

News at First

**ONE SERVICE @ 10:30 am
FEBRUARY 23, 2020**

WITH GUEST PREACHER BISHOP PAUL LEELAND

A time to consecrate and bless the new building

MEAL BY CHEF BRUCE AFTERWARDS IN THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER

Monthly Newsletter of First United Methodist Church | February 2020

A Note From David



Rev. David Christy

Senior Minister

704-864-4371 ext. 222

dchristy@fumcgastonia.org

Dear Fellow Ministers,

February proves to be an exciting month in our church! We will welcome our new Associate Pastor, Rev. Avery White. We will celebrate United Methodist Women and Boy Scouts. And, we will have Bishop Leeland here to consecrate our new building... wow, there is a lot happening!

Please join me in welcoming Rev. Avery White to our staff. Avery brings expertise in pastoral ministry and is being recognized for her leadership in our conference. She is serving as a Discernment Team Chair on the Board of Ordained Ministry and is participating in the Reynolds Leadership Program. This will be her third appointment, and we are excited to have her among us. She officially begins with us on February 1.

Here is a breakdown of the exciting worship experiences coming up in February:

- Sunday, February 2 – Micah 6:1-8 (I Corinthians 1:18-31 – Lay Reading)
- Sunday, February 9 – Psalm 112 (Matthew 5:13-20 – Lay Reading) Boy Scout Sunday
- Sunday, February 16 – Rev. Stephanie Moore Hand Preaching for United Methodist Women's Sunday (you will not want to miss this dynamic and gifted preacher!)
- Sunday, February 23 – ONE SERVICE AT 10:30 A.M. Consecration Service of our New Building. Bishop Paul Leeland will be preaching! Meal by Chef Bruce to follow. Please continue to pray for the ministries of our church as we enter this exciting month. God is up to some BIG stuff through you! Let's keep at it. I look forward to being in ministry and mission with you in February!

In Christ's Service,

David



First United Methodist Church

Gastonia, North Carolina

Take Note

Minister on Call Schedule

David: 828-400-4552
Tripp: 704-477-7715
Avery: 704-559-9942

January 31-Feb. 2: Tripp
February 7-9: David
February 14-16: Avery
February 21-23: Tripp

Sunday Morning Attendance



Date	Church	Live	FB
Jan. 5:	445	90	589
Jan. 12.	446	123	443
Jan. 19:	421	129	418
Jan. 26:	458	139	433

Our mission is to see Christ in every person we encounter and demonstrate to them the love of God and the teachings of Jesus.

Ministry Team Meeting:
February 24 @ 6pm
Room #218

Sympathy to

- Charlie Greene and family on the death of his Father.
- Ed & Sheri Barker and family on the death of their son.
- Patty Jones and family on the death of her son.
- Don Lineberger and family on the death of his wife.

Joy to

- Rawlings & Erin Tidwell on the birth of their son, Hunter Garrett who was born on Jan 17.
- Megan & William Chapman on the birth of their son, Ora Banks who was born on Jan 17.

This month we are hosting...

Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts-
Various nights of the week

Learning to Live NA Group- Monday, Wednesdays,
& Fridays @ 11:30am

Civic Engagement Leadership Session-
February 6 @ 8:30am-5:00pm

Eagle Scout Ceremony-
February 9 @ 12pm

dCOM Interviews-
February 10 & 11 @ 8am-5:30pm

Gaston Clergy & Coalition-
February 13 @ 8am

Special Olympics Valentines Social-
February 13 @ 6pm

Epworth UMC Jazz Concert-
February 15 @ 6pm

We have a large and busy campus. Please go to
<https://www.fumcgastonia.org/calendar> for a full
list of our calendar and events.

Thoughts on Visitation

First UMC works hard to make sure that we are visiting our members as much as we can. The visiting Clergy and the Parish Nurse rotate a list to see our homebound folks every two months. We make an effort to see hospital patients each day of their hospitalization if possible. We are ALWAYS appreciative of folks telling us when people are ill or in the hospital, because often we don't know until someone lets us know! There is a slip on the "First Connection" tear off each week in the bulletin that you can check if you would like "to receive a call from a pastor". Visiting is something that we all enjoy. We share about those visits with our visiting Clergy and Parish Nurse only, so that we can all be aware of the situation. We do have a "congregational care" committee of lay persons who send cards and visit as much as possible. We also have Parish Response Ministers who are trained for more in depth visits and care. Thank you for understanding that no one person can possibly visit all 1500+ members of our church. We do our best to stay connected and appreciate your understanding and help.

Meeting About the Protocol of Separation Facing The United Methodist Church

In early January we laid out the "Protocol" going before our quadrennial General Conference in May. There was a cover page from David and a response from our Bishop. They are laying around the church. On January 22, David laid out three different perspectives on the Protocol (from UM Insight, Good News, and Mainstream). We will have a meeting for anyone interested on February 25, in the Family Life Center, from 6:30 – 7:30 pm (Child care provided). We are NOT making any decision about the future of our church; indeed, now is not the time. We are simply making sure everyone is informed on what is happening.



Welcome Rev. Avery White

Our Staff Parish Relations Committee has been informed that Rev. Avery White will be our new Associate Pastor! Avery has served as an Associate Pastor at Groce UMC in Asheville, and most recently has been the pastor of Rhyne Heights UMC in Lincolnton. She is uniquely gifted and serves in leadership in our Conference as a member of the Board of Ordained Ministry. Please feel free to stop by her office or send her an email to welcome her. Her new email is: ***avery@fumcgastonia.org***

Welcome New Members



**Carlotta & Richard
Anderson**



Sandy Chernowentz



Bryant Bolin



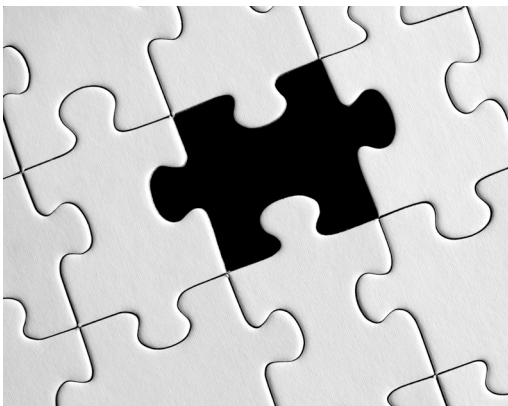
**Lee & Stephanie Jenkins
Quint & Ellen**



**Katy Nicholas
Anna, Jed & Elizabeth**



**Seth & Meredith Pendleton
Coraleigh**

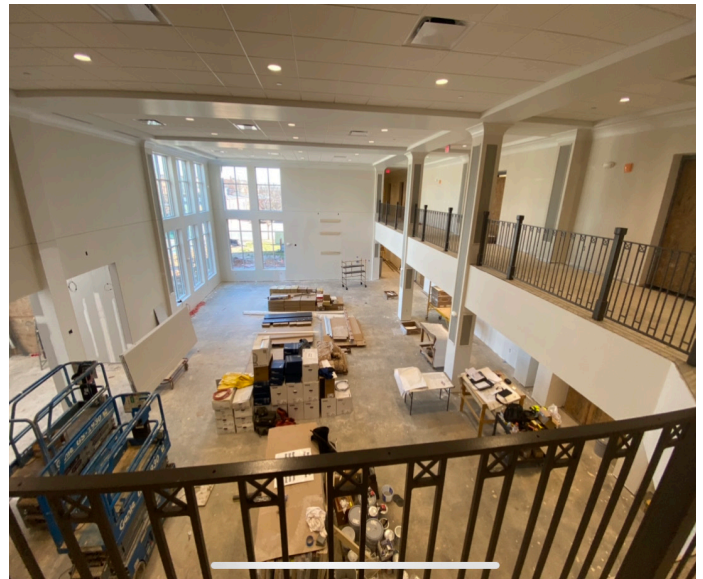


You're
the
missing
piece

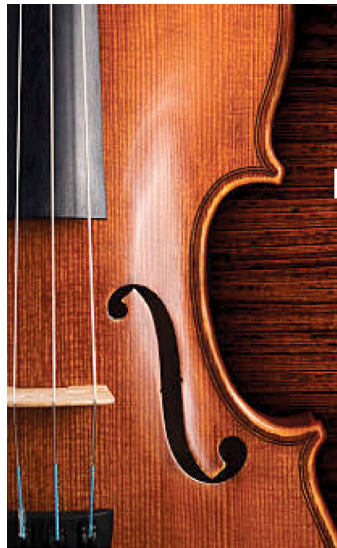
If you are interested in joining the church contact:
Amanda- amanda@fumcgastonia.org
or David- david@fumcgastonia.org



The staff went on a tour of the new building and is excited for you to see it during the Consecration on February 23. It will not all be completed but will be cleared for us to gather together and pray over it with Bishop Leeland.



Worship Arts Ministry



Concert:
Gaston Music Educators
Fellowship scholarship winners &
Gaston String Orchestra
Monday, February 17 @ 7:30pm
FUMC Sanctuary
190 East Franklin Blvd. Gastonia, NC



First United Methodist Church
Gastonia, North Carolina



**Lent begins: Ash
Wednesday Worship
February 26 @ 6:30pm
in the Sanctuary.**

Chancel Bells ring at Brookdale Robinwood | Saturday, February 29 @ 1:30pm.

Save the dates

The Best FUMC Pageant Ever, May 1-3



Camp VISTA, June 15-19. Registration available soon!



Music & Worship Arts Week at Lake Junaluska, June 21-26.
Registration available soon!



Rev. Saxon Scarborough
Minister of Music
704-864-4371 ext. 233
saxon@fumcgastonia.org



Susan Lisle
Music Associate
704-864-4371 ext. 237
susan@fumcgastonia.org



Aaron Prillaman
162 East Worship Leader
aaron@fumcgastonia.org



Timothy Scruggs
Organist
timothy@fumcgastonia.org

Join us for Sunday School Sunday's @ 10am

Sunday Special:

Conversations Class: The class will resume in February and is led by Rusty Sitton and Bee Poston. This class is for those persons who don't have a class or would like to try something new. It is an unstructured alternative to traditional Sunday School.

All other Sunday School classes are meeting on a regular basis. Make your selection from the list below:

Builders Class- Participants use the Adult Bible Study series as a companion for their spiritual journey of prayer, Bible study, service, and church-wide fellowship. Led by Mark and Rev. Angie Hollar. (Ages 60+)

Crosstalk Class- A cross section of ages and opinions that study a range of topics from the Bible to modern-day issues. Led by Royce Robinson (Ages 50s-70s)

Faith Matters- This class consists of parents of children and youth. Building a faith that matters for your children begins with developing your own spirit. Led by Don and Tricia Buckner. (Ages 40s-50s)

Friends in Faith- A community of adults focusing on faith while juggling careers, relationships, families, and more. Led by Casey Miller and Lindsay Wills (Ages 20s-40s)

Joy Class- This class is composed of both couples and singles. The lessons follow The International Series Lesson with a lecture format. Led by Judge Tim Patti. (Ages 60+)

New Ties- Lecture/discussion format featuring a variety of short studies going from "book to Bible to book." Led by Mark McIntosh (Ages 45+)



Children's Ministry



Kristi McClellan

Director of Children's Ministries
& Weekday Preschool

kristi@fumcgastonia.org

TIME to TALK

Led by Kristi McClellan | Wednesdays 6:30-7:30,
Continuing February 5th, 12th, & 19th

A four week study for parents or anyone who is looking for answers to curious and sometimes challenging questions. This small group will focus on the importance of communication with your children and youth.

- We will discuss why it is so important to have conversations early and often.
- We will learn tips on how to create open and continuing dialogue.
- We will talk about how to keep conversations developmentally appropriate and share tips for tough topics.
- We will most definitely laugh!

Our prayer for this class will be, "Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person." Colossians 4:6

February

2nd
5th

Bring donations for CAM- Souper Bowl
6:30-7:30 Bible Story Games
Parent Class

9th

5:00-7:00 Parent's Pre-Valentine
Night Out

12th

6:30-7:30 Bible Story Games
Parent Class

19th

6:30-7:30 Bible Story Games
Parent Class

23rd

10:30 ONE service to consecrate new
building & meal to follow

26th

6:30 Ash Wednesday Service

March

1st

1:00 Hornets Game

4th

6:30-7:30 Bible Story Games

8th

5:00-7:00 Supper Club

11th

6:30-7:30 Bible Story Games

18th

6:30-7:30 Bible Story Games

25th

6:30-7:30 Bible Story Games

April

1st

6:30-7:30 Bible Story Games

5th

2:00-4:00 Easter Eggstravaganza

Holy Week- Services throughout week

Easter Services- Releasing Butterflies @
10:40 after Sunday School

12th

6:30-7:30 Bible Story Games

22nd

Family Camp

24th-26th

Spring Children's Concert

29th

May

10th

Muffins to Moms in Classes

29th-30th

5th Grade Retreat

31st

10:30 ONE service for 150 years
celebration & meal to follow

Save Dates for Summer

June 7th 9:45 Safe Sanctuary Training

June 15th -19th Camp Vista

June 21 Doughnuts to Dads in Classes

Aug 3rd-5th VBS Interest Camps

Use the blue links to sign up!

Pre-Valentines Party

Parent's Night Out

February 9th

5:00-7:00 pm

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0A4AADAE28A13-parents>

Order Your Butterflies



We are excited that this year
we will be having Sunday
School on Easter!

Easter: April 12, 2020

Therefore, we WILL NOT
have the Butterfly Breakfast.

However, we know how much
you love the Butterflies, so
we are providing the
opportunity for you to order
them for your home.

Use the link below to
order before
Ash Wednesday

Order before February 26: <https://bit.ly/38aO6dZ>

What a great start to 2020!
Join us, it is still early in year.



Family Camp 2020

WHERE: Camp Tekoa which is located in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina, near Hendersonville. Tekoa is owned and operated by the Western NC Conference of the United Methodist Church. <http://www.camptekoa.org/>

WHEN: Friday, April 24- Sunday, April 26th

HOUSING: 2 to 3 family units per cabin (try to honor suggestions)

FEE: \$65 per person, children 3 and under are free! Camp fee includes lodging (linens and towels NOT provided), all meals (breakfast, lunch, & dinner on Saturday, and breakfast on Sunday), and all activities at camp (climbing tower, zip line, gaga ball, & lake swimming). (If needed, scholarships are available.)

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE: Registration will be at 7 p.m. on Friday evening. Our first event will begin at 7:30 p.m. (dinner will NOT be served on Friday). On Sunday, we will conclude around 11 a.m.

HOW TO REGISTER: Complete the registration form below; include a \$65 deposit, and give to Kristi McClellan.

Deposits are due by February 28th (NON-REFUNDABLE)

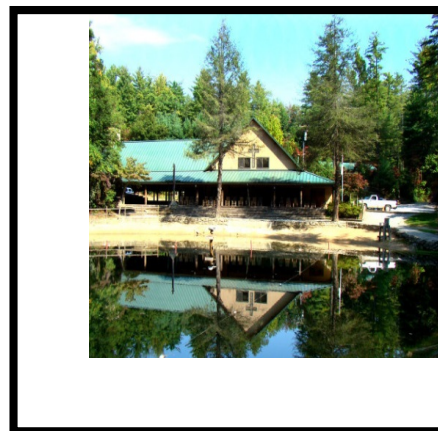
Final balance will be due before April 8th

If you have any question or concerns, please contact:

Kristi McClellan: kristi@fumcgastonia.org

Please tear off and give to Kristi by February 28th.

You will receive a tentative schedule in April.



Family Camp 2020 | April 24th -April 26th

Parent's names: _____ Phone: _____

Kid's names & ages:

Email:

Families to room with: _____

Total Amount: (\$65 per person) _____ **Deposit:** \$65 **Balance due by April 8th:** _____

Example: Family of 4 **Total Amount:** \$260 **Deposit:** \$65 **Balance due:** \$195

Youth Ministry



Stephanie Jenkins
Director of Student Ministries
980-292-3182
sjenkins@fumcgastonia.org

Senior High UMYF



Tuesday February 4th

7am Senior High Breakfast

@ Bojangles

on South New Hope Rd

Calendar

Sun 2nd	Super Bowl Party @ 6pm
Tues 4th	Prayer Breakfast
Wed 5th	Dinner & Bible Study
Sun 9th	6pm Mini Mission Meeting
Wed 12th	Dinner & Bible Study
14th-17th	Mini Mission Trip
Wed 19th	Dinner & Bible Study
Sun 23rd	Youth Sunday Filming & UMYF
Wed 26th	Dinner & Bible Study



PARTY! Feb 2nd

@ Harwell House

Bring a snack & drink to share! 6pm pick up @ Halftime

Senior High Mini Mission Trip

February 14-17, 2020

Atlanta, Ga

- **What (we're doing):** Working in downtown Atlanta with the homeless population & other outreach organizations, dinner @ The Varsity, lunch @ original Chick-Fil-A, Martin Luther King Jr Museum, worship & service @ First UMC Atlanta, trip to World of Coca-Cola.
- **Who:** All current senior high students are allowed to attend (current 9th-12th) + invite a friend. Adult leaders are needed for this journey.
- **Where:** Atlanta, GA (Lodging, Meals & Service Projects provided by SafeHouse Outreach)



2021 International Mission Trip Meeting
with CCC Honduras (Summer 2021)
March 5th 6:30pm Greene House



Mid-Hi UMYF



*Lock-In Friday February 7th
Starting @ 8pm
Bring a snack & drink to share*

SUPER BOWL PARTY! FEBRUARY 2ND



@ Greene House
Bring a snack & drink to share!
6pm pick up @ Halftime

Calendar

Sun 2nd	Super Bowl Party
Wed 5th	Dinner & Bible Study
Fri 7th	Lock-In
Wed 12th	Dinner & Bible Study
Sun 16th	Mid Hi Only UMYF
Wed 19th	Dinner & Bible Study
Sun 23rd	Youth Sunday Filming & UMYF
Wed 26th	Dinner & Bible Study

Youth Sunday Prep Begins!

Once again the youth have the privilege of leading worship one Sunday this year. That Sunday is March 29th! Youth, we'll get started preparing for it this month. Take a look at what we have in store...

February 23, March 1st, 8th & 15th
Filming 1pm-4:30pm, music during UMYF

March 22nd YOUTH SUNDAY FULL REHEARSAL

4:30- 5pm Youth Bells
5-5:30pm Ensemble & Brass
5:30pm Dinner in FLC
6:00pm 11:00 worship service full rehearsal in Sanctuary
7:00pm 8:45 worship services half rehearsal (162E & Sanctuary)
7:30pm Pickup

March 29 YOUTH SUNDAY!

All youth participate in 8:45 & 11:00 worship services



Bessemer City News



Rev. Trip Hord

Pastor at First UMC Bessemer
City / Partnership
tripp@fumcgastonia.org

FUMCBC has begun the New Year with plenty to celebrate! ***We have welcomed three members into the church!*** We held our first Soup and Bingo night with much success, so much that we have decided to host Bingo and Supper every other month.

We had a very good year statistically. We averaged two more people per month during worship. We feel like we can attribute this to our summer worship in the fellowship hall. We also averaged one more person per Sunday during Sunday school. We also saw growth in our Bible studies and the number of studies.

Lastly, we have almost completed the video and sound upgrade for our sanctuary. We hope to have a dedication service sometime in February. I invite you to come over anytime to see the improvements. We look forward to how the updates will enhance our worship!

-Tripp

Welcome New Members



Thelma Hendrickson



Ben Nix



Work day at the Parsonage
preparing for Rev. Avery White
to move in.

Parish Nurse Ministry



Lisa Marisiddaiah
Parish Nurse
nurse@fumcgastonia.org



**WALK, TALK,
+ RUN
for God**

Fitness & Spiritual
Wellness Program
Presented by Gastonia
Parish Nurse Ministry.

Comprehensive Nutrition, Health, & Exercise Programs

Kick off:

Monday, February 3

Family Life Center

**Other opportunities to workout together throughout the week will be discussed at the kick-off.*

Register online at:

<https://www.fumcgastonia.org/ministries/parish-nurse>

**FAITHFUL
FAMILIES**
Thriving
Communities



Gastonia
Parish
Nurse
Ministry

**Meet Monday Nights leading up
to the Community Foundation 5k,
April 4, 2020**



GATHERING

A place for Professional Faith-Based Counselors

Our goal is to provide a place for Faith-Based Counselors in Gaston County and surrounding areas a networking opportunity and to build a stronger community of professional support & referral base.

Wednesday, February 19, 2020

First Presbyterian Fellowship Hall

1621 E Garrison Blvd. Gastonia, 28054

7:30-8:30 am: Registration/Breakfast/Networking | 8:30-8:45 am: Welcome/Intro
8:45-9:30 am: Guest Speaker | 9:30-10:00 am: Q & A/Networking

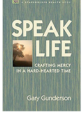
FREE Breakfast
Sponsored by:
**Adaptive
Telehealth**



Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gary Gunderson



Rev. Dr. Gary Gunderson is
Vice President for FaithHealth
at Wake Forest Baptist Medical
Center and Professor of Faith
& Health at Wake Forest
University School of Divinity.
He has authored five books and
is known for more than two
decades of creative work in the
field of faith and public health.



Register HERE: <https://bit.ly/2N4dudj>

**Be sure to bring your business cards and brochures to
share with other professionals!*

Event Sponsored by:



An affiliate of
Wake Forest Baptist Health

Ladies' NIGHT OUT

Presented by:
Gastonia Parish
Nurse Ministry

For the Women of First Presbyterian & First United Methodist Churches

How to be a crock pot woman in a microwave world:
A conversation about how to slow down in a fast-paced
world by allowing yourself to pause and unplug.



Speaker: Cindy H Ray, MS, LPC
Regional Director of CareNet Counseling

**FREE Event with FREE Childcare
Available Upon Registration*

Thursday, March 12, 2020
6:00-8:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall
1621 E. Garrison Blvd. Gastonia, NC

6-6:30- Arrive, Fellowship, &



6:30-7:10- **DOOR PRIZES**, Dinner, & Dessert.



7:10-7:40- Speaker: Cindy H Ray, MS, LPC

7:40-8:00- *Q&A*

Register by March 5th at <https://bit.ly/35ZnvPV>

BLOOD DRIVE

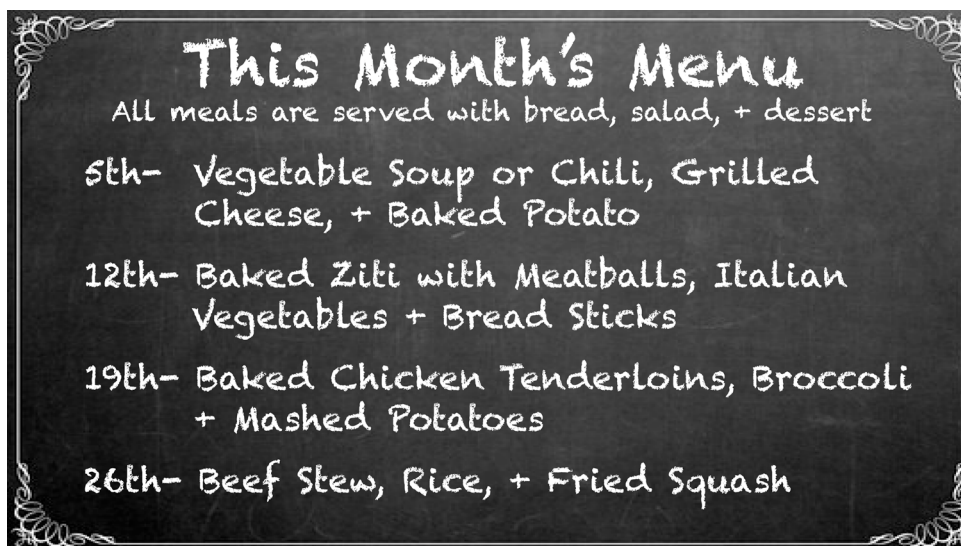
April 6, 2020 | 2:30pm- 6:30pm
**First Presbyterian Church
Fellowship Hall**
**Walk-ins welcome, but
appointments encouraged:**
704-864-2651



Sign up for dinner by calling 704-864-4371 or sign up and pay online at fumcgastonia.org/givepay/wef-registration

Dinner @ 5:30pm-
Adults: \$7 Children: \$3

**Classes begin @
6:30pm**



Chapel- Mid-week prayer service. | 6:30pm | Chapel Rev. David Christy

Sabbath- A women's study based on Christian sabbath finding rest, renewal, and delight in our busy lives. Currently reading: *"Same Kind of Different As Me"* | 6:30pm | Greene House | Anne Mallonee

Chancel Handbells- Music Room | 6:30pm | Rev. Saxon Scarborough

Prayer II Pause- Even if you are a busy mom, you can stay connected to God through prayer and passages of scripture. Just 30 minutes of pause to ask the holy spirit to guide you. We will study the book of proverbs in addition to Hoda Kotb's book *"I Really Needed This Today."* | 6:30pm Room #315 | Becky Greene

FUMC Kids Bible Story Games- Birth-5th graders will play games, learn, and discuss a Bible story. Gym in February | 6:30 pm | Kristi McClellan

Youth- Meet at 5:30pm for dinner with the church followed by breakout sessions | Stephanie Jenkins

NO Classes- February 26- Ash Wednesday Service in Sanctuary @ 6:30pm (Dinner still at 5:30)

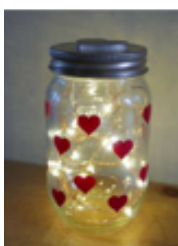
Parenting Class- "Time to Talk" is a four week study for parents or anyone who is looking for answers to curious and sometimes challenging questions. This small group will focus on the importance of communication with your children and youth. | Continued February 5-19 | 6:30pm | Kristi McClellan

The Enneagram: Mirror for the Soul- Knowledge of the Enneagram leads us into more authentic self-awareness, richer relationships, and deeper places in the soul where we can worship God in truth and grace. | Continued February 5-19 | 6:30pm | Rev. Eddie Ingram

Crafts- Share Christian fellowship while using your God given gifts of creativity.
Craft Room | 6:30pm

February Crafts:

Feb 5:
Valentine
Luminaries



Feb 12:
Valentine
Candy Jar



Feb 19:
Magnet
Boards



UMW Sunday

February 16, 2020

Celebrating 150 Years

Of Service at First United Methodist Church, Gastonia

Join us at 8:45 am or 11 am in the Sanctuary
or at 162 East in the Theatre at 8:45 am



The guest minister for our morning services will be Rev. Stephanie Hand, Vitality Strategist, Western North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Followed by Luncheon.
Make sure to get your tickets!



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

UMW SERVICE OPPORTUNITY:
SIS Circle—Pew Pockets and
Robin Johnson House.



UMW Sunday Luncheon

Celebrating 150 Years of
Women in Service

At

First United Methodist Church, Gastonia

February 16, 2020

12:15 PM

Family Life Center

Tickets available at
Sunday Morning Services
Wednesday Evening Fellowship
Church Office

Adults-\$10 Kids Meal-\$5

Your participation supports
UMW local missions.

UMW Sponsors Scholarship

Honor your Valentine with a gift to the Youth College Scholarship Fund.

Snow is falling, so is the ice

To give a scholarship would be nice!

To honor someone is very cool,

So someone else can go to school.

Maybe a teacher who taught you to add,

Or a kind friend who never gets mad.

Give to a young person for their education,

This is the way to build a strong nation.

Roses are red
Violets are blue
I love this person
And the church, too!



Name: _____

_____ In Honor of _____ In Memory of

Given by: _____

Please make checks to FUMC UMW, and mark "Valentine Scholarship." Return this form with your check to Amanda by Monday, February 10.

The Festival of Wisdom and Grace

With Dr. Mickey Efird | February 7-8, 2020

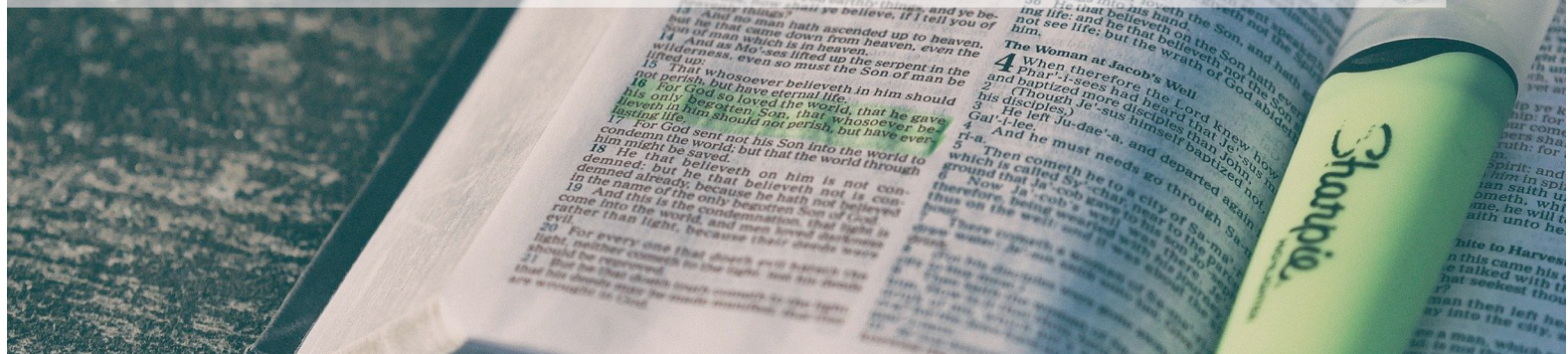


A call to study God's word with Dr. Mickey Efird, Professor Emeritus of the Duke Divinity School. Dr. Efird will present the books of Corinthians at First United Methodist Church in Family Life Center (FLC 2).

- Friday, February 7- 6:30-8:30 pm, Dinner included.

- Saturday, February 8, Breakfast at 8:30 am, study 9-11 am.

Please register with Stephanie Sholtzes by calling (704) 864-4371 or email stephanie.s@fumcgastonia.org



MAKE IT / TAKE IT

If you enjoy cooking,
this small group is for you!!

Susie Vale will lead this group
Thursday, February 20th from
12:30 - 2:00PM
in the Greene House

Join us as we make a casserole to take
home and one to deliver to others.

Come fellowship with us through
cooking and serving.

To sign up, contact
Stephanie.s@fumcgastonia.org

Taste
and
See
that the
Lord is
Good.

Psalms 34:8



Friends on the Go Trip to:

Charleston, South Carolina

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

Lunch at Fleet Landing, Tour of Emanuel AME Church
& Shopping at the Market Place.

Gather in FUMC Sanctuary at 7:15 am for Devotions
Departure at 7:30 am | Returning to Bus at 5:00 pm
Planning to return to FUMC around 9:00 pm

**Receive full itinerary upon departure*

RSVP to ***Stephanie.s@fumcgastonia.org*** by February 18

Save the Date

**THE BEST FUMC
PAGEANT EVER!**

A Historical Dramatic Revue
May 1-2, 2020, 7:30 p.m.
May 3, 2020, 2:30 p.m.

**Calling all thespians and singers for a dramatic revue of
the church theatre's productions of the past 50 years.**

WE WANT YOU!

(Watch for further details.)

Community News

First United Methodist Church in Belmont, NC is pleased to host an exhibit of seventeen framed prints from the St. John's Bible: the first illuminated, handwritten Bible to be commissioned in 500 years. A masterpiece of art and theology, it was created using traditional materials such as vellum, ancient inks, gold and silver leaf, and was written with quill pens. The exhibit will encompass reproduced pages from the St. John's Bible beginning with the book of Genesis through the words of the Apostle Paul. The exhibit kicks off the congregation's year-long chronological journey through scripture, Year Through the Bible. More information about the Saint John's Bible can be found at www.saintjohnsbible.org



The exhibit is free and open to the public on the following days:

Sundays from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Wednesdays from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Monday – Thursday by appointment (704-825-2176)

Individuals and groups of all sizes are welcome!

From the Office of the Sheriff



"I am asking each of you, that every time you see a Sheriff's Deputy, Policeman, Trooper, and Law Enforcement Officer, Fireman, EMT, or Paramedic, that you pause just for a moment and say a **tactical prayer** for them. A **Tactical prayer** is a short prayer asking the Lord to watch over these public servants in the performance of their duties. That you ask the Lord to give them the strength and courage to do their duties. That the Lord give them the wisdom, patience, ability, and compassion to treat everyone fairly and equally. That the Lord protect them from evil and that they return to their loved ones safely at the end of their shift. It is my sincere belief that if you take a moment to say this small prayer, that we will be more successful in our jobs to serve you, our citizens everyday. That you tactical prayers will touch the hearts of all of us and go a long way in improving our relationships with each other."

-Sheriff Alan Cloninger

Presently there are 30 **JOB OPENINGS** for detention officers and deputies. There is availability for Deputy sheriffs, Detention Officers, and Civilians (Non-Sworn). Applicants must live within Gaston County or one of the following: Cleveland, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, or York SC. Those who wish to apply can do so in person (425 Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd.) or at our website:

www.gastoncountysheriffsoffice.com/employment

***For questions regarding the application process you may contact:
Deputy Mike Agerton (704) 869-6826 or Captain Rob Porter (704) 869-6825***

Community News



Crisis Assistance Ministry

FOODS WE NEED

CANNED MEATS
 CANNED SOUP & CRACKERS
 CANNED FRUIT
 RICE
 SPAGHETTI SAUCE & NOODLES
 GRITS & OATMEAL
 CEREAL
 CANNED VEGETABLES **
 PANCAKE MIX



CAM is grateful for its partnership with your congregation and appreciates your financial gifts, food donations, and help in supplying our office with volunteers. Working together, we are able to help thousands of our neighbors in the community with the essential life needs of food, rent/mortgage, utilities and prescription medicine.

Crisis Assistance Ministry

- Was formed in 1976 by the faith community to provide a way to cooperatively help those needing emergency assistance to those facing financial crisis or struggling with the on-going cycle of poverty in the greater Gastonia area.
- CAM currently partners with 43 congregations and the synagogue.
- Provides food and/or financial assistance to an average of 500 people per month.
- Depends on contributions from individuals, groups and businesses to sustain CAM's mission.



WE ARE ALWAYS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS. CALL US IF YOU ARE INTERESTED AND WE CAN SHARE HOW YOU CAN HELP.

805 W. Airline Ave Gastonia, NC 28052 704.867.8901

March is FUMC's month at CAM. Our goal is to collect as much as we can in February to stock them through March. Bins will be placed in the main building, at 162 East, and in the FLC for you to place your items in. Thank you for serving our community!



First United Methodist Church

Gastonia, North Carolina



Attend a *Jobs for Life* Class at

Location:
 City Church Fairview Campus
 (formerly Bethlehem Church)
 2782 Fairview Dr.
 Gastonia, NC 28052

Class Times:
 Tuesdays and Thursdays
 9:00-12:00 Noon
 February 18, 2020 – April 9, 2020

For more information and to set up an interview for the upcoming class, contact:

Rayona Croshaw
 Site Leader
 704.718.4482
 rayonacrowshaw@hotmail.com

Learn more about the class: www.jobsforlife.org/students

Become employable for the rest of your life.

The Jobs for Life class, through the Local Church and Christ-centered ministries, helps men and women find employment, learn God's gift of work, receive a supportive community through mentorship, and experience life in Christ.

As a graduate of Jobs for Life, you will:

- Understand the dignity of work
- Complete a vocational plan
- Meet with local employers
- Be prepared in job interviews
- Create a professional resumé
- Build a network
- Learn God's plan for your life



Learn how churches and ministries are flipping the way the world attacks poverty: www.jobsforlife.org



The Jobs for Life class offers healing, hope and purpose.

Our Jobs for Life classes, hosted by churches and organizations all over the world, help men and women just like you develop character, become connected to a community of support, and help them obtain far more than just a job. When you participate in a Jobs for Life class you will experience a life filled with confidence, self-control, coaching, learning, and faith.

Along with providing dignity, value and purpose, we believe that work also verifies our identity, creates community, and renews cities. Made in the image of God, we are created to work. When we work we participate as co-creators with God using our creativity and giftedness to care for His creation, allowing it to flourish.

>> Find a Jobs for Life class near you by visiting: www.jobsforlife.org/classlocations



“I prayed for a window, and I got a door called Jobs for Life. I just needed a chance. And Jobs for Life got me that chance. It taught me that I was valuable... and gave me the confidence I needed to overcome obstacles that seemed like mountains to me.”
 —JfL Graduate in Huntsville, AL

“For a year and a half, I didn't work, and it got to the point where I didn't think I could work ever again. Jobs for Life helped me get out of my shell—it allowed me to open up and be myself around people.”
 —JfL Graduate in Branson, MO

www.jobsforlife.org | 888.408.1565



SAVE THE DATE

ONE SERVICE @ 10:30AM

MAY 31, 2020

TO CELEBRATE FUMC'S

150 *years*

Meal to follow by Chef Bruce in the Family Life Center



Connect with us...

Website: www.fumcgastonia.org

Phone: 704.864.4371

Email: contact@fumcgastonia.org



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Methodist
Church of
Gastonia, NC



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