***The Mt. Gilead Messenger***

**The monthly newsletter of First UMC and Zion UMC**

**August 2024**

Greetings friends. Grace and Peace to you from our Lord, Jesus Christ.

As the gentle embrace of summer unfolds around us, it brings with it a moment of reflection and gratitude. In this season of warmth and growth, Jen and I find ourselves deeply moved by the warmth of your welcome and the generosity of your spirits.

In a world that often feels divided, your unity and hospitality shine as a signal of hope and love. The Mount Gilead Community has been a beacon of hospitality with your calls, visits, food and cards. The two of us couldn’t be more grateful or feel more welcome. We look forward to connecting with you all more and helping build and be a community together in Christ.

I have been asked about Bible Studies. I want to invite you to join me on Wednesday’s starting in August for The Wired Word. It is a weekly study that looks at some of our current headlines in the news through the lens of the Bible. Beginning in August, we will be meeting on Wednesday mornings at 10:00am. The Speckled Paw Coffee Shop (beside First UMC) has been gracious enough to offer their space for us to meet. This is open to anyone in the community who would like to be a part of the conversation.

Once again, from the depths of our hearts, thank you. Thank you for your kindness, your generosity, and your unwavering support. May we continue to walk hand in hand, guided by faith, and inspired by the boundless grace that surrounds us all.

With deepest gratitude and warmest blessings,

Pastor Michael

**Office Hours**: M-Th, 8:00am-12:00noon **Phone**: 910.439.6475

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*Find us on Facebook!* [www.facebook.com/First-United-Methodist-Church-Mt-Gilead-NC-135881489769094](http://www.facebook.com/First-United-Methodist-Church-Mt-Gilead-NC-135881489769094)

Sunday School at FUMC

Please join us for Adult Sunday School in the fellowship hall at 9:45 am on Sundays. Currently all Sunday School classes are combined. We would love to see you there!

Zion Sunday Worship

Zion Services begin at 9 am every Sunday morning. Zion also broadcasts the Sunday services via Facebook Live every week. Type the address below in your internet browser to go to the Facebook page and hit the follow button and you will be alerted every time the Church begins a live service.

<https://www.facebook.com/Zion-UMC-102359131221555/?ref=page_internal>

Prayer Concerns

Please remember all our loved ones that are sick, recovering, bereaved, and in a nursing home or assisted living with your prayers and cards.

*Remember our nursing home and assisted living residents:*

Elsie Harwood Alva Crump Marietta Andrews

*Those that need continued prayer, in the hospital, ill or recovering:*

Jimmy & Ellen Blanchard Sarah Jordan

Woody Bell Lalu

Brent & Cindy Brewbaker Bob Lowdermilk

Jerry Browning Don & Betty Oliver

Mac Carr Wendy Patterson

Christine Eli Richardson

Darlene Crump Rhonda

Fred Downs Calvin & Jane Rushing

Thomas Gaddy Susie Routh

Tim Green Venetia Smith

Kent Hamilton Lavon Taylor

Jim Harris Norma Jean Thomas

Nira Heyer Russian-Ukraine Situation

Kevin Hershberger Betty Ingram

United Methodist Men

The Men have taken the summer off from meeting. The next meeting will be next month on September 15th at 7:30am.

Zion Homecoming & Revival

Zion UMC’s Homecoming will be Sunday, August 25th at 11 am. Rev. Michael Williams will be preaching that Sunday. There will be a covered dish meal to follow under the covered shelter behind the church. All are invited to attend.

Zion will also hold Revival Sunday, August 25th through Wednesday, August 28th at 7pm each night.

The music group, Cedar Creek, will be singing on Sunday night at 7pm.

Guest speakers will be Rev. Dawn Hollis Custer on Monday night with music by Rev. Michael Williams, Rev. Kyle Burrows on Tuesday night with music by Doris and Rodney McRae, and Rev. Dennis Peay on Wednesday night with music from the FUMC Chancel Choir.

Honorarium/Memorial Gifts

***Gifts were given to Zion in memory of:***

* ***Kate, Maggie, Dolly, & Ollie Mae***by Teddy & Pat McRae
* ***David Wilder*** by Donna Keesler; Stimpson & Doris McRae; Mitch, Lisa, and Marc Lefler; Mickey & Teresa Stamper; Gary & Kat McRae; Johnny, Kathy, Marsha, & Megan Mabry; Steve & Alane Brown gave various floral arrangements to Zion UMC to display and beautify the church in memory of Alane’s father
* ***Mary Evelyn Lowder*** by Karen Burroughs; Gary & Kat McRae; Johnny, Kathy, Marsha, & Megan Mabry
* ***Viola Lucas*** by Stimpson & Doris McRae

***Gifts were given to FUMC in memory of:***

* ***David Wilder*** by Steve & Betty Juhan; Emily Patillo; MG VFW Post 10940; Larry & Tip Harris; Ken & Jackie Jahns; Bill & Millie Bruton; Jim & Jodi Kiser; Bruce & Anne Evans; Mark & Cathy Kearns; Cathy Evans Poole; Peggy Evans; Tim Evans
* ***Marsha Russell*** by Dan & Ellen Jones; Bill & Millie Bruton; Jim & Jodi Kiser; Bruce & Anne Evans; Cathy Evans Poole; Peggy Evans; Tim Evans
* ***Roger Dove*** by Emily Patillo
* ***Ralph Thompson, Sr.*** by Emily Patillo

Chancel Choir/ Bell Choir

Chancel Choir practice is on Wednesdays at 6:30pm.

First UMC Homecoming

First UMC’s homecoming will be Sunday, September 29th at 11 am. Rev. Michael Williams will be preaching that Sunday. There will be a covered dish meal following the service in the fellowship hall.

Invite your friends and family!!

Backpack/School Supply Drive

The time has come again to begin collecting monetary donations or supplies for local area kids for back to school. If you are able to give, please designate on your check or envelope that the money is for the backpack program. If you would like to bring supplies, those can be dropped off with Taryn in the office or put on the large table in the Fellowship hall.

Lakeside Services

Lakeside services have continued through the summer months. Rev. Michael Williams will be preaching at Lakeside on Sunday, August 25th. All Sunday services are held in Woodrun at the Clubhouse outside overlooking the water, weather permitting. Services begin at 8:30.

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Financial

The Committee of Finance expresses profound gratitude for your faithfulness and generosity. God promises us, “Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.” Malachi 3:10

July Finances:

General Contributions: $ 15,526.56

Special/Designated Contributions: $ 1,843.00

Expenses: $ 21,882.16

United Methodist Women of Faith

The Women have taken the summer off from meeting. The next meeting will be next month on September 4th at 10am.

Altar Flowers

Chancel flowers: The Flower Calendar is on the board for your attention! 2024 has been posted for reservations! Don’t forget to sign up before your date has been taken.

Feeding Love

God’s love is reaching others through the help and encouragement of the Feeding Love ministry.

The next event will be August 31st from 11:30-1:30. You are invited to come and eat free food and to build up the community of faith with your prayers and enjoy Christian fellowship with one another. If you know someone who needs food, but can’t get to the event, you may take carryout plates to them.

If you are interested in feeding people with good food and with God’s unconditional love, please contact Henry Antos. Donations are welcome.

The Inasmuch Ministry hopes and prays to continue to reach more people in our community and beyond. Please continue to invite anyone you know that may benefit from this ministry.

Ladies Exercise

The Ladies exercise group meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 9-10am. Anyone is welcome to attend. No experience needed. Come and join them!

Vacation

Taryn will not be in the office starting Saturday, August 3rd- Thursday, August 8th. She will be back in the office on Monday, August 12th.

Rev. Michael Williams will still be in the office that week if anyone needs anything.

|  | **~August 2024~** |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Sun** | **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** |
|  |  |  |  | **1** | **2**Lee Fritts | **3****7:30 am-** **Food Pantry-** **Mt. Gilead Civitans** |
| **4 *11th Sunday after Pentecost***9am – Facebook Live/in-person worship at Zion (**Holy** **Communion)**9:45am- Sunday School @ FUMC11am – Facebook Live/in-person worship at First (**Holy** **Communion)**Ron Chandler | **5**  | **6****9-10am**- Seniors Exercise | **7** **10am- The Wired Word™ @ Speckled Paw** | **8** **9-10am**- Seniors Exercise | **9** | **10****7:30am-Food Pantry-** **Woodrun** |
| **11 *12th Sunday after Pentecost***9am – Facebook Live/in-person worship at Zion9:45am- Sunday School @ FUMC11am – Facebook Live/in-person worship at FirstAlan Williams | **12**Mallorie Gross | **13** **9-10am**- Seniors ExerciseDinah Jean Blake | **14** **10am- The Wired Word™ @ Speckled Paw** | **15** **9-10am**- Seniors Exercise**Backpack packing in fellowship hall** | **16**Doris & Stimpson McRae | **17****7:30am- Food Pantry- Parson’s Grove Baptist**  **Backpack Distribution** |
| **18 *13th Sunday after Pentecost*** 9am – Facebook Live/in-person worship at Zion9:45am- Sunday School @ FUMC11am – Facebook Live/in-person worship at First | **19**  | **20** **9-10am-** Seniors ExerciseDoris McRae | **21** **10am- The Wired Word™ @ Speckled Paw**Wayne Morelock | **22** **9-10am**- Seniors Exercise | **23** | **24****7:30 am- Food Pantry- Thomasville Missionary Baptist**Max & Lannie Joyce Kevin Lancaster |
| **25 *14th Sunday after Pentecost***8:30am- Lakeside- Rev. Michael9:45am- Sunday School @ FUMC**11am** – Facebook Live/in-person worship at Zion **\*\*Homecoming\*\***11am – Facebook Live/in-person worship at First  | **26****Zion Revival**- Sunday- Wednesday- 7pm, speakers TBA | **27****9-10am**- Seniors ExerciseRobert Leonard | **28****10am- The Wired Word™ @ Speckled Paw**Jimmie Robinson | **29****9-10am**- Seniors Exercise | **30** | **31****7:30 am- Food Pantry- Mohawk Industries** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | **\*All items in red are birthdays/****anniversaries** |

**FUMC Church Assistance for August**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Liturgist** | **Ushers** | **Adult SS Teacher** | **Flowers** |  |
| Aug 4, 2024 | Mitch Taylor | Steve Juhan/ Joyce Fritts | Jim Kiser | Open |  |
| Aug 11, 2024 | John Stilwell | Millie Bruton/ Joyce Fritts | Jodi Kiser | Open |  |
| Aug 18, 2024 | Jackie Jahns | Millie Bruton/ Joyce Fritts | Alan Williams | Chuck & Susie Routh |  |
| Aug 25, 2024 | Millie Bruton | Cathy Poole/ Joyce Fritts | Emily Patillo | Bruce & Anne Evans |  |



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Don’t worry if you don’t know what a QR code is, you can always just type [www.umcmtgilead.com](http://www.umcmtgilead.com) in your search bar and it will take you straight to the website!