and your congregation are warmly invited to join us at any of these upcoming events:

- **First GMC (Conover):** Sunday, June 21 at 12:00 p.m.
- **First UMC (Lenoir):** Sunday, June 21 at 6:00 p.m.
- **Boone UMC (Boone):** Monday, June 22 at **10:00 a.m.**
- **Union Grove UMC (Union Grove):** Monday, June 22 at 6:30 p.m.
- **Clyde Central UMC (Clyde):** Tuesday, June 23 at 5:30 p.m.
- **Central UMC (Asheville):** Wednesday, June 24 at 6:00 p.m.
- **Etowah UMC (Etowah):** Thursday, June 25 at 6:00 p.m.

2. Host Nara at Your Church

If your church or Missional Network would like to host Nara for a lunch or evening meeting, please reach out!

Contact Allan Van Meter at [336-403-6792](tel:336-403-6792) or allandiv@aol.com to get on the schedule.

Thank you for your time and have a blessed week!

Grace and Peace,

Brian Mateer
WNCC - Director of Mission Engagement

Allan Van Meter
Pastor: Union Grove UMC
Chair: Project AGAPE Board

Visit our website (projectagape-armenia.org) to see pictures of projects and learn more about this vital ministry!

Yadkinville UMC Worship Servers June 2026

Date	YCM	Greeters	Ushers	Children's Moment	Online Host	Nursery	Scripture Reader	Communion Servers
June 7	Virgil & Dale Dodson	Joey Bolick & Jerry Ivey	Joey Bolick & Jerry Ivey	Keri Smith Gaylord	Olivia Pizzuti	Wanda Doss	Numbers 27:1-11	Keri Gaylord, Dale Dodson, Maureen Silvermale
						Sharon McGrath	Valerie Prim	
June 14	Jim & Marcia Downey	Valerie Prim & Dale Dodson	Valerie Prim & Virgil Dodson	Keri Smith Gaylord	Chris Riddle	Marnie Matthews	Genesis 29:16-35	06/21/2026 Lay Leader Rich Pizzuti
						Dale Dodson	Everette Hartzog	
June 21	Maureen Silvermale	Joey Bolick & Dale Dodson	Joey Bolick & Virgil Dodson		Audrey Whitley	Karen Pizzuti	Acts 18:1-3; 24-26	
						Wanda Doss	Dale Dodson	
June 28	Brad Mason	Jerry Ivey & Sharon McGrath	Jerry Ivey & Sharon McGrath	Valerie Prim	Rich Pizzuti	Sharon McGrath	Philipians 1:3-11	
						Marnie Matthews	Sam Winters	

YUMC family celebrating June BIRTHDAYS!

Janet Culpepper..... 06/09
 Joy Kinley 06/12
 Debra Gunnell..... 06/21
 Norma Noble..... 06/22
 Shirley Kennedy..... 06/24
 Frank Noble..... 06/25

Happy Anniversary to these folks!

Wayne & Betty Dixon..... 06/01/1975
 Tommy & Jo Dorsett..... 06/05/1961
 Ronnie & Mary Reavis 06/13/1992
 Jerry & Anne Ivey 06/27/1975



United
Women
in Faith

We welcome all women of our church, and their friends, to come and enjoy fellowship and Christian love.

We have 5 members who will be attending the Spiritual Growth Retreat at Lake Junaluska June 11 - 13

Thank you to all who attended the painting membership event in April.

Next Quarterly Gathering will be July 28th on Social Action in the Family Life Center. Hope to see you there.

Next Executive Team Meeting will be Tuesday July 7th at 630PM in Asbury room.

Circles:

GIGGLES will not be meeting in the summer, they will resume in September. Be on the lookout for information in August as Teachers and students return to school. They support Yadkinville Elementary School.

New Beginnings will meet Tuesday June 9th at the church at 11AM. The program will be about Assembly of the United Women in Faith in Indianapolis that was just held recently.

Tuesday evening Group will meet the fourth Tuesday's now due to conflict with Leadership Team. The next meeting will be Tuesday June 23 at 630PM in the Asbury room at the Church
Remember anyone can attend any Circle Program!



Men's Group

June Men's Group News

All the events we participate in are a part of sharing our Christian Faith and representing YUMC!

Fri, May 1st 2026, 6 - 9pm - Friday After Five Downtown Yadkinville - Season Kickoff with Jim Quick & Coastline

The men's group SOLD OUT of our famous Hamburgers & Hotdogs as a church fundraiser! We had an Awesome time representing YUMC!

Sat, May 2nd 2026 4th Annual NC Fried Apple Pie Festival Sparta

We again SOLD OUT of our incredibly awesome & fantastic award-winning fried pies at the 4th Annual NC Fried Apple Pie Festival in Sparta!
467 Handmade ("man made" LOL!) hand pies were sold!

Sat, May 9th 2026, 3pm - 9pm- Relay for Life Event Yadkin Campground (near the YMCA)

The men's group had a blast selling our famous Hamburgers & Hotdogs and donated all profits to support this charity.

Fri, Jun 5th 2026, 6 - 9pm- Friday After Five Downtown Yadkinville - Pirate Party with Black Pearl

The men's group provided our famous Hamburgers & Hotdogs as a church fundraiser. Big crowd , big fun!

Sat, Jul 4th 2026, 10am - 10pm - Independence Day Celebration

We will be selling our famous Hamburgers & Hotdogs as a church fundraiser

Come join the YUMC men's group! We meet every Monday at 7pm at the church. Enjoy Christian Fellowship, biblical discussion, community action, & shared love of: God, our church, our church family, & community. **Join us! You are wanted & welcome!**

Rich Pizzuti

[\(336\) 466-2359](tel:(336)466-2359)

June Events

Friday, June 5, 2026

6-9pm, Friday After Five Downtown Yadkinville, Pirate Party with Black Pearl

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

New Beginnings meeting at 11am at the church

Tuesday, June 23, 2026

Tuesday Evening Group meeting at 6:30pm at the church

Church Leadership Team

The YUMC Leadership Team met on Tuesday night May 19, 2026 and the following items were discussed:

The meeting opened with prayer and a discussion of the items that were meaningful to each team member in the past month. The discussion of the minutes and of the financial information follows with any changes needed and approval.

Joy Kinley will make a presentation of the Trevor Project, a sharing and demonstrating faith program on June the 7th.

There was discussion on the new parsonage and Karen Pizzuti is heading up the parsonage transition team. If you have a special interest in this contact Karen. Several items will be needed for the new parsonage.

The Leadership Team selected Pam Matthews, who was recommended by the Building Committee as the realtor for our existing parsonage. Wayne Dixon, Tom Dorsett, Oz Prim, Mark Moran and Keri Gaylord are on this committee.

Adelaide Whitaker is serving as the interim choir director and the search continues for a new choir director. If you have any suggestions, please let us know.

New Horizon's is planning to use youth room and adjoining classroom for a new program. Modifications will need to be made and the YUMC Men's group is planning on doing this. After much discussion, it was agreed that a 1-year lease for \$800 per month would be offered to New Horizons.

June will be a busy month as we prepare to welcome Sharon Lee as our new pastor. In July, we will be a charge with Hanes Grove UMC and some changes may be needed in our worship times so please fill out your preferences on service times.

On June 28th, we will have a covered dish lunch as we say goodbye to Keri, Jonathan and the boys, so make sure to come to this event.

The next YUMC Leadership Team meeting will be on June 16th and everyone is invited to attend.



Open

Every 1st & 3rd Tuesday

2:30-5:30 pm

Free Women's, Men's, Children's Clothing



Yadkinville United Methodist Church

Offering care and hope through living, learning,
and loving God and each other.

We are located at 204 West Main Street, Yadkinville, NC 27055

Our mailing address is PO Box 25, Yadkinville, NC 27055

Phone: 336-679-2243

On the web at: www.yadkinvilleumc.org

General Information

Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

9:00 am until 1:00 pm

Other times are available,
call or email Bobbi or Pastor Jonathan.

Regular Worship at YUMC

In-person at YUMC 10:00 am

Virtual Worship via YouTube..... 10:00 am (live)



Yadkinville United Methodist Church

204 West Main Street

PO Box 25

Yadkinville, NC 27055

Church Staff

Jonathan Gaylord

Pastor

pastor@yadkinvilleumc.org

Dr. James Sheek

Choir Director

jamessheek@triad.rr.com

Charlene Zachary

Pianist / Organist

Maria Velasquez

Custodian

Bobbi Reavis

Church Administrator

bobbi@yadkinvilleumc.org

Crystal Imes

NETworX Yadkin Coordinator

NETworX@yadkinvilleumc.org

Ana Flores

Connect Interpreter

Connect@yadkinvilleumc.org

There are multiple ways to contribute to YUMC

Donate online at yadkinvilleumc.org and click on "MORE", then click on "CONTRIBUTE". Follow the online prompts.

Donate by text - send a text to 336-485-4309, with the amount you want to contribute and you will receive a text with further directions.

Donate by Venmo in the Venmo app or online, choose "Pay or Request", in the search bar type "Yadkinville UMC", follow the prompts.

Donate by check/mail a check, make checks payable to YUMC, drop in the offering plate, or mail to PO Box 25, Yadkinville, NC 27055