

Welcome

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

- I am a Visitor
- I am interested in membership
- I would like a visit from the minister
- Please note my change of address

PRAYER REQUEST

(Place in the Offering Plate or give to the Pastor.)

I ask your prayers for:

Prayer Request:

May we send this person a note of encouragement? ___ yes ___ no

If yes, please include their address:

May we include this in the prayer list for next week's bulletin? ___ yes ___ no

Person making request _____

Phone _____



VBS PLANNING MEETING

If you would like to learn more about this year's Very Big Saturday (VBS) event, please join us for a volunteer luncheon on Sunday, May 20 in the Gomedela Room immediately following the 11 a.m. service (RSVP to the Church Office by May 16). Our VBS event takes place Saturday, August 4.



Nursery:

For children up to 4 years
8:30 a.m. - 12 noon (Level 1)

Sunday School:

For children 3 years - 5th Grade from
10 - 10:45 a.m. on Level 1

Children's Church:

K to 2nd Graders leave the Sanctuary for a worship program during the 11 a.m. service & head to the Children's Church Rm on Level 1.

Children's Sacks:

Located at the entrances of the Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall.



Join the Youth of First Church for worship and fun on select Sunday evenings from 4 - 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Our next meeting is Sunday, May 20. All 6th -12th graders are welcome to join us.

A LOOK AHEAD ...

Monday, May 20

- Pentecost Sunday (wear Red)
- VBS Planning Lunch @ 12 noon in the Gomedela Room

Sunday, June 3

Graduation Sunday

Sunday, June 10

- NEW Sunday Schedule begins!
- New Sermon Series "POP Verses"

Tuesday, June 12

Church Council
7 p.m. in Gomedela Room

Sunday, July 1

Holiday Weekend
One Service @ 10:30 a.m.

FIRST CHURCH STAFF

Lara "Willis" Greene, Pastor
Julie Braswell, Church Administrator
Sarah Luhrs, Choir Director
John Coffey, Organist
Michael Roberts, Praise Team
Kristi Spencer, Communications
Kristi Harvell, Preschool Director

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Phone: 828-464-8422
Church Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

www.fumcnewtonnc.org

Like us on Facebook:
facebook.com/fumcnewtonnc

First United Methodist Church

A Church that Loves All People into a Relationship with Jesus Christ
Becoming one diverse community passionately worshipping Jesus
& practicing unprecedented acts of hospitality.

May 13, 2018 • 11:00 a.m.

WE GATHER

Gathering Time - *We welcome everyone! Greet your neighbors with the peace of Christ & take a moment to get to know those around you.*

Prelude - *A time to transition from the outside world to a time of worship.*

Welcome & Opportunities for Ministry

*Call to Worship

Stephen Sims

People: Father of us all, Mother of each one,

Leader: thank you for your love for us from the beginning of time.

People: You formed us when we were in our mother's wombs,

Leader you knit us together lovingly,

People: your devotion to us has not failed,

Leader: your care has followed us our whole life long.

People: All we are and all we have, we owe to you,

Leader: and so on this, the Lord's Day,
in this house devoted to your glory,

**People: we give honor to you with our hearts and hands and voices.
Praise God from whom all blessings flow!**

*Hymn, No. 715

Rejoice, the Lord is King

*Affirmation of Faith, No. 885 A Modern Affirmation

*The Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

**Please stand in praise of God if you are able.*

WE HEAR & RESPOND TO THE WORD

Children's Time Julie Braswell
Children 3 years -2nd grade are invited to follow the leaders to the Children's Dept.

Anthem *A Little Love* Natalie Sleeth

Scripture: Exodus 1:8-20

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Message *The Birthing Room* Rev. Lara "Willis" Greene

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Service of Giving

*Doxology Hymn, No. 94

Praise God, from who all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*Hymn, No. 408 *The Gift of Love*

*Benediction

*Benediction Response, No. 159 *Lift High the Cross*

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim, till all the world adore His sacred name. Come, Christians, follow this triumphant sign, the hosts of God in unity combine. Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim, till all the world adore His sacred name.

*Postlude

**Please stand in praise of God if you are able.*

First Church is stepping into God's vision to become *One diverse community passionately worshipping Jesus & practicing unprecedented acts of hospitality.*

Worship is like a compass – it keeps us oriented toward God. When you're hiking, why do you check your compass? Do you check it because it's entertaining or because it was your grandfather's compass? Do you check it because it's what you've always done at a certain time or a certain place? Probably not - you check it because you need to be oriented toward your destination, likewise with worship. Every song, prayer, scripture and sermon is to orient us toward God. So it is with great excitement that I invite you to join me as we joyfully orient ourselves to God each week during our two distinct worship experiences and a Sunday School time for all ages.

8:30 a.m. - Praise Worship in the Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School Classes

10:30 a.m. - Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

This new Sunday Schedule is the result of prayerful discernment and discussion led by our Vision Team. The Vision Team spent over a year discerning where God is calling this church. Goals and action steps were then formulated to make this vision a reality. One of the action steps was to create a Sunday Schedule that fosters interaction among the whole congregation and maximizes resources. A Task Force composed of stakeholders from all three worship services, Sunday School classes and music programs examined different models and times. They prayerfully discussed what would work best for our congregation and then took their recommendation to the Church Council and it was approved on May 8.

This is an exciting time in the life of First Church! While we acknowledge that change can be unsettling, let us remember the two things that never change ... God's grace & forgiveness - that we offer to one another & to the world. I am honored to be your pastor as we love all people into a relationship with Jesus Christ.

With deep joy,

Willis



PRAYER CONCERNS

Bernice Allen's Family, Nancy Killian, Ronnie Setzer & Family, Jane Benfield, Treeva Sweezy, Earl Barlow, the Family of Sherrill Cranford, the Family of Mac Wellborn, Polly Pearson, Vance Ervin, Gena Spake, Teresa Boyd, Megan Sullivan, Mary Ellen Wilson

Military: Scott Beal, Taylor Bean, Ethan Branton, Todd Houtz, Michael Howard, Tai Orange, David Parker, Camaron Sills, President Trump

Do you have a "life verse" or favorite passage from the Bible?

If so, please share it with us!



POP VERSES - COMING JUNE 2018

Pastor Willis is creating a Sermon Series around the popular verses important to our congregation. "POP Verses" will kick-off June 10. Please complete the info below and place it in the offering plate or drop it by the Church Office. Thank you!

Scripture Verse: _____

Why is it important to you? _____

Name (optional): _____