"Every Member a 'Minister’"

The First Methogram
Making Disciples for Jesus Christ through Love & Service!

First United Methodist Church
Graham, NC

The Windows of Heaven

“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

Fall is one of my favorite seasons of the year. I will never forget the year that I found myself driving down a NC city street lined on both sides with magnificent old oak trees. At any other time of the year, such a journey may have been unremarkable. This time was quite the exception. I found myself unconsciously slowing down as I marveled at the sight: it was raining leaves, literally raining leaves of orange, red, brown, and yellow - from every direction as far as the eye could see.

The scene was even more striking because it was a steady, uninterrupted outpouring from the heavens. I suppressed the innate impulse to turn on my windshield wipers. Instead, I basked in the moment as my car continued moving down the street, which was now completely covered except for two tire tracks down the middle of the road.

The experience left me breathless. It was a scene that reminds me of God’s grace. Too often we find ourselves rushing down the streets of life oblivious to the “showers of blessings” falling all around us. We are so busy traveling from one place to another at break neck paces that we neglect to enjoy the journey of life itself. To put it simply: “We miss the forest for the trees.” The truth is, God has opened up the windows of heaven and continues to pour out daily blessings upon us. Sometimes all we need to do is stop, take note, give thanks, and bask in the shower of beauty and love that is God’s grace. So this week – this month – this Thanksgiving … take time to stop, take note, and give thanks. You may discover little miracles are falling out of heaven all around you.

In gratitude for God’s showers of blessing, Pastor Kevin

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Director:  Faye Waddell
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IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

Donna Barnes Ann Fenton
Phyllis Ricks May Barbara Carter
Mary Helen Linens Elvin Briggs
Mimi Saunders Doris Riley
Marion Lewis David Mallicoat
El & Barbara Lowe Gail Nelson
Linda Ezzell Elizabeth Shoffner
Fern Pike Carol Gates
Vivian Williamson Betty Euliss
Sybil Walters Gretchen Briggs

IN RETIREMENT
OR NURSING FACILITIES

Amy Buckner-Edgewood Skilled Nursing
Mabel Cheek-Blakey Hall
Hazel Craig – Blakey Hall Assisted Living
Mary Harden—Village at Brookwood
Rala B. Hardie– Wilmington, NC 28411
Terrell Lamb—Blakey Hall Assisted Living
Mabel Lloyd-Village at Brookwood
Dobby & Betty May-Elon
Ardith Salisbury-Twin Lakes
Margaret White –The Homestead

In The Military

Travis Woody, Andrew Crissman,
Tim Dehner, Noel Peyton,
Brian T. Bason, Michael Jon Woznick,
Ryan Adamski.

IN SEPTEMBER MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF: GIVEN BY:
Neal Miller Tommy & Judy Hayes
H. C. Harris Tommy & Judy Hayes
H. C. Harris Peggy Jenkins
Jackie W. Kendall Tommy & Judy Hayes
Jackie W. Kendall Julia Howard
Judy Wilkes Tommy & Judy Hayes
Nova Mitchell Vivian Williamson
Nova Mitchell Martin & Marilyn Perkey
Nova Mitchell George & Jeanne Owen
Nova Mitchell Danny Holland
Nova Mitchell Roger & Marsha Jones
Nova Mitchell Raymond & Frances Heath
Nova Mitchell Bill Bradshaw
Nova Mitchell Circle 3
Anne White Peggy Jenkins
Lewis Ruth, Jr. Bill Bradshaw
Lewis Ruth, Jr. Raymond & Frances Heath
Lewis Ruth, Jr. Roger & Marsha Jones
William Bulla Bill Bradshaw
Kent Walker Ed & Carolyn Barnes
Kent Walker Roger & Marsha Jones
Mickey Moody Ed & Carolyn Barnes
Mickey Moody Peggy Jenkins
Mickey Moody Chancel Choir
Nova Mitchell Men’s Bible Class
Nova Mitchell Eddie & Carol Wilkes
Nova Mitchell Buell Moser
Nova Mitchell Clyde & Marie Ward
Judy Wilkes Peggy Jenkins
Bill Bulla Men’s Bible Class
Rometta Warren Chancel Choir
Rometta Warren Julia Howard
Lewis Ruth, Jr. John & Patricia Matthews
Lewis Ruth, Jr. Bill & Camille Szymczak
Anne White Bob & Harriett Wisse
William & Lessie Bulla Dianne O’Neal
K. M. & Clara Cox Gail Cox Nelson

IN HONOR OF: GIVEN BY:
Bobby & Brenda Loy Ed & Carolyn Barnes
Mary Helen Linens Vivian Williamson
Mimi Saunders Gail Cox Nelson

Evangelism Message:

The Good News is that forgiveness and eternal life are a gift of God’s grace received through faith in Christ and available to all people.
On November 11th, FUMC Graham will welcome David Worthington, manager of The New Room in Bristol, England, to speak with us. We will gather at 5 PM to step back into our rich, Methodist heritage and understand more about the importance of Bristol in the Wesleys’ lives and how significant it was in the establishment of Methodism in the US.

One of David’s main objectives is to raise awareness of the importance of The New Room as the cradle of the Methodist movement and its role in establishing the American Methodist Church. In addition, he will also be highlighting the long-term future development plans for the ongoing work at The New Room and illustrate how we use the heritage and history of this building in our ministry today.

In addition to the New Room and Charles Wesley’s House, David will also highlight the many other Methodist Heritage sites in Bristol that are directly connected to the Wesleys, such as The Brickfields, Hanham Mount and Bristol Cathedral. Other names associated with the birth of American Methodism, including Captain Thomas Webb, Francis Asbury and Thomas Coke, are also commemorated at various sites around the city including Portland Street, Dighton Street and Pill.

Three quotations which he believes best illustrate how important heritage is as a means of telling our story, and so reaching out and sharing the Christian message are;

‘Heritage is part of our mission because it is in our roots, that our strength and nourishment are found from it’ - Methodist Heritage Handbook.

‘The heritage of the past is the seed that brings forth the harvest of the future’ - engraved plinth at the National Archives building in Washington DC.

‘The better we comprehend the beginnings of Methodism, the more likely it will be that our present witness will be faithful to the founding principles of the denomination.’ - feedback received in response to one of his talks.

Mark your calendars now and plan to join us!
**SHOEBOX MINISTRY**

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God’s love.

This program sponsored by Samaritan’s Purse provides an opportunity for people of all ages to be involved in a simple, hands-on mission’s project while focusing on the true meaning of Christmas—Jesus Christ, God’s greatest gift.

FUMC will once again be participating in this important ministry. Instructions for preparing the shoeboxes is available in the breezeway, next to the lobby, and also in the Coffee Shop in the front of Stafford Hall.

You may return filled boxes to the same area (Shoebox deadline is Sun, December 2). The high school UMYF will be transporting the shoeboxes to the Samaritans Purse warehouse in Charlotte on Saturday, December 8.

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**UMYF Calendar**

**Sunday, November 4th**
Salad & Baked Potato Fundraiser after Worship
 UMYF 5:30 – 7pm
Stafford Hall opens at 5pm
Program: Gossip

**November 9-11th**
Pilgrimage!!!
“If Not Now...When, If Not Us...Who?”

**Saturday, November 10th**
High School Fundraiser
UNC vs. Georgia Tech
See Erin Mercs to sign-up
We will need parent and other adult volunteers to help since the youth will be at Pilgrimage

**Sunday, November 18th**
Youth Council 4-5pm
UMYF 5:30-7pm
Stafford Hall opens at 5pm
Program: Unresolved Anger

**Saturday, November 24th**
High School Fundraiser
UNC vs. Maryland
See Erin Mercs to sign-up

**Sunday, November 25th**
Wesley Wares
3:00 – 5:30pm
Wesley Wares is a children’s mission project that FUMC has sponsored for 18 years. Members of our youth group will be shopper buddies for the children and will help with wrapping gifts. Youth are asked to meet at the church by 3pm. Afterwards, the United Methodist Men will be sponsoring a pancake supper starting at 5:00pm (Donations will be accepted). We will also be offering an advent wreath making station in the back of Stafford Hall for families. Youth who are not staying for the supper will need to be picked up at 5:00pm.

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**Salad & Baked Potato Luncheon**
The UMYF would like to invite everyone to its annual Salad & Baked Potato Luncheon on Sunday, Nov 4 immediately following the 11am worship service. There is no cost for the meal, however donations will be accepted to help raise money for the youth to attend Pilgrimage in Fayetteville on November 9-11th. If you would be willing to donate a dessert for this meal please let Brian or Luanne Lowe know by Monday, Oct 29. Thanks!
Library Lowdown

The FUMC library added eleven new books in October. The Library Ministry Team appreciates the support of our congregation. You can find the following titles on the "New Books" shelf or "Pastor Kevin Recommends" shelf next to the DVDs. We would appreciate a quick return for the next reader.

Men of Sunday: How Faith Guides the Players, Coaches & Wives of the NFL by Curtis Eichelberger was donated by Wendy Yoder in honor of Brian Yoder.

Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths by Bruce Feiler.

The Law Of Happiness: How Spiritual Wisdom and Modern Science Can Change Your Life by Dr. Henry Cloud.

The Road to Grace by Richard Paul Evans.

Through My Eyes by Tim Tebow.

Close Enough to Hear God Breathe by Greg Paul.

Fearless: The Undaunted Courage and Ultimate Sacrifice of Navy Seal Team SIX Operator Adam Brown by Eric Blehm.

Desperate Housewives of the Bible N.T. Edition by Robert Strand.

The Shape of Living: Spiritual Directions for Everyday Life by David Ford.

Confessions by Saint Augustine (Pastor Baker's shelf)

Walking in the Dust of Rabbi Jesus: How the Jewish Words of Jesus Can Change Your Life by Lois Tverberg.

Youth in Heart will meet at the church November 6th, at 10:30 am in T. J Whitehead classroom. Our speaker will be Gina Blackwell, Director of Volunteer Services at Alamance Regional Medical Center.

Come join us and see what fun and new adventures await!
Newcomers are always welcome!
Plan to join us for "Fun/Game Day" Wednesday, November 14th 1-4pm in Stafford Hall.
FUN, GAMES, REFRESHMENTS, FELLOWSHIP!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
NOVEMBER 12 - 6:00 – 8:00 PM
SMITHFIELD BBQ in Mebane
Fundraiser for New Mt. Zion Church, sponsored by the Evangelism Team.

We look forward to serving our church family and will receive all of your tips plus 20% of the sales during the two hour period.

The Evangelism Team would appreciate your support for our last fundraiser for New Mt. Zion Church. Thanks!

We’ll see you at Smithfield BBQ!!
Greetings and News from the Playschool

November is here and the Playschool children will be learning about the letters G, H, and I with lots of fun art, stories, and songs. We will also learn about Pilgrims, Indians, and the first Thanksgiving. Special days include a trip to the Greensboro Coliseum to see Disney on Ice on the 15th and Brown Day on the 19th & 20th. Parents are invited to Chapel with Mr. Brian on the 26th & 27th.

The Scholastic Book Fair will be at the Playschool November 5 - 9; sales will be conducted during Playschool hours 9:00AM-12:30PM. Family Night will be Wednesday night, November 7 from 5:00PM-6:30PM; refreshments will be served and we will have several parents reading books from the Fair from 5:30-6:00; also a student’s grandparents will play their guitars and sing a story at this time. Please feel free to shop with our families at any of the times listed above. The Playschool will receive 60% of book sales in books for our classrooms.

Our school is participating in a BJ’s Membership Fundraiser. Current members can renew their membership for 14 months at a cost of $40.00; those joining for the first time will receive 15 months for $40.00. Five dollars of each membership fee will come back to the Playschool. The deadline for this fund-raiser is November 19th. Applications are available at the Playschool and church offices.

Thanks to the church members who have purchased Attractions Dining Coupon Books. The Playschool receives $10.00 from each sale; these funds will go into the general operating budget. Books are available immediately in the Playschool office Monday – Friday, 9:00AM – 12:00 noon. Final day for purchase will be Friday, November 30.

Playschool will be closed November 12, 21, 22, & 23. Please call me at the school office (227-9148) if you have any questions.

Let us Rejoice!

Many church members have prayed for Roger Oakley, husband of Beth who is the 1’s Playschool teacher, since learning in the spring of 2011 of his need for a kidney transplant.

God answered those prayers on Tuesday, September 18 when doctors at UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill successfully transplanted a healthy kidney from Mike Foster to Roger. At this writing both men, who are co-workers at GKN are home recovering from the surgery. Mike’s incredible gift has given Roger and his family the opportunity to live a normal life.

Beth and the Playschool staff thank you for your many prayers and kindesses during this time. If you would like to send your regards to these families their addresses are listed below.

Roger Oakley, 2668 Northstream Ct., Haw River, NC 27258
Mike Foster, 3676 White Level Rd., Mebane, NC 27302

Sincerely, Faye Waddell

HAPPY THANKSGIVING from the PLAYSCHOOL STAFF!
**Wesley Wares November 25th**

For those in the congregation who do not know about Wesley Wares, here is a short explanation:

Wesley Wares is a children’s mission project that FUMC has sponsored for 19 years on the Sunday after Thanksgiving. It is a Christmas store here at FUMC which is set up in the T. J. Whitehead Classroom. Children up through 5th grade may come and shop for Christmas presents for their parents, grandparents, siblings, or anyone else they want. All gifts and crafts are donated by the congregation and are worth much more than the children pay. Prices range from $1 to $5. Every penny earned from Wesley Wares goes to a children’s mission project.

This year the Wesley Wares Mission Project is Sunday, November 25th. Please send your gift and craft items beginning Sunday, November 4th and leave them on the table in the church kitchen-each item clearly marked “Wesley Wares”.

**Gift Cards to Benefit Missions**

Christmas is right around the corner and we have just the gift for everyone on your list! Wesley Wares will again be selling gift cards to help purchase animals for orphans through the ZOE Ministry.

New this year, we will also offer gift cards to help purchase medical supplies for those living in Liberia, who are in desperate need of better health care. We will have more information about this project soon.

The gift cards will be $10 and will come complete with gift bag ready for giving.

**Advent Wreaths**

Advent wreaths will be made on Sunday, November 25th during Wesley Wares. If you would like to make a wreath with your family, come to the back of the fellowship hall with your child(ren).

We will also have devotion guides available for you to take home and share together as a family.

If you have any questions, please contact Lori Parker at 336-214-6589 or lnparker@bellsouth.net.

**Christmas Caroling to our Shut-ins**

Children in 1st thru 5th grades, come join us for caroling on December 2nd! We will plan to leave the church after the Christmas play practice is over at 4:00. We will arrive back at church around 5:15 and have pizza.

Please pick-up your child at 5:30. Permission slips are required and will be distributed during Sunday school. This is a lot of fun….hope you can join us! If you have any questions, please contact Lori Parker at 336-214-6589 or lnparker@bellsouth.net.
**SUNDAY SCHEDULE:** The Well Service 9:00am, Reflections/Coffee Shop 10:00am, Sunday School: 10:00am Traditional Worship: 11:00am

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
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| 4   | 7:30am Men’s Breakfast  
Baked Potato Lunch  
4p Charge Conf  
5pm 1st Place | 5   | 10am Circle 2  
2pm Circle 3  
6:30 Girl Scouts  
7pm Cub Scouts | 6   | 10:30am YIH  
7pm Circle 1 | 7   | 10am Crafts  
2-8pm Girl Scouts-Staff Hall  
6:30 Bells  
7:30pm Choir | 8   | 8:15am Thur.  
Prayer Breakfast  
10am Bible Study | 9   | Pilgrimage  
Playschool Book Fair this week Mon-Fri | 10  | Pilgrimage  
LOTS-UMW District Meeting Church reserved-
8am-1pm |
| 11  | Pilgrimage  
3-4pm Children’s Play Practice  
3pm Evangelism  
5pm Service  
With David Worthington | 12  | 6:30 Girl Scouts  
7pm Cub Scouts | 13  | 7pm BOD | 14  | 10am Crafts  
5:30 Play-
school Board  
6:30 Bells  
7:30pm Choir | 15  | 8:15am Thur.  
Prayer Breakfast  
10am Bible Study | 16  | | 17  | |
| 18  | 2-4pm Choir prac  
4-5pm Children’s Play Practice  
4p Youth Council  
5pm UMYF | 19  | 6:30 Girl Scouts  
7pm Cub Scouts | 20  | 7pm Finance | 21  | 10am Crafts  
6:30 Bells  
7:30pm Choir | 22  | | 23  | Church office closed | 24  | |
| 25  | 3:30 Wesley Wares  
5pm UMM Pancake Supper | 26  | 6:30 Girl Scouts  
7pm Cub Scouts | 27  | | 28  | 6:30 Bells  
7:30pm Choir | 29  | 8:15am Thur.  
Prayer Breakfast | 30  | Craft Fair  
Gordon Painter Stew Sale! | |

**November 2012**

**WE THANK GOD FOR:**

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 8:15am Thur. Prayer Breakfast

2

3

4 7:30am Men’s Breakfast  
Baked Potato Lunch  
4p Charge Conf  
5pm 1st Place

5 10am Circle 2  
2pm Circle 3  
6:30 Girl Scouts  
7pm Cub Scouts

6 10:30am YIH  
7pm Circle 1

7 10am Crafts  
2-8pm Girl Scouts-Staff Hall  
6:30 Bells  
7:30pm Choir

8 8:15am Thur. Prayer Breakfast  
10am Bible Study

9 Pilgrimage  
Playschool Book Fair this week Mon-Fri

10 Pilgrimage  
LOTS-UMW District Meeting Church reserved-
8am-1pm

11 Pilgrimage  
3-4pm Children’s Play Practice  
3pm Evangelism  
5pm Service  
With David Worthington

12 6:30 Girl Scouts  
7pm Cub Scouts

13 7pm BOD

14 10am Crafts  
5:30 Play-
school Board  
6:30 Bells  
7:30pm Choir

15 8:15am Thur. Prayer Breakfast  
10am Bible Study

16

17

18 2-4pm Choir prac  
4-5pm Children’s Play Practice  
4p Youth Council  
5pm UMYF

19 6:30 Girl Scouts  
7pm Cub Scouts

20 7pm Finance

21 10am Crafts  
6:30 Bells  
7:30pm Choir

22

23 Church office closed

24 Note: There will be a baby shower for Kirsten Beaver McCoy on Sun. Dec 2nd from 2-4pm. It’s a Girl!! They are registered at Target

25 3:30 Wesley Wares  
5pm UMM Pancake Supper

26 6:30 Girl Scouts  
7pm Cub Scouts

27

28 6:30 Bells  
7:30pm Choir

29 8:15am Thur. Prayer Breakfast

30 Craft Fair  
Gordon Painter Stew Sale!