

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 - 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

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

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

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

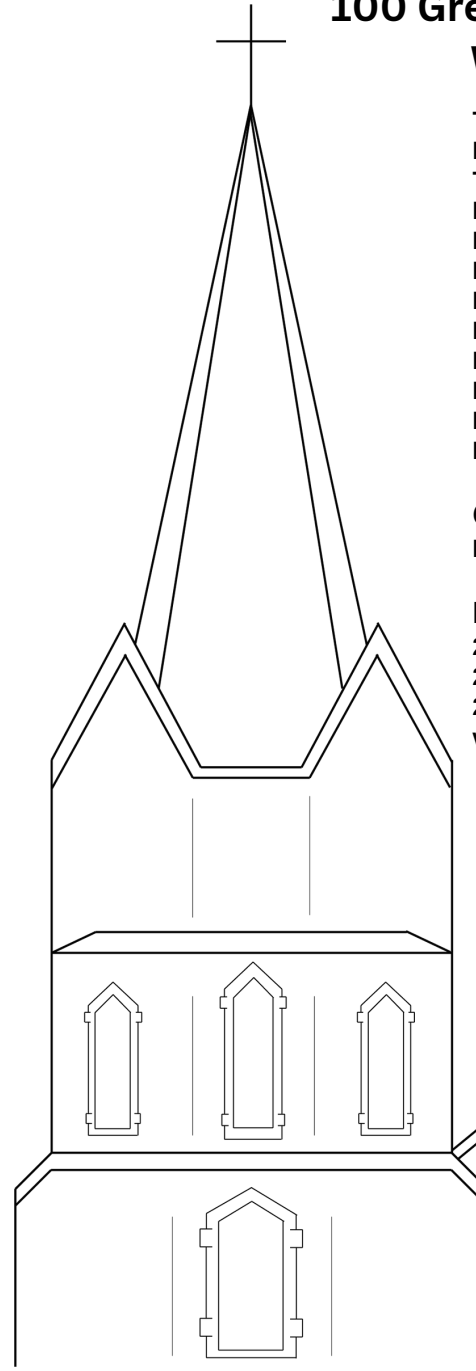
The Reverend Mike Frese, Senior Pastor
Dr. William M. Presnell, Pastor Emeritus
The Reverend Robert E. Bergland, Pastor Emeritus
Mr. David Bellows, Director of Traditional Music Ministries
Ms. Blythe Evans, Contemporary Worship Leader
Mrs. Hannah Bland, Director of Children and Family Ministries
Mr. 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"

March 16, 2025
Second Sunday in Lent

The Crucifixion of Jesus

This story tells about what happened the day Jesus was crucified.

Find the underlined letters in the picture below.

When they came to a place called the Skull, they crucified Jesus there, along with two criminals – one on His right, the other on His left.



Community Lenten Service: This week's Lenten worship service is March 19 at Howard Chapel at Barton College at 12:10 p.m. Pastor Rachel Kwashi from Winstead UMC will be preaching.

College Scholarships Open: Applications for college scholarships are now open! All high school seniors & 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.



Easter Egg Hunt: FUMC Kids will host their annual Easter Egg Hunt at Rotary Park on Palm Sunday, April 13 from 4-5 p.m. They are collecting EMPTY eggs and 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!

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY Re-Visit – A Deeper Look at the Sermon: To supplement the sermon series on the Seven Last Words of Jesus, there will be a Bible study that takes each week's topic to a deeper level. This will include revisiting themes from the sermon, further scripture study and application questions. Not only will this underscore the message from each of Jesus' statements from the cross, we will gain further insights from one another. We will meet in the Watson Classroom starting at 5:15 p.m. each Sunday during Lent. Classes will last around 60-75 minutes.

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

MUSIC MINISTRIES

CHILDREN'S CHOIR will meet for rehearsal today at 5:00 p.m. The Children's Choir will sing next Sunday, March 23 at the 9:00 a.m. service. Children should arrive in Asbury Hall a little before our 8:30 a.m. warmup time. We will not be robing for the 9:00 a.m. service.

ORGAN CONCERT- March 21 at 7:00 p.m. - David Bellows will present an exciting program of the 'Greatest Hits of the Organ and Harpsichord – Part III'. This concert is free. Donations accepted for the "Psalm 150" Music Ministries Fund.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

Return from Confirmation Retreat at Camp Chestnut Ridge

- 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
- 3:30 Confirmation Session - Watson Classroom
- 5:00 Children's Choir & GSK
- 5:00 Youth Group - Asbury
- 5:15 Re-Visit Bible Study - Watson Classroom

MONDAY, MARCH 17

8:30 Weekday School - Blackburn Weekday School

TUESDAY, MARCH 18

- 8:30 Weekday School - Blackburn Weekday School
- 10:00 Staff Meeting - Conference Room
- 6:00 Handbell Choir Rehearsal - Watson Classroom
- 6:30 SPRC Meeting - Conference Room

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

- 8:30 Weekday School - Blackburn Weekday School
- 6:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Music Suite

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

- 8:30 Weekday School - Blackburn Weekday School
- 9:30 Weekday School Chapel - Sanctuary
- 6:30 Praise Band Practice - Asbury

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

- 8:30 Weekday School - Blackburn Weekday School
- 9:00 ECU Organ Lessons - Sanctuary
- 7:00 Organ Concert - Sanctuary

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

LOOKING AHEAD...

- April 13:** Egg Hunt & Palm Sunday
- April 17:** Maundy Thursday Service
- April 18:** Ecumenical Good Friday Service
- April 20:** Easter Worship
- May 11:** Confirmation Sunday
- May 27-30:** Weekday School Summer Camp
- June 8:** Senior Sunday
- June 16-20:** Vacation Bible School

From the Pastor . . .

The first word from the cross was the offer of grace, “Father, forgive them ...” The second word from the cross is the gift of salvation, “Today, you will be with me in paradise.” As we noted last week, the offer of forgiveness already has been issued. Jesus already has atoned for our sins. God’s pardon is already available. The key is that we must recognize that possibility.

This week, we see in the Gospel lesson (Luke 23:32-43) two different individuals with two different reactions to Jesus. Both were convicted criminals. Both heard Jesus pray for God’s forgiveness of those who were complicit in his suffering and death. One of the criminals remained bitter and joined the mocking of Jesus. He was unmoved, even angry at Jesus’ blanket prayer of forgiveness. The other criminal had a completely different reaction. Something happened in his heart and spirit. He clearly recognized who he was and what he had done. He also recognized that Jesus had something to offer him – the gift of salvation.

During the sermon, we will focus on Jesus’ second words from the cross as a response to authentic confession. The second criminal not only heard Jesus’ prayer for God’s pardon of others, but he also accepted the truth for himself. Using the conversation between Jesus and the repentant criminal, we will focus on both the key components of authentic confession and the assurance of our salvation. During the evening Bible Study, we will delve into what we can learn about the afterlife from Jesus’ words.

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:
Caroline Upperco - WilMed

We extend our love and sympathy to the family of **Katie Covington**, who passed away on March 10th.

BY OUR PRESENCE
The following numbers represent our in-person and livestream numbers for Sunday, Mar. 9, 2025:

9:00 am Worship Service
In-Person - 72 Online - 36

11:00 am Worship Service
In-Person - 109 Online - 56

Total In-Person Attendance - 181
Total Online Worship Attendance - 92

Sunday School - 39
Ash Wednesday 7:00 pm
In Person - 72 Online - 34

BY OUR GIFTS

2025 Operating Budget	\$1,053,395
Weekly Requirement	\$20,258
Received March 9, 2025	\$18,167
YTD Requirement	\$202,576
Received YTD	\$196,805
Over (Under)	(\$5,771)

BY OUR SERVICE AND OUR WITNESS

Confirmation Retreat: Please keep our Confirmation Class in your prayers as they embark on their retreat this weekend at Camp Chestnut Ridge. The participants include Wood Berry, Will Lasitter, Tripp Harris, and Lucy Stadiem. The adult chaperones accompanying them are Pastor Mike Frese, Tiler Bland, Hannah Bland, and Mandy Berry.

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 for 2025, please email Lindsey O'Neill (lindseyoneill@fumcwilson.org) with the date you'd like to reserve or call the front office (237-6121.) *Upcoming Dates Available:* March 30, April 6, April 13, & April 27.

The Worship of God
9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Hour
Second Sunday in Lent
Gathering of God’s People

Sharing in Song **HOUSE OF THE LORD MIGHTY TO SAVE** Praise Band

Welcome and Announcements

Children’s Moments

First Lesson **Romans 8:31-39**

Morning Prayer

Special Music **IN CHRIST ALONE** Praise Band
(Please sign and pass the attendance pad)

Prayer of Dedication

WORD FOR THE DAY

Second Lesson **Luke 23:32-43**

Morning Message **Last Words: “Today you will be with me in paradise.”** Reverend Mike Frese

OUR RESPONSE

Sending Forth **I SPEAK JESUS** Praise Band

Sound Operator: Sean Gibson **Reader: Jessica Miller**
ProPresenter: Shelley Gibson **Greeters: The Clemmer Family**
Video: Aiden Gibson

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!

