

**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, Anna Benton, Alicia Gannon

**Sunday School**

**Adult Classes**

**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

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

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



# First United Methodist Church

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

Wilson, NC 27894

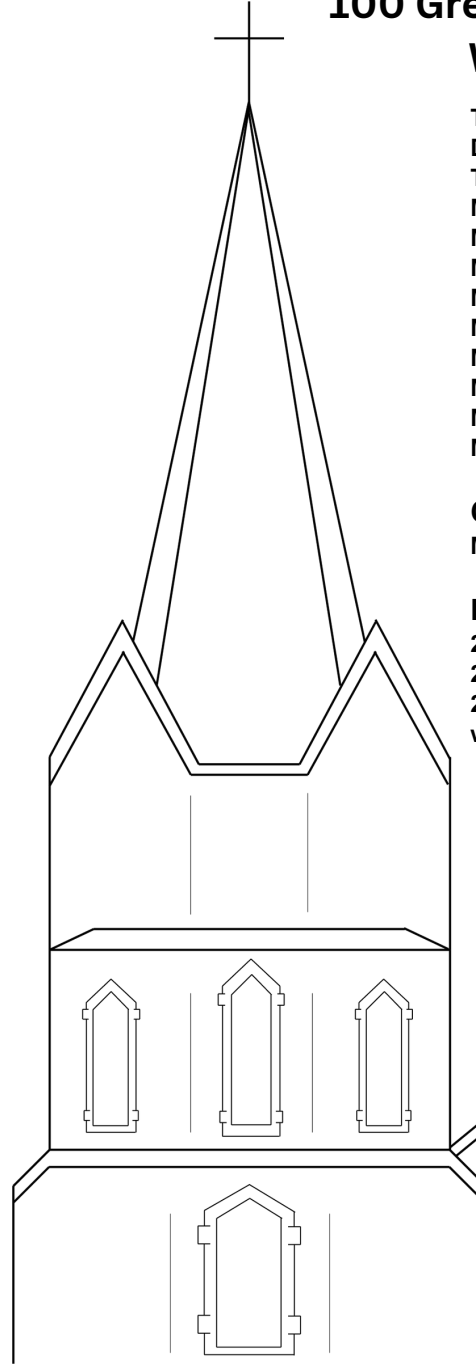
The Reverend Mike Frese, Senior Pastor  
Dr. William M. Presnell, Pastor Emeritus  
The Reverend Robert E. Bergland, Pastor Emeritus  
Mr. David Bellows, Director of Traditional Music Ministries  
Ms. Blythe Evans, Contemporary Worship Leader  
Mrs. Hannah Bland, Director of Children and Family Ministries  
Mr. Tiler Bland, Director of Youth Ministries  
Mrs. Lindsey O'Neill, Church Secretary  
Mr. Michael Britt, 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](http://www.fumcwilson.org)



*"Invite, Inspire, Ignite"*

**March 8, 2026**  
**Third Sunday in Lent**

# An Abundance of Quail

The Israelites started wailing.  
They remembered the foods they ate in Egypt.

Fit the words into the puzzle. Use the code to fill in the blanks below.

fish	melons
leeks	onions
garlic	cucumbers

"We have lost our appetite; we never see anything but this



## WELCOME VISITORS!

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



**College Scholarships Open:** Applications for college scholarships are now open, and will be available until May 1. All high school seniors and current college students are encouraged to apply. Please be thoughtful and detailed in your essays! Scan the QR code to learn more and get started.



**Community Lenten Service:** The Lenten worship service this week will be on Wednesday, March 11 at 12:10 p.m. at Howard Chapel at Barton College. Morgan Daughtry, Pastor at First Christian, will be preaching. The service will be 30 minutes, with lunch provided afterwards for \$7.

**Lost and Found:** Please visit the table in front of the church office to claim items. Thank you!

**The Joyful Hands Circle** will meet on March 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Roxie Schneider (114 Warren St. W, Wilson). All women are welcome.

**FMW Salad & Dessert Fellowship Dinner:** May 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. in Asbury Hall. All women are invited!

**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 at [lindseyoneill@fumcwilson.org](mailto:lindseyoneill@fumcwilson.org) with the date you'd like to reserve or call the front office (237-6121.) **Upcoming Dates Available:** March 22, April 19 & 26 and May 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31.

## MUSIC MINISTRIES

**Children's Choir** will meet for rehearsal today at 5:30 p.m. in the Choir Suite.

**Handbell Choir** will meet for rehearsal on March 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the Watson Classroom.

**Chancel Choir** will meet for rehearsal on March 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Choir Suite.

**Organ Concert** Join us on March 20 at 7:00 p.m. for a wonderful evening of organ music on the Petty-Madden organ. David Bellows will be presenting a varied program of works by Meyerbeer, Wammes, Mozart, and Mendelssohn. This concert is free to the public. Donations accepted for the "Psalm 150" Fund.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SUNDAY, MARCH 8

- 9:00 Contemporary Worship Service - Asbury Hall
- 10:00 Adult Sunday School Children/Youth Small Groups - Sanctuary Building and Blackburn
- 11:00 Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary
- 3:30 Confirmation Session - Watson Classroom
- 5:00 Green Street Kids
- 5:00 Youth Group - Asbury Hall
- 5:15 Lenten Bible Study - Watson Classroom
- 5:30 Children's Choir Rehearsal - Choir Suite

### MONDAY, MARCH 9

- 8:30 Weekday School - Blackburn Building
- 10:15 CHEW Packaging - Conference Room
- 6:00 Handbell Choir Rehearsal - Watson Classroom
- 7:00 CCOM Meeting - Asbury Hall

### TUESDAY, MARCH 10

- 8:30 Weekday School - Blackburn Building
- 10:00 Staff Meeting - Conference Room
- 10:00 Joyful Hands Circle Meeting - 114 Warren St. W
- 6:00 Trustees Meeting - Conference Room

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

- 8:30 Weekday School - Blackburn Building
- 9:30 Weekday School Chapel - Sanctuary
- 12:10 Community Lenten Service - Howard Chapel at Barton College
- 6:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Choir Suite

### THURSDAY, MARCH 12

- 8:30 Weekday School - Blackburn Building
- 6:00 Finance Committee Meeting - Watson Classroom
- 6:30 Praise Band Practice - Asbury Hall

### FRIDAY, MARCH 13

*Weekday School Closed*

### SATURDAY, MARCH 14

## LOOKING AHEAD...

- March 20:** Organ Concert
- March 29:** Palm Sunday & Easter Egg Hunt
- April 2:** Maundy Thursday Service
- April 5:** Easter Sunday
- April 19:** Youth Sunday
- May 7:** FMW Salad & Dessert
- June 15-19:** Vacation Bible School
- June 21-27:** Adult Mission Trip

## From the Pastor. . .

The Lenten sermon series, “The God Story,” is using the traditional elements of storytelling to identify the overarching narrative within the Bible. In the “introduction,” we identified the main character in scripture – God – who with great power and love creates the cosmos. We also met the secondary characters of the story, human beings. The first thread that is found throughout the God story is that God speaks to human beings because God seeks to be in relationship with them. We also noted the main plot – Human beings disobey and run away from God, but God continues to seek relationship with them. Last week, we discovered a second thread found in the story of Abraham (and throughout the Bible) – God is faithful to God’s promises.

This week, we fast forward in the God Story to the account of the Exodus. This grand narrative represents the Rising Action. Here’s a basic definition: During the rising action, the basic conflict is complicated by the introduction of secondary conflicts and obstacles that frustrate the resolution of the plot. The grand story of Exodus is the first of many stories in scripture where God’s goal of being in relationship with human beings is challenged. We pick up the story in the desert wanderings of the Israelites. This represents a point between the difficult past of slavery and the promise of a land, a future, and a hope. In the midst of this transitional time, they have no place to call home, they are exhausted and they are hungry. So, they cry out to the Lord. And God answered their prayers with the gift of manna.

While the details of this episode in the life of the Israelites may seem far from us, the truth is that much of our lives are lived in transitional times between promise and fulfillment. We may not feel enslaved, but we experience forces that hold us back: fear, addiction, illness, guilt, and the suffocating rut of life. This Sunday, we will explore what the Exodus story has to say about the Rising Action of our own lives — those seasons of transition where the old life is behind us but the promised future isn’t yet in view. Spoiler alert: the difficult middle isn’t a sign that God has abandoned you. It actually might be where your truest character is being formed.

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 Hannah Bland and the rest of her family. Hannah’s grandfather, **Bill Thomas**, passed away on February 25th in Milesburg, PA.

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### BY OUR PRESENCE

*The following numbers represent our in-person and livestream numbers for Sunday, March 1, 2026:*

**9:00 am Worship Service**

In-Person - 87 Online - 36

**11:00 am Worship Service**

In-Person - 139 Online - 46

**Total In-Person Attendance - 226**

**Total Online Worship Attendance - 82**

**Sunday School - 37**

**Sunday Evening Programming - 60**

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### BY OUR GIFTS

2026 Operating Budget \$1,006,613.50

Offering Received March 1, 2026 \$18,123

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### BY OUR SERVICE AND OUR WITNESS

**Kitchen Needs:** We are in need of new pot holders, oven mitts, dish rags, dish towels, and kitchen scissors. If you would like to contribute to our kitchen, please drop your items off to Lindsey in the church office.

**Mission Opportunity!** Join us June 21-27 as we travel back to Western North Carolina to aid in relief from Hurricane Helene. All are welcome! **March 29<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to sign up.** For more information contact Jessica Satterfield (252-363-3388) or Matt Nestor ([nestor\\_matt@yahoo.com](mailto:nestor_matt@yahoo.com)).

**March 29-Palm Sunday:** Although this date falls on a Fifth Sunday, we will **NOT** have a combined service. We will have two worship services at 9 and 11 as usual.

**Easter Egg Hunt:** FUMC Kids will host their annual Easter Egg Hunt at Rotary Park on Palm Sunday, March 29, from 4-5 p.m. They will also collect candy in the blue bins in the Atrium leading up to the event. Please invite your friends and family members to bring their children too!

## The Worship of God

9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Hour

Third Sunday in Lent

### Gathering of God’s People

Sharing in Song

**HOLY SPIRIT COME  
YES I WILL**

Praise Band

Welcome and Announcements

Children’s Moments

First Lesson

**Exodus 16:2-4, 13-16**

Morning Prayer

Special Music

**LET IT BE JESUS**  
(Please sign and pass the attendance pad)

Praise Band

Prayer of Dedication

### WORD FOR THE DAY

Second Lesson

**Numbers 11:4-6**

Morning Message

**“The God Story - Rising Action”**

Reverend Mike Frese

### OUR RESPONSE

Closing Song

**THE CAUSE OF CHRIST**

Praise Band

Sending Forth

**Sound Operator: Bill Bass**

**Reader: Johna Kite**

**ProPresenter: Denise Stinagle**

**Greeters: The Stinagles**

**Video: Todd Stinagle**

**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

Third Sunday in Lent

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

**PRELUDE** "Trio on 'Thou Hidden Source Of Calm Repose'" A. Fedak

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**+HYMN NO. 116** "The God Of Abraham Praise" LEONI

## +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

**FIRST LESSON** Exodus 16:2-4, 13-16 OT pages 62 & 63

## PASTORAL PRAYER

## PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Please sign and pass the attendance pads.*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" J. Schrader

**+HYMN NO. 95** DOXOLOGY OLD 100th

## +PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**SECOND LESSON** Numbers 11:4-6 OT page 129

**MORNING MESSAGE** "The God Story - Rising Action" Reverend Mike Frese

**+HYMN NO. 127** "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" CWM RHONDDA

## +DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

## +A TIME OF SILENCE AND TRINITY CHIMES

**POSTLUDE** "'The Little' Fugue in G Minor, BWV 578" J. S. Bach

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+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: David Presnell

Reader: Libby Baskervill

Video: Daniel Maravi

Greeters: Ralph and Beth White

## Prepare for Next Sunday: *Inciting Incident*

First Lesson: 1 Samuel 16:1-7

Second Lesson: 1 Samuel 16:7-13