

THE FIRST WORD

2020-08 First United Methodist Church – 109 West College Street – Winnsboro, SC 2020-08



Pastor Steve and Stephanie come to us from Kansas City, Missouri (it's important that you know it's MO because that's the "big city;" KC, Kansas is a tiny little place). Pastor Steve worked in the corporate world as a project manager for 25+ years before going into the ministry. Steve also spent eight years with the US Navy beginning that career at the age of 38. First is only his second church as he was with Faubion UMC in Gladstone, MO for six years. Stephanie has worked in the corporate world in the accounting department for many years. She has been working in real estate for the last year and plans to continue that here in SC. They have four children, four grand-children and another expected in January. Their home is full with their Great Pyrenees/Lab mix, Finn. Come to learn more about your pastor at his "*First Fridays with Pastor Steve*" starting August 7th at 8:00am in Fellowship Hall.

Kingdom of God Attacked

If August weather is an indicator of the previous couple of months of our spring and summer, it's going to be a hot one. Heat, as we've seen, often brings out the impatience and intolerance of people.

Let me start by saying that I'm in prayer for our great nation. I'm in prayer for the communities that have been hit by the violence and rioting over the past number of months – both in our country and abroad. I'm in prayer for OUR community and the lives that we touch. I'm in prayer for each of you as you step out in this world to show God's love through your examples.

In the wake of the lives that have been taken, the death of police officers performing their difficult duties and the terroristic threats that seem to plague the world we live in daily, I want to encourage you. This will not be some great revelation that was given to me concerning the End Times. This will also not be a "fix-it" for the world's problems. This is from God's Word and will not be easy – Jesus told us it wouldn't be as Christians.

Matthew 11 looks at a time when John the Baptist was in prison and writing to Jesus. John has always been bold in his proclaiming the kingdom of God. Just to set the record straight, as Christians, we are living in the kingdom of God today – life on this earth under the rule of Christ! This kingdom, through us, must overshadow this world and the destructive nature found within it.

In John's question to Jesus, he appears to be robbed of his boldness and faith. He asks, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we be looking for another?" John asks Jesus if he is the Messiah who will save his people or just another prophet. Jesus sends back word to John that the blind are able to see, the deaf can now hear, skin diseases are cleansed, the dead are being raised and the poor have good news proclaimed to them. Jesus is asking John to answer his own question by proclaiming the good that God is doing.

When bad things happen, as humans, we tend to fixate on those things. The media doesn't give us a break as they discuss every angle of the tragedy. As people come together in social events, these tragedies and potential "fixes" are discussed, usually at someone's expense. Jesus even tells us in Matthew 11:12, "**From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven is violently attacked as violent people seize it.**" But there is hope – and it begins with us.

God wants us to see the good in this world that he is doing. Much of what he is doing is through people like you and I who have our eyes fixated on Him. As Christians, we have a responsibility to demonstrate the kingdom of God to all those we come into contact with. Show love to that person as you hold the door for them with a smile and pleasant greeting. Show compassion for that person as you offer a compliment looking for the good in others. Show mercy as you ask God to let you be an encouragement to others for Him that day.

I pray that God uses you as you turn yourself over to Him in his kingdom!

Pastor Steve



**TO MEMBERS
OF OUR
CHURCH
FAMILY WITH
BIRTHDAYS IN
August**

**If you do not see
your birthday on
the list, please let us know!**

- Aug. 2 Peggy Ayers
- Aug. 2 Lea Weed
- Aug. 8 Steve Elkins
- Aug 15 Virgil Porter
- Aug. 18 Alex Rabb
- Aug. 21 Eric Johnson
- Aug. 27 Brice Williams
- Aug. 31 Brad Williams
- Aug. 31 Doug Williams

**When you can, remember to send a card, call
or visit:**

Brent Dorrier, NHC Parklane, Room 236,
7601 Parklane Road, Columbia, SC 29223

Doris Myfelt 3195 Rio Dosa Drive #2103,
Lexington, KY 40509 (859)309-9284

Dot Yon Goodwin House Apt. #401, 3440 S.
Jefferson Street Falls Church, VA 22041

Lisa Lewis Meyer 280 Berry Tree Lane,
Columbia, SC 29223

Mabel Ward 320 Seven Farm Drive, The
Summit Place/Daniel Island, Charleston, SC
29452

*Please, remember in prayer those serving our
country in our armed forces both at home and
overseas.*



Vickie Robinson, Fred Weed, The
family of Brigitte Douglas, Jane Lee-
Bonnett Jean Allison, George Taylor,
Mike Taylor, Louise Taylor, Susan Fowler-Hindall,
Lisa Lewis Meyer, Marie Wood, Frank Martin, Brent
Dorrier, Kenny Martin, Lynne Moore, Dean Gaddy,
Bundy and Betty Bynum..

*People will stay on the prayer list one month. If after
their four weeks you would like the person to stay on
the prayer list, please call the church office.*

**Visit us on our website at
www.firstumcwinnsboro.com
Visit us on Facebook, too!**

Office Hours
Monday through Thursday
7:30 a.m. until Noon
Visit www.firstumcwinnsboro.com to see the
calendar for the entire year.

**Check on your friends and neighbors. Pick up
some groceries for someone who cannot get out.
Drop off a basket of fruit to a shut-in. We are all
in this together. If you can't be anything during
this time, BE KIND.**



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
			1	2	3	4
2 Worship Service in Sanctuary 11:00 am	3 Red Cross Blood Drive 2:00 pm until 7:00 pm	4	5	6	7	8
9 Worship Service in Sanctuary 11:00 am	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Worship Service in Sanctuary 11:00 am	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 Worship Service in Sanctuary 11:00 am	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 Worship Service in Sanctuary 11:00 am	31					

**PLEASE FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK, <https://www.facebook.com/FirstUMCWinnsboro/>
THE CHURCH WEBPAGE <https://www.firstumcwinnsboro.com/>**

*******You can find all of Pastor Steve’s sermons on our website under the heading,
Sermons.*******

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO MAIL IN YOUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS, GIVE ON-LINE OR STOP
BY THE MAIL DROP LOCATED ON THE COLLEGE STREET SIDE OF THE CHURCH NEXT TO
THE BACK DOOR.**

Rev. Steve Elkins Contact Information

Cell Phone: 816 210 1076

Email: 1stumcpastor@gmail.com

Address: 101 Carlisle Avenue, Winnsboro SC

Office Hours:

**Monday through Thursday
9:00 am until Noon**

In Memory

David Howard Pingley

By

Jack and Martha Wilkes

Julie McMaster

Marion Robinson

Mitzie Renwick

By

William G. and Betsy Stevenson

Evon Estes

Marion and Mark Timms

Brigitte Douglas

By

Wilbur and Barbara Douglas

Martha Westbrook-Conder

Hubert and Bonnie Brice

Kathy Davis

Emerson and Dottie Couch

Eric and Jena Johnson

Skip and Marge Clarkson

John and Carolyn Wolfe

Boe and Beth Harwell

Elton and Cherry Johnson

Milton and Jane Hinnant

William G. and Betsy Stevenson

Bob and Tricia Drake

Don and Mary Jim Gunter

Brock and Brice Williams

Carlisle and Becky Stevenson

Cary and Susan Taylor

Sabie and Claudia Cathcart

Marion Robinson

Mitzie Renwick

John Johnson

Oliver Johnson

Brigitte Douglas

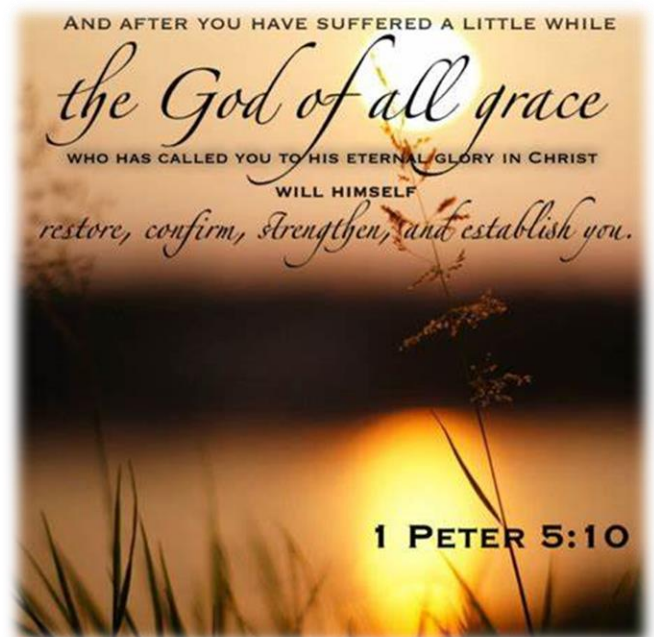
By

Ernie and Susan Hughes

Marion Robinson

By

Jim and Esther Baughman



The family of Brigitte Douglas would like to thank everyone in this church for the food, cards, prayers, visits, car parade and telephone calls. You helped to make things better during this stressful time.

God Bless You ~

Jimmie, Jim, and Johnsie



This group of community church members (First Church of the Nazarene, Gordon Memorial Methodist and First United Methodist along with Fairfield County Sheriff deputies built these ramps for families in need (in this heat!). If you would like to join this group, please contact Steve McDonald.



**Monday, August 3
2:00 pm until 7:00 pm.
Fellowship Hall**

Please consider saving a life. During these difficult times of Covid-19, the need for blood is great. Call the church office if you have any questions, or contact Linda Haslett for more information.



Plans are still on for the Yard Sale. This is a huge event in the life of our church. While times are different and gatherings are filled with caution during the Covid-19 pandemic, we are still here to serve the less fortunate. The Yard Sale crew has worked many hours to prepare for this event. All money raised goes to missions and help in maintaining First United Methodist Church. If you would like more information or would like to make an early donation, please call the church office.



The Blessing Box Ministry has taken a new route during the Covid-19 pandemic. We still prepare 80 bags of personal hygiene, socks, toilet paper, etc. for the shut-ins of Fairfield County. Instead of hosting this event at our church, we deliver 80 bags per month to the Council on Aging who in turn deliver the bags at the same time they deliver Meals on

Wheels. It's a win, win for everybody! The Council delivers meals to 240 sites everyday.

It now takes us 3 months to service all of these people. We still need your prayers and your monetary support to continue this important ministry of First United Methodist. If you have any questions, please contact the church office or call Jane Hinnant.

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August 2020

First United Methodist Church of Winnsboro, South Carolina

Church Office 635-4087

