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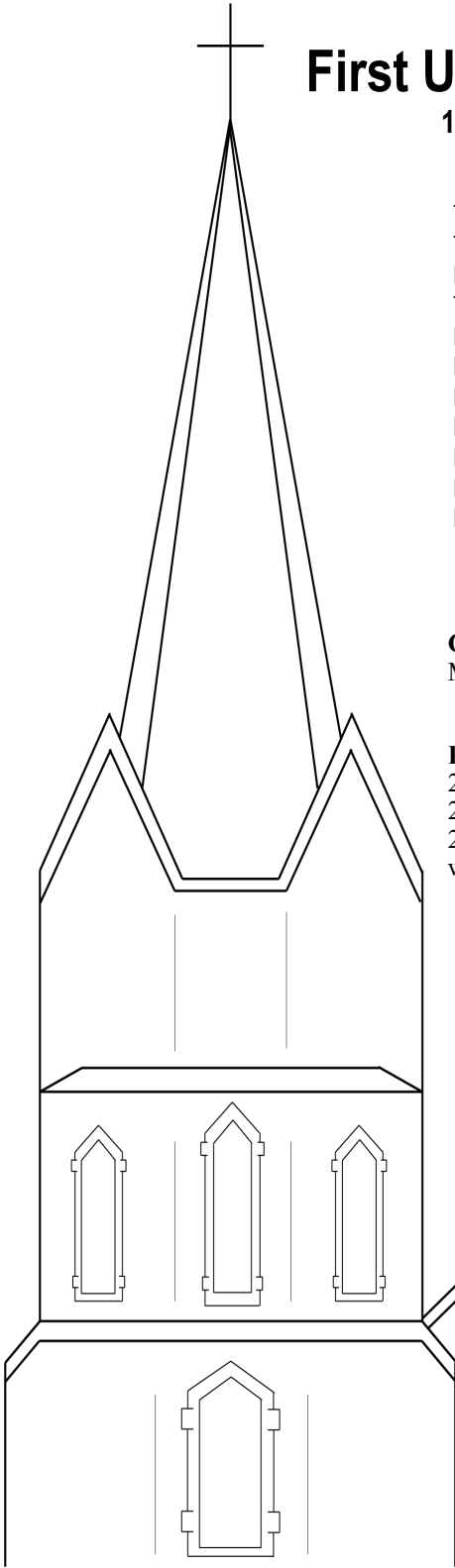
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
100 Green Street NE
Post Office Box 1423
Wilson, North Carolina 27894-1423
Return Service Requested

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 Joyner,
Alicia Gregory, Nicole Duenas

Sunday School:
Children's Sunday School (Pre-K—5th Grade):
Rm. 201 Hannah Thomas, Kate Putney, Ellen Poland,
Youth: Blackburn Bldg., Room 202, Kaitlyn Dean,
Mandy & Wes Berry, Lee Tyson, Kris Skinner

Adult Classes
Sanctuary Building & Blackburn Building
Pathfinders Bible Study Class: Sanctuary Bldg.,
Chapel, Michelle Newton
Woman to Woman: Sanctuary Bldg., First Floor,
Conference Room - Cathy Helmer
Hardison Discussion Class: Sanctuary Bldg., 2nd Floor,
Dave Williams, various class members
Watson Class: Sanctuary Bldg., 2nd. Floor, Kent
Anderson & Snookie Parker
Bradshaw Class: Blackburn Bldg., Parlor, Barbara Robl
& Susan Barnes
Open Door Discussion Class: Blackburn Bldg., Room
203, Susan Barnes, Lee Tyson
Transforming Lives Class: Blackburn Bldg., 2nd Floor,
Lorrie Halverson



First United Methodist Church

100 Green St., NE, P. O. Box 1423
Wilson, NC 27894

The Reverend James D. Bell, Senior Pastor
The Reverend Charles J. Robl III, Associate 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
Miss Hannah Thomas, Director of Children and Family Ministries
Mr. Tiler Bland, Director of Youth Ministries
Mrs. Shelley Gibson, Director of Communications
Mrs. Lorie Daniel, Director of Weekday School
Mrs. Fran Stafford, Financial Secretary
Ms. Jo Shackelford, Church Secretary
Mr. Boris Farmer, Custodian

Church Office Hours
Monday-Friday 8:30 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”

April 21, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Jacob, Leah and Rachel

Jacob loved Laban's younger daughter, Rachel. Jacob worked for Laban 7 years to marry Rachel.

Circle the hidden objects in the picture below.



BY OUR SERVICE AND WITNESS

The First Methodist Women are hosting their annual Salad and Dessert Dinner at 6:00 p.m. in Asbury Hall on Tuesday, May 7. All women are invited to join us. Please bring your favorite salad or dessert to share

High School and College Scholarship applications can be found on the church's website under the welcome tab. We encourage all high school seniors and college students to apply! The deadline to submit the application is Friday, May 3rd.

Save the Dates!! Our semi-annual Congregational Soup Care project is just around the corner! If you are available to help prepare and/or package the soup, please mark your calendar for April 24-26 and email James Enos-Edu at jkenosedu@gmail.com. You do not have to be available the entire time to help. Soup order forms are on the welcome table in the atrium and on the tables beside the sofa in the Asbury Hall foyer. Drop off the forms along with your payment in an envelope in the box on the counter in the church office. More details to follow.

The 2024 General Conference of the United Methodist Church will meet on April 23 to May 3 at the Charlotte Convention Center in Charlotte, NC. 862 clergy and lay delegates from Africa, Asia, Europe, and North America will gather to revise and amend The Book of Discipline, The Book of Resolutions, and other official documents that guide our church. The latest information about General Conference, the answers to frequently asked questions, and information about the NC Conference delegation may be found at nccumc.org/gc/. Please pray that the Lord will guide the delegates as they make decisions.

If you are interested in helping with Vacation Bible School, please contact Hannah at hannahthomas@fumcwilson.org.

MUSIC MINISTRIES

SPRING CONCERT performance will be on May 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. The Easter themed program will feature 'The Cuckoo and the Nightingale' Organ Concerto by Handel, selections from *The Messiah* by Handel and the *Five Mystical Songs* by Vaughan Williams. We will be joined by guest soloists and orchestra. Mark your calendars and bring a friend! Child-care will be provided.

Children's Choir will meet for rehearsal tonight at 5:00 p.m. The children will be singing again in church on May 5 at the 11:00 a.m. service.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

- 9:00 Contemporary Worship Service - Asbury Hall
- 10:00 Adult Sunday School Children/Youth Sunday Morning Small Groups - Sanctuary Bldg./Blackburn Bldg.
- 11:00 Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
- 3:30 Confirmation Class - Watson Classroom
- 5:00 Green Street Kids - Blackburn 203
- 5:00 Children's Choir - Choir Room
- 6:00 Youth Group - Annual Paint War - Rec. Center

MONDAY, APRIL 22

- 8:00 Weekday School - Blackburn Building
- 10:30 CHEW packing - Asbury Hall

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

- 8:00 Weekday School - Blackburn Building
- 10:00 Staff Meeting (Church Office Closed)
- 6:30 Mission + Outreach - Conference Room
- 6:30 Handbell Choir - Watson Classroom
- 6:30 SPRC - Asbury Hall

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

- 8:00 Weekday School - Blackburn Building
- 9:30 Weekday School Chapel - Sanctuary
- 6:30 Chancel Choir - Choir Room

THURSDAY, APRIL 25

- 8:00 Weekday School - Blackburn Building
- 10:00 Intercessory Prayer - Charles' Office
- 6:30 Praise Band - Asbury Hall

FRIDAY, APRIL 26

- 8:00 Weekday School - Blackburn Building
- 5:00 Confirmation class to Jewish Synagogue in Raleigh

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

Looking Ahead ...

- May 7 UMW Salad/Dessert Dinner
- May 10 Chancel Choir Concert
- May 12 Confirmation Sunday
- May 28-31 "Blast Off" Weekday School Summer Camp
- May 24-August 30 Office observes summer hours
- June 2 Graduation Sunday
- June 17-21 Vacation Bible School
- June 28- July 1 Youth M28 Camp (Lake Junaluska)
- July 14-20 Youth Mission Camp (Tri-Cities Workcamp)

From the Pastor . .

Giving Away the Bride

One of the privileges of being a pastor is the opportunity to officiate at weddings. Most people only know how beautiful a wedding is from the pews. A wedding can be even more beautiful from the vantage point at which I see it. I get to stand in the chancel, at the front. From there I have the opportunity to see the faces of the wedding party. I watch the faces of the bridesmaids and the groomsmen while their best friends, or sometimes their siblings, come to this long-awaited moment. More than that, I watch the faces of the bride and the groom as they speak their vows - those profound promises - to one another. It can be quite revealing and powerful.

In a traditional wedding there is often a moment, following the entrance, when the father of the bride stands at the front, between his daughter and her husband - to - be. I ask him the question, “Who gives this woman to be married to this man?” It can be a lovely and poignant moment.

In the book of Genesis, we read how a father named Laban had two daughters, Leah and Rachel. Because of Laban’s underhanded scheming and the ancient marriage customs in Paddam Aram, he eventually gives both of his daughters in marriage to a man named Jacob. Wow! It is quite an account in Genesis 29:16-30.

From this passage we learn that Leah wanted love. Rachel wanted love. Jacob wanted love.

We are all looking for love. We all have the opportunity to love. The most important command that Jesus gives us as his followers is to love. We are to love God with all of our heart, mind, soul, and strength, and we are to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Grateful for love and committed to love,

Pastor Jim

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: Nell Wheeler - Wilson Medical Center

The rosebud in the chancel is in honor of the birth of **Tilly Grace Angarole** on Friday, April 12, 2024 in Raleigh, NC. Proud parents are Anna and Phil Angarole and happy grandparents are Sandy and David Clark.

This morning we welcome **Helen Rabil** and **Joey Rabil, Jr.** into the fellowship of First United Methodist Church at the 9:00 worship service. Helen and Joey come to us by Reaffirmation of Faith.

Presented for Baptism at the 11:00 worship service is **Samuel Richard Bellows**, son of David Bellows and Xu Wei.

We extend our love and sympathy to **Nancy Thompson and family** on the death of her husband, **Larry Thompson**, who died Wednesday, April 10, 2024, in Duke hospice.

We extend our love and sympathy to **Bonnie Boles and family** on the death of her brother, Richard Hawkins Forest, in Winston Salem, NC.

BY OUR PRESENCE

*The following numbers represent our in-person and
livestream worship for **Sunday, April 14, 2024.***

Contemporary

In-Person – 83 Online - 33

Traditional

In- Person – 99 Online – 56

Total In-Person Worship Attendance – 182

Total Online Worship Attendance – 89

Sunday School Attendance – 77

BY OUR GIFTS

2024 Operating Budget	\$ 1,083,500
Weekly Requirement	\$ 20,837
Received April 14, 2024	\$ 11,033
YTD Requirement	\$ 312,548
Received YTD	\$ 409,431
Over (Under)	\$ 96,883

The Worship of God

9:00 Contemporary Worship Hour
Fourth Sunday of Easter

GATHERING OF GOD’S PEOPLE

Sharing in Song

***THIS IS AMAZING GRACE
LEAD ON GOOD SHEPHERD***

Praise Band

Welcome and Announcements

Children’s Moments

Reception of New Members

First Lesson

Ephesians 5:6-14

Pastoral Prayer

Special Music for Offering

GOODNESS OF GOD
(Please sign and pass the attendance pad.)

Praise Band

Prayer of Dedication

WORD FOR THE DAY

Second Lesson

Genesis 29:16-30

Morning Message

“Jacob and His Two Wives”

Reverend Jim Bell

OUR RESPONSE

Sending Forth

SHEPHERD

Praise Band

*Reader: Ashdyn Clemmer
Sound Operator: Bill Bass
Pro Presenter: Melody Bell
Video: Will Lasitter
Greeters: The Clemmer Family*

*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.*

<i>The Worship of God</i> 11:00 Traditional Worship Hour Fourth Sunday of Easter		
PRELUDE	“I Want To Walk As A Child of the Light” <i>(Please let the first note of the prelude be a call to silent meditation.)</i>	W. Wold
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS		
+HYMN NO. 206	“I Want To Walk As A Child Of The Light”	HOUSTON
CHORAL INTROIT	“Bless The Lord”	J. Berthier
CHILDREN’S MOMENTS - A short children’s devotion for preschool and elementary children.		
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM		UMH 39
FIRST LESSON	Ephesians 5:6-14	NT page 194
PASTORAL PRAYER		
PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS		
OFFERTORY ANTHEM	“Morning Has Broken” (Please pass and sign the attendance pad)	A. Clarke
+HYMN NO. 94	DOXOLOGY	LASST UNS ERFREUEN
+PRAYER OF DEDICATION		

SECOND LESSON	Genesis 29:16-30	OT page 26
MORNING MESSAGE	“Jacob and His Two Wives”	Reverend Jim Bell
+HYMN NO. 396	“O Jesus, I Have Promised”	ANGEL’S STORY
+DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING		
+A TIME OF SILENCE AND TRINITY CHIMES		
POSTLUDE	“Now Thank We All Our God”	J. S. Bach arr. V. Fox
+++++		
+Those who are able, please stand.		
The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in honor of Samuel R. Bellows by the Bellows family.		
Participating with the clergy today:		
	Video: Stuart Poland	Reader: Carrie Maravi
	Sound: Shelley Gibson	Greeter: Julia Batts
PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY: “How to Wrestle With God” Philippians 2:12-18 and Genesis 32:22-32 Even as we wrestle with God, still God seeks to bless us.		
As the response to the sermon next Sunday, we will offer individual prayers for healing with anointing with oil and the laying on of hands.		