

# Gamewell United Methodist Church



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## Church Newsletter

JANUARY 2021



### Upcoming Events:

- *Administrative Council/Planning Meeting:*
  - Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom
- *Worship Service:*
  - Due to a significant increase in COVID-19 cases, worship will not be held in person until conditions improve. We have returned to a Zoom-style worship service for the foreseeable future.
  - Worship will begin at 10:00 a.m. every Sunday. The link to the reoccurring Zoom meeting can be found at <https://www.gamewellumc.com/>. Dial-in instructions can be found there as well. We hope to see you there!
  - A recording of the service will also be posted on the website and Facebook page the following day, for those who are not able to attend live.

### Monthly Missions:

- Don't forget to bring your donations of canned fruit to the church for Yokefellow!
- We will be collecting items for the Women's Shelter during the months of January and February. Item's that are most needed right now are: **wash cloths, towels, and socks of all sizes.** They can also use the usual paper product items.
- Donations can be dropped off at the church at any time. If you do not have access to the church, please call Garrett at 980-621-8751 and he will meet you there.





**Please remember the follow people in your prayers:**

Mary Ellen Corpening, Hayden and Linda Davis, Bitsy Greene, Willie Frank Houck, Matthew Bays, Kim Greene, Dale Hicks, Abby LaPrade, Allen and Vickie Safford, John Shelton, Linda Shelton, Georgia Sue Crump, Jim Childers, Emily Brown, Amy Perry, Louie Lindsay, Carolyn Trivette, Annie Hills, Jace Coffey, Mark Young, Mike Stevens, Vivian Laws, Patricia and Gary Blackwell, Millie Jones, Brenda Bryant, Cynthia Presnell, Peggy Throneburg, Jimmy Marler, Kim Bays, Betty Willis, Leigh Carney, Jeff Hoover, Faith Mabe, Burla Willis, Brittany Watson, Chris Young, Sandy Stephens and Family.

You may submit your prayer request to [gbrown1@wnccumc.net](mailto:gbrown1@wnccumc.net)



Jenna Throneburg	January 2
Gary Teague	January 3
Lane Throneburg	January 3
Dorothy Coffey	January 11
Joyce Woods	January 13
Amy W Setzer	January 21
Wesley Myles	January 22
Vivian Streater	January 22
Tammy Sanabria	January 24
Angie Land	January 26
Jo Beane	January 27
Johnny Lefever	January 30

JANUARY 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



**Monthly Contributions**  
**To Date: 12-28-2020**

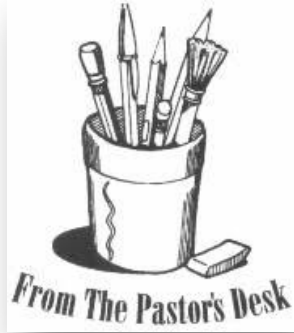
Needed Weekly	2,092.63
General Fund YTD	106,693.65
Total Needed YTD	108,816.76
Building Fund YTD	760.00
Memorial Fund YTD	25.00
Pregnancy Center YTD	239.61
(excludes online donations for December)	

**Weekly Worship**  
**Attendance - December**

12-06-20	29
12-13-20	22
12-20-20	31
12-27-20	25

Number on Roll = 127

\*You can mail your contributions to the GUMC parsonage at 3522 Highland Way, Lenoir, NC 28645. You may also donate online at <https://gamewellumc.com/>



A note from Pastor Garrett  
12-26-20

Hello one and all! Sorry you didn't receive a note from me last month, it's been crazy getting finals turned in and getting prepared for Christmas. I hope you all had a great Thanksgiving, and Christmas as well. I just wanted to touch base with you all and share a couple of things.

First and foremost, the time came from the conference where we either request to stay on with our current appointment, or ask to be placed elsewhere, and I'm happy to say that I eagerly requested to stay with you all. I am very happy to see that the feeling is mutual. In the note for reasons why we requested to stay, I wrote in big bold letters that I love this church and its people. I just want you all to know how happy I am being a pastor here at Gamewell UMC and in the parish at large. I could not have asked for a better placement during my first year as a minister. I'm still getting that same warm welcome that I received upon first arriving and I'm very much thankful for that.

It is an odd time to be a pastor however, and I've had to make the difficult call of pulling us out of the sanctuary once again. It's not at all how I imagined my first year as a pastor to be, but curveballs do come in life as they say, and I'm thankful for how flexible we've been as a church. It certainly makes these choices easier. Safety for my congregants is my first and foremost concern. With the virus as rampant as it is in the area you can never be too careful. I wish I had a timeline on when we can go back into the sanctuary, but I just don't. All I know is as long as Covid numbers in the area remain as high as they are, we will have to remain out of our sanctuary until things change. I hope and pray that the time is coming before long.

I know this is a time of great loneliness and seclusion for many but do remember who holds tomorrow. We may not know what the future will bring but remember that God is still in control and I believe He is working in and through all this. This too shall pass, as they say. On the plus side we've been able to hold joint worship with our friends at Whitnel and that has been a great silver lining. The holidays are a time to come together after all, and if you can't do that in person, well, at least we could virtually.

As a result of the virus, we did have to cancel the annual Prime Rib Dinner. I'm probably the most upset about that, as I know how much that helps the church's missionary work, and likewise, I've heard nothing but praise for how good the prime rib is. As a guy who loves his "meat and potatoes," I was really looking forward to trying it. But there will always be next year. That's the silver lining in all this. Other opportunities will come, and one day we will be able to get back to normal. In the time being, let's be as safe as we can so that time comes sooner rather than later!

As always reach out to me at any time. If I don't have your email, please make sure that I get it so you can be a part of our Zoom worship on Sundays. Additionally, send me any prayer request you may have or other joys so I can lift them up during service.

With Gods love,  
Pastor Garrett