

WELCOME!!!

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

We welcome each of you to our worship services today.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES & TEACHERS

Children's and Youth Classes

Blackburn Education Building

Nursery (Infant to Pre-K): Rm. 102 - Kelly Hayes, Alicia Gregory, Nicole Duenas

Sunday School

Children's Sunday School (Pre-K—5th Grade)

Room 104 Hannah Bland, Kate Putney, Ellen Poland, Amy Stadiem

Youth Small Groups

Room 204 Kaitlyn Dean, Mandy & Wes Berry

Adult Classes

Bradshaw Class: Parlor, Barbara Robl

Open Door Discussion Class: Room 201

Transforming Lives Class: 2nd Floor, Room 202

Sanctuary Building

Adult Classes

Pathfinders Bible Study Class: Chapel, Michelle Newton

Woman to Woman: First Floor, Conference Room - Debbie Bradley

Hardison Discussion Class: 2nd Floor, Dave

Williams, various class members

Watson Class: 2nd. Floor, Snookie Parker

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
100 Green Street NE
Post Office Box 1423
Wilson, North Carolina 27894-1423

First United Methodist Church

100 Green St., NE, P. O. Box 1423

Wilson, NC 27894

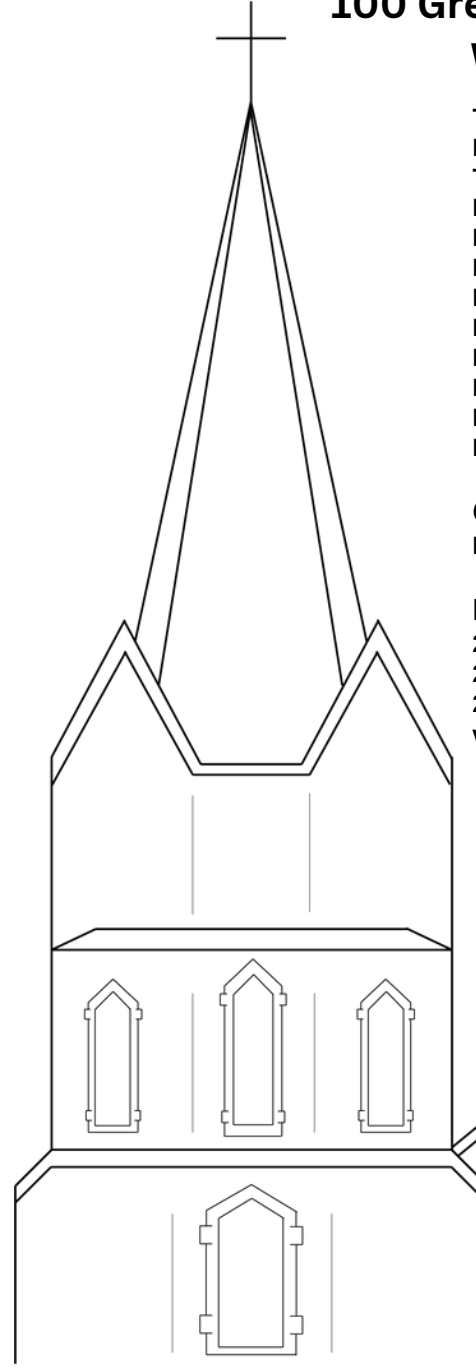
The Reverend Mike Frese, Senior Pastor
Dr. William M. Presnell, Pastor Emeritus
The Reverend Robert E. Bergland, Pastor Emeritus
Mr. David Bellows, Director of Traditional Music Ministries
Ms. Blythe Evans, Contemporary Worship Leader
Mrs. Hannah Bland, Director of Children and Family Ministries
Mr. Tiler Bland, Director of Youth Ministries
Mrs. Lindsey O'Neill, Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Shelley Gibson, Director of Communications
Mrs. Lorie Daniel, Director of Weekday School
Mrs. Fran Stafford, Financial Secretary
Mr. Boris Farmer, Custodian

Church Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

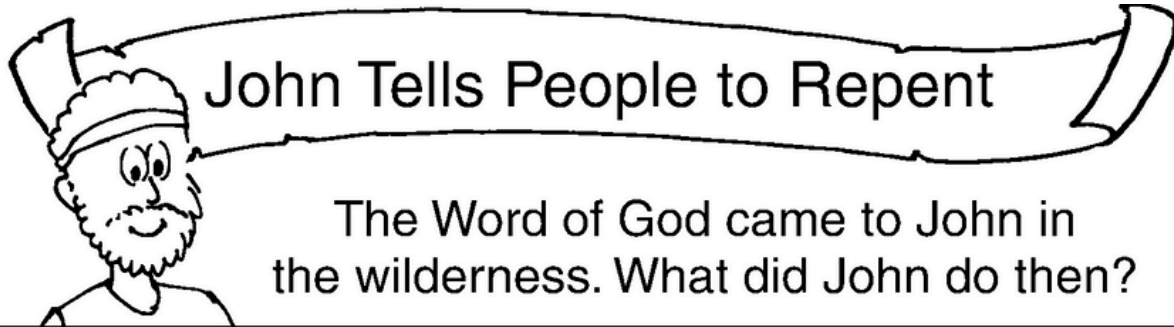
Phone Numbers

252-237-6121 Office
252-291-4588 Weekday School
252-237-0699 FAX
www.fumcwilson.org



“Invite, Inspire, Ignite”

**December 1, 2024
First Sunday of Advent**



John Tells People to Repent

The Word of God came to John in the wilderness. What did John do then?

Find the correct path through the maze to read the answer.

START

		went		earth		gathered	
	went			The	worked	When	
He						laborers	
	storm	trees	into			of	money
	the	found		baptism	also		
		all		path		morning	
		owners	a	wind		you	
	to	angry	the	go	repentance		
	among	thirsty	robbed	away.		the	
		country		preaching			
shepherd	sandal	strolled		rocks			acknowledged
			around	lost	rain		
	sun	the		Jordan,		for	
	forgiveness			the	us		
		birds	ruined		and		
As		lame	mountain			the	
	of					sins.	

FUMC Family Dinner & Christmas Celebration:

Thanks to all that have signed up to attend or volunteer for the event! **We are still in need of more volunteers.** To help before or during the event, please call or sign up in the church office.

The **United Methodist Men (UMM)** will be having a Men's Prayer Breakfast this Friday at 7 a.m. in Asbury Hall. All men are invited to join the UMM for breakfast, fellowship, and devotion!

First Methodist Women December Meetings
Joyful Hands Christmas Dinner: Tuesday, December 3, 2024 at the home of Beverly Wells, 4609 Pine Needles Lane N. 6:00 p.m.
 Covered dish/dirty Santa gift

Active Faith Circle: Christmas Dinner at Jack's, December 2 at 6:30 p.m. My Favorite Things Gift Exchange

Laura Davenport Circle: December 10 at 10 a.m. in the Church Parlor, contact Ellen to RSVP (903-5970)

Hope Circle: Serving Christmas Dinner to youth on Dec. 8 at church, Christmas Dinner at Ellen Bergland's home on December 10.

Christmas Gifting: We are collecting socks, gloves, and hats to distribute to our neighborhood friends on Christmas morning in a joint effort with First Christian Church. Please drop any donations in the blue bins in the atrium. We also need 2 or 3 volunteers who are willing to assist passing them out on Christmas morning! Please contact Jessica to help out (252.363.3388.)

MUSIC MINISTRIES

CHILDREN'S CHOIR will meet earlier for rehearsal today, December 1, at 4:30 p.m. The Children's Choir will be singing next in worship on December 15 at the 5:00 p.m. White Gift Service.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT performance will be held on December 8 at 7:00 p.m. FUMC Chancel Choir, Guest Soloists and Orchestra will present a festive program featuring the Corelli *Christmas Concerto*, Vivaldi's *Gloria* and other Carols. Free Concert.

CHRISTMAS EVE CHOIR Interested in singing some fun carols for the 9:00 p.m. service on December 24? Consider joining the chancel choir for just this special service. Contact David Bellows for more details: davidbellows@fumcwilson.org

FUMC Kids will host their annual **Birthday Party for Jesus** on December 8th from 10 - 10:45 a.m. in Asbury Hall. This is open to kids from age 3 - 5th grade and includes games, cookies and more!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1
 9:00 Contemporary Worship Service - Asbury
 10:00 Adult Sunday School Children/Youth Small Groups - Sanctuary Building and Blackburn
 11:00 Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary
 4:30 Children's Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
 5:00 Green Street Kids Family Movie Night - Asbury
 5:00 Youth Group - Blackburn

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2
 8:30 Weekday School - Blackburn Weekday School
 10:00 CHEW Packaging - Sanctuary
 10:30 Staff Meeting - Conference Room

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3
 8:30 Weekday School - Blackburn Weekday School
 6:00 Handbell Rehearsal - Watson Classroom

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4
 8:30 Weekday School - Blackburn Weekday School
 5:00 FUMC Family Christmas Celebration
 6:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Music Suite

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5
 8:30 Weekday School - Blackburn Weekday School
 6:30 Praise Band Practice - Asbury Hall

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6
 7:00 UMM Prayer Breakfast - Asbury Hall
 8:30 Weekday School - Blackburn Weekday School
 9:00 ECU Organ Lessons - Sanctuary

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

LOOKING AHEAD...

December 8: Birthday Party for Jesus
December 8: Youth Progressive Christmas Party
December 8: Chancel Choir Christmas Concert
December 15: White Gift Service
December 24: Family Christmas Eve Service
December 24: Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
December 24 - 26: Church Office Closed
December 29: 5th Sunday Combined Worship & Brunch
December 30: Weekday School Closed

From the Pastor . . .

As Sunday approaches, Thanksgiving will be behind us and Christmas will be coming shortly. This places us in the season of Advent. The term “Advent” comes from the Latin word adventus, which means “coming” or “arrival.” For Christians, Advent is defined as the 4 Sundays prior to Christmas, the arrival of Jesus. It is a season of waiting. But what are we waiting for? Traditionally, we understand Advent as a three-fold waiting: the waiting of the Jewish people for the Messiah, our own waiting for Jesus to enter into our lives and our circumstances, and the waiting for Christ’s return at the end of history.

During the Sundays in Advent, we will be looking through the lenses of 4 popular Christmas movies to see examples (either good or bad) of how different approaches to Christmas can determine whether it is simply a holiday or a holy day. Each movie will be viewed from a biblical perspective so that we can let scripture guide us on paths that lead to a deeper and more meaningful celebration, as well as a closer connection to the Christ whom we celebrate.

This week, we will let Clark Griswold’s character in National Lampoon’s Christmas vacation lead us to an important lesson about what matters in our approach to Christmas. Despite being an R-rated movie (rightfully so due to language), it is ranked in the top 10 of many Christmas movie rankings. Clark seeks to create a perfect family Christmas. However, everything he tries goes wrong. Perhaps he is doing all the wrong things. John the Baptizer’s message of repentance from Luke 3:1-14 suggests that turning around from the glitz and glamor of our culture just might be the way to experience anew the gift of Jesus and the blessings that he brings.

Mike Frese

UPHOLDING OUR VOWS TO THE CHURCH BY OUR PRAYERS

Remember those in hospitals, retirement and rest homes, and the sick and shut-ins with prayers, cards, calls, and visits:

Hospital:
Chalmer Grantham - Rex
Bill Tyson - WilMed

Congratulations to Kelly Carter Merrick & John Douglas Sullivan who were married November 16, 2024, in Raleigh with Rev. Bob Bergland officiating. They currently reside in Portland, OR.

Congratulations to Beau and Caitlyn White on the birth of their son, Albie Corbett White, born on November 24th. Proud grandparents are Ralph and Beth White.

We extend our love and sympathy to the family of **Deas Linville**, who died on November 24, 2024.

BY OUR PRESENCE

The following numbers represent our in-person and livestream numbers for Sunday, Nov. 24, 2024:

9:00 am Worship Service
In-Person - 94 Online - 17

11:00 am Worship Service
In-Person - 148 Online - 52

Total In-Person Attendance - 242
Total Online Worship Attendance - 69

Sunday School - 45

BY OUR GIFTS

2024 Operating Budget	\$1,083,500
Weekly Requirement	\$20,837
Received November 24, 2024	\$16,745
YTD Requirement	\$979,317
Received YTD	\$979,564
Over (Under)	\$247

BY OUR SERVICE AND OUR WITNESS

FUMC Kids will be hosting a **Family Movie Night** today from 5 - 7 p.m. Dinner will be included (chicken nuggets and pizza), along with games and other activities. Please wear your PJ's and come out for a fun night! Families of all types and ages are welcome! Movie - *The Star*

The Worship of God

9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Hour

First Sunday of Advent

Gathering of God’s People

BORN THAT WE MAY HAVE LIFE
KING OF KINGS

Praise Band

Sharing in Song

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the First Advent Candle

The Gibson Family

Children Assemble Crèche

Children’s Moments

First Lesson

Jeremiah 33: 14-16

Morning Prayer

Special Music

LIGHT OF THE WORLD
(Please sign and pass the attendance pad)

Praise Band

Prayer of Dedication

WORD FOR THE DAY

Second Lesson

Luke 3: 1-14

Morning Message

“Lights or Warmth”

Reverend Mike Frese

OUR RESPONSE

Holy Communion

THE BLESSING

Praise Band

Benediction

O COME LET US ADORE HIM

Praise Band

Sound Operator: Parker Gibson

Greeters: The Fassnachts

ProPresenter: Aiden Gibson

Video: Will Lasitter

We are so grateful to all who give of their time and talents to our Praise Band. Thank you for leading in worship and for your ministry to our church!

The Worship of God

11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Hour
First Sunday of Advent

Please let the first note of the prelude be a call to silent meditation.

PRELUDE "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" B. Kinyon

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+HYMN NO. 211 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (vs 1, 4-6) VENI EMMANUEL

THE LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE The Robl Family

CHORAL INTROIT "Savior Of The Nations, Come" J. S. Bach

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day He rose from the dead;
He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

+HYMN NO. 71 GLORIA PATRI GREATOREX

CHILDREN ASSEMBLE CRÈCHE

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS OT page 738

FIRST LESSON Jeremiah 33: 14-16

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Please sign and pass the attendance pads.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Soon And Very Soon" J. Schrader

+HYMN NO. 95 DOXOLOGY OLD 100th

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

+SECOND LESSON Luke 3: 1-14 NT page 60

MORNING MESSAGE "Lights or Warmth" Reverend Mike Frese

HOLY COMMUNION

Everyone is invited to join in the singing of the Communion hymns.

Meditation on 'All Earth Is Waiting' Anonymous
Hymn 210 All Earth Is Waiting TAULE
Hymn 206 I Want To Walk As A Child Of The Light HOUSTON
Creator Of The Stars Of Light M. McCabe

+HYMN NO. 209 "Blessed Be The God Of Israel" MERLE'S TUNE

+DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

+A TIME OF SILENCE AND TRINITY CHIMES

POSTLUDE "Variations on 'Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People'" J. Reuss

+++++

+Those who are able, please stand.

The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God from The Flower Fund.

Participating with the clergy today:

Sound: Shelley Gibson

Video: Mark Godwin

Crucifer: Beau Benton

Greeters: Ralph and Beth White

Acolyte: Anna Benton

Prepare for Next Sunday: *Christmas is Not About Things*

First Lesson: Malachi 3:1-4

Second Lesson: John 4:5-15