



Loving People into the Kingdom of God in the Heart of Catawba County

# First United Methodist Church

Newton, North Carolina

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*First United Methodist Church exists to glorify God as we **Welcome** persons into the body of Christ, help them **Grow** as disciples of Jesus Christ and **Send** them to serve in the world.*

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Small Groups offer you a place to connect and belong - a place where you can just be yourself. A Small Group is made up of approximately 8-15 people who meet together to develop friendships, explore their faith and love people into the Kingdom of God. Groups usually meet once a week or every other week to share life together, discuss a topic together and pray together. In addition, each group has a mission - a way that they strive to bless and serve others in the community.

## Small Groups

Groups are always open! Just pick a group from this brochure based on interest, location or day; then contact the leaders. They will be able to confirm the meeting place and time or answer any questions. You can try out a group at any time! If a group doesn't feel like a good fit, try out another group until you find one that you want to connect with.

### **The Rhynes & Richard's Group** SUNDAYS @ 4:00pm (Beginning February 15)

At the Church (Room TBD)

Jessica: 828.294.1759

Laura: 828.320.0750

4rhynes@embarqmail.com

ljrichard@charter.net

Come face-to-face with the most compelling, challenging, unpredictable, and ultimately satisfying person you can know - Jesus Christ! Join this 7 week group as they dive into Philip Yancey's book, *The Jesus I Never Knew*.

### **Melissa & Allyson Ervin's Women's Group** - 1st Meeting, Sunday, February 8th @ 12:15pm, Gomedela Room

Melissa: 828.465.3339

Allyson: 828.465.0838

MelErvin06@gmail.com

allyson\_ervin@catawbасchools.net

A group for women in their 20's-30's who seek to grow in their commitment to Christ. At their initial meeting, the group will enjoy lunch and, also, set a meeting date, time, and location.

### **David Greene's Men's Group** THURSDAYS @ 7:30pm (Beginning February 12)

Carolina Vines - downtown Newton, 10 North College Avenue

David: 828.461.5910

david.fumcnewton@gmail.com

Be a part of this small group of men of all ages as they engage in lively and interactive discussions on contemporary issues in light of Biblical teachings.

### **Alice Averitt's & Rene Swink's Group** TUESDAYS @ 6:30pm (Beginning February 10) (and meeting every other week)

At Alice and Rene's Home, 1542 Mayfair Dr., Conover, NC 28613

Alice: 828.310.4836

Rene: 828.612.9686

aaaveritt@aol.com

renswink@hotmail.com

What do you do when life lurches out of balance? Come explore how to find meaning & peace by discussing Anne Lamott's book, *Stitches: A Handbook on Meaning, Hope and Repair*.

### **Beverly Underwood's Group** MONDAYS @ 7:00pm (Beginning February 9) At the Church (Room TBD)

Bev: 828.465.0481

beverlyfaye61@gmail.com

Don't just give up chocolates for Lent! Imagine giving up envy, jealousy, resentment, or negative thinking and think how much better life would be! Join this 7 week group as they study James Moore's *Give Up Something Bad* for Lent and prepare for the "Good News" of Easter!

First United Methodist  
Church  
Winter 2015

# WELCOME *persons into the body of Christ*



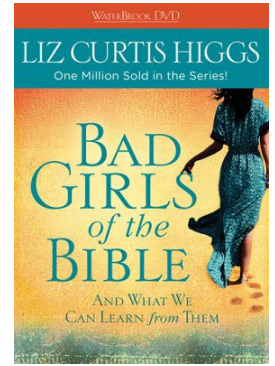
## Spiritual Stretchers

The Joyful Believers (group 2) will meet on Monday, February 2, at 10:00 am in the

Gomedela Room. Betty McGee will continue to lead us in the "Spiritual Stretchers" program. This consists of gentle movements using a stretch band and can be performed in a sitting position. It is relaxing and is suitable for all ages. It also offers great benefits to the body and is a lot of fun. Bands will be provided. All women and their friends are invited.

## All Are Invited To...

The women of the church Inspiration's (group 3) meeting. It will be February 2, 2015 at 2:00pm in the Gomedela Room (first room on the left in the Administration Building.) They continue the series on Bad Girls of the Bible written by Liz Higgs. This month: Lot's Wife: Bad for a moment. Refreshments will be served.



## February 3rd at 1:00pm Gomedela Room



This is for both men and women; you are encouraged to bring a friend. Twelve games will be played with prizes and refreshments furnished.

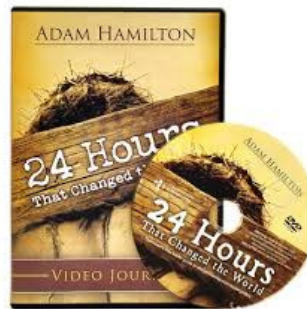


Beginning in June, the church newsletter will be sent by email or hard copies may be picked up at the church. If we do not have a correct email address for you and you wish to receive the newsletter by that means, please contact the church office at 828.464.8422 or email [annmcook@gmail.com](mailto:annmcook@gmail.com).



## Lenten Study at Journey 24 Hours That Changed the World Sundays at 4pm, February 22 to March 29 Zander's Coffee House

Pastor and author Adam Hamilton takes us on a video journey of the Holy Land. Walk with Jesus during His last day on earth, sit with Him during the Last Supper, and pray with Him at the Garden of Gethsemane. Follow Him to the cross. Deepen your faith with this inspiring study and experience heartfelt gratitude for Christ's immeasurable sacrifice.



## Fellowship Dinner at 6:00pm Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00pm *February 18th*

Would you like a delicious meal of homemade BBQ, baked beans, coleslaw, rolls, and dessert? The Joe Love Class is graciously preparing and serving this meal for the February Fellowship Dinner. All are invited to attend, eat, and share fellowship. A donation for your dinner is greatly appreciated. The Ash Wednesday service will follow at 7:00pm in the sanctuary. **Please RSVP by Sunday, February 15th.** Call the church office at 464-8422 to register or online at: [www.fumcnewtonnc.org](http://www.fumcnewtonnc.org).



# GROW cont'd

## Children's Sunday School

Sundays at 10:00 am  
Sunday School Hall

**February theme** : Jesus and John the Baptist, Luke 3: 1-18 and Matthew 3: 13-17. children ages 2 through 5th grade are welcome to join each week for fellowship and fun.

John the Baptist  
Prepares  
the Way



## Kids 4 Christ

Wednesdays 3:00-5:30 pm  
Activity Room

Kindergarten through 6th grade join together for an afternoon of music and mission activities; we even have time for homework. This after - school ministry is open to all children in the community. Heads up...K4C will be singing at the 11:00am service on Sunday, February 15th. You will not want to miss this!!!

**SEND** *them to serve in the world*

**SEND** *them to serve in the world*

is part of the mission statement of First United Methodist Church Newton. Now is **YOUR** chance to help fulfill part of that mission statement and make a difference in your community. The week of February 23rd through 26th has been set aside as our church's volunteer week at Eastern Catawba Cooperative Christian Ministry (ECCCM). This crisis ministry facility is open from 8:00am to 5:00pm Monday through Thursday and is located at 245 E. N St. in Newton. Please give a few hours of your time the last week in February to help unload trucks, sort clothes in the Thrift store, stack groceries in the food pantry, or accept donations from local residents.

### **ECCCM's Mission:**

**To bring together the resources of the Christian community to serve the people in need of crisis assistance, support and education, in response to God's call."**

## Peanut Butter and Jelly Sundays

**Bring a new, plastic container of peanut butter or jelly for the Backpack Project!**

On the first Sunday of every month, First UMC will celebrate **PB & J Sunday**, a day designated for everyone to bring either a plastic container of peanut butter or a plastic container of jelly. These gifts will be given each month to the *Backpack for Kids Program* at South Newton Elementary School.



Share God's love and your love with our church members who are homebound and / or residing in assisted living centers. How, you ask? Simply pick up the list of names from the table located in the breezeway, prepare the cards and then return them to the labeled bags by Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to deliver a bag of Valentine cards to our members please pick up the bag on or after February 8<sup>th</sup>. Make your heart grow this Valentine's Day by sharing the spirit of the day with others.



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Cloninger, Lee	2/1	Kelley, Erin	2/12	Beaman, Joseph	2/19
Sias, Jamey	2/1	Moss, Paulette	2/12	Byrd Jr., Jim	2/19
Cadwallader, Cara	2/2	Willard, Jerry	2/12	Cook, Anna	2/19
Campbell, Jacob	2/2	Wray, Lori	2/12	Faucette, Priscilla	2/19
Carter Jr., Eddie	2/2	Sias, Daisy	2/13	Martin, Lorene	2/20
Fountain, Chloe	2/2	Boylan, Andrew	2/14	Williams, Flo	2/20
Keener, Gaye	2/2	Brown, Carol	2/14	Carter, Bobby	2/21
Nguyen, Natalie	2/2	Ervin, Gabe	2/14	Hunsucker, Anne	2/22
Nguyen, Wes	2/2	Yount, Vicki	2/14	Yancey, Madison	2/22
Hewins, Jeff	2/3	Roberts, Bradyn	2/15	Ervin, Ivey	2/23
Hollingsworth, Thomas	2/3	Walker, Rachel	2/15	Phillips, Colby	2/23
Inthavong, Lee	2/3	Cambra, Christian	2/16	White, Scottie	2/24
Hall, Elizabeth	2/4	DeRue, Suzanne	2/16	DeBerardinis, Ezra	2/26
Stiver, John	2/5	Moss, Ken	2/16	Hester, Mike	2/26
Autry, Michael	2/7	Blaser, Lisa	2/17	Buckalew Sr., James	2/27
Binkley, Adrienne	2/7	Simmons, Ken	2/17	Bump, Katie	2/27
Reinhardt, Frank	2/7	Baggatta, Lisa	2/18	Greene, David	2/27
Cox, Brandon	2/8	Carter, Jean	2/18	Templeton, Sydney	2/27
Kidd, Coye	2/8	Evitt, Gerald	2/18	Brown, Katie	2/28
Nichols Jr., Brooks	2/8	Fair, Paiton	2/18	Killian, Erin	2/28
Orange, Joanna	2/9	Howard, Patricia	2/18	Wilkinson Jr., George	2/28
Sigmon, Vance	2/9			Miller, Mary	2/29

## FEBRUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Rick & Ann Faust	2/10	Donald & Carolyn Scronce	2/20
Reid & Judy Ikerd	2/10	Khampheng & Chanphene Inthavongsa	2/22
Donnie & Susan Holbrook	2/14	Jimmy & Brandy Burnette Jr.	2/23
Wayne & Jackie Dellinger	2/20	Bobby & Leslie Benson Jr.	2/26
		Tim & Miriam Barkley	2/28



### Altar Flowers

A calendar is being prepared for those wishing to furnish altar flowers in 2015. Please fill out the form below and return it to the church office to reserve the Sunday of your choice.

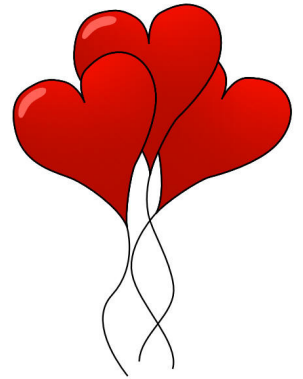
I will furnish altar flowers in 2015 as follows:

Date \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory/Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

## Thank You...



A big heartfelt thank you to all who took the time to send Valentine Cards to our special shut in members. They always like to be remembered. The Care ministry of our church does several events throughout the year to stay in touch with our special members who can not attend church on a regular basis. We also plan outings and special programs at the church open to all. If you would like to be a part of our Care Ministry please contact Julie Fowler, [julieb.fowler@gmail.com](mailto:julieb.fowler@gmail.com) or call her at the church office, [828-464-8422](tel:828-464-8422).

# February 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 4:00 Confirmation Orientation 5:00 Youth Super Bowl Party 4:00 Journey 6:00 Disciple	<b>2</b> 9:00 Preschool 10:00 Group II 2:00 Group III	<b>3</b> 9:00 Preschool 1:00 Bingo	<b>4</b> 9:00 Preschool 3:00 Kids for Christ 7:30 Chancel Choir	<b>5</b> 9:00 Preschool 1:00 Prayer Shawl	<b>6</b> 9:00 Preschool	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 3:00 Confirmation 4:00 Youth 4:00 Journey 5:00 Welcome Team Mtg. 6:00 Disciple	<b>9</b> 9:00 Preschool 6:00 Trustees	<b>10</b> 9:00 Preschool	<b>11</b> 9:00 Preschool 3:00 Kids for Christ 7:30 Chancel Choir	<b>12</b> 9:00 Preschool 1:00 Prayer Shawl	<b>13</b> 9:00 Preschool	<b>14</b> 4:00 Activity Room reserved
<b>15</b> 3:00 Confirmation 4:00 Journey 4:00 Youth 4:00 Finance 5:00 Ad Council 6:00 Preschool Bd. 6:00 Disciple	<b>16</b> 9:00 Preschool	<b>17</b> 9:00 Preschool	<b>18</b> 9:00 Preschool 3:00 Kids for Christ <b>6:00 Fellowship Dinner</b> <b>7:00 Ash Wednesday Service</b>	<b>19</b> 9:00 Preschool 1:00 Prayer Shawl	<b>20</b> 9:00 Preschool	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 3:00 Confirmation 4:00 Journey 4:00 Youth 6:00 Disciple	<b>23</b> 9:00 Preschool	<b>24</b> 9:00 Preschool	<b>25</b> 9:00 Preschool 3:00 Kids for Christ 7:30 Chancel Choir	<b>26</b> 9:00 Preschool 1:00 Prayer Shawl	<b>27</b> 9:00 Preschool	<b>28</b>

**First UMC Newton workdays at ECCCM  
8:00am to 5:00pm**

8:30am Informal worship in the sanctuary  
 9:00am Contemporary service-Fellowship Hall (entrance off of Ashe Ave.)  
 10:00am Sunday School for all ages  
 11:00am Formal worship in the sanctuary  
 Nursery is provided during all worship services and Sunday School.

## A Word from the Pastor ...

A few weeks ago Sports Illustrated named their Sportsman of the Year. It is someone who grew up not far from here. If you are a baseball fan you probably know who it is – Madison Bumgarner of the San Francisco Giants. He grew up in Caldwell County and attended South Caldwell High School. When he was still a teen-ager, he applied for an elite travel team and was asked about his short-term and long-term goals both as a person and as a baseball player. This is what Madison wrote about his goals as a person: “My short-term goal as a person is to witness an activity of Jesus in my life, and my long-term goal is for people when they look at me to see something in me about Jesus.” Isn’t that a wonderful testimony? I hope and pray and when folks in this community look on us, they will be able to see something in us about Jesus!

Recently, we received a report from ECCCM and The Corner Table about our financial support in 2014. **You’ll be pleased to know that First Methodist contributed over \$5000.00 to ECCCM and over \$2000.00 to The Corner Table.** Thank you so much for supporting the monthly offerings designated for these two ministries. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

I hope that you took a few moments to look over the small group offerings on the cover of this newsletter. It is the next step we are taking to connect the unconnected to Christ and to the ministry of First Methodist as we love people into the Kingdom of God. **This is going to be a wonderful thing in the life of this church and I can’t wait to see what God is going to do with it in the years to come!** Please consider being a part of one of these groups – and bring a friend with you.

There are so many wonderful things going on in this church. I’m so grateful to God to be a part of it all! My only regret is that everyone doesn’t have the opportunity to see it all from my perspective. **You would have been so proud of our 28 youth at their Winter Retreat. They were amazing. And so were the adults who gave up a weekend to be there – Amy Cable, Todd Clark, Kristi Harvell, Lisa Johnson, Julie Fowler, and Willis Greene.** Thanks a bunch – I definitely saw something “of Jesus” in them on the retreat!

See you Sunday  
David

## Youth Winter Retreat 2015



*My favorite part of winter retreat is the worship/music, spending time with my brothers and sisters in Christ, zip lining, and the many laughs and memories that are shared and created. This was my 3rd year attending and I’m very thankful I’ve had opportunities like this to grow my faith. Camryn Gantt*

**My first time at winter retreat was awesome... I love zip lining, the sermons (especially Willis and David's) the games, and small groups. Winter Retreat is a time you'll never forget. Abby Gantt**

**My experience was amazing! We did many fun activities that made me feel more comfortable with my peers at church. I had many laughs. Our free time was very fun. I went zip lining a lot of times and also just enjoyed what God blessed me and my friends with, but my favorite part of this adventure was the sermons! We played fun games such as “Poser” & “Taylor Swift” Lyrics or Lamentations. I’m very blessed to have had this fun adventure called “Winter Retreat” in my life! It will be remembered! Anna Gantt**



*Believe it or not, it is now time to start planning for summer camp!  
I wanted to make you aware of several camp experiences  
available to our kids.*

Day Camp @ Camp Carolwood: July 6-10, 2015

Our church, FUMC of Newton, is the sponsor. Cost is \$110 before May 15; \$145 after May 15. Rising 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders are eligible to attend. Please contact Amy Cable if you have any questions. Camp Information and registration are available on the information table in the Administration Building and on our website at [www.fumcnewtonnc.org](http://www.fumcnewtonnc.org) under the events and registration tab. Carpooling is planned daily. Member's cost is \$60; our church will provide a stipend of \$50 for member's registration costs for Day Camp (Final cost: \$60; please make checks payable to FUMC of Newton and put Day Camp in the Memo line).

Resident Camp @ Camp Tekoa: Various camps are available throughout the summer. Camp Tekoa is our District Camp and has many wonderful opportunities to offer campers ages 7-17. There are specialty camps, mini-elementary camps for younger campers, special girls only break-out camps, Survivor style camps, etc. Ages, dates, camp types, and prices vary. Go to [www.camptekoa.org](http://www.camptekoa.org) for more information.

We look forward to summer fun and spiritual growth in our children. Thank you for supporting our church camps and children as they experience God's creation.

In Christ,  
Amy Cable  
FUMC Camp Parent  
(828) 294-4811  
[acable@charter.net](mailto:acable@charter.net)

## YOUTH WORSHIP LEADER

First United Methodist Church of Newton seeks a Youth Worship Leader to lead a dynamic Sunday evening Worship service for youth. The successful candidate will possess a growing faith in God and have a passionate heart for youth. This is a part-time position (6 hours/week).



### Essential Job Functions:

- Work with Youth Design Team to create weekly Worship
- Equip and lead Youth musicians, vocalists and artists in Worship
- Build relationships with Youth by being actively engaged in Youth Programs

### Job Qualifications

- Proficiency in contemporary music accompanying, performance & direction
- Skills and knowledge of audio visual tools for multi-media worship
- Enthusiasm & zeal for sharing God's love with Youth

For a more complete job description or to send a resume, please contact Rev. David Greene at [david.fumcnewton@gmail.com](mailto:david.fumcnewton@gmail.com).





First United Methodist Church  
 300 N. Main Ave.  
 PO Box 926  
 Newton, NC 28658-926

Return Service Requested

**First United Methodist Church Staff**  
**David Greene**, Senior Pastor  
 cell: 828-461-5910  
**Lara “Willis” Greene**, Associate Pastor  
 cell: 828-461-5918  
**John Coffey**, Organist  
**Brent Roland**, Music Director  
**Michael Roberts**, Director of Praise Service  
**Rose Bibeau**, Children’s Music  
**Julie Fowler**, Director of Children’s Ministry  
**Ann Cook**, Administrative Assistant  
**Kayla Sigmon**, Nursery Ministry  
**Julia Macemore**, Preschool Director

Church office phone: 828-464-8422  
 Website: www.fumcnewtonnc.org

February 2015

Sharing Our Gifts			
Sunday	Attendance	Tithes and Offerings	Capital Bldg. Fund
January 4	245	8,656.25	330.00
January 11	266	8,149.50	245.00
January 18	240	6,010.59	948.00
January 25	223	6,315.00	305.00

**January Memorials**

Margie Powell	Music Fund
Phairlever Pearson	Robe Fund
Lois Barringer	Music Fund
Mildred Corn	Current Expense

**January Honorariums**

Martha Sowers	Current Expense
Larry and France Hollar	Current Expense
Ken and Pat Lawing	Current Expense
David and Willis Greene	Current Expense
Julie Fowler	Current Expense

**IN MEMORIAM**

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

**Lois Garrison Barringer**

April 15, 1924 - January 9, 2015

The family has requested that memorials be given to:  
 First United Methodist Church  
 Music Fund  
 PO Box 926  
 Newton, NC 28658

**IN MEMORIAM**

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

**Mildred Travis Corn**

December 22, 1922 - January 18, 2015

The family has requested that memorials be given to:  
 First United Methodist Church  
 PO Box 926  
 Newton, NC 28658