

First Newton

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Becoming one diverse community

Worshipping Jesus passionately

Practicing unprecedented acts of hospitality

LOVING ALL PEOPLE INTO A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST



HONORING JOE GOBLE: A LONG LIFE WELL LIVED

Joe Goble would have celebrated his 105th birthday on September 10. Joe passed away peacefully in his sleep on August 24 at Abernethy Laurels. That will not stop September 10 from being a day to celebrate Joe. His Celebration of Life Service will be held that day here at the church and friends and family will gather to acknowledge a remarkable life, lived by a remarkable man.

One of the major storylines in Joe's life was his military service during World War II. He survived a brutal battle in Guadalcanal, where he was severely shot in the leg while carrying a fellow wounded soldier to safety. He was awarded the Silver Star, Purple Heart and the Sharpshooter medal for his service.

"Joe was not braggadocios and never stood himself out," said Gail McRee. "But he would share his experience freely when asked."

When Joe returned home from war he settled in Newton. He and his wife Katheryn owned and operated Goble Jewelers for over 30 years in downtown Newton. Many of our church members, including Norris McRee and Jim Stockner, remember buying their engagement rings from Joe.

"Joe was very energetic and always on the go," said Betty Newsome. It was Joe that introduced Betty to her love of hiking. "I played tennis, and one day Joe told me that I should try hiking and invited me to join the group the following Wednesday. I was hooked after the first hike. Joe insisted that everyone who hiked carry a stick. He brought me a stick on that first Wednesday, and I still have it."

Friends of Joe recall his mission trips to help folks in near and far-away places, and his love for the church and the Wednesday night meals he used to attend at First Newton. "Joe had so many interests, and did them all so well," remembers McRee. From hiking the Appalachian Trail, to boating in Maine, to starting and tending a rose garden at Abernethy Laurels, Joe lived a full life throughout his 104 years and First Newton is blessed to have been a part of his journey.

NEW SERMON SERIES ON FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT

Beginning September 8, Pastor Willis will begin a three-part sermon series on the Fruits of the Spirit. Are you able to name them? There are nine: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. These fruits are the obvious evidence that a person has the Spirit of God living inside and ruling over them. They display the character of a life submitted to God. Which fruit(s) do you see in yourself? Others? Which character do you struggle with the most? Should we be working to improve and strengthen them all? We will explore God's Word together to learn more in our quest to become more like Jesus. We hope you will join us each Sunday in September, and invite a friend or neighbor to join you.

REMINDER: If you miss a Sunday, or want to go back and listen to a sermon again, you will find each week's sermon on our website: www.firstnewton.org/resources/sermons

A MESSAGE FROM RON SINCLAIR

First Church has a tradition of a "Christmas Choir" consisting of people who are not normally part of the choir each week. This year, that tradition will continue and we need YOU to join us. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. PLEASE come and be a part of something special! For more information, contact Ron Sinclair at ronsinclair@firstnewton.org or chat with him on Sundays.



SUNDAY, SEPT. 15 @ 11:45 a.m. in the FELLOWSHIP HALL



AN UPDATE FROM ECCCM: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

ECCCM is in desperate need of volunteers for their thrift store. They need people to run the register, to put new merchandise out, and to organize and tidy up the store. If you would consider volunteering on a regular basis, whether daily, weekly, or monthly, please call Allen Sherrill at 828-465-1702 ext. 116, or go to ECCCM's website's volunteer section at ecccm.org to learn more and fill out a volunteer form. Times are flexible and they will work with what is convenient for you. Thank you for considering serving.

ECCCM's Share the Harvest Banquet is Saturday, September 14 at 5 p.m. at the Catawba County Country Club. The Extraordinaires will be performing. Tickets are \$75 per person or 10 tickets for \$700. Dress is cocktail attire. Tickets may be purchased at ecccm.org or by contacting Kristal Manning at 828-465-1702. All proceeds will benefit ECCCM to help those in need in Eastern Catawba County.

FIRST NEWTON HOSTING UNITED METHODISM COURSES

Dr. Jonathan LeMaster-Smith is once again leading classes in UM History, Doctrine, and Polity. The schedule for each 2-day course is listed below. The cost of the courses will be \$35 each, which covers the cost of refreshments and lunches. There are also books that are required. Register on-line at: <https://wnc-reg.brtaapp.com/LayServantCoursesFall2019>

- **United Methodist History:**
Friday, Sept. 13, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 14, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- **United Methodist Doctrine:**
Friday, Oct. 11, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 12, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- **United Methodist Polity:**
Friday, Nov. 15, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 16, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



In August, JOY celebrated its third year of ministry. From left to right: Marjo Erickson, Debbie Rights, Mary Yoder, Bev Underwood, and granddaughter, Layla Isenhour.

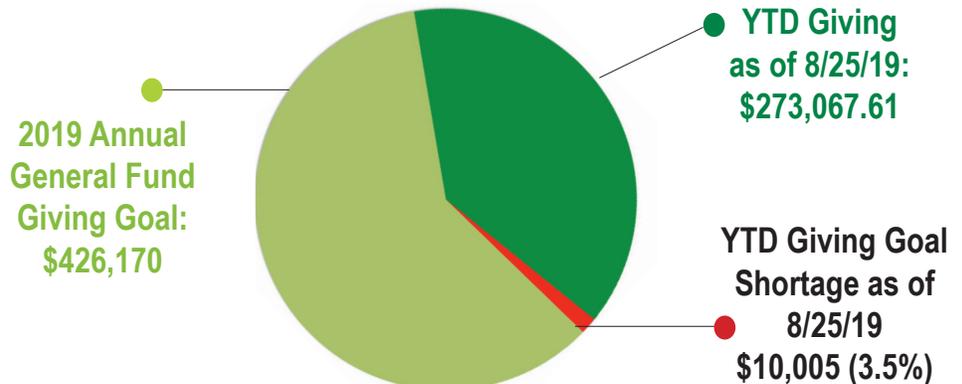


NEXT JOY GATHERING IS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

JOY meets the 2nd Thursday of every month in the Fellowship Hall. Coffee and refreshments are available at 9:30 a.m., and the program begins at 10 a.m. with a time of devotion followed by a program. The September devotion will be led by Rev. Philip Setzer from Shiloh UMC. Our program "How our Body, Mind, & Spirit Can Work Together to Promote Healthier Life Styles," will be led by Pat Benfield, Director of Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation at Catawba Valley Medical Center. The lunch menu is chicken pie, rice and gravy, green beans and assorted desserts. Reservations are recommended. Call the Church Office at 828-464-8422 by Tuesday, September 10 to RSVP.

AN UPDATE FROM THE FINANCE TEAM

The Finance Team has provided a snapshot of our year-to-date giving (shown below) to keep us up to speed on our church finances. These numbers reflect offerings received through 8/25/19. Additional income may be received for the month of August. Detailed financial updates (with month-end final data) are shared at the monthly Church Council meetings and notes are made available in the Welcome Center. The next Church Council meeting will be held Tuesday, September 10 at 7 p.m. in the Gomedela Room. Meetings are open for anyone to attend. You may also contact George Wilkinson with questions at gwilkinson0228@gmail.com



Children & youth

NURSERY: For children up to 4 years 8:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. on Level 1

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. Children 3 years - 5th Grade on Level 1. Our 1st-5th graders will begin exploring **BIBLE CHARACTERS** in September. Every two weeks we will learn about a character and how God used them to make a difference. Youth Sunday School (6th-12th grade) will continue to meet in the Activity Room, on the basement level.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH RETURNS: Children's Church will be offered each Sunday except Communion Sundays (1st Sundays), for **KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 2ND GRADERS**. We will leave service after the Time for All Ages and meet in the Chapel (**NOTE THE NEW LOCATION!**)

CONFIRMATION: For Middle School Youth Group this school year, we will be doing confirmation. All 6th-8th graders are invited to meet on Sundays from 4:15-5:45 p.m. in the basement Activity Room for Confirmation sessions. See Deacon Shannon to get the full calendar of events, including service projects, retreats, and fun outings.

HERE'S A LOOK AT OUR UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Sunday, September 8 (9:30 a.m.): Youth ministry planning during Sunday School
- Sunday, September 8 (5-8 p.m.): Youth & Family Pool Party at Conover Pool (for 6th - 12 th graders and their families)
- Sundays, Sept. 15, 22, 29 (4:15 - 5:45 p.m.): Confirmation for Middle Schoolers
- Sunday, October 6: Church Fall Festival
- Sunday, October 20: Hunger Walk (great for families!)

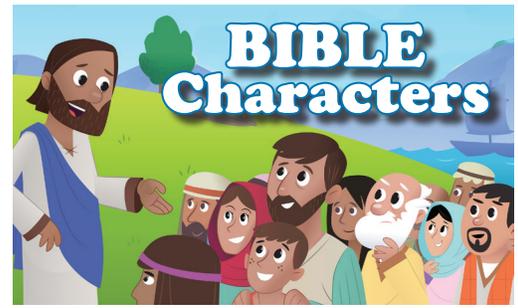


NEWTON

METHODIST PRESCHOOL

SUMMER PRESCHOOL ENDS, NEW SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS

Summer preschool was packed with fun and learning including Llama pajama day, Pig the Pug, Curious George and lots more fun and learning. Fall Preschool starts on Tuesday, September 3.



Children's Sunday School has an exciting new curriculum starting in September. Come learn about characters in the Bible!



As part of the Move Monday summer series, a group of kids and adults hiked the Peavine rail trail in Marion.

KIDS FOR CHRIST STARTS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

k4C is an after school ministry for children in Kindergarten - 6th Grade. k4C meets Wednesdays 3:00-5:30 p.m. during the school year. Transportation is provided for a few area elementary schools. The brochure and registration form is available on the church website and in the Welcome Center.

www.firstnewton.org/k4c

Our theme this year at Kids for Christ is Fruits of the Spirit. Each month we will explore a fruit through story, music, art, drama, and missions.

Contact Deacon Shannon at deaconshannon@firstnewton.org or 336-460-1769 if you have any questions or would like to serve with k4C this year.



Galatians 5:22-23

FIRST CHURCH IS SEEKING A PRAISE TEAM LEADER

The purpose of this position is to provide oversight, spiritual leadership and creative support to the music and media of the Praise Service. This person will lead the worship service, guide the praise team, create media presentations and recruit musical volunteers in order to present a high quality and energetic worship experience each week. This is a position that requires someone with a passion for music and a heart for Jesus Christ. Contact the Church Office for more information and a complete job description. If you or someone you know is interested, please submit a cover letter, with resume and references to office@firstnewton.org.

AUGUST MEMORIALS

Pat Britt.....	JOY Ministry
Abigail McRee Butterfield	Garden Fund
Beau Evans Butterfield	Garden Fund
Ryan Fox	Columbarium Fund
David Propst.....	Garden Fund
Marie Pope	Garden Fund

AVERAGE SUNDAY ATTENDANCE	AUGUST 2018	AUGUST 2019
Sunday School	45	40
8:30 Contemporary Worship Service	64	47
10:30 Traditional Worship Service	112	109
TOTAL WORSHIP AVERAGE	176	156

FIRST CHURCH STAFF

Lara “Willis” Greene, Pastor

P: 828-461-5918 | E: willisgreene@firstnewton.org

Shannon LeMaster-Smith, Deacon,

Minister of Discipleship - Children, Youth & Outreach

P: 336-460-1769 | E: DeaconShannon@firstnewton.org

Beverly Underwood, Church Administrator

P: 828-464-8422 | E: office@firstnewton.org

Ron Sinclair, Director of Music | E: ronsinclair@firstnewton.org

John Coffey, Organist | E: johnnyjava@earthlink.net

Kristi Spencer, Communications Director

P: 704-607-3280 | E: kristispencer@firstnewton.org

Megan Johnson, Nursery Coordinator | E: meganlj1997@gmail.com

Kristi Harvell, Preschool Director

P: 828-465-6397 | E: newtonmethodistpreschool@gmail.com

FACILITIES EMAIL: fumcproperty@gmail.com

Please use this email address to raise any property concerns and building repair requests.



BIRTHDAYS

John Branton Jr.9/1	Morgan Butler9/17
Treva Sweezy9/1	Larry Caldwell II9/17
Moe Peacock9/3	Johnny Isenhour9/17
Erica Isenhour9/4	Taylor Bean9/18
Braxton Smith9/4	Karen Arndt9/19
Bryson Smith9/4	Harrison Cadwallader9/19
Carl Wayne9/6	Chasity Miller9/19
Wendy Hildebran9/7	Doris White9/19
Nicholas Foster9/8	Margaret Dixon9/21
Betty Newsome9/8	Pat Gantt9/22
JoAnne Hewins9/11	Patrick Loyzelle9/22
Alex Yoder9/11	Laura DeVos9/23
Will Yoder9/11	Alice Averitt9/24
Evelyn Brady9/12	Tony Philmon9/25
Tyler Helms9/12	Elizabeth Branton9/26
Brandon Mayberry9/13	Carleen Jarrett9/26
Devin King9/14	Gail McRee9/26
Dot Harmon9/15	Susan Kale9/27
Marisa Jones9/15	Cynthia Lemons9/27
Wayne Smith9/15	Neely Harvell9/29
Katie Templeton9/15	Alexis King9/30

ANNIVERSARIES

Clarence & Gaye Hood Jr.	9/3
Merv & Betty McGee Jr.	9/3
Jim & Janet Byrd Jr.	9/5
Jim & Vicki Yount	9/5
Michael & Angela Gantt	9/11
Bill & Diane Shillito	9/13
Bill & Jean Hasty	9/15
Jason & Ashley Lamb	9/18
Kenneth & Anne Hunsucker	9/19
Jim & Trilby Stockner	9/28
Larry & Stacey Gregory	9/29

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to honor or memorialize someone or celebrate a special birthday or anniversary with flowers for the altar in the Sanctuary, please contact Bev Underwood in the Church Office at 828-464-8422 or email office@firstnewton.org.