

WELCOME!!!

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

We welcome each of you to our worship services today.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES & TEACHERS

Blackburn Education Building

Nursery (Infant to Pre-K): Rm. 102 - Claire Davis, Topanga Dumm, Hailey Matthews, Tenajah Sampson

Sunday School

Adult Classes

Bradshaw Class: Parlor, Barbara Robl
Transforming Lives Class: 2nd Floor, Room 202

Sanctuary Building

Adult Classes

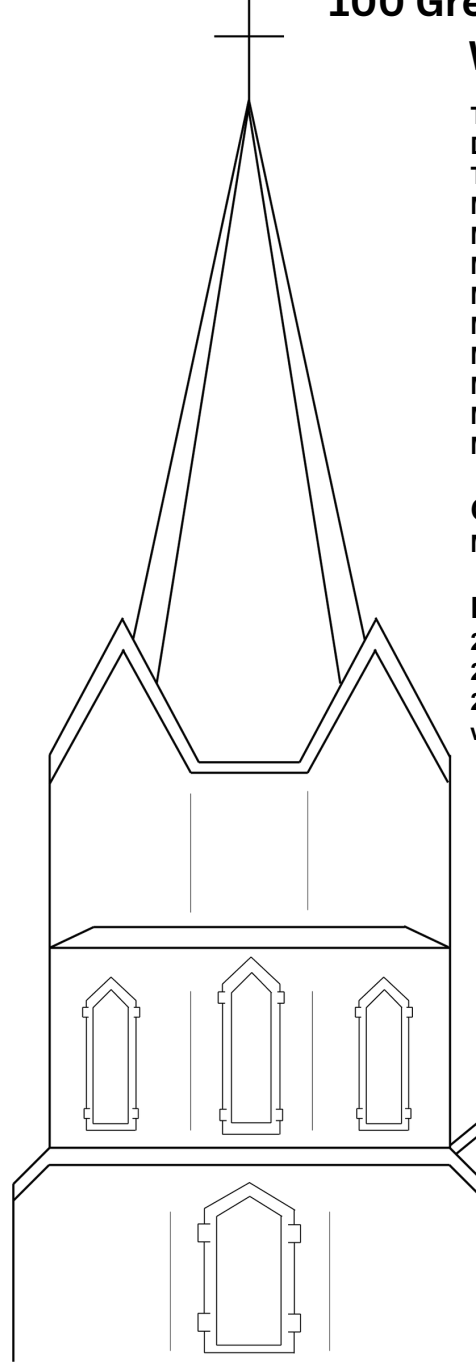
Pathfinders Bible Study Class: Chapel, Michelle Newton

Hardison Discussion Class: 2nd Floor, Dave Williams, various class members



Want to receive our weekly newsletter? Scan the QR code or call the office at 252.237.6121

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”

August 31, 2025
Twelfth Sunday after
Pentecost

The Easy Yoke



Jesus said, "I praise You,
Father, Lord of heaven and earth."
What else did Jesus say?

Use this code
to fill in the blanks.

10	L	Y	B	G	U	J
9	X	H	V	E	P	W
8	O	M	A	C	K	D
7	R	N	S	F	I	T
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First Wednesday Night Dinner & Hymn Festival:
This Wednesday (9/3) at 6:00 p.m., please join us for a delicious Lasagna Dinner hosted by the FUMC Music Ministry. Dinner will include lasagna, salad, bread and butter, followed with lemon cake for dessert. Cost: \$7 for adults; \$4 for children; \$20 max. The evening program will be a Wesleyan Hymn Festival based on the Life and Hymns of Charles and John Wesley. Reservations should be made by Monday. If the office is closed when you call, please feel free to leave a message.

Fifth Sunday: Please join us for ice cream in the courtyard after the service today!

Flowers: If you would like to remember or honor a loved one by putting flowers in the chancel for the 11:00 a.m. worship service, please email Lindsey (lindseyoneill@fumcwillson.org) with the date you'd like to reserve or call the front office (237-6121.)
Dates Available for 2025:
September: 21 October: 19 November: 2 & 23 December: 28

Save the Date! Join us for a Baby Sprinkle celebrating David Bellows & Xu Wei on Sunday, September 14 at 10:00 a.m. in the library. Bring along diapers or wipes if you'd like to bless them. Light refreshments will be provided.

Scam Alert: Someone has sent fraudulent emails to many in our congregation pretending to be Pastor Mike and asking for help. Mike will NEVER send you an email asking for an urgent task, for money, or gift cards. Please DO NOT respond or click on any links if you get a suspicious email from Mike. Please be very observant of who the email comes from. It may say from "Mike Frese" but the email address is not from his actual email address (mfrese@nccumc.org).

MUSIC MINISTRIES

Fall is a great time to consider joining our music ministry. Please feel free to reach out to me if you would like to learn more.
David Bellows, Director of Traditional Music Ministries
davidbellows@fumcwillson.org

Fall Rehearsal Schedule
Handbell Choir resumes on Tuesday, September 2 at 6:00 p.m. in the Watson Classroom.
Chancel Choir resumes on Wednesday, September 3 at 7:30 p.m. in the Choir Room.
Children's Choir resumes on Thursday, September 11 from 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the Choir Room.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31
10:00 Combined Worship and Ice Cream Social - Sanctuary and Courtyard

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1
Labor Day - Office Closed

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2
8:00 First Day of Preschool - Blackburn Weekday School
10:00 Staff Meeting - Conference Room
6:00 Handbell Choir Rehearsal - Watson Classroom

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3
6:00 First Wednesday Night Dinner and Wesleyan Hymn Festival - Asbury
7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4
6:30 Praise Band Practice - Asbury

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5
7:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast - Asbury

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6
11:00 Nell Wheeler's Funeral and Visitation - Sanctuary and Asbury

LOOKING AHEAD...

September 7: Kindergarteners & 6th Graders Receive Bibles
September 7: FUMC Kids Family Pool Party
September 7: Youth Kickoff at Greater Rotary Park
September 7-13: WNC Churchwide Adult Mission Trip
September 14: Baby Sprinkle for David Bellows & Xu Wei
September 19-21: Camp Don Lee
September 21: FUMC Kids Nerf Battle
October 4: Parent Son Fishing Trip
October 11-19: Mission Week
October 26: Trunk or Treat

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are so glad you've joined us!
Please scan the QR code so we
can connect with you!



From the Pastor . . .

Last Sunday, we honored the beginning of a new school year with a series of blessings. In both worship services, there was a rainbow of colors and cartoon characters as children came forward for the children’s message and the blessing of the backpacks. We then blessed the backpacks and the children who carried them, that they might have a good year as they grow in knowledge and in their personhood. We also prayed for teachers and those involved with the education system, asking that God would use them in the development of children and youth. Finally, we prayed for parents, who have the difficult tasks of supporting children, guiding them along right paths and transporting them to their various activities.

This Sunday, we have a unity service at 10:00 followed by ice cream sundaes in the courtyard (or Asbury Room if it is raining). We recognize that for many, Labor Day weekend is the last gasp for summer, and a time for one last vacation trip. It is interesting that the original purpose of Labor Day was the celebration of the strength and productivity of American labor, as well as the prosperity and standard of living that labor provided. It may seem counterintuitive that we celebrate labor with a day of rest. However, we all know that without rest, we cannot remain strong and diligent in our work. Besides, rest (Sabbath) is a gift from God canonized in the Ten Commandments.

The sermon this week, will focus on Jesus’ invitation to find rest in him: “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28). He spoke these words to a people who were toiling under an oppressive imperial regime, religious leadership that had made faithfulness burdensome and an economic system that exploited common laborers. Jesus knew the heaviness of life that people experienced and invited them a different perspective for life. We will explore this statement and see how Jesus’ invitation still applies to us ... as does the promise of rest.

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.

We extend our love and sympathy to the family of **Blake Davenport**, who passed away on July 27th. The funeral will be at the church on Saturday, September 13 at 2 p.m.

BY OUR PRESENCE

The following numbers represent our in-person and livestream numbers for Sunday, August 24, 2025:

9:00 am Worship Service
In-Person - 103 Online - 33

11:00 am Worship Service
In-Person - 140 Online - 68

Total In-Person Attendance - 243
Total Online Worship Attendance - 101
Sunday School - 38

BY OUR GIFTS

2025 Operating Budget	\$1,053,395
Weekly Requirement	\$20,258
Offering Received August 24, 2025	\$11,944
YTD Requirement	\$688,759
Received YTD	\$641,068

BY OUR SERVICE AND OUR WITNESS

Joyful Hands Circle will have their September covered dish meeting at the home of Sue Blackwell (7116 Rock Ridge/Sims Rd Sims, NC) on September 9th at 6:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Sue by September 6th. Call or text 252-206-6026.

Green Street Kids is hosting a start-of-year, Family Pool Party next Sunday, September 7 from 2-4! Email HannahBland@fumcwilson.org for the address! Please bring new socks of all sizes to donate!

Please send updated addresses for college students to Emily Aycock at emilyaycock@myglnc.com.

Men’s Prayer Breakfast will be meeting this Friday, September 5 at 7 a.m. in Asbury Hall. The menu will include: pancakes, 3 meats, grits, scrambled eggs, fruit, and orange juice. All men are invited to join for breakfast, fellowship, and devotion!

Kindergarten and 6th Grade Students will be receiving bibles at the services next Sunday, September 7. The bibles will be presented during the Children’s Moments at each service.

Lyrics to Opening Songs for Worship Service

Holy Spirit, Come by Patrick Mayberry

Verse 1
I'm coming with a heart of worship,
I'm bringing in a brand new song
I'm ready to see the unthinkable,
I'm ready for a miracle
Hearts praying for a fresh encounter,
souls looking to the living God
I'm ready for a real revival, O Holy Spirit...

Chorus
Come like a flood, like a fire, Holy Spirit
Fall in this place, fill our hearts, Holy Spirit
Come like a flood, like a fire, Holy Spirit
Come, O Holy Spirit, come

Verse 2
We're on the edge of a new beginning
God, we know You have so much more
We're looking to a new horizon,
we're praying for Your rain to pour
An overflowing of true redemption,
an overflowing of Your kingdom
I'm ready for a real revival, O Holy Spirit...

Chorus
Come like a flood, like a fire, Holy Spirit
Fall in this place, fill our hearts, Holy Spirit
Come like a flood, like a fire, Holy Spirit
Come, O Holy Spirit, come

Bridge (Repeat)
Oh, can you feel it? Heaven is reaching
Oh, can you hear it? Our God is speaking
Oh, can you see it? He's got your healing
Just receive it, receive the freedom

Chorus (Repeat)
Come like a flood, like a fire, Holy Spirit
Fall in this place, fill our hearts, Holy Spirit
Come like a flood, like a fire, Holy Spirit
Come, O Holy Spirit, come

Surely Goodness (Psalm 23) by Shane and Shane

Verse 1
The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want
In green pastures, He makes me lie down
He restores my soul and leads me on
for His Name, for His great name

Chorus
Surely goodness, surely mercy
Right beside me all my days
And I will dwell in Your house forever
And bless Your Holy Name

Verse 2
You prepare a table right before me
In the presence of my enemies
Though the arrow flies and the terror of night
Is at my door, I'll trust you Lord

Chorus
Surely goodness, surely mercy
Right beside me all my days
And I will dwell in Your house forever
And bless Your Holy Name

Bridge (Repeat)
And even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil
And even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death, You are on my side

End
And I will dwell in Your house forever
And bless Your Holy Name
And bless your Holy Name

The Worship of God

10:00 a.m. Combined Worship Hour
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

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

PRELUDE

Variations on "Come, Labor On"

Anon.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+OPENING SONGS

"Holy Spirit, Come"
"Surely Goodness (Psalm 23)"
(words on previous page)

Praise Band

+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’S MOMENTS

A short devotion for preschool and elementary children

+FIRST LESSON

John 6:25-29

NT page 98

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Please sign and pass the attendance pads.

OFFERTORY SOLO

"Surely The Presence Of The Lord"
Lawrence Bradley, Soloist

L. Wolfe

+HYMN NO. 95

DOXOLOGY

OLD 100th

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

+SECOND LESSON

Matthew 11:28-30

NT page 12

MORNING MESSAGE

"The Great Invitation"

Reverend Mike Frese

+HYMN TFWS NO. 2149
(BLACK HYMNAL)

"Living for Jesus"

LIVING FOR JESUS

+DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

+A TIME OF SILENCE AND TRINITY CHIMES

POSTLUDE

"Festive Toccata"

D. Bédard

+++++

+Those who are able, please stand.

The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God, with love and appreciation to the FUMC church family, from Bob and Ellen Bergland and family.

Participating with the clergy today:

Sound: David Presnell
Video: Shelley Gibson

Reader: Donna Allen
Greeters: Lee Edwards and Debbie & James Kerby

Prepare for Next Sunday: "Mind Games: I Don't Matter"

First Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:4-6, 27-31

Second Lesson: John 6:1-14