

# The Lamplighter

November 2024 • Volume XVII • Issue XI

## Thanksgiving

Over the years, I have seen several historical documentaries about the birth of our country and the lives of those who made it possible. These founders were truly remarkable people. Through their writings, actions and their very lives, they stood for those things that truly matter. After our country became a free and independent nation, one of these founding fathers, George Washington, wrote the first Presidential Thanksgiving Proclamation on November 26, 1789. He began this proclamation by acknowledging the providence of God. He concluded the proclamation by recognizing the Lord as the giver of national prosperity. In between were no less than two dozen assertive references to the goodness of God. There was no doubt in George Washington's mind that the birth of this nation and its marvelous blessings were cause for deep gratitude on the part of the whole nation to God.

In his diary on that day, there is found this entry in his own handwriting: "**Being the day appointed for Thanksgiving, I went to St. Paul's chapel, though it was inclement and stormy, but few people at church.**" The father of our country had seen the deep snows of Valley Forge; he had struggled constantly against the British enemy and even some on the American side, who said he would be defeated; he had seen many of his own men desert the cause of freedom and had suffered the sting of betrayal from some closest to him. But, despite all of this, Washington could not help but be grateful to God. Therefore, he went to church on that first "**official**" Thanksgiving to praise and thank God. What a pity that so many others, who were also enjoying the fresh air of freedom, allowed the weather that day to keep them from publicly thanking God for the founding of this nation and all of the other benefits that came their way because of this!

We must be careful not to fall into such a trap. Too often it is easy to allow those things that matter to slip from our minds and lives. We forget that we are not the sole authors of our good fortune; that we are the beneficiaries of the "**...giver of every good gift.**" Such knowledge and such blessings should cause us to want to give thanks to God at every opportunity, come rain or shine. Each time we gather for worship is a time for us to express our thanks and praise to God "**...for all His benefits.**" As God's blessed people, let us resolve to also be God's grateful people, not only on the fourth Thursday of November, but all year round. See you in church Sunday!

*Ken*

*Christian sympathy is expressed to the families of:*

*Vickie Weston Buckman  
Roger Alan Rettig  
Robert Dodd*



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# From Your Associate Pastor of Missional Discipleship

*“Give thanks with a grateful heart.  
Give thanks to the Holy One.  
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ His Son.”*

This contemporary song of praise, exemplifies the words of Ephesians 5:19-20 which reads, “as you read psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, signing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Thanksgiving, beyond being a holiday, is a biblical mandate. Thanksgiving frees us from self-centeredness and directs our lives outwardly. It first reminds us that what we have comes from another source. Remembering that Jesus is the source of our blessings, keeps us from stressfully striving to obtain blessings for ourselves. Also, thanksgiving points outwardly because it calls us to charitable living.

I admit I used to critically admonish the discontentment we all observe as a society— one day we celebrate being thankful and content with our blessings, and then immediately (the very next day) turn toward purchasing more consumer goods. How hypocritical we are, I thought. Can't we just live with contentment. But thanksgiving is more than learning to be content.

Thanksgiving, shows us how our cups run over with blessing so much so, in fact, that we get to direct where the overflow goes. Sometimes that spurs us on to shower others with tangible gifts, but can also manifest itself in the giving of time, making an effort to be extra kind in a stressful season, communicating words of affirmation, or to show our love for others in a myriad of ways.

Both the song and scripture point to the fact that thanksgiving begins “in our hearts.” When our hearts are bent toward God, we then find the power source for all that God can do through us. In a trying year, it may or may not be easy to find what we are truly thankful for. Yet, when we begin the search in our hearts, I believe we can find much more to be thankful for than not. This Thanksgiving, let us turn our hearts over to the Lord.

*“And now let the weak say I am strong.  
Let the poor say I am rich,  
Because of what the Lord has done for us.”*

In Christ,  
*Stephen Bazan*

## First Methodist Church Women's Christmas Dinner!

The Circle of Kind Blessings will be catering the Christmas dinner this year on December 3, at 6:00 PM in Wesley Hall! Circles come together that night to enjoy great food, fellowship, and entertainment!

If you have joined our church or have been visiting our church and are not a member of a circle, we would like to invite you to our Christmas dinner!!! If you are interested in coming, please call Kaye Buckman at 252-946-9591.

First Methodist Church Meetings & Activities Calendar		November 2024		SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT																	
<b>3</b> All Saints Day Daylight Saving Time Ends 9:00 AM Blended Worship and Children's Church 10:15 AM Sunday School 11:15 AM Traditional Worship	<b>4</b> 9:30 PM Methodist Women Executive Board Meeting 7:00 PM Troop 99 Meeting	<b>5</b> Circle Meetings 10:00 AM Staff Meeting	<b>6</b> 4:00 PM Men of Redemption 5:30 PM Chili Cook-off 6:15 PM Missions Update 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Practice 7:00 PM Cantata Practice 7:30 PM Praise Team	<b>7</b> 7:00 AM Men at the Table 12:00 PM Prayers for Children and Youth Leader	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 11:00 AM Matthew 25 Fellowship Meal	<b>10</b> 9:00 AM Blended Worship and Children's Church 10:15 AM Sunday School 11:15 AM Traditional Worship 6:00 PM Yahoos	<b>11</b> Newsletter Deadline Preschool Closed Veterans Day 5:30 PM Missions Committee Meeting 6:30 PM Family Ministry Committee 7:00 PM Troop 99 Meeting	<b>12</b> 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM Circle of Kind Blessings 6:00 PM Pack Committee Meeting	<b>13</b> 4:00 PM Men of Redemption 5:30 PM FND / Cub Scout BBQ 6:15 PM Chicken Fundraiser 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Practice 7:00 PM Cantata Practice 7:30 PM Praise Team	<b>14</b> 7:00 AM Men at the Table 12:00 PM Prayers for Children and Youth Leader 6:00 PM SPRC Meeting	<b>15</b> 12:00 PM Young Lives	<b>16</b> 8:00 AM Methodist Men's Breakfast 9:00 AM Blended Worship and Children's Church 10:15 AM Sunday School 11:15 AM Traditional Worship 1:00 PM Youth Friendsgiving	<b>17</b> 5:30 PM Child Care Board Meeting 6:30 PM Preschool Board Meeting 7:00 PM Troop 99 Meeting	<b>18</b> 5:30 PM Child Care Board Meeting 6:30 PM Preschool Board Meeting 7:00 PM Troop 99 Meeting	<b>19</b> 10:00 AM Staff Meeting	<b>20</b> 4:00 PM Men of Redemption 5:30 PM Family Night Dinner 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Practice 7:00 PM Cantata Practice 7:30 PM Praise Team	<b>21</b> 7:00 AM Men at the Table 12:00 PM Prayers for Children and Youth Leader 6:00 PM Child Care Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting	<b>22</b> 5:00 PM Mini Fall Fling, BBQ, Chicken Dinner, and Fall Market	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 9:00 AM Blended Worship and Children's Church 10:15 AM Sunday School 11:15 AM Traditional Worship	<b>25</b> 1:00 PM Matthew 25 Board Meeting 7:00 PM Troop 99 Meeting	<b>26</b> 8:30 AM Preschool Thanksgiving Program 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting 7:00 PM Troop Committee Meeting	<b>27</b> 4:00 PM Men of Redemption 5:30 PM Family Night Dinner 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Practice 7:00 PM Cantata Practice 7:30 PM Praise Team	<b>28</b> Child Care Closed Church Office Closed Thanksgiving Day	<b>29</b> Child Care Closed Church Office Closed	<b>30</b>

# Letters

Dear First Methodist Church Washington,

On behalf of The Salvation Army of Washington, please accept my thanks for your generous contribution. We greatly appreciate your donation which enables us to continue our mission of preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ and meeting human needs in His name.

May God continue to bless and keep you!

Lord Bless, Sgt. Les Ashby  
Corps Officer

## Eagle's Wings Food Pantry Christian Love in Action

We acknowledge with appreciation  
Your donation to our ministry.

*Those who hope in the Lord  
Will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles;  
They will run and not grow weary,  
They will walk and not be faint.  
ISAIAH 40:30-31*

Dear Church Family:

The Saturday Night Jamboree would like to thank you for the support that you have provided. As you know, this organization provides a monthly social gathering for mentally and physically challenged individuals who do not have an opportunity to participate in the normal functions of the community. The Jamboree traces its beginning from March of 1973 and is now celebrating 50 years of service to our community. This concept was started so those who are mentally and physically challenged could have an opportunity to enjoy themselves in environment where they would not be subjected to ridicule.

The success of the Jamboree can only be attributed to the commitment of the volunteers and support of churches or other organizations in our community who have kept this going for so many years. We really do not know what we would do without the love and selfless work of our volunteers and of those in our community that support us through words of encouragement and good deeds every month. You have looked into your heart to provide a gift of love to make the Jamboree available for the many individuals in our community that need our support and for that we are very thankful! God truly has blessed and provided for The Saturday Night Jamboree.

Thank you for your support and God bless you,  
Tine Woolard  
SNJ Secretary/Treasurer

Dear First Methodist Church of Washington,

Thank you for your generous contribution to Ruth's House. We are beyond grateful for your partnership and commitment to helping our community and domestic violence.

We have had a full shelter with twelve children throughout the summer and have assisted countless women with protection orders, safety planning, and housing. On behalf of the staff, residents, and Board Members of Ruth's House, I would like to thank you for supporting our ongoing efforts for survivors of domestic violence. Your invaluable donation will help us provide shelter and direct services to our clients.

Last year, we served 196 survivors and provided over 400 counseling and advocacy services. We responded to 205 crisis calls on our emergency line. Our work continues because of your support and generosity.

We are blessed to be surrounded by such a caring and involved community.

Sincerely,  
Susan Keusenkothen  
Ruth's House—Executive Director

### Celebrating the gift of life during the month of November:

- 1st Bill Davis
- 2nd Roxanne Beeman
- 3rd Brenda Boklage, Jim O'Brian, Ashlee Rasmussen, Carson Moore, Haleigh Tallcott
- 5th Lawrence Mallard, Radell Rasmussen
- 8th Janice O'Kane
- 9th Charlie Moore
- 11th Rick Amick, Ann Lang, Sally Ross
- 12th Steve Vaughn
- 13th Marshall Taylor, Kaye Buckman, Susie Taylor, Laura Beth Ross, Kadence O'Brien
- 14th Allison Bedsole
- 15th Debbie Waters
- 16th Louise Vosburgh, John Gargaro, Madison Swanner
- 17th Stan Friedman
- 18th Marilyn Bram, Louise Cowell, Alton Griffin, Sheila Tanner
- 19th Bob Smithwick, J.C. Bernhardt
- 20th Skip Sherrill, Mike LaBarbera, Jordon Pike
- 21st Lorre Bowen, Kyle Barnes
- 22nd Teresa Stainback
- 23rd Marsha Bowes
- 25th Laura Davis, Teresa Marshall, Darwin Woolard
- 2th Kayla Morgan
- 28th Paige Davis, Harold Moore, Erica Alligood, Sully Howdy
- 29th Mary Toler

## Family Ministries

<sup>11</sup> *The Lord said to Moses, "I have heard the people of Israel talking about how unhappy they are. Tell them, 'When the sun goes down, you will eat meat. In the morning you will be filled with bread. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God.'*" Exodus 16: 11-12

After hurricane Helene hit, my brother and sister-in-law who live near Clemson SC, were without power for 8 days. In one of our conversations with my brother he mentioned to us that those 8 days were the longest that he could remember going without power due to a hurricane. (For our family, we were without power for 6 days for hurricane Fran in 1996) This got me to thinking of how very fortunate my family was and how thankful I am that since moving here 3 years ago, we have not had a major storm to affect eastern NC. We were thankful that they had a generator and were able to safely get out and to find gas for said generator. We were thankful that they had no damage to their house. Thankful that they had multiple ways to cook food and keep light in the house.

In the scripture above, God had done marvelous miracles in bringing his people out of Egypt and was leading them towards the promised land, but their humanness got in the way and they started to complain. When I read these verses in a daily devotion it was like God threw up a sign and said "Sarah Beth - I'm talking to you here too!" There are so many things that we can find in this world to complain about, yet God is always there providing our every need.

While there are always ways that the world will try to bring us down and to question if God is really listening, God always reinforces that He loves us, that He wants what is best for us and that he provides our every need. Maybe not all the wants, but the needs he provides. As we are preparing for our season of Thanksgiving and the different stresses it brings. Let us always remember that God is listening and that He provides all of our needs.

Blessings,

*Sarah Beth*

Director of Family Ministries  
252-946-3311 Ext. 204  
[dfm@fmcwashington.com](mailto:dfm@fmcwashington.com)

## Child Care

We all learn by repetition, right? In Child Care, as parents, grandparents we repeat some of the same things so many times we sometimes wonder if they are hearing us. Just being honest! I laughed the other day as I paused by a classroom door and a teacher said to a child "I told you that three times already today!" I smiled and said "And you will most likely say it 12-24 more times today" and was able to make her laugh with me. Sometimes circumstances repeat themselves as well, more than we would hope they would, and recently I had to dig deep inside for reflection on some of those. I had to ask God if I missed the lesson the last several times the same thing happened, or if the lesson was continuing to be on perseverance. Then I dug into a way more important place and found this fabulous answer to the "I already said that" moments of life.

Scripture clearly teaches us to use repetition. *"Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."* Deuteronomy 6:4-9 NLT

God knows more about patience and repeating than we could ever imagine and here in FMCW Child Care, we will keep repeating His name and His stories along with letters, shapes, numbers and words so that one day, their parents can claim this verse:

*"I could have no greater joy than to hear that my children are following the truth."* 3 John 1:4 NLT

*Diane Van Staaldouin*

Child Care Director  
Director's Cell: 252-947-2836

## Leader, Children and Youth Ministries

### Job Overview:

Seeking a passionate and dedicated Leader, Children and Youth Ministries to lead and nurture our children (birth through 12th grade) and their families to grow in spiritual maturity and pursue a relationship with Jesus Christ. The ideal candidate will have a heart that desires to foster a vibrant community of faith through engaging programs and activities.

### Responsibilities and Duties:

- Direct and grow a comprehensive ministry program for children and youth that includes Sunday school, children's church, weekly programs for children and youth, camps, retreats, and special events including vacation Bible school, Christmas pageant, fall and Easter activities and summer events.
- Actively lead and build a vibrant, relational community for our youth through activities that include Sunday school, youth group and missional outreach.
- Work alongside Children's and Youth volunteer committees to choose a curriculum that is content-rich and Biblically strong to create an enduring program appropriate for all age levels.
- Recruit, train, and support volunteers to assist in various aspects of the youth and children's ministry and provide needed curriculum, materials, and schedules to volunteers.
- Encourage active involvement from children and youth in weekly worship such as audio-visual team, praise team, praises and prayers, Scripture reading, ushering, communion servers, etc.
- Provide opportunities for children, youth, and their families to foster community among mixed age groups. Meet with youth outside of the church building to nurture relationships.
- Provide regular and clear communication with parents, youth and volunteers about programs and events. Utilize and maintain social media outlets as it relates to the promotion of activities.
- Serve as ex officio member of the Children's and Youth sub-committees.
- Maintain a safe and welcoming environment for children and youth, adhering to Child Protection Plan training.
- Participate in yearly reviews with children and youth sub-committees and Senior Pastor.

### Qualifications:

- A personal relationship with Jesus Christ and a desire to continue to grow and strengthen his/her walk with Christ.
- Have passion, joy, and enthusiasm to work with children and youth while playing an integral role in their spiritual development.
- Strong organizational, communication and interpersonal skills with the ability to relate to children, youth, parents, and volunteers effectively.
- Exhibit leadership skills to direct and grow a transformational ministry for children and youth.
- A seminary degree and/or degree in youth ministry is highly desirable, along with experience in youth ministry.
- An understanding and affirmation of Wesleyan theology and Global Methodist doctrine and policy, and/or willingness to learn and grow in this tradition through reading, workshops, and other forms of professional development.

### Employment Status/Benefits and Salary:

Full time salaried position. Salary ~\$50,000; Stipend (amount tbd) for work-related expenses; Stipend (tbd) for health insurance; continuing education based on experience and performance.

**Methodist Women  
Circle News**

**Monday, November 4, 2024**  
**MW Executive Board Meeting**  
**9:00 AM, Asbury Conference Room**

**UMW Circle Meetings:**

**Tuesday, November 5, 2024**

**Agape Circle**

**9:30 AM, Fellowship Hall, Backpack Pals  
and Child Care Snacks**  
**7:00 PM, Parlor, Meeting**

**Circle of Mary and Martha**

**9:00 AM, Fellowship Hall—Backpack Pals  
and Child Care Snacks**  
**10:00 AM, Asbury Conference Room**

**Circle of Joy**

**1:00 PM, Asbury Conference Room**

**Tuesday, November 12, 2024**

**Circle of Kind Blessings**

**10:00 AM—2:30 PM, Asbury Conference Room  
and Kitchen (Lunch served at 12:00 PM)**

**SONshine Circle**

**TBD**

## Matthew 25

On a beautiful fall day, 58 guests were served subway sandwiches, chips, fruit, and cake by the cook team. Leaders were Butch and Laurie Weston, and serving with them were Ken and Kari Hall, Mike and Jean Ash, Dal and Ginger Newbold, and Spencer and Leigh Stanley.

Eighteen homebound were served BBQ, slaw, chips, and fruit by Diana Tew, Missy Deaner, Jane Weaver, and Barbara Smith. In each homebound lunch was a very creative Halloween dessert bag created by Ann Cherry.

On Friday, the desserts which were given by the Church of the Good Shepherd were wrapped by Beth Litchfield, Judy Griffin, Susan and Janice O'Kane, Kathi Burdi and Barbara Buckalew.

John Gunnels shared prayer and fellowship, and Kim Copeland had story time with the children.

Sally Brodie used her creative talent to decorate the tables with an unusual moss basket with mini pumpkins and other fall colors.

The nurses that were taking blood pressures were Wanda Lilly and Sharon Williams. This is such a nice feature for our Saturday guests and so well received.

Other volunteers for October 12 were Pam Deese, Bob and Kay Smithwick, Will Jefferson, Bruce Mears, Hazy Murphy, Steven Sandoval, Evelyn Maqueda, Yetzbe Juarez, Susan Zachary and Beth Litchfield.

The Matthew 25 Board voted to donate \$1000 for food supplies to the western Carolina flood relief through the Global Methodist Church.

The guests are looking forward to the fish fry in November with Tim Copeland heading up the cook team.

## Preschool

The month of October was especially busy for the preschool. Our friends from the Washington Fire Department came and did a puppet show teaching us all about Fire Safety. We enjoyed a visit to Stokes' Family Farm, and the children had so much fun doing all of the fun activities. This was a new experience for most families, and they had many activities suited for younger children. Greg Cushing and Erin Franz came once again to do our Fall pictures in the prayer garden! We cannot wait to see all of the children's pictures. Chapel Time was focused on trusting God and the students learned about Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, Noah, David, and Jesus calming a storm. Our theme verse was from Psalm 56:3 - "When I am afraid, I will trust in you."

Our three-year-old and pre-k classes took their first trip to Brown Library for the year. Both our threes and pre-k classrooms will visit the library once a month to listen to Mr. Terry Rollins read. It is always a joy with Mr. Terry. The children love his enthusiasm as he reads about different things each month.

There are many special THANK YOU's to the lifted and it always reminds me how blessed our preschool is to have such a supportive church family. First, to the Circle of Mary and Martha and Erin and Greg for our new picture frames down the preschool hallway. Glory to GOD! Also, to the Agape Circle for contributing funds to our Scholarship need for the year. Glory to GOD! A huge shout-out to our preschool prayer partners for funding a staff shirt for this year! We are very grateful for their generosity. Glory to GOD! And finally, to our church office staff for allowing the children to walk through the office for "trick-or-treating." They always have a great time showing off their costumes, and the staff always make the children feel special. Glory to GOD!

We are excited to see what all of November will bring. It is always an exciting time for the children in anticipation of all of the holiday events. It is also a time where we see a lot of growth in the students as they continue to learn at school. Our Thanksgiving Feast will be on November 26 for our preschool parents, but if you'd like to come see the program, feel free to pop in. The children always do such a great job with their songs. It's in the morning and usually begins around 9 AM in Wesley Hall.

As always, thank you so much for all of your love and support of our preschool program. We truly could not be a successful ministry without your help.

Amanda Bazan  
Preschool Director  
Cell: 252-532-7604  
fmcwpreschool@gmail.com

### Family Night Dinner Menus

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| 11/6/24  | Missions Team Chili Cook-off Fundraiser Dinner                |
| 11/13/24 | Cub Scout BBQ Chicken Dinner Fundraiser                       |
| 11/20/24 | Baked Spaghetti, Mixed Green Salad, Garlic Bread, and Dessert |
| 11/27/24 | NO MEAL—Thanksgiving Week                                     |

# Children's Ministry

"Be like the Son of Man. He did not come to be served. Instead, he came to serve others. He came to give his life as the price for setting many people free." Matthew 20:28

Our children had such a fun October, and it absolutely flew by! We had fun coming together on Wednesday nights reading our Case for Faith and talking about some big things like can other religions get into heaven and can we have doubts and still be a Christian? The children had fun with science experiments and different games helping to bring home the point that God is the one true way and is with us always!

The children and their families had fun participating in Church has left the building and creating cards that will be attached to the blankets that the Methodist Women are collecting to send to hurricane victims in Western North Carolina. Our children will also have opportunities to create special Christmas placemats to be used in December at Matthew 25 lunch.

Our Wednesday night events are changing up a bit, please feel free to join us for all of them! On Wednesday, November 6, following the chili cook off, Laura Davis will lead the children around the church campus and share bits of history about our church and fun memories that she has growing up in our church. Wednesday, November 13, we will be packaging shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, and on November 20, we will be doing a fun baking event with items to sell at Fall Fling with Mrs. Dale. We won't meet on November 27 so everyone can be ready for Thanksgiving!

I'm excited to share that Amanda Bazan and Stephanie Capehart will be co-directing the children's Christmas pageant again this year. Practices will start on Sunday, November 3, following a shortened Sunday School for each level. The pageant will be on Sunday, December 22, at 9 AM with the hopes that more families can join in this special sharing of the Christmas story. Please contact Amanda or Stephanie if your child would like to participate.

Looking ahead to December, we will have an opportunity for children and their families to create an advent wreath to share at home and then a chance to go caroling with some older adults in our community. There are many opportunities for your children to be involved, and for all of us to serve our Lord!

*Sarah Beth*

## Baby Book Program

A children's book is placed in the Church Library in honor of each child born to our church family. The following child was honored with the book listed below:

When God Made the World by Matthew Paul Turner  
In honor of: James Gentry Scott Bollow (born July 8, 2024)  
Parents: Chris and Allyson Bollow

## Fall Market Friday, November 22, 2024

Starts at 5:00 PM in Wesley Hall! Any group in our church is welcome To participate. Each group will keep their money! For more details and to sign up to be included, please call Shirley Stone at 252-481-2420!

So far at Fall Market we have:

Circle of Kind Blessings - a Variety of Homemade Freshly Baked Sour Dough Bread (loaves and rolls)

Agape Circle - Selling First Methodist Church Note Cards  
Frozen Casseroles (all kinds)

Circle of Mary & Martha - Selling Baked Goods (Cakes, Pies, Cookies, Etc.)

Circle of Joy - Selling Seasonal Items of All Kinds

The Fall Fling Committee decided we would take a break this year from having the Big Bake Sale and Silent and Live Auctions due to the Capital Reserve Campaign which is ongoing! Thanks for being understanding!

Anyone that would still like to donate to Fall Fling can send a check to the office and specify on the memo line (Fall Fling)! We will also have a box for donations at the Fall Market!

Come and shop, eat, and enjoy the Fellowship this year at Fall Fling!

Fall Fling Committee  
and Co-Chairs,  
Paige Davis and Kaye Buckman

**Mini Fall Fling**  
**Friday, November 22, 2024**

BBQ Chicken Plates - \$12.00 ticket (1 plate)  
 300 plates will be sold  
 \* \$100.00 ticket (1 plate)  
 100 tickets sold—gives you  
 a plate & your name goes in  
 the drawing for the:  
 \* John Deere Lawn Mower  
 \* Flat-Screen TV  
 \* \$250.00 Gas Card

\*Anyone interested in donating the mower, TV, and gas card, please contact  
 Paige Davis at 252-945-3462!

**BBQ Chicken**  
 For Tickets Contact:

Sarah Purvis	252-945-0288	Paula Willey	252-947-0334
Alma Friedman	252-947-2076	Kaye Buckman	252-946-9591

**TICKETS MUST BE PRESENTED WHEN  
 PICKING UP YOUR PLATE!**

Pick up plates—Starts 5:30 PM      OR      Come inside to  
 eat and shop at  
 The Fall Market!

\*Drawing—7:00 or 7:30 PM—or whenever Papa Paige says so!

## Youth News

*My brothers and sisters, you were chosen to be free. But don't use your freedom as an excuse to live under the power of sin. Instead, serve one another in love. Galatians 5:13*

The youth had a busy October full of fun and service. Youth finished the Case for Faith, exploring how to defend what we believe as Christians when people try to make us doubt God. The youth also enjoyed viewing the new God's Not dead movie titled In God We Trust where the overall theme is that we as Christians do have a voice and need to speak up and use our voices to change our world. A resounding fact from the movie was that it is estimated that 32 million Christians will not vote in the upcoming election.

The youth also helped organize and lead in packing boxes with hurricane relief items for The Church Has Left the Building on October 27. These boxes will be transported to Western North Carolina to help people clean and rebuild their homes after the devastating effects of Hurricane Helene.

In November, the youth will continue a season of service in helping with the chili cookoff on November 6. Youth will be headed to Walmart that night to purchase items that we will pack in Operation Christmas Child boxes on Wednesday, November 13, in a joint packing event with the children's ministry.

On Sunday, November 24, from 4 to 6 PM, we will have Friendsgiving at the church—youth are asked to bring a side dish (mac and cheese, mashed potatoes, rolls) or dessert (pie, ice cream, cookies, etc.) and some sort of multi-player game like monopoly, phase 10 (please no electronics). The church will provide the main dishes! Please EMAIL Sarah Beth at [dfm@fmcwashington.com](mailto:dfm@fmcwashington.com) what item your youth will be bringing.

December will bring a new event where we will have a progressive dinner at church members' homes in Washington Park on Sunday, December 8. Youth are also asked to put Saturday, January 11, on their calendars to help serve lunch at Matthew 25. We will head to Cookout after we finish serving for some fun and fellowship time.

If you are not receiving the weekly One Call Now text or email messages, please contact Sarah Beth at [dfm@fmcwashington.com](mailto:dfm@fmcwashington.com) so she can get you added into the group to stay in the know about what our youth are doing and opportunities to participate.

*Sarah Beth*

## Library News

"Evil is real and part of the human experience," Ken Hall, 2024. If you want to empower yourself and others to challenge many cultural lies...go to your church library and check out, "Mama Bear Apologetics," by Hillary Morgan Ferrer.

*Delane Fuquay*  
 Church Librarian

## Cub Scout Troop 99 BBQ Chicken Fundraiser

Want a ticket for the Cub Scout Pack 99 BBQ Chicken Fundraiser at FMC on Wednesday, Nov 13?

Tickets are \$10.00 each and will be on sale through Thursday, November 7. But...I only have 100 tickets to sell, so don't wait too long to inquire!

If you purchase a FMC BBQ ticket from Dale, you must pick up your dinner plate(s) in the Wesley Hall kitchen. The plates will be ready at 5:30 p.m. on the 13<sup>th</sup>. The plates can be picked up until 6:15 p.m. that evening - in WH kitchen. You are welcome to eat your dinner in Wesley Hall and enjoy the church family fellowship while you eat.

Tickets are available through Dale Peele. Contact her at 252-943-8068 or email her at [dalepowellpeelee@gmail.com](mailto:dalepowellpeelee@gmail.com) to reserve your tickets!

## Bricks and Mortar

The Global Methodist Church convening General Conference concluded on 26 September 2024 at San Jose, Costa Rica. The Conference adopted a limited agenda due primarily to time constraints and to allow people who have yet to join the GMC from around the world the ability to participate in the establishment of the rules that will govern the church moving forward. The work done at the conference has created an entirely new general church organization emphasizing local churches organized in Annual Conferences supported by a Connectional Council and Connectional Commissions.

Some specific objectives accomplished by the Conference include:

- Adoption of the GMC Constitution
- Proclamation of a Mission and Vision Statement
  - ◊ Mission - **The Global Methodist Church exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ and spread scriptural holiness across the globe.**
  - ◊ Vision - **Through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, the Global Methodist Church envisions multiplying disciples of Jesus Christ throughout the earth who flourish in scriptural holiness as we worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.**
- The election of Scott Jameson Jones and Mark James Webb as Bishops of the Global Methodist Church.
- The election of interim Bishops (2024-2026) John Pena Auta (Nigeria), Kimba Evariste (DRC), Jeff Greenway (Allegheny West), Leah Hidde-Gregory (Mid Texas), Kenneth Livingston (Trinity), and Carolyn Moore (North Georgia).
- Designating Africa as the location for the 2026 GMC General Conference (specific Country TBD).
- Acknowledgement of Rev. Mike Schafer as our first Chief Connectional Officer. Election of Rev. Tom Lambrecht and Rev. Lamar Oliver, respectively General Conference Secretary and Petitions Secretary.
- Adopted an updated *Book of Doctrines and Discipline* replacing the *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline*. The updated edition will remain in effect through December 31, 2024. Amendments adopted by the Conference, based on resolution of 250+ petitions, will be incorporated into a subsequent version which will take effect on January 1, 2025.

As we emerge from the pivotal convening General Conference in San Jose, a sense of renewed purpose and determination is palpable across the Global Methodist Church. The work done at the conference has set a strong foundation, and now the elected team is moving forward with great care, intent, and focus on the many steps ahead. Watch the internet site [www.globalmethodist.org](http://www.globalmethodist.org) and subscribe to Crossroads to stay informed "**so the world will know.**"

### Curb Appeal??

Does FMCW have it? Would you enjoy working on a committee that helps to beautify our church grounds? Do you have suggestions that would help make our grounds more attractive? Would you find joy in working in our beautiful prayer garden? A yes to any of these questions means you're the right person to join our newly formed grounds committee. We can't wait to hear from you, so call Kay Smith (252-948-2669) or Jean Ash (252-945-9129).

## One Call Now Procedure Update

**Purpose**—The Purpose of our church's One Call Now system is to provide timely, effective, and important messages to the church family through messages sent via Text and/or Email.

*To achieve this purpose, we are reviving our procedures regarding the enrollment and messaging capabilities of this service.*

**Enrollment**—First Methodist Church provides One Call Now service only to those in our congregation who enroll. The service allows us to send messages to all enrolled and to sub-groups within the congregation via Text and/or email. One Call Now allows individuals to self-remove their enrollment at any time, and they guarantee the security of contact information.

We do not automatically enroll members. Each member should sign up individually by filling out a One Call Now form found on the church website, or by returning a paper copy found at the Welcome Center to the Church Office. Once enrolled, you will receive messages through the phone number or email address you provide.

**Messaging**—Since One Call Now has become a popular way for many groups in our church to send messages to church members, we are updating our procedures so that those enrolled can receive **timely, effective, and important** messages.

### General Messaging to all enrolled (Congregational messages)

- 1) Only messages through committees reporting to the Church Council, and Pastors and Staff will be allowed to send general messages. Please email [admin@fmcwashington.com](mailto:admin@fmcwashington.com) ; [sbazan@fmcwashington.com](mailto:sbazan@fmcwashington.com) ; or [dfm@fmcwashington.com](mailto:dfm@fmcwashington.com) the **exact** message you want sent. The message must be limited to 300 characters in length. The message must denote the sending committee.
  - A. For example, a message from Missions might read: FMC Missions invites you to participate in our [next event] on [date] at {time}.
- 2) We are limiting the number of messages regarding any single event to three.
- 3) If requests for messages are received after regular church office hours, they will not be sent out until the following day when the church office is open. We are recommending requesting the message in plenty of time before you need the message sent. Exceptions may be made for strict emergencies.

### Sub-Group Messaging

- 4) One Call Now does allow for subgroups. Leaders who would like to manage their own sub-group are allowed to do so. Please see Stephen Bazan to gain access to this feature. If you administer a sub-group, you will be responsible for the messaging procedures within that group's parameters. All members of a sub-group must also be enrolled in the general messaging to the whole church.

## WASHINGTON WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY "Prepare Him Room" Event

Ladies, please join us in Wesley Hall on Wednesday, December 4, from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM for this special Christmas **Virtual** Event led by Jennifer Rothschild. Experience worship, encouragement, and teaching as we prepare our hearts to "**Prepare Him Room**" in the upcoming Christmas season. **NO REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED** for this event! **JUST COME** and enjoy refreshments, fellowship, worship led by Michael O'Brien, and teaching led by Jennifer. Also, registration for our Winter/Spring study on Revelation, led by Jen Wilkin, will be available. Contact Laura Davis at 252-943-4711 with any questions.