



Murphy First

United Methodist Church

October 2025



Dear siblings in Christ,

It's fall y'all! In the United Methodist Church that means all kinds of things: new Sunday school classes and small groups are up and running; Trunk or Treat is coming soon; and it's time for Charge Conference.

Charge Conference is an annual meeting of the church in which we reflect on ministries of the past year, and plan for ministries in the year ahead. This includes doing some business, like approving church leadership and setting a budget.

I know a budget can feel like a mysterious thing, like it's imaginary numbers that don't mean much. But really a budget is our way of saying, "Here is the ministry we want to do in the year ahead, and here's what we believe it takes to make that possible."

Our Charge Conference meeting date and time is Sunday, October 26 from 3-5pm, here at First UMC. Like last year, this meeting will also include the other United Methodist Churches from our neighboring counties: First UMC (Hayesville), Hickory Stand and Oak Forest UMCs, Andrews UMC, Ranger UMC, Tomotla UMC, Robbinsville UMC, and Bryson City UMC.

This "Cluster" Charge Conference is a way for us to share together in worship and mission. The business will be brief and conducted within the context of worship. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Beth Crissman, will be preach.

And we will share in mission. This year, we are working together to assemble hygiene kits that will ultimately be sent out to areas impacted by disaster—like Hurricane Helene. Each church is responsible for bringing a different item for that kit.

First UMC Murphy is bringing wash cloths (15 x 25 –17 x 27 inches; no kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels). We are aiming for 250! Please bring any wash cloths to the church office.

After the worship service—and business portion of charge conference—we'll move to the Fellowship Hall, where we will assemble hygiene kits together.

Charge Conference is about shared worship and mission. In this afternoon, we will experience a microcosm of what we call in The UMC, "the connection." That is, in being part of The UMC, we are part of a bigger story than just ourselves; we are able to make a bigger impact together than any of us could on our own.

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We experienced the power of the connection through our volunteering and our special offerings for Hurricane Helene. We experienced this gift of connection this summer when 2 children from our church went to Camp Tekoa, our UM summer camp that is supported by giving from each local church. They also went with 2 other children from another nearby UMC and a friend.

This gift of the connection is part of what makes us united as United Methodists. A similar idea, that we learn from our Hispanic sisters and brothers, is Acompañamiento, "walking together." In our connection, we walk together, through thick and thin, loving and serving God and our neighbor.

On the journey,

Pastor Wil



Harshaw Chapel

The bell is ringing again from the steeple of Harshaw Chapel! Interior work has begun with the painting of the chapel ceiling.

Once we have a clear view of when the Chapel is ready to host worship services, we'll post a series of opportunities to join in worship and story-telling.

Thank you! The Harshaw Chapel Team

ONLINE GIVERS:

We've changed our online giving platform from Vanco to Amplify. Please use the new QR code in the church bulletin or the online button on the web page or here.



*... Our sister in
Christ, Deanie Avett,
joined the Church
Triumphant on Sept.
13, 2025*

Heads Up!

Our new church software package allows us to send notices to folks by email, text message and phone call. So if you receive a text from the code, **22383**, that's us.



Our Willing Hands Circle will have a snack booth near the cabin at the Folk School festival. Come buy a treat and say "hello"!



United
Women
in Faith

WILLING HANDS – HELPING OTHERS!

Know that all women in our church family and also the community are invited to these meetings. Feel free to contact any member of our United Women in Faith group or call Karen Watson (828-361-9520) or Nancy Jo Willis (850-428-3636) with questions, comments, ideas, etc.

On Wednesday, October 15th, the Greeting Card Ministry will gather at 10:30 am to make some more lovely cards for our church family and friends. At 11:30 am we will meet for our regular monthly Willing Hands meeting.

- We were able to collect 30 donated Christmas Shoeboxes for the children of Project AGAPE in Armenia.
- In September, we have been collecting supplies for CHOICES, our pregnancy and parenting center.
- Right now, we are focused on final preparations for our food vendor booth at the annual John C. Campbell Arts & Crafts Festival on October 4th & 5th. Hope you will come and scope us out.

We continue to transfer donated items from the Blessing Box in our narthex to the Blessing Box at the Child Development Center in Murphy which is stocked with easy-to-open food and other items for families in need.

Remember: All ladies of the church are invited to attend any of our meetings or other events. Please consider joining us!



**HELP
WANTED**

Urgent help needed in the Sound and Video booth on Sunday mornings. The system is simpler than it has been in the past and our three regular volunteers can help get new volunteers up to speed, so they can be part of the rotation. Reach out to Kevin Mendoza if you are interested: KevinNB-Mendoza@gmail.com. More hands make a lighter load!



FUMC Family Ministry

Save the Dates

Sept 14

Weekly Sunday School!

9:45 K-5th Godly Play Upstairs
0-5 nurseries available



Sept 24

Children's Choir

Wednesdays 3:00-4:30 leading up to
Christmas Performance Dec 7th



Oct 24

Parents Night Out

5:30-8 PM Must RSVP
Pizza and Movie



Oct 31

Trunk or Treat

Join us at the Family Ministries Table
Church parking lot 4-7pm with Downtown



Nov 2

Kickball in the Park

3-5pm Kids and Adults of all ages
Fun game of kickball and play at the park



Contact Pastor Wil for questions or sign-ups
pastor@murphyfirstumc.org

Murphy First United Methodist Church Halloween Trunk or Treat

- We anticipate about 2,000 children to attend our community activity
- We really need your continued kind donations of lots and lots of candy, or Halloween Treats
- Please bring treats to the church office by Thursday October 30
- Our activity will be from 4:30 PM till 6:30 PM.

• They will be leaving the church parking lot around 1:30 PM.

Information for Trunk Participants

- Interested in participating, don't worry about being the best decorated trunk
- Just come to participate in our community event, and be prepared to have fun and rewarded by the children's joy
- We will need to know by Wednesday October 22
 - Email Vera Confer at vaconfer@gmail.com
 - By October 22

• You will need to leave the church parking lot by Friday October 31 by 4:00 PM



**Trustee on Call for October:
Nancy Cate**



Yoga will begin the week of October 12. Ann Smith will offer two weekly yoga classes, one on Monday mornings from 10:30-11:30 and another on Wednesday afternoons from 5:45-6:45. Both classes will be accessible for beginners, and are open to all. Classes will be held on the third floor of the sanctuary building. Contact Ann at 478-731-9025 or annsmith828@gmail.com with any questions.



CONTINUING OUR STUDIES...

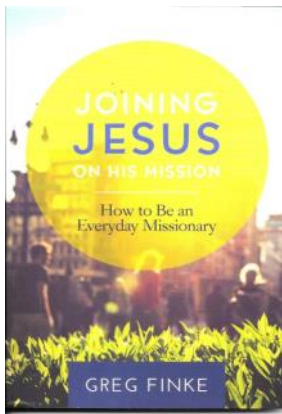
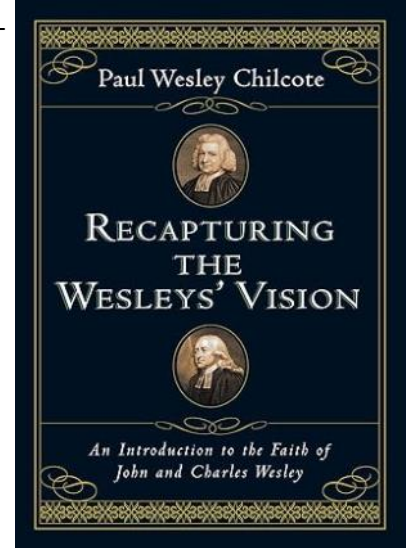
One of our **follow-up book studies** to *The Bible Year* kicked off at the end of September. This study group will be examining our Methodist roots by reading about the profound effects both John Wesley and Charles Wesley had on the formation of our Methodist traditions: the foundational beliefs, the structures that formed our practices, and the influences of music as an integral part of our worship.

The audience: Anyone who would like to better understand the beginnings of Methodism and how they influence our worship today.

The book we will be using is *Recapturing the Wesleys' Vision* and is authored by Paul Wesley Chilcote. The paperback can be found on Amazon new for \$12, and much less if purchasing a used copy. If the cost will keep you from attending, let the church office know that you need them to get a copy for you. (Please order the book in time for our first meeting.)

We will meet for 8 or 9 consecutive **Wednesdays from 1:30 to 2:30**, beginning the 24th of September, but will not meet the week of October 8th.

Randy Allman will be the facilitator for this book study. All are welcome!



The **Seeker Sunday School class** invites you on a ten week journey through Pastor Greg Finke's book entitled, 'Jesus On His Mission: How To Be An Everyday Missionary' on Sunday mornings through November 23. The class meets in the library of the Education Building at 10:00 each Sunday morning. To secure a text for the study please contact David Lamb at 407-314-5226 or the church office at 828-837-2718. We look forward to your joining us.



Did you know?

that the calendar in the newsletter includes a deadline to submit content for the next issue?

If you have something to submit for publication, it must be sent in by that deadline date or it will not be included.



ONGOING NEED

ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

- Paper Towel Rolls
- Toilet paper Rolls
- Wrapping paper Rolls



Godly Play: A Sunday School experience for elementary age children to “explore the mystery of God’s presence in their lives, hear God’s invitation for spiritual experience, to listen to what God is saying, and to make authentic and creative responses to God’s call in our lives.”

Children get to do this through creative expressions and we could use your help to have enough building supplies.

Rolls can be left on the pew outside the nurseries.

YOUTH GROUP

Alpha

Sundays, 5-7pm
First United Methodist Church

Oct. 5 - Pickleball at Konehete

Oct. 12 - Alpha at FUMC

Oct. 19 - Alpha at FUMC

Oct. 26 - Help with Hygiene
kits for Charge Conference
3-5pm

FELLOWSHIP, SERVICE, GROWING IN FAITH

Dinner provided at every Alpha gathering. If YOU want to provide a meal for Alpha, please reach out to Pastor Wil (pastor@murphyfirstumc.org) or Erin Simons (erinbsimons@gmail.com)



Parents' Night Out.

DROP OFF YOUR CHILDREN
AGES 0-5TH GRADE FOR A
PIZZA DINNER AND MOVIE
WITH OUR NURSERY WORKERS
AND VOLUNTEERS!

Friday October 24th 5:30 - 8 PM

Fellowship Hall of FUMC

MUST RSVP

use google form below

<https://forms.gle/QaNXRV7ShJ9XoNDV6>





Keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:

Ukraine and its people; Maria Mcleod; Peter Close; Jason Long; James Dennis Plavcan; Curt Vansickle; Bill and Barbara Hughes; Ken Brant; Debbie Cocalis; Karen

Terkowski; Keith Barber; Billy Major; Michele Leone; Carl Auvil; Anne Hymen; Dell Douglass; Scottie Draa; Alice Haughboo; Melinda Smith; Pam Meintel; John & Susan Satto; Eleanor Vaughn; Jeff King; Sharon; Melanie Rogers; Matthew Stiles; Mary Anderson; Gail Posey.

Prayer Team: prayfumc@gmail.com.

In an effort to have room for all prayer requests we will rotate off the names every 3 weeks unless indicated, either by a notation on the blue prayer request card or by calling the church office.

828-837-2718 or email: admin@murphyfirstumc.org

Prayer Requests can be submitted on our Facebook page, YouTube live stream or by calling the church office.



**Welcome
to Our
Church
Family**



Ann Smith

HOUSEKEEPING HELP! Whenever a group or event you are part of is ending, please be sure to:

1. Turn off the lights
2. Reset thermostat to 75 when room is not in use.
3. Lock doors.
4. Following Sunday worship, please take your bulletin & inserts home with you.



LIKE TO QUILT? DO HANDICRAFTS? Join us every Thursday morning in the Library (beside Pastor Wil's office) from 10am to 12pm for friendly conversation and project support. Bring what you're working on and come join us.

Contacts

Pastor Wil Posey

pastor@murphyfirstumc.org

Suzanne West—Director of Music

music@murphyfirstumc.org

Maggie Corrigan—Admin Asst

admin@murphyfirstumc.org

Jack Frahmman—Treasurer

treasurer@murphyfirstumc.org

Bridget Esterhuizen—Preschool Dir.

preschool@murphyfirstumc.org



Adult Sunday School meets at 10am in Fellowship Hall.

Seekers Sunday School meets at 10am in the Library in the Education Building.

The Nursery (Room 202) is available for children aged 0 yrs to Kindergarten from 9:45am-Noon.

Children's Sunday School meets in the Education Building at 10am.

Worship Readiness (Room 304) for children aged Kindergarten through 5th grade meets during worship after the children's moment.

Children are welcome in worship and will then be released after Children's Time to return to their nursery or Children's Church. Older children (5th grade+) should remain with their parents in worship.



10/01—Flip Watson

10/10—Cindi Gatti; Becky Nelson

10/11—Rod Brown; Monica Mintz

10/13—Isaac Fokakis; John Satto

10/15—Wayne Watson

10/17—Sharon Francis

10/18—Phylis Blackmon

10/21—Blake Hughes

10/23—Quinn Campana

10/24—John Snow

10/27—Katrina Palmer

10/28—Sue Bell



10/05—Harold & Phylis Blackmon

10/07—Kevin & Asia Mendoza

10/12—Roger LaChance & Debbie Rodby

10/12—Mark & Mary Beth Poncin

10/13—John Vennes & Cora Edwards

10/14—Dan & Terri Stroup

10/15—Frank & Ursula Lasky

10/28—Adam & Kayla Clonts

Our October **Fellowship Luncheon** will be hosted by the History & Finance Committees on the 19th following worship. **JOIN US!**





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 10am Sunday School 10:55am Worship 11:15am Children's Church 12:15pm CPR & First Aid Training 4:00PM AA Dinner mtg. 5:00pm FUMC Youth Group	29 8:30am Preschool 11:30pm Chair Exercises	30 5pm VRR	1 8:30am Preschool 10am Worship Mtg 11:30pm Chair Exercises 1:30pm Wesley's Vision 3:15pm Children's Choir 4:30pm Wesley Ringers 5:30pm Chancel Choir	2 9:30am Mom's Morning 10am Quilters 11:30am Soul Table	3 8:30am Pre-school 11:30pm Chair Exercises Willing Hands Set Up @ Folk School	4 9:30am Al Anon Willing Hands all day at Folk School Arts & Crafts Show
05 10am Sunday School 10:55am Worship 11:15am Children's Church Willing Hands all day at Folk School Arts & Crafts Show	06 8:30am Preschool 11:30pm Chair Exercises 12pm Justice Team	07 5pm VRR	08 8:30am Preschool 10m Worship Mtg 11:30pm Chair Exercises 3:15pm Children's Choir 4:30pm Wesley Ringers 5:30pm Chancel Choir	09 8:00am Harshaw Mowing 9:30am Mom's Morning 10:00am Quilters 5:30pm Finance	10 8:00am Pre-school 11:30pm Chair Exercises	11 9:30am Al Anon
12 10am Sunday School 10:55am Worship 11:15am Children's Church	13 8:30am Preschool 10:30am Yoga 11:30pm Chair Exercises	14 5pm VRR 5:30pm Trustees	15 8:30am Preschool 10am Worship Mtg 10:30am Card Ministry 11:30am Willing Hands 11:30pm Chair Exercises 12:30pm Joyful Stitches 1:30pm Wesley's Vision 3:15pm Children's Choir 4:30pm Wesley Ringers 5:30pm Chancel Choir 5:45pm Yoga	16 9:30am Mom's Morning 10:00am Quilters 11:30am Soul Table 5:30pm Finance	17 8:30am Pre-school 11:30pm Chair Exercises	18 9:30am Al Anon
19 10am Sunday School 10:55am Worship 11:15am Children's Church 12:15 pm Fellowship Luncheon	20 8:30am Preschool 10am Coffee w/Wil 10:30am Yoga 11am Mission Team 11:30pm Chair Exercises	21 5pm VRR	22 8:30am Preschool 10am Worship Mtg 11:30pm Chair Exercises 1:30pm Wesley's Vision 3:15pm Children's Choir 4:30pm Wesley Ringers 5:30pm Chancel Choir 5:45pm Yoga	23 8am Harshaw Mowing 9:30am Mom's Morning 10:00am Quilters	24 8:30am Pre-school 11:30pm Chair Exercises	25 9:30am Al Anon
26 10am Sunday School 10:55am Worship 11:15am Children's Church 12pm CCUMC Charge Conf 4:00PM AA Dinner mtg. 	27 8:30am Preschool 10:30am Yoga 11:30pm Chair Exercises 5:00pm SPPRC Deadline for Newsletter Input I mean it!!!!	28 5pm VRR	29 8:30am Preschool 10am Worship Mtg 11:30pm Chair Exercises 1:30pm Wesley's Vision 3:15pm Children's Choir 4:30pm Wesley Ringers 5:30pm Chancel Choir 5:45pm Yoga	30 9:30am Mom's Morning 10am Quilters	31 8:30am Pre-school 11:30pm Chair Exercises 4:30pm Trunk or Treat 	1 9:30am Al Anon



Murphy First

United Methodist Church

P. O. Box 86 (73 Valley River Avenue)
Murphy, NC 28906

TO:

#BeUMC

STAFF:

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Jack Frahmman, Treasurer

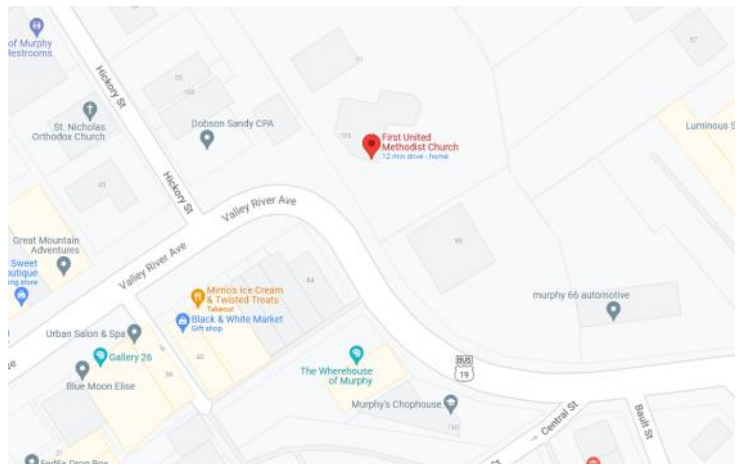
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OFFICE INFO:

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(828) 837-9735 (Fax)

Email: admin@murphyfirstumc.org

Website: www.murphyfirstumc.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/fumcmurphy/

YouTube: www.youtube.com/

[@murphyfirstunitedmethodist4890](https://www.youtube.com/@murphyfirstunitedmethodist4890)

Our **Mission** is to live as a community transformed by God's grace, sent to love and serve like Jesus.

Our **Vision** is to build communities of hope where all people experience belonging and abundant life.