

WHERE ARE YOU IN MINISTRY?

Among the first things you learn in confirmation is that EVERY Christian is a minister. So the question becomes, "How are you involved in ministry?" There are many valid answers to that question. One that I hope you will consider immediately is that of Greeter or Usher for our church. Sounds easy enough but consider this:

- Greeters and ushers are among the first people visitors and first time worshippers meet at our church.
- It is FAR MORE than just saying hello and handing someone a worship bulletin.
- Greeters can be youth (even children) up to senior citizens.
- We need Greeters posted at the front door, the back door, and even in the parking lot.
- Greeters need to be attuned to spot certain things, such as, do they require handicap parking and facilities, (do they know where the elevator is?), do they have small children (does the greeter need to take the family to the nursery before the sanctuary?), can you point out where the restrooms are? Can you seat them near someone similar to them and be sure to introduce them? Our list can go on.

As a matter of fact, hospitality is the responsibility and ministry of the ENTIRE congregation which includes you. Do you make it a point to speak to the people you do not know before or after worship? Do you make them feel welcome and wanted?

This will soon become the focus of our church ministry and it will include everyone, but we are looking for people, adults, youth, and older children, willing to serve as trained greeters, to make sure visitors and new worshippers have found their church home. If God is calling you to that ministry, please speak to Pastor Mike, Jane Hazelman, or Steve Wells immediately.

**Join us for our first Greeter and Usher Orientation/
Training session on Thursday, March 1 at 6:00 pm in
the Fellowship Hall. *Dinner will be provided.***

CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 25—March 4

Sunday	8:45 am - Early Worship (Chapel) 9:45 am - Sunday School 10:55 am - Worship (Sanctuary) 4:00 pm - Confirmation Orientation (Youth Room) 5:00 pm - CCC Asheville Orientation (F. Hall) 5:30 pm - JOY Bible Study (Parlor) - Men's Bible Study (Forum Class)
Monday	9:00 am - Weekday Programs 6:30 pm - Cub Scouts 6:45 pm - Boy Scouts 7:00 pm - Missions Team (Library)
Tuesday	9:00 am - Weekday Programs - Morning Bells (Sanctuary Balcony) 11:30 am - JOY Bible Study (Parlor) 2:45 pm - Choir for 4 yrs - Kindergarten
Wednesday	9:00 am - Weekday Programs 2:45 pm - Choirs for 1st - 6th Grades 6:00 pm - Solid Rock Café (Fellowship Hall) <i>Menu: Smoked Meats</i> 6:45 pm - Children's Bible Study (SS Classroom) - Youth Bible Study (Youth Room) - "Cost of Discipleship" Study (Chapel) - Evening Bells (Sanctuary Balcony) 7:30 pm - Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
Thursday	9:00 am - Weekday Programs 10:00 am - No Adult Bible Study
Sunday	8:45 am - Early Worship (Chapel) 9:45 am - Sunday School 10:55 am - Worship (Sanctuary) 4:00 pm - Confirmation (Youth Room) 5:00 pm - Pizza & Games (Home of Bob & Nancy Ball) 5:30 pm - JOY Bible Study (Parlor) - Men's Bible Study (Forum Class)

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Pastor - Michael A. Shuford (mshuford@elkinfumc.org)
Director of Discipleship - Cindy Furr (cfurr@elkinfumc.org)
Director of Music & Children's Ministries - Amy Johnson (ajohnson@elkinfumc.org)
Parish Life Coordinator - Benjamin Wallace (bwallace@elkinfumc.org)
Director of Weekday Programs - Beth Darnell (bdarnell@elkinfumc.org)
Custodian - Pat Trexler (ptrexler@elkinfumc.org)
Assistant Custodian - George Brown (gbrown@elkinfumc.org)



*Second Sunday
in Lent 2018*



Order of Worship

Second Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2018

8:45 am

Follow Jesus, Make Disciples, Transform the World

Welcome to worship at First United Methodist Church.

We especially welcome those who are guests today.

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Those who seek God shall praise the Lord.

May their hearts live forever!

All the families of the nations

Shall worship him forever.

For dominion belongs to the LORD,

He rules over the nations.

—Psalm 22:26b, 27b-28

Invocation

Hymn No. 508 - "Faith While Trees are Still in Blossom"

Holy Scripture Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 (Pew Bible pp. 12-13)

Mark 8:31-38 (Pew Bible p. 41)

The Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!

Sermon - "Covenant"

Sharing of Prayer Concerns

Prayers of the People

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Confession - In Unison

Nurturing and caring God whose nature it is to forgive, turn us from the chaotic nature of our sinful lives and so order us to seek the holiness that is You as we are recreated in Your image. Forgive us when we have denied that image and thus fought our way through the darkness of our souls. Help us to seek the light of your salvation. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Just as in the first sin, Adam and Eve had to face the consequences of their disobedience, yet you offered them grace as you covered their nakedness.

By that same grace, God covers the shame of our sin.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving - Musical Setting C, pp. 20-22

The Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion

Hymn No. 438 - "Forth in Thy Name, O Lord"

The Benediction

Please stand as you are able

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Pastor - Rev. Michael A. Shuford

Organist - Amy E. Johnson

Communion Steward - Pat Trexler

PRAYER REQUESTS

Church Family: Bliss Vanderpool, Ann Graham, Sam Tesh, Holly Gambill, Betty Tesh, Rev. Paul McCauley, Zack Trexler, Paulette McCauley, Libbi Parks, Emad Elkhayat, Ray Fencil, Larry Johnson, Walt Pettit, Hal Stuart, Bill Amburn, Ercel Carter, Dan & Sallie Park, Laura Gwyn, Gary Conrad, Bonnie Stuart, Cindy Furr, Greta Wallace, Loretta Cash, Family of Pat James, nursing home residents & homebound

Extended Care: Mary Cockerham, Iris Amburn, Mary Neil, Linda Maxey

Extended Family: Ruth Deck, John Seats, Diana Hamm, Richard Smoot, Clifford Jordan, Ronnie Ray, Nada Sheets, Emily Stewart, Ethan Spencer, Florence Leverett, Ana Garciana, Steve McLain, Betty Jordan, Linda Caudill, Jeff Miltner, Sharon and Brad Watterson, Pierce & Aishling, Priscilla Smith, Marc Bishop, Lynn & Dale Rose, Buck Freeman, Lorene Newman, Michael Hines, Dennis Staley, Robert Miller, Joan Shuford, Dr. Richard Belcher, Dr. Gladys Campbell, Mary Harper Edsall, Nan Boyd, Gus Bellia, Lonnie Snider, Teresa Shook, Millie Joyce, Martha Key, Kidd Family, Phyllis Lowe, Family of Margaret Poole Griffin, Rev. Tyler Hege, Rev. Juston Smith, Rebekah Ralph, Amy Shuford, Deborah S. Smith, Judy Moody, Family of Randy Core

All of our military personnel and their families

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE WEEK OF...

	<u>February 25</u>	<u>March 4</u>
Tues. Choir Snacks	Brooklyn	Johanna
Wed. Choir Snacks	Reece, Ella	Jocelyn, Joseph, Jonas
Wed. Night Desserts	Brown, Snider, Combs, Kleinheksel, Aldridge	Powell, Harrison, Shuford, MacDonald, McDowell

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Missions Team

Monday, Feb. 26, 7:00 pm (Library)

Vision & Leadership Team

Monday, March 12, 7:00 pm (Library)

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR SYMPATHY IS EXPRESSED TO Ann Foster upon the death of her sister, Joyce, on February 10. Please keep Ann and her family in your prayers.

SYMPATHY IS ALSO EXPRESSED TO The Family of Pat James, Trish Grider's mother, who passed away on February 22. No arrangements have been made at the time of publication of the bulletin. Please keep Tom, Trish and the entire family in your prayers.

CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION will be held on Sunday, February 25 at 4:00 pm in the youth room. Any youth (age 12 and older) interested in taking Confirmation this year should plan to attend this orientation session with their parents. For more information contact Pastor Mike at the Church Office.

LYDIA CIRCLE will meet on Monday, March 5 at 11:00 am in the parlor. Following the meeting, join us for lunch. All women of the church are invited to attend.

CHILI COOK-OFF TO BENEFIT YOUTH MISSION: The next youth fundraiser for missions is the Chili Cook-Off on Wednesday, March 14, 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Several varieties of chili along with toppings, salad, cornbread and peanut butter/jelly sandwiches are on the menu. Judges will choose the champ of the cook-off.

HENDERSON SETTLEMENT RETREAT: We will leave from Elkin FUMC at 9:00 am on Thursday, March 15 and head to Henderson Settlement in Frakes, KY. We will leave to come home at 9:00 am on Saturday, March 17. This is an introduction to Henderson Settlement so you can see all the great things they offer. Friday Kevin Derryberry from Alabama will be performing and there will be guest speakers. Come relax enjoy food and fellowship. The only cost is gas and food to and from; the retreat is free. Please let David VanAntwerp (336-244-1808) know by Wednesday, February 28 if you would like to attend.

STONE'S THROW MINISTRY WORK DAY: Our March Missions Focus is Stone's Throw Ministry. The mission of Stone's Throw Christian Ministry is to glorify God by providing assistance to individuals, churches, missions teams and other agencies. They gather and provide the resources needed to assist those who are hurting. The missions team is sponsoring a work day at their Distribution Center (1657 North Bridge St) on Saturday, March 17 from 9 am - 1 pm. A sign up sheet is located on the Missions Bulletin Board outside of Pastor Mike's office. For more information contact Missions Team chair, David VanAntwerp at 336-244-1808.

PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAY SERVANT TRAINING: Lay Servant Training is a two-day opportunity for youth and adults to learn about ways to serve in the United Methodist Church. Appalachian District Lay Servant Training will be held on Saturday, April 14 and Saturday, April 21 (must attend both days) at Wilkesboro UMC. Registration and a \$30 fee are required prior to attending. Contact the church office for more information or for an application form.

TRI-C REQUESTS TOILET TISSUE: We have been asked to provide toilet tissue each month during 2018. Our goal is a total of 300 rolls each month! Please place your toilet tissue donations in the narthex or under the table in the entryway of the church office.