



THE FIRST WORD

First United Methodist Church – Winnsboro, SC



June 2021 Newsletter

God's Timely Blessings

Give yourself a moment and think back to the last time you lifted a prayer of thanks to God for the many timely blessings he puts in your life. I'm not talking about a prayer where you ask for a blessing on your meal or one where you have a need and are asking for God's help. Just a simple, heart-felt prayer acknowledging that God is good and blessing you more than you deserve.

If you are like me, it may have been a few days...maybe even a couple weeks. As humans, we are so programmed through media and pessimistic friends to first look at the bad or difficulty in our lives, in our community, in the world, before we step back and see the beauty.

I read an article this past week that talked about the moral decay of our society and how we are in the worst place in history when it comes to societal woes. Try telling that to those who were alive and experienced the bombing of Pearl Harbor that took this country into war. Or tell that to the ones who lived during the Great Depression when they were standing in food lines to feed their families. Or those who experienced racial separation here in the south during the 60's and before – exposing the day-to-day life of a black family just trying to stay alive.

Those may have been difficult times, but God always showed his face. God poured out his blessings on his children and even America when struggles seemed to overtake their lives. He still does this today. We see it in the kind gestures of one stranger to another. We hear it in the voice of a child as they say "thank you" without any prompting. We see it in the teary eyes of someone who is helped when they need it the most. God is still working and moving in our community because we are open to His opportunities.

When tragedy happens, and it will happen...look past the struggle and see those who step up to do God's work – be a blessing to someone in need! Then, lift up a prayer of thanksgiving for all the blessings God puts in your life every day.

His Love and Grace,
Pastor Steve

MEMORIALS

For Freddy Weed
George and Robin Driggers
Bob and Patricia Drake
Terry and Vicky Melvin
Jimmy Douglas
Eddie and Norma Branham
Tom and Artie Connor
James and Esther Baughman

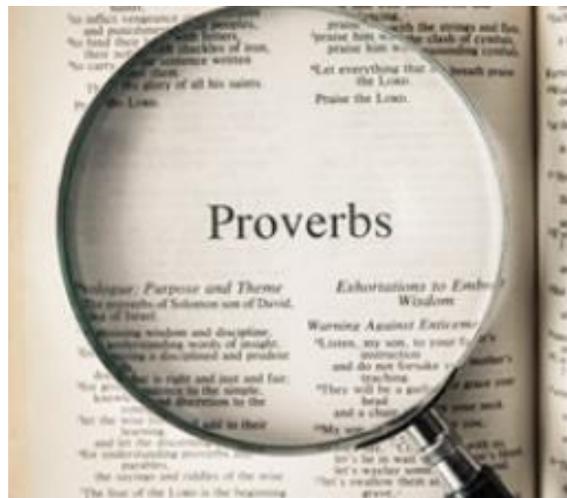
For Sarah Boulware
Eddie and Norma Branham



Don't forget about the First Pantry while doing your weekly shopping. There are many people in the community that are blessed by the food given.

New Bible Study: Book of Proverbs

Pastor Steve is beginning a new study beginning Thursday, June 3rd. We will begin looking at the book of Proverbs and the words of common sense that can make each of our daily lives much more enjoyable and Christ-centered. This book is part of the "wisdom literature" of the Bible which demonstrated a perceived truth given to humanity and inspired by God. Become familiar with these wise sayings that could change your daily walk with God and with others.



Church Directory

We are continuing the process of updating our church directory. Two copies of the draft of the directory are on the table just inside the entrance to the office. Please take a moment to stop by and check to see that your information is correct. If unable to come by, either email the below information to 1stunitedoffice@gmail.com or give Robyn a call at 803 635-4087

- **Names of all members of household**
- **Current address**
- **Home phone**
- **Cell Phones of each person**
- **Emails of each person**
- **Birthdays of each person**
- **Anniversary date**

Certified Lay Minister's Corner

What a strong church we have! Many people are attending church each week both in person and online! We are strong. There are opportunities for all of us to participate and to serve, as well. Our lay leader, Steve McDonald, prepares Sunday School lessons that are not to be missed! I don't. Pastor Steve just finished the weeks-long Bible Study also not to be missed. I didn't. He will start another one in June. Pastor Steve asked me to start a once-per-month book club that I am excited about. Possible participants asked for this to wait until September. The ladies and gentlemen of the church are busy with the yard sale that happens in September. What a wonderful fundraiser for the church! There are more activities than I can list here.

Well, we need you, our lay participants and helpers. There are needs with the list above and for each of us to add to the list, as we feel led. We thank God for you all.

**Sarah Bryant
Certified Lay Minister**



FATHERS DAY- SUNDAY, JUNE 20TH

What Makes A Dad

*God took the strength of a mountain,
The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun,
The calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature,
The comforting arm of night,
The wisdom of the ages,
The power of the eagle's flight,
The joy of a morning in spring,
The faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity,
The depth of a family need,
Then God combined these qualities,
When there was nothing more to add,
He knew His masterpiece was complete,
And so, He called it ... Dad*



myorkutglitter.com



Please remember in prayer those who are presently serving our country in our armed forces both at home and overseas.



FIRST FRIDAY WITH THE PASTOR

Be sure to stop in for a cup of coffee or just to chat with Pastor Steve's First

Friday June 4th beginning at 8:00am. We meet at "A Latte Luv," the new coffee shop a few doors down from the church. Pastor Steve will buy your coffee and maybe even a danish!



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Callie Bell, family of Joel Padgett, Trustees, Stanley Smith, Marie Wood, Dean Gaddy, the Haslett family, Justin Crawford, Courtney Evans, Mary Nelson, Bradley Oats, Sarah Bryant, Brent Dorrier, family of Hazel Martin, family of Mike Smith, Betsy Stevenson, Johnny Porter, family of Pat Amick, Julie Blaes.



2-Jun	Laura Derrick
2-Jun	Jack Melvin
2-Jun	Nancy B Gonzalez
4-Jun	Milton Hinnant
5-Jun	Lauren Cook
7-Jun	Julie Barfield
9-Jun	Sam Barfield
13-Jun	Frances Ann Porter
14-Jun	Tony Caulder
19-Jun	Wanda Neese
19-Jun	Suzanne S Way
20-Jun	Callie Bell
20-Jun	Sarah Bryant
24-Jun	Martha Wilkes
24-Jun	Lewis Humphries
30-Jun	Bobbie Dove

Spotlight on Membership

We are starting a new section in the newsletter each month – a spotlight on member of First United Methodist Church; this will give us a little more info about those in our congregation that can draw us closer to one another! This month, our spotlight falls on Robert and Bobbie Pemberton!

Robert & Bobbie Pemberton

PO Box 450
315 W. Congress
Winnsboro, SC 29180



Q. How long have you both been members of First UMC?

A. Since November of 2018. Esther Baughman invited us to come to First to hear her play the organ – she knew Robert really liked the traditional organ music. From the moment we sat in that first service, we knew we were home!

Q. Tell me a little about the two of you? How long have you been married and lived here in Winnsboro?

A. Robert was born in Dothan, AL; he grew up in Rockingham, NC. By the age of twelve, both of Robert's parents had died. Robert had grown up and married. Once his spouse had passed away, he moved to Winnsboro in 2016 and purchased the Rabb's old home.

Bobbie was born in Blythewood and lived in this area all her life. Her first husband had passed away. Robert and Bobbie met at the Cotton Yard Market (*antique store*) in Ridgeway where they each had items on consignment. They married in July of 2017; "Married, sold two houses, bought a house and a store all in the same year!"

Q. How many kids do you have (either together or apart)?

A. Robert and Bobbie married too late in life for children together. Bobbie has twins from her first marriage: James Howard, Jr. (*Jamie*) and Virginia Louise (*Ginny*). Robert has no children but has a godson: Ashley. All kids are in their upper 40's within two years of each other.

Q. What keeps you busy during the week?

A. They own the antique store, Oldies & Goodies, on the corner of Liberty and Congress. Most of their time is spent looking at furniture to buy and manning the store. Usually, once a week, they visit Bobbie's dad, Robert, for a visit. When they have an opportunity, they head to the mountains for the weekend. In retirement, they keep very busy...or at least as busy as they want to be!

Q. What kind of work did you do before you retired?

A. Robert sold insurance for a number of years before the company closed down. He had degrees in the sciences and went back for his teacher's certificate where he taught school in NC and at Richard Winn Academy.

Bobbie worked many years for the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce. As the twins moved into upper secondary school, she worked at their high school in W. Columbia.

Q. What would you like to see being done in your community and/or church that isn't currently being done?

A. As members of First UMC, they think we should be leaders in our community – taking on the responsibility of revitalizing the downtown and supporting improvements for Winnsboro. They feel it's important to shop and be a part of our community commerce. When we build relationships in the community, the church will grow with the community.

Q. Anything you'd like to add about life in Winnsboro?

A. Robert says there was a rumor going around about their house: "We're not selling the house, we're staying put!"



**Our Thoughts
and Prayers
are With you**

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

Brett Dorrier, NHC Parkland, Room315, Columbia, SC
29223

Doris Myfelt, 3195 Rio Dosa Drive #2103, Lexington, Ky.
40509 Phone: (859)309-9284

Dot Yon, Goodwin House Apt. #251, 3440 S. Jefferson
Street, Falls Church, VA. 22041

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

Mable ward, 320 Seven Farm Drive, The Summit
Place/Daniel Island, Charleston, SC 29452

YOUR INFORMATION SHARE

If you want to get the word out about an upcoming event or special time that you're a part of, please send your information, via email, to Pastor Steve Elkins at 1stumcpastor@gmail.com. We'll be happy to get it out to EVERYONE!

Deadline for the July newsletter is Tuesday, June 22nd.



WE'RE BACK!

THE BLESSING BOX MINISTRY IS RETURNING TO FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Since May 2020, we have partnered with the Fairfield County Council on Aging and on the local food bank to distribute much needed no-food essentials to our citizens. They have been a tremendous help to us, but our committee feels the need to get back home.

On June 3, 2021 (Thursday) we will once again be serving our community from the church. In order to ensure the safety of our committee and the public, we will host a drive-through event. There will be no crowds around the back door and no one will come inside the church building.

Please help us get the word out to our Fairfield County neighbors in need of supplies to help themselves and their families that The Blessing Box will be open at 8 AM on June 3.

For further information contact Jane Hinnant.

Ramp Building in Winnsboro

Steve McDonald and Pastor Steve helped with the recent build of a ramp out south of Winnsboro. They work with the Bridge-Builders Men out of Church of the Nazarene. This is a great ministry in support of those who need easy access to their homes, especially as steps become an obstacle. Pray for this team that they can continue to support those in need!



Slip-n-Slide Fun

The youth here at First UMC are coming together this summer to offer a [Slip-n-Slide](#) day each month for the neighboring kids of Winnsboro. We will be set up in the back grass behind the church and will be inviting kids from the surrounding neighborhoods. A consent form will be required by each child to attend. Our first [Slip-n-Slide](#) was held on May 26th! The kids are already getting excited about our June 30th fun!





Jane Flying High!

Jane Hinnant, as the painting crew were working on the church, made it known to Frances Porter that one of her bucket-list items was to go up in an extension bucket. Frances wasted little time contacting the foreman on the job – she figured, “all he could say was no!” Well, he said yes, and Jane got an item checked off her list this last month!



SANCTUARY RENOVATION UPDATE

Dear First Church Family,

The Trustees are very pleased to report that the sanctuary renovation project is very close to completion. The exterior walls have been repaired, primed and painted. The drainage from the gutters has been properly put underground. All the damaged wood and sheetrock inside the sanctuary has been replaced and painted. The painters even painted the downstairs bathroom in the educational building at no charge!

Thankfully, we only had one unexpected situation arise. Many years ago, our church was heated by a boiler system in the basement. There is a chimney on the south side of the church that vented that boiler. The back side of this chimney is the wall behind where the piano sits in the sanctuary. You may have noticed that this wall had the most damage of all the walls in the sanctuary. When it was opened up, they discovered extensive water damage – from floor to ceiling and all around that stained glass window. Apparently, the chimney had been leaking for many years. The mortar in the brick around the window was completely gone. Therefore, the stained-glass window had to be removed, the casing around it repaired, and the brick surrounding the window repointed.

Shenandoah Restorations of Irmo, SC, is known nationwide for their stained-glass expertise. We were so blessed that they are currently working on the Mount Zion windows! They graciously agreed to help us out right away. They have removed our window and have it at their warehouse to repair the wood casing on the outer edge. The window itself is fine – it is just the wood around it that needs repair.

They gave us a 4–6-week time frame and we are now 2 weeks into that period. So hopefully we will have the window back in place within **2-4 weeks**. Once it is replaced, there will be some sheetrock and paint touch up to be done. We will then have the sanctuary professionally cleaned so that it will be ready for our return!

Thank you for your generous support of this project. The total cost of the entire project – including the additional cost of replacing the stained-glass window - is **\$173,980**.

We need **\$47,497** to finish the project out!

Please help us reach this goal and be a part of this preservation project to ensure that our church serves generations to come!

Thank you,

Frances Porter

Tony Caulder

THE FIRST WORD

JUNE 2021

First United Methodist Church of Winnsboro

South Carolina

Church Office 803 635-4087

Office Hours: Tues. thru Fri. 9 AM-1 PM

The word "REJOICE!" is written in a highly decorative, calligraphic font. Each letter is filled with a different color from the rainbow spectrum, and the letters are interconnected with flowing, ribbon-like lines. The exclamation point is also stylized with a blue and purple gradient.