

First United Methodist Church Graham, NC

The First Methogram

Making Disciples for Jesus Christ through Love & Service!

Jesus entered a village where a woman named Martha welcomed him as a guest. She had a sister named Mary who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to His message. By contrast, Martha was preoccupied with getting everything ready for their meal. - Luke 10:38-40

Joanna Weaver has written an entire book on this story of Mary, Martha, and Jesus – entitled, "Having a Mary heart in a Martha world." In it, she tells the story of a pastor's wife named Teri who was preparing to have company over one night. Like Martha, Teri was the ultimate host. She worked all day on a four course meal complete with a fancy dessert. She spent time in between cooking parts of the meal in the rest of the house, cleaning, dusting, vacuuming, setting the table, and making sure everything was in order and in place for an evening with guests:

"I'd been so busy cooking and cleaning," she says, "I had completely missed lunch." But it was only four o'clock and the guests weren't due until six. "I always kept a hidden stash of Snickers bars," she says with a grin. So she grabbed a couple of candy bars and sat down to rest, enjoying her clean living room and beautifully set table. ... "It did the trick! My stomach wasn't growling anymore. I was able to take my shower, do my hair, and get dressed with

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plenty of time to spare." It wasn't until Teri sat down to dinner that she discovered the problem. "There I was with that wonderful dinner I'd worked all day to prepare, but my appetite was gone!" The midafternoon snack had taken the edge off of her hunger. She ended up picking at her plate as she watched everyone else dig in, enjoying their meal. "The Lord spoke to me at that moment," Teri says. "He showed me that we often fill our lives with spiritual Snickers bars – things like friends, books, and shopping. They may be good things, completely innocent things – but not when they take the edge off our hunger for God."

Here is a question: Have you allowed your life to become filled up with the spiritual equivalent of a Snickers bar? Have you allowed things, completely innocent things – or maybe good – really good things – to take the edge off of your hunger for God? If you have, I want to invite you to follow Mary's lead and find time to sit at Jesus feet. Make regular worship a renewed priority in your life. Consider joining one of our new LIFE groups as a way to reorder your weekly rhythm towards more prayer, praise, and shared life with spiritual friends. Attend one of our ongoing Sunday School classes, and join other learners at Jesus' feet. Sign up for our first ever Fall Discipleship Academy to be held on Saturday, October 26th from 9AM-

12:00PM – yet another opportunity intended to help us all grow as disciples as we gather together to dig deeper into the Word – and to take time to pray, reflect, and listen once again to the mystery and miracle of God's reconciling love and mission in the world.

All of these things are just some of the ways that FUMCG is seeking to deepen our faith in God and expand opportunities for spiritual growth and personal discipleship. I believe they are a few things that might help us better cultivate a "Mary heart in a Martha world." Won't you join me in choosing the "better part?"

The Lord answered, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things. One thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the better part. It won't be taken away from her."- Luke 10:41-42 Growing with you at the feet of the Master, Pastor Kevin

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Kevin@nccumc.org
Website:
www.fumcgraham-nc.org



Donna Barnes Jerry Hux Phyllis Ricks May Denny Wise Elvin Briggs Mary Helen Linens Anne Briggs Judy Way El & Barbara Lowe Lib Shoffner Betty Lou Perry Carol Gates Vivian Williamson Doris Riley Lauren Wilburn Alexis Duncan Otto Hardt Toni Ennis **Everette Powell** Livia Emeric James Fogleman **Bob Wisse** Tim Laverty Bill Barbee

Please email prayer@fumcgraham-nc.org to add or remove a name on the prayer list, Or call 226-4343.

IN RETIREMENT **OR NURSING FACILITIES**

Monteze Anglin-Alamance Health Care Amy Buckner-Edgewood Skilled Nursing Mabel Cheek-Blakey Hall John Clark-Alamance House Hazel Craig – Alamance Health Care Mary Harden—Village at Brookwood Rala B. Hardie-Wilmington, NC Terrell Lamb—Blakey Hall Assisted Living Mary Helen Linens-Liberty Commons Kathryn Lockamy-Blakey Hall Dobby & Betty May-Blakey Hall Ardith Salisbury-Twin Lakes Margaret White -The Homestead

In The Military

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

AUGUST MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF: **GIVEN BY:**

Jerry Cobb Charles & Camille Staton

Louella Hall Joe Fisher Billy Nunziato Peggy Jenks Phyllis Wlotzko Peggy Jenks

Donald & Penny Hardie Marion Lewis

IN HONOR OF: **GIVEN BY:**

Ken & Pat Hall Joe Fisher

Nettie Ruth Bason Donald & Penny Hardie Donald & Penny Hardie Jeanne Owen Clyde & Marie Ward Jerry & Diana Cummings

In Memory of Mildred Walker

Joe Fisher

Ed & Carolyn Barnes

Julia Howard

Jerry & Diana Cummings

David & Carol Steele

William & Elsie Robertson

Gretchen Briggs

Glen Raven Fabrics

Andy & Mary Evelyn Rich

Gail Nelson

Pat Dixon

Dot & Bob Newsome

Joseph & Nancy Johnson

Neil & Cathy Pinter

Gene & Elaine Caudill

Don & Dot Lee

Charles & Camille Staton

Gene & Becky Payne

Vivian & Stanley Perry

Ed & Deborah Lanning

James, Amy, & Will Burton

Myrtle Walker

Buzz & Sandra Hartford

The Jack Kimrey Family

Elwyn & Barbara Lowe

Donald & Penny Hardie

Evangelism Message

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2 NIV



| 10/1 | Betty Lou Perry | | | |
|-------|------------------|--|--|--|
| 10/1 | Kim Staton | | | |
| 10/2 | Kay Ferguson | | | |
| 10/3 | , . | | | |
| | John Clark | | | |
| 10/4 | Madelyn Jones | | | |
| 10/4 | Cheryl Perry | | | |
| 10/5 | Stacy Koon | | | |
| 10/5 | Sergio Almodòvar | | | |
| 10/6 | Monteze Anglin | | | |
| 10/6 | Roy Salter | | | |
| 10/7 | Elaine Caudill | | | |
| 10/7 | Jessica Jones | | | |
| 10/7 | Dot Lee | | | |
| 10/7 | Denny Wise | | | |
| 10/8 | John Bryant | | | |
| 10/8 | Charles Collins | | | |
| 10/8 | Sam Royal | | | |
| 10/9 | Adam Linens | | | |
| 10/10 | Diana Cummings | | | |
| 10/11 | Lauren Perkey | | | |
| 10/11 | Andy Rich | | | |
| 10/13 | Erin Barnhill | | | |
| 10/13 | Howard Malinski | | | |
| 10/13 | Megan O'Neal | | | |
| 10/14 | Jay Carter | | | |
| 10/14 | Hazel Craig | | | |
| 10/14 | Anita Sherer | | | |
| | | | | |

| 10/16 | Lindley Hardie |
|-------|-------------------|
| 10/16 | Ryan Allshouse |
| 10/17 | Kassidy Wood |
| 10/18 | Eric Fenton |
| 10/18 | Maycie Lloyd |
| 10/18 | Tres Nash |
| 10/18 | Steve Van Pelt |
| 10/19 | Amy Royal |
| 10/20 | Carolyn Seay |
| 10/20 | Chuck Van Pelt |
| 10/22 | Joe Hauser |
| 10/22 | Greta Johnson |
| 10/23 | J. T. Moore |
| 10/23 | Hailey Lambert |
| 10/24 | Chris Collins |
| 10/24 | Jean Phillips |
| 10/27 | Virgileen Boyle |
| 10/28 | Matt Linens |
| 10/28 | Vivian Williamson |
| 10/28 | Anderson Wyatt |
| 10/29 | Amanda Almadòvar |
| 10/29 | Chris Rollins |
| 10/29 | Mary Ann Van Pelt |
| | J |



10/14 Kenley Linens

FUMC Graham's Annual Charge Conference:

10/30 Pat Johnson

10/31 Jamie Linens

Monday Evening October 21, 2013 7-9pm

Stewardship Corner

Did you know ...

that very visionary members of FUMC set out years ago to purchase all the properties on our block so that we would not be land-locked when the church desired to expand due to ministry growth? We currently own the four houses on Market Street (3 rentals and one that serves as our Scout Hut) and two rental homes on Albright St. (one which serves as an Oxford House).

When we retire our loan total of \$101,145, we will not only add \$30,000 to our annual budget but we will also own the whole block and be able take next steps toward a strategic plan for the future use of the property behind our buildings.

Did you know ...

you can now use this QR code to go directly to our online donation page from our newsletters or bulletins?



UMW YARD SALE UPDATE



The United Methodist Women's annual

Church Yard Sale, which was the week of Sept 16th, was very successful! Thanks to those of you who were here to help pick up, unload, unpack, sort, price, move, haul, sell, count, clean, buy food for the workers, prepare lunch, give many hours of your time each day, and so much more.

Your hard work is appreciated!

\$_____was raised for special projects decided by the Methodist Women.



The UMYF are off to a great start! We are so excited to introduce a

worship service

for our teenagers this year and encourage all of our youth, grades six to twelve, to get involved.

Currently, the youth are participating in the *I* am *Second* series, which has been a church-wide effort.

The youth group would like to thank all who participated in our impromptu food drive for **Allied Churches of Alamance County**.

We were able to donate approximately 200 cans of food along with other non-perishable goods, which will be used in the ACAC food pantry, built in an effort to help fill the gap that was left after the closing of Loaves and Fishes.

Pilgrimage 2013 will be here before we know it and we are asking all interested youth to fill out the pre-registration form on our website.

Please contact <u>Erin Mercs</u> for UNC Football sign-ups.

Grace and Peace, Nathan A. Blake nablake0512@gmail.com

WESLEY WARES

We will start collecting gift and craft items soon for Wesley Wares which will be on Sunday, December 1 at 3:30 PM.

Wesley Wares is a children's mission that is a tradition at FUMC

Graham. It happens every year on the Sunday following Thanksgiving.

Although the store is open only for a brief period of time on that day, it takes months of preparations. Children up through fifth grade are invited to come shop in our store for Christmas gifts for their families, friends, and teachers. The gifts are priced from \$1.00 to \$5.00, but are worth much more. This is where you come in, we need new items to stock our store. We will also be calling on you for special items that will written on post it notes on the bulletin board across from the office. When it is all over, the children have their gifts beautifully wrapped by the youth of our and church and we give the monies collected for the gifts to a children's mission or missions.

For more information contact Susan Rayle, Carolyn Barnes, or Kay Ferguson.

Children's Corner...

Family Movie Night



Friday, October 18th
7pm in Stafford Hall
Free refreshments
Please bring non-perishable
food items for Allied Churches
food bank.



Sunday, October 27th

4-6pm at FUMC

Inflatables on the front lawn, cotton candy, music, & a hot dog supper.

Special Halloween treat bags will be given to the children.





Young in Heart will meet at the church October 1, at 10:30am in T. J

Whitehead classroom. Mike Johnson of Johnson & Associates will be our guest speaker and the topic will be "Retirement Planning." Come join us and see what fun and new adventures await! Newcomers are always welcome.

YOUNG IN HEART GAME DAY!

Plan to join us for 'Fun/Game Day' Wednesday, October 9th from 1-4pm in Stafford Hall. FUN, GAMES, REFRESHMENTS, FELLOWSHIP!

BACKPACK BLESSINGS

Want to help fight hunger right here in Alamance County? Join the New Horizons Sunday School Class in packing a backpack full of food for children at South Graham Elementary School. We will be filling 10 backpacks every Friday with



food to feed these children and their families over the weekend.

Check the Narthex or Coffee shop for a list of the 6 menus we will be packing and keep it on hand when you do your grocery shopping. No glass containers please! Drop off food items from our weekly list to the Blessings Bucket at the back of Stafford Hall or in the front breezeway by the Sanctuary. Monetary donations are also welcome.

Kid's Ring & Sing

A new music program for our elementary age children in grades 1-5 will be meeting on Sunday afternoons from 3-4



o'clock. This exciting program will include instruction on playing choir chimes as well as singing songs of praise. We will also be preparing our Children's Christmas Program to share with our church family on December 8th. Please contact Doug Rayle at 336-227-0543 or by e-mail at mrayle59@earthlink.net.

Dear FUMC Graham, I am writing to express my gratitude for the Ada White scholarship that I have received. FUMC has played a

key role in making me the person I am today. Not only has this church community helped shape my spiritual and moral aspirations, they have also aided in my intellectual journey. This scholarship will help pay for books and other necessities for college. For that, I am very thankful.

Jake Fulkerson

Dear Church Family,

Thank everyone so much for all the visits, cards, calls, food, and all the kindness shown to me during my recent surgery and recovery.

Thanks especially for the prayers; and for the visits from Pastor Kevin and Dr. Hall.

I appreciate having such a caring church family. Love, Ruth Rudd

To our church family: I want to thank everyone for the many prayers, cards, visits, phone calls and goodies that I received while recovering from my surgery. It surely is gratifying to know that so many people care about you.

Prayerfully Bob Wisse

Thanks to all the church members for the cards, food, and prayers during and after my back surgery. You are

all much appreciated. George Owen

Thank you so very much for the beautiful Peace Lily and Kalanchoe plant you sent to us. It was so comforting to know we were in your thoughts and in your prayers. Steve & Mary Henderson

The Curtain Rises! Thanks to the Brumble Family for donating material to cover the front windows in Stafford Hall. Thanks to Erin Mercs for making the curtains and to Justin Brumble and Keith Surber for installing them. Charles Staton, Lay Leader



At the heart of the gospel is the offer of the gift of reconciliation. It is a gift that remembers creation's original goodness and harmony, wrestles deeply with how sin causes that gift to be thwarted, and anticipates the day when eve-

ry tribe, tongue and nation will experience God's kingdom come in its fullness. Reconciliation is both God's gift and the church's mission. It is precisely this gift that the church is called to receive, announce, and embody in her common life and witness.

Join us for this first Discipleship Academy where participants will be invited to explore and envision how today's church might better grasp this grand, God-sized vision and share it with a broken world in need of healing and hope.

This year's presenter is:

Dr. Edgardo Colón-Emeric



Assistant Professor of Christian Theology, Duke Divinity School

Pre-register online at www.fumcgraham-nc.org or by signing up on forms provided in our Narthex and Coffee Shop

Sermon Series Continues...



October 6 – Success October 13 – Who is First October 20 – Share your Story

Join us as Pastor Baker continues the series titled "I am Second." This series focuses on the power of stories, reminding each of us that we have a personal story/testimony that God desires to incorporate into God's grand salvation story through Jesus. Come, see why you too may want to join others in discovering who desires to be First, and why there is great freedom and healing in confessing that "I am Second."

Real Stories. Changing Lives. If you missed the first three sermons in this series, you can watch them on our website at www.fumcgraham.org. On the Welcome page, simply click on "Media Center", then "launch video player" and choose the date and the service you would like to view.



LIFE GROUPS Have Launched!!!

A LIFE group at FUMCG consists of 6-12 people who meet together weekly for spiritual growth in their discipleship.

Every LIFE group strives to reach UP - through prayer, worship, and study;

IN - through mutual care, support, and encouragement;

OUT - in mission, service, and invitational witness; and FORWARD - empowering and equipping new disciples and leaders.

Check out the list of current offerings below and email the leader if you are interested:

SUNDAY

First Place Nutrition Group (intergenerational) meets at 5pm at the church

Leaders - Susan Rayle: libertygirl74@yahoo.com & Carolyn Barnes: csbarnes@triad.rr.com

TUESDAY

Intergenerational Group (families w/older children, empty nesters, & retirees) meets at 7pm
Leaders - Martin & Marilyn
Perkey: mperkey@triad.rr.com

WEDNESDAY

Intergenerational Group (all LIFE stages) meets at 7pm Leaders - Morgan & Sheri Whitney:

morgan.whitney@earthlink.net

Intergenerational Group (Empty Nesters & Retirees) meets at 7pm Leaders - Tom & Lindy Halverson: lindylh@gmail.com

THURSDAY

Women's Group (all LIFE stages) meets at 7pm Leader - Wendy Yoder: bhy-oder@aol.com

Intergenerational Group (all LIFE stages) meets at 6:30pm Leaders - Max & Judy Way: jud-max@bellsouth.net

SATURDAY

Young Adult group meets at 7pm Leaders - Nathan & Brittany Blake: nablake0512@gmail.com

Please email Brian Yoder: bhyoder@yahoo.com if you have any questions about the LIFE group ministry.

Download the Church

Directory
app on your
Mobile
Device!



Want to check our progress and your information? Check

out our directory app which will put our church directory right onto your mobile device with the click of a few buttons. If your email is already included in the directory information, the app will recognize you as a FUMCG member and allow you to set up your own log-in. Just search for "Instant Church Directory" in your app store and look for the app with the green church logo. Please send us the photo you would like to appear in the directory along with the names as you would have them listed and vour contact information to:

directory@fumcgraham-nc.org

The photos must NOT be copyrighted by the photographer in order for us to publish them. Informal head shots or close-up group photos taken with your camera or camera phone are all that are needed.

We will be setting up times in the Fall for those who would like us to take photos. Emails must be included if you want to have mobile device access. The First Methogram – (USPS 715-740) Published Monthly by First United Methodist Church 303 N. Main Street Graham, North Carolina 27253 Periodicals Postage Paid at Graham, North Carolina 27253

Postmaster: Send Address Changes to: The First Methogram 303 N. Main Street Graham, North Carolina 27253

WE THANK GOD FOR:

SUNDAY SCHEDULE: The Well Service 9:00am, Sunday School: 10:00am Traditional Worship Service: 11:00am

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|--|
| OCTO | BER | 1 10:30am YIH 7pm Circle 1 7pm Life Group | 2 6:30 Bells 7:30 Choir 7pm Life Group | 3 8:15am Thur. Prayer Breakfast 6:30p Life Group 7pm Life Group | 4 | 5 7pm Life Group |
| 6 7am Men's Breakfast 2pm Bridal Shower-Parlor 3p Ring &Sing 5pm 1st Place | 7 10am Circle 2 2pm Circle 3 7pm Cub Scouts | 8 7pm BOD 7pm Life Group | 9 9:30am Library Ministry Team 6:30pm Bells 7pm Life Group 7:30pm Choir | 10 8:15am TPB 7pm Life Group 6:30p Life Group | 11 | 12 7pm Life Group |
| 13 1:30pm Evange- lism-Library 3-4pm Kid's Ring & Sing 5pm 1st Place | 14 7pm Cub Scouts | Newsletter Articles Due 7pm Finance 7pm Life Group | 16 6:30 pm Bells 7pm Life Group 7:30pm Choir | 17 8:15am Thur. Prayer Breakfast 6:30p Life Group 7pm Ad Council 7pm Life Group | 18 7pm Family Movie Night- Stafford Hall | 19 7pm Life Group |
| 20 New Horizons Spaghetti Lunch 3-4pm Kid's Ring & Sing 5pm 1st Place | 21 7pm Cub Scouts 7-9pm Charge Conference | 22 7pm Life Group | 23 6:30 pm Bells 7pm Life Group 7:30pm Choir | 24 8:15am Thur. Prayer Breakfast 7pm Life Group 6:30p Life Group | 25 | 26 9am-Noon Discipleship Academy Stafford Hall 7pm Life Group |
| 27 3-4pm Kid's Ring & Sing 4-6pm Fall Family Fest. 5pm 1st Place | 28 7pm Cub Scouts | 29 7pm Life Group | 30 6:30 pm Bells 7pm Life Group 7:30pm Choir | 31 8:15am Thursday Prayer Breakfast 6:30p Life Group 7pm Life Group | 20 | 13 |