Membership Process, Great Starting Point for Changing Lives and Making Disciples

Last Sunday, the Gettman Room was replete with balloons, banners and cake as 17 new members joined our church family. After discussing together what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, we gathered in the chapel where each of these new folks vowed to serve God with their prayers, their presence, their gifts, their service and their witness. We shared communion and then a delicious salad lunch with members of the Church Board. Throughout the day, we shared with our new friends that even though they are now members of FUMC, the name we believe best describes them is “Partners in Ministry.” It is our hope that by the end of our membership process, this new identity is made clear to all who choose FUMC as their church home.

With a focus on high expectations for growing inward and outward, this program is a great starting point for “Changing Lives and Making Disciples.” The process begins by sharing a visit with Pastor Mark. The goal is simply to get to know each other. We share everything from our pet's names to our hopes and dreams. The next step is attending two classes. Throughout these classes, prospective members explore what it means to be part of our faith family, where they can serve, and how they can grow closer to God and each other. The Great Commandment: Connecting, Serving, and Walking with Christ provides new members an overview of strategies for cultivating connections among our church family, and for bridging our faith to continued spiritual growth. We walk through our social media presence and online resources. We discuss why serving all our brothers and sisters is central to the DNA of FUMC. We explore strategies and resources to help us grow spiritually. The next step in our membership program is the Introduction to Discipleship class. During this class participants have an opportunity to learn more about FUMC. Along with a question and answer time, we review expectations for membership and provide pertinent information about our church. Our new partners explore what it means to be a disciple at First United Methodist. At the end of this class, prospective members have truly become partners in ministry. They share their membership vows and we share together the bread and cup of communion.

And this brings us to where we were Sunday, February 17: Celebration. FUMC’s existing leaders join these soon-to-be leaders for deep fellowship and the beginning of what we pray will be a long friendship in Christ. Each time, we experience this process, we, as facilitators, are blessed beyond measure and our Church Family grows in faith, hope and love.

Dee West
Karen Appleby
Mark Ralls
Struggling to live your life after loss?

A local Grief Support Group may help. Grief groups may offer gentle companionship, caring hearts, a different perspective, renewed purpose, and hope during your healing process.

“Hope & Healing” Grief Group: 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. on Thursdays from March 7 – 28, 2019 (four weeks) at Grace Lutheran Church led by two experienced bereavement counselors. For more information or to register, call Jan Hoffman at (336) 848-6133.

Grief Group by Four Seasons Hospice begins on March 7th for seven sessions. For more information, call (828) 692-6178 & ask for bereavement services.

GriefShare Groups are “friendly, caring groups of people who will walk alongside you through one of life’s most difficult experiences.” You are welcome to begin attending a GriefShare group at any session. Each is “self-contained,” so you do not have to attend in sequence. You will find encouragement and help whenever you begin. Nearby GriefShare Groups are held at the following times and locations:

- **Mud Creek Baptist Church, Hendersonville**
  Sundays from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. continues through April 7. Contact: Patty Williams at 692-1262 Ext. 135.

- **Brevard Community Church**
  Thursdays from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. starts on March 7. To register, call Ryan Sisney (859) 410-4300.

- **Lake Lure Baptist Church**
  Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to Noon continues through March 30. Contact: Wolfgang & Nancy Kittner (847) 437-0994.

- **Brookstone Church, Asheville**
  Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. continues through April 10. Contact: Gene Dugger at (828) 776-1812.

- **New Bridge Baptist Church, Asheville**
  Mondays from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. from March 11 to June 3. Contact: Rev. Wesley Pike (828) 254-7262
Shrove Tuesday, March 5:
Jambalaya with chicken, sausage and shrimp, cornbread, king cake, salad bar featuring fresh fruit.

Wednesday, March 13:
Corned beef and cabbage pie, creamed spinach, Irish soda bread, Bailey’s brownies, salad bar featuring cobb salad.

Wednesday, March 20:
Herb roasted “spring chicken” quarters, wild rice, squash medley, wheatberry rolls, strawberry shortcake, salad bar featuring kale and citrus salad.

This year we will celebrate with authentic Cajun fare: Jambalaya with chicken, sausage & shrimp, cornbread, salad bar featuring fresh fruit & King Cake.

5:15-6:15pm, Barber CLC, $7 per person, $20 per family
The Hendersonville High School Jazz Band will perform immediately following dinner. Childcare is available from 6-7PM for ages 4 & under.

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent, a season of spiritual devotion and prayer. Celebration of Ash Wednesday includes the imposition of ashes on participant’s head, which symbolize repentance. The worship celebrates God’s redemptive work in us and for us. Join us at 12pm or 6Pm in the Chapel.

No Gathering Meal. *Childcare available for ages 4 & under at 6pm service only.
No Youth activities. Youth are invited to participate with their families.

Let’s Rock!
The Children and Youth of First United Methodist Church will lead worship on Sunday, March 3, with the musical, “Let’s Rock!” This is not to be missed, inspiring service of song, prayer and scripture. There will also be a brief homily by Rev. Jean Goodwin. There are two opportunities – 9am and 11am in the Barber Christian Life Center. The Christian life is not a solo act...we are the body of Christ! Plan on joining these kids as they lead you in praising the rock of our salvation!
March 3 is the first Sunday of the month. The traditional service will offer communion at 8:30 & 11am in the Sanctuary for all interested.

FUMC Homebound Ministry
Pumpkins filled with flowers, colorful autumn leaves and large pots of chrysanthemums decorated the Barber Christian Life Center to welcome members of the Homebound Ministry (HB). This past November, folks gathered to celebrate each other’s company and to renew friendships. Many members who are no longer able to attend church services and activities treasure the opportunity to do so. “The party was such a treat,” wrote Ann Reiff (an HB member), “what a joy to see old friends.”
Homebound Ministry volunteers served the members an array of mouthwatering hors d’oeuvres and delicious desserts, while all there enjoyed listening to and joining in the singing of Michael Brannon and the FUMC Choir, along with Steve Johnson on the banjo. The laughter, the lively conversations, the hugs and the happy faces gave witness to a joyful afternoon shared by our church family. Mary Voegele (an HB member) expressed it candidly, “I feel very blessed having a wonderful church and such dear friends.” FUMC Homebound Ministry is constantly recruiting new members. If you would like to become a volunteer or know of a church member who is unable to come to church and would benefit from our visits, let us know. You can contact Marilyn Anderson; FUMC Homebound Coordinator @ 860-207-5043 or mjhanderson@outlook.com
We would love to have your family join us at First United Methodist this month!

Parent Small Groups

Relatable-Parent Small Group
Sundays, March 10-April 7, 10:10-11am
Rm 305: Are you able to relate? Louie Giglio shows us how God can change our perspective on relationships, give us greater purpose in dating and marriage, bring us peace in the midst of conflict, and help us restore relationships that seem broken beyond repair. Led by Colleen Schnitzer, colleen@hvlfumc.org

Simon Peter Study-Parent Small Group
Sundays, March 10-April 14, 10:10-11am
Rm 402: Join pastor and author Adam Hamilton in this six-week DVD Lenten journey, and take an in-depth dive into the life, faith, and character of Simon Peter. Contact Andrew Clemmer, andrewhclemmer@gmail.com

Take it to the Limit-Parent Small Group
Wednesdays, March 13-April 24, 6:15-7:15pm,
Rm 215: Overloaded? Maxed Out? Our culture encourages us to live as if we have no limits. Andy Stanley explains that the secret to getting more out of life is not doing more, but doing less to live the life God intended for us. Led by Colleen Schnitzer, colleen@hvlfumc.org

First Kids Preschool Ministries
Birth-Kindergarten
Sundays: 8:15am-12:15pm (Drop off and pick up during any of our three services)
Wednesdays: 6:15-7:15pm
*Bible Stories, Crafts, Games
Theme: Made, Lego theme
Bottom Line: God made me
Memory Verse: “I am fearfully and wonderfully made.” Psalm 139:14, NIV

First Kids Elementary Ministries
1st-5th grade
Sundays: 9am-12:15pm (Large group from 10-11am)
Wednesdays: 6:15-7:15pm
*Kids Worship service with videos, lesson, and small groups
Theme: Made, Lego theme
Bottom Line: God made me in His image
Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what
Memory Verse: " How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well." Psalm 139:14, NIV

Parent Night Out—Special Announcement
Parents can drop off their children, 6 months-5th graders from 5-8pm! $5 per child and $15 for 3 or more children. Please pack your child’s supper.
Join us for a fun night of LEGO building, games, activities and a snack. Our older children will have the option to watch a Lego Movie. Space is limited so register early! Deadline to register is Wednesday, March 20. Registration link coming soon.

Find First Kids on Social Media: Find us on Social Media to receive important reminders, updates and photos!

Facebook: We have created a new Facebook group! Please join First Kids-Hendersonville.
Instagram: You can follow us on Instagram @firstkidshendo
Every year, Rise Against Hunger provides millions of nutritious meals and other life-saving aid to children and families all over the world. Rise Against Hunger collaborates with existing development efforts in vulnerable communities to provide meals to places such as schools, orphanages, nurseries and medical clinics. Every six seconds a child dies from hunger, even though there is enough food supply to feed the entire population of the earth with over four pounds of food each day. On Sunday, March 3rd, if you would like to support our youth and fight hunger, please make your checks out to FUMC with Rise Against Hunger or IAM on the subject line.

Camp Funshine, the summer session, is offered each year. Children learn about God's Creation through a variety of age-appropriate activities. This session begins on July 8th and ends on August 8th. Registration will begin in March for this session.

For more information on fall or summer registration, please contact Deborah Kirkman, director, at 692-6673, or deborah@hvlfumc.org. Downloadable forms are available for your convenience on the church website at www.fumchvln.org.

Weekday School Registration Underway
The Weekday School of First United Methodist Church is currently accepting preschool registrations for the 2019-2020 school year. The Weekday School offers a half-day preschool program for children who are ages 15 months -5 years (Transitional Kindergarten) by August 31st.

The primary purpose of the Weekday Preschool Ministry is to provide Christian nurturing as a foundation for the growth of the “whole child.” The Ministry strives to provide love, comfort and encouragement within a framework of planned activities designed to stimulate development. The curriculum integrates developmentally appropriate activities with religious development and is designed to help our teachers make faith connections. Enrichment learning programs offered by the preschool include Chapel Time with pastors, Music Time, gardening in the church's Community Garden, and Soccer Shots.

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One Youth Ministries - 6-12th Grade
Sunday Night Youth: 6-8pm
Dinner, Games, Worship, Small Groups

Sermon Series: Famous Last Words
March 10 – Famous Last Words – Week 2 – John 17:20, “This is how they will know…”
Bottom Line: We have more in common than we don’t
Bottom Line: Trust who God is even when you don’t understand

One Youth Weekly Small Groups
Sunday Mornings: 10:10am-11am for 6-12th at church
Tuesday Mornings: 7:07am for High School Youth at Appalachian Coffee
Tuesday Afternoons: 3:33pm for Middle and High School at Appalachian Coffee
Wednesdays: 6:15-7:15pm for 6-12th at church

Upcoming Events for Children and Youth
March 3- No Sunday morning First Kids, Youth or Parent Small groups! Come see the production, Let’s Rock @ 9 or 11am and fellowship after the presentation!
Youth Serve Sunday-430-7pm
March 6- No Wednesday night First Kids, Youth or Parent Small groups due to Ash Wednesday Service
March 15-16 -Middle School “Believe” Conference to Atlanta, GA, Deadline to register: March 3, Cost: $110
March 17-Youth Dodgeball Tournament, 6-8pm
March 22- Parents Night Out, 6-8pm for 6 months-5th graders! Deadline to register is Wednesday, March 20.
March 24: Youth Night of Worship, 6-8pm

Save the Date: First Kids Camp (VBS)!!!
Join us this summer, June 24-27, 930-12pm! If you would like to serve and be a part of this fun outreach event please contact Lauren Tilden, lauren@hvlfumc.org or Angela Bailey, angela@hvlfumc.org. Registration information coming soon!
1st Sunday Food Drive
March 3, 2019
Backpack Program

Share the Love! Donate Blessing Bag Items
Could you imagine going through your day without the basics? For many, this is everyday life. This is where YOU can help! We are collecting Blessing Bag Items.

List of suggested food items:
- Applesauce cups
- Chicken or Tuna pouches
- Canned Meat (SPAM, Ham, Vienna Sausages with a pop top)
- Individual Cup of Noodle and Individual Mac & Cheese (water is only added ingredient)
- Packets of trail mix
- Packs of cheese or peanut butter
- Ramen Noodles
- 100% juice boxes or Capri Sun pouches
- Tea bags
- Hot chocolate or instant coffee

List of suggested hygiene items (travel sized):
- Toothbrush, Paste, Floss & Mouthwash
- Shampoo & Conditioner, Body wash
- Nail clippers & hair comb
- Tampons & pads
- Wet wipes/ baby wipes
- Pack of tissues, Chapstick, Roll on deodorant
- Lotion/ Sunblock, Band Aids/ mini first aid kit

If you are not able to shop and donate, money donations will go toward these items in need. Your donation will make a big impact on someone’s life! For more information please contact: Heather Sowry- 440-812-1681- hsowry@msn.com

ORDER DEADLINE IS NOON TUESDAY!
Go to: https://meals4missions.org/

March 7th
Smoked Meatloaf served with roasted garlic mashed potatoes & rich gravy. $9
Organic baby greens salad with fresh garden vegetables & honey dijon vinaigrette. $7 With Benton’s Bacon. $9

March 14th
Chicken sausages with a rustic Italian baked bean dish. $9
Organic spinach salad with egg, red onion, parmesan & balsamic vinaigrette. $7 With Chicken Sausage. $9

March 21st
Shrimp & Grits with Benton's bacon red-eye gravy & sautéed squash. $9
Organic spring mix salad with vidalia onion vinaigrette. $7 With Shrimp $9

March 28th
Herb roasted chicken quarters with lemon butter, roasted potatoes & asparagus. $9
Organic spinach salad with egg, red onion, tomato, pecans & maple balsamic dressing. $7 With roasted Chicken $9
FUMC Missions: External Connection

Puerto Rico
Hurricane Maria Recovery Team
The Methodist Church of Puerto Rico (MCPR), in conjunction with ReHace (the MCPR social holiness arm) and UMCOR would like to thank our church and individual team members for our "service is an integral part of our call to serve others and work toward building the kingdom of God." Last December our team of 11 assisted two families rebuild their houses damaged in 2017 by Hurricane Maria. We were part of 1,151 volunteers who served across 108 teams rebuilding 62 houses. Over 120 houses will be rebuilt this year. For the detailed article go to http://fumchvlnc.org/connection/good-news-stories.

Dick Weaver will lead another trip to Puerto Rico May 6-11. The final cost is $400, after deducting grants from the Western NC Conference ($300) and the FUMC mission council ($200). Contact Dick Weaver at WhitewaterRPh@gmail.com or 828-545-9203 with questions.

New Group
Thanks to some generous members of our congregation, FUMC is partnering with a new ZOE orphan empowerment group in Kenya. These members will contribute a $4000 match each year for the next three years after which the ZOE children will graduate as fully empowered and economically sustainable, contributing significantly to their community and church. Our congregation will support them with the matching $4000 each year for the three years, giving us an opportunity to change lives and make disciples with 75-100 children who will never have to live in an orphanage.

Since 2013 FUMC has partnered with seven groups (691 children). We currently partner with three groups in Guatemala, Rwanda and Kenya. You can see more information on the Missions Bulletin Board on the ground floor of the church near the administrative offices. Also, check out ZOE on the FUMC Missions page. If you want to join the partnership, you can write a check to FUMC with ZOE in the memo line. The ZOE team thanks all who have been faithful partners over the years to these vulnerable orphans across the world.

National MS Society's Walk
Steve and I were married at FUMC 47 years ago. I was active in the Church until my MS put me in a wheelchair. I will be "walking" in the National MS Society's Walk on April 28, 2019 at the Fletcher Park. I am asking you, my Church family, to sponsor me in this effort to find the cause of, and a cure for, Multiple Sclerosis at Fletcher Park on April 28. Send your check, made out to The National MS Society, to Cathy Sigmon 108 Michael Dr. Hendersonville, NC 28791. 828 772-1924.

If you prefer to donate online you can Google Walk MS Fletcher 2019 and find the link.
memorials & gifts

In Memory of Noel Davis
Jim Winstead
Roy Johnson Scholarship Fund

In Memory of Bob Bettis
Jim Winstead
Roy Johnson Scholarship Fund
Jay and Leslie Merrill
Weekday School Scholarship Fund

In Memory of Tammy Masi
Kelli Mullinix
Lenten Challenge

In Memory of Jay Hetrick
Kelli Mullinix
Lenten Challenge

In Memory of Beverly Russell
Trinity Ann Bauer
Peter and Georgia Bonesteel
Memorial Fund

In Memory of Greg Pittillo
Jay and Leslie Merrill
Weekday School Scholarship Fund
Steve and Sharon Johnson
Carolyn Pendergraff
Backpack Fund
Debbie and Ken Shipman
Roy Johnson Scholarship Fund

In Memory of Frances Winstead
Jay and Leslie Merrill
Weekday School Scholarship Fund

In Memory of Bill Morrill
Michael and Teresa Crutchfield
Memorial Garden

In Memory of Jim Crouse
Alma Lee Cheves Class
Roy Johnson Scholarship Fund

FUMC Operating Fund

The Finance Committee would like to share the following Operating Fund update. Please contact Caroline Easley or Greg Deeter if you would like more detailed financial information.

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<th>Actual</th>
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<td>Revenue</td>
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<tr>
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Through January 31, 2019

“"If one part hurts, every other part is involved in the hurt, and in the healing. If one part flourishes, every other part enters into the exuberance.” – 1 Corinthians 12:26 (The Message)

As a pastor, I’ve often preached about the body of Christ. Yet never have these words about our interdependence and care for one other meant so much to me, as during my recent recuperation from back surgery! You’ve gently shared in my pain and recovery, lifting me up with your inspiring cards, thoughtful notes, and heart-felt prayers. Every stitch and knot in your lovely hand-made quilt reminds of your care and God’s all-embracing love. It’s such a blessing to be a part of this wonderful body of Christ known as FUMC. Thank you for being YOU!

Gratefully, Rev. Jean Goodwin, Assistant Pastor