

The Main Stream

October 15, 2024 - Volume 2024, Issue 10



"I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth..."—Isaiah 43:19a

"See, I am making all things new..."—Revelation 21:5b



Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

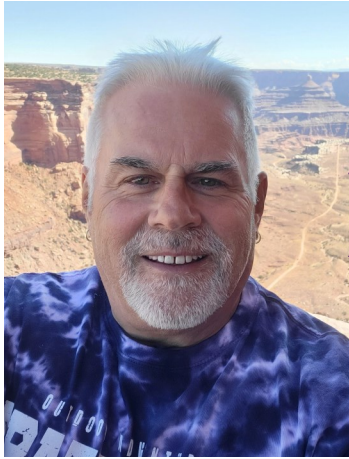
Grace to you and peace in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! We live in a wonderful time in the history of Main Street United Methodist Church! We have the momentum of over 175 years of ministry in the name of Christ in the Kernersville community. Main Street UMC has been a Lighthouse for this area, making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. And as Jesus said, "the fields are ripe for harvest." People all around us, with whom we work, go to school, our neighbors, and acquaintances are counting on us to witness to the life-changing love of God in Christ.

It is a wondrous privilege we have, to represent Christ, to literally bring Faith, Hope, and Love to a hurting world. As you consider this incredible calling, I invite you to pray about how Christ is calling you to support this great work. As we finish 2024, each of us are invited to help our church fulfill our missional commitments. Our community and world are counting on us. As we look toward 2025, what percentage of your income is God calling you to give? It is a spiritual question that each of us are invited to answer. Out of the abundance of God's blessings, we are empowered to participate in Christ's work of transforming the world by his Amazing Grace. Countless followers of Christ through the ages have found that, as we give, we are blessed with joy, the joy of gratitude and praise to God, who is the source of all good things.

Thank you for your faithfulness. There is truly no limit to what this great church can do as we serve Christ TOGETHER. I cannot wait to see the great things Christ will do through Main Street United Methodist Church in 2025!

Peace,

Pastor Lenny



Welcome, New Members



Top, L -R : Dwight McCullough,
Janet Lancaster

Bottom, L-R: Kris Wilhelmi,
Debbie Prior



It's Not Too Late to Sing with Us for the Christmas Cantata!

A THRILL OF HOPE...the weary world rejoices! In a world weary of many things, we find our greatest hope in Jesus Christ! Come celebrate the birth of Jesus in song by singing with the adult choirs this Christmas as we present Joel Raney's "A Thrill of Hope." Rehearsing Mondays, at 7:00 pm OR Wednesdays, at 7:30 pm, choose the night and time that works best for your weekly schedule. We will have ONE SERVICE for Cantata Sunday—December 8 at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary.

Sharing in Joy:

- Congratulations to Mike & Ann Cronin on the marriage of their daughter, Grace, to David Ingraham on September 21.
- Congratulations to David & Georgia Watts upon the birth of their son, Clint Walker Watts. Grandparents are Stan & Karen Watts, great-grandparents are George & Sylvia Watts.
- Congratulations to Alex & Chase Greeson upon the birth of their daughter, Isley Lynn Greeson. Grandparents are Barry & Jane Greeson.

Happy News for Pastor Wayne

One of the best things to happen at the General Conference of the United Methodist Church this year is the granting of sacramental authority to Deacons. This change opens opportunities for Deacons to share the means of grace through Holy Baptism and Holy Communion in our churches, communities, and world.

For Main Street United Methodist Church, this means that Rev. Wayne Purdy, our Pastor of Youth and College Ministries, is now authorized to preside over the sacraments. We rejoice in this great news and look forward to the many ways Wayne will continue his ministry among us and now, sharing Christ's love through the sacraments.



Main Street's Heritage Club is a group of active adults who gather for fun activities. **Contact Debbie Smith for more information and to make reservations.**

The Heritage Club would love to have new friends join them at these next events:

- **November 7 Southern Supreme Fruitcake Shopping & Lunch.** Bus will leave the church at 10:30. Cost to ride the bus will be \$5.00 and you will pay for your lunch at the restaurant. We will eat lunch first this year to avoid the crowd at the Fruitcake factory. Let us know if you are interested in touring the factory.
- **November 20 Wohlfahrt Haus Dinner Theatre** "Christmas in the Park" A production of song and dance with everyone's favorite holiday tunes and a nativity. The bus will leave the church at 10:00am. If you drive, please arrive before 12:00. Reservations and payment (\$67.00) required by October 20.

Expert on Dementia Will Speak at UMM Dinner

You are invited to the United Methodist Men's dinner on **Tuesday, November 19** at 7 PM. Our special speaker will be Dr. Ann Renigar Hiatt who is an authority on caregiving for people with dementia. She has deep knowledge of the demands of caregiving from personal and professional experience. She has a Ph D. from UNC-Greensboro and served as assistant professor at UNC-Charlotte. Her book **Detour Down Desperation Road** tells of her experiences as her mother has dementia and Dr. Hiatt is a primary caregiver. Dr. Hiatt works with support groups including at our local Shepherd's Center. All interested people (men and women) are invited to come learn about dementia which will potentially affect many of us now or in the future. Make your reservation at mainstreetumc.org and click on "signups" on the red stripe by Friday, November 15. Dinner cost is by donation.



MSUMC Ornaments

United Women in Faith Circle #5 are selling beautiful MSUMC Ornaments.

These ornaments are made of solid pewter and are Made in the USA.

Suggested Donation: \$25.00

Proceeds from the sales will be used to support ministries of Main Street UMC and local charities.

Circle # 5 members will have the ornaments for sale in the Commons area each Sunday beginning October 13.



We extend our sympathies to:

- The family & friends of Leroy Spangler.
- John Gribble upon the death of his father.
- Sheryl Manz and Rowan Clayton upon the death of Nicole, their daughter and mother.



The generosity of Main Street truly amazes me. The destruction in the western part of our state is overwhelming. There are no words that adequately describe the devastation, loss of life, pain and suffering resulting from Hurricane Helene just 100 miles away. When the call for Disaster Relief funds was communicated to our congregation, we raised **\$44,823.00** in a little more than one week. Praise the Lord!

Our building loan is in stable shape with contributions of \$106,000 to fund \$108,000 in building loan payments in 2024. The operating budget is still in a serious deficit position. Actual expenses through September 30 were \$753,000 offset by contributions and income of \$710,000, resulting in an actual deficit of \$43,000. This is a slight improvement since last month. We have covered the unfunded expenses with our operating reserve that is now more than half depleted. In addition, we are behind by \$13,000 on local mission support and by \$37,000 on connectional ministries. That totals another \$50,000 behind on top of a \$43,000 actual deficit. Even with the urgent financial support for our neighbors in the western part of the state, I pray that our congregation will also give unselfishly toward Main Street's ministries. Please pray for guidance as you determine your response to Jesus' call for sacrificial giving.

—Wes O'Brien, Chairman of Finance Committee



The Member Care Committee is sponsoring a Harvest Feast on November 3 in the Fellowship Hall.

This will be a great time to come together as a church family and see friends who attend all of our different worship services! We will gather for fellowship at 5:00pm and will start the meal at 5:30pm. This will be a true covered-dish dinner so bring your most delicious entrees, sides, and desserts to share.

Go to mainstreetumc.org and click on "signups" on the red stripe to let us know that you will be joining us for the Harvest Feast!

HELP NEEDED at Jubilee Service to run the ProPresenter Slides—training is available, contact the Church Office if you can volunteer!



older adult luncheon

Join us in the Fellowship Hall on November 14 at 11:45am for lunch and fellowship!

RSVP to Pat Knox (336-993-5413).



ANGEL CHOIR

If you have a 3 or 4 year old child, grandchild, neighbor, or friend who wants to participate in the Children's Christmas Program and join the Angel Choir this Fall, please reach out to Sarah Kathryn Sullivan at 336.337.5965. She is leading the group this year. Join us as we make a joyful noise together for God!



Join us Sunday, October 20 for treats, pumpkins, and hot dogs!

- 4-6pm—Our Children's Ministry will host Trunk or Treat, complete with tasty candy and small prizes to hand out!
- 3-7pm—The Great Expectations Sunday School class will host a Hot Dog fundraiser, and all donations will go to the children's, youth, and preschool ministries.

We would love to fill our parking lot with trunks, so if you would like to decorate yours, please email Victoria at victoria.smathers@mainstreetumc.org. If you would like to support this event by donating NUT-FREE candy or small prizes, please bring them to the church office!

The pumpkin patch will be open until 7:00 pm, so swing by and pick your perfect pumpkin. You don't have to be a trunk or treater to come and enjoy the festivities on Sunday, October 20! Come grab a hot dog, a cool drink, or yummy dessert and stick around for fellowship and fun!

2025 Ministry Opportunities Survey

Be sure to pick up a copy of the new *Ministry Opportunities Survey* from the Narthex or Commons and let us know how you would like to share your time and talents with the church. This survey has over sixty opportunities for you to serve and connect with your church family. Complete the survey to sign up for something new or tell us that you want to continue with the ministries where you already serve---we want to hear from everyone!

Surveys are due by November 30.



Join us for Praise and Worship with our awesome NOW Band at 6:30pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month in the Chapel.



Christmas Cards for Our Home Friends and Members over the age of 90

Let's continue the wonderful Main Street tradition of showing love and care for each other. As you begin to write your Christmas cards, please remember these members.

The Member Care committee and Stephen Ministers will be collecting Christmas cards in the Narthex and will deliver them.

While we encourage you to send cards to all those who are close to you, please bring cards addressed only to those on the list below for the committee to deliver. Thank you for honoring this request and for making the Christmas season a little brighter for our Home Friends and members over the age of 90.

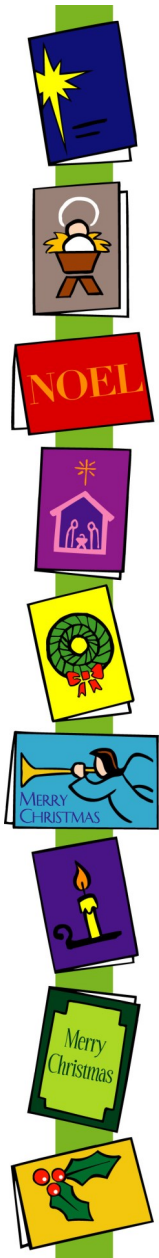
**A card collection box will be in the Narthex
from November 17 through December 13**

Jack & Barbara Barrier
Joan Bingham
Curtis Campbell
Chip & Billie Cole
Martha Crawford
Robert & Katie Dalton
Betty Edwards
Ed & Pauline Finn
Faye Friddle
Louise Griffin
Roger & Margaret Grubbs
Charlie Hall
Margie Hilton
Helen Holt
Janet Jones
Ken & Jean Ladd
Mary Lamberson
Phyllis Lennon
Jan Manske
Howard Martin
Sam Martin

Bettie Moody
Bill & Patsy Pegg
Hank & Barbara Pfuhl
Dave Plyler
Van & Linda Sherrill
Elva Sieg
Laura Smith
Richard & Betty Stafford
Jane Staples
Regie & Ruby Teague
Mabeth Thomas
Janet Turner
Pat Turner
Reggie Turner
Bennie & Kitty Weaver

You are welcome to prepare cards for two former pastors/widows who are now homebound:

Clara Ellis
Frank & Claudia Grice



HERE'S WHAT'S COMING UP AT MAIN STREET...

- October 17 — NOW service in the pumpkin patch at 6:30pm
- October 20 — Frozen Casserole pickup, 9:00am to 12:30pm
- October 20 — Trunk or Treat, details on page 6
- November 3 — Harvest Feast at 5pm, details on page 5
- November 24 — Charge Conference at 7:00pm
- December 8 — Cantata Sunday, ONE SERVICE at 10:30am

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry

Join us in spreading Gods love this upcoming holiday season by packing a shoebox! As we get closer to December, consider how you can spread holiday joy to those who are less fortunate. One way we can spread joy is by collecting shoeboxes that you may otherwise recycle, and filling them with things like toys, school supplies, hygiene products and teddy bears. Each shoebox provides a child anywhere in the world with a gift to open this Christmas and a reminder that Gods love for them knows no bounds!

MSUMC will not provide empty shoeboxes this year; you are invited to recycle shoeboxes from your home or to use plastic shoebox-size bins. If you would be willing to donate clean recycled shoeboxes for others at the church to fill, please bring them to Kathryn in the church office!

**Filled shoeboxes are due
by NOON on
Sunday, December 1.**



Our new Organist/Pianist, Jill Gardner, now has a staff email address, so please update your contacts with her new church email: jill.gardner@mainstreetumc.org



Never Forget Veterans Ministry

This year, we will not host our traditional Veteran's Day lunch; instead, we will focus on showing love and appreciation to our Veterans all throughout the year by sending cards. If you would like a list of area Veterans so that you can send cards to them, please contact Kathryn in the church office for more information, 336-993-3411 or kathryn.jenkins@mainstreetumc.org.

Dear Main Street,

Chip and I would like to thank everyone for all the support since Chip's stroke last February. We have felt your love and concern through your ongoing prayers, cards, emails, texts, meals and gift cards. He has been home since the middle of August with a home health agency. He has Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy once a week. He still has a long way to go in his recovery but he continues to make progress. Thank you again for your continued support.

—Billie Cole

When I was a teenager, my favorite sci-fi book Was " Dune"; which is a very dry planet with a problem for a need of water. We also need water daily to live. As time went by, I learned that to be healthy we need 6 to 8 glasses of water per day to live. Which brings us to the current plastic water bottle that has become so Vogue. The company that made that Plastic bottle has told us that this plastic bottle will be recycled to make plastic items. Today only 24% of any plastic is being recycled And Now medicine is finding micro Plastic particles in our blood, brain, and even in a pregnant woman's placenta. Dementia diagnosis increased about the time of the invention of plastics. Makes one think coincidence or not! Cancer is increasing in younger persons. Is this truth in advertising? Is it time to write to the companies that create plastic? Should we stop using and buying plastics to communicate our feelings to them?

—Submitted by Millie Sharma for Creation Care



JOURNEYS OF PAUL IN GREECE AND TURKEY

Pastor Mark Key is hosting an educational and spiritual trip to Greece and Turkey tracing the "Journeys of Paul" with Educational Opportunities in September of 2025. The pilgrimage will include a large selection of the places Paul traveled to and wrote letters to. The experience will give the sojourners an in-depth understanding of the apostle who wrote 13 of the 27 books of the New Testament, traveled more than 10,000 miles and started at least 16 churches in the Roman Empire. For more information, contact Pastor Mark at mkey@wnccumc.net.



Don't cook on Wednesdays, come have dinner with us from 5:30-6:30pm! Dining together is a great opportunity for fellowship, but if you need to get your meal "to-go", then we can do that, too! We have disposable takeout containers but we encourage you to bring your own re-usable containers for "to-go" meals.

Oct. 16	Shepherd's Pie with Genesis and Crossroads and Becoming serving
Oct. 23	Baked Potato Bar with Great Expectations class serving
Oct. 30	Chicken Corn Chowder w/Journey and Grose-Kirkman classes serving
Nov. 6	Pancake Dinner fundraiser hosted by the Preschool
Nov. 13	Brunswick Stew with New Horizons class serving

The suggested donation is \$6.00 per adult and \$3.00 per child (10 and under). A gluten-free option is available upon request.

Reservations for dining in-person or "to-go" must be made by NOON on Monday: use the Wednesday Dinner reservation form on our website under the red "signups" stripe or contact Kathryn in the church office at 336-993-3411 or email kathryn.jenkins@mainstreetumc.org

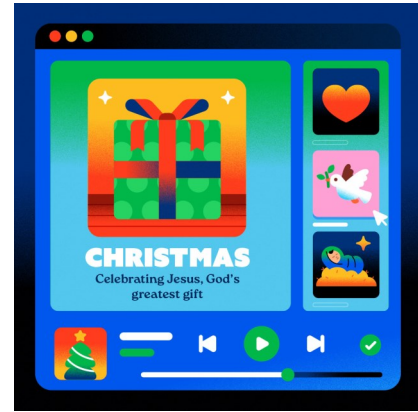


Kindergarten - 5th Grade



November

With the help of God's Spirit, we can learn that HOW we give is more important than even WHAT we give. It's about our hearts. God showed us the ultimate example of generosity by sending Jesus. This month, we'll take a look at how we can respond by being generous to others.



December

This December, we're singing loudly as we jam out to our Christmas Playlist to celebrate Jesus, God's greatest gift! The best gift God ever gave was Jesus. Because of Jesus, it's possible for us to have a relationship with God that will last forever. As we get in the mix this Christmas season, let's take time to remember the reason we celebrate in the first place: Jesus, the greatest gift the world has ever known.



November

We don't have to have all the pieces or know where they all go. All we need to know is that God sees the big picture and God's got it. Our job is to trust God and take it one piece at a time. So, whether it's needing help with a big job, knowing which way to go, not having what we need, or talking to God about anything . . . God can handle it, because God's got it!



Preschool

December

This month, we're taking a look at the ultimate Show and Tell. God showed the world how much He loves us by giving us Jesus. That is what we celebrate at Christmas, and that is what we will continue to show the world through our actions and tell with our words.

a Record of our Faithfulness				
OUR PRESENCE:	9-22-2024	9-29-2024	10-6-2024	10-13-2024
Sunday School	96	94	75	130
8:30am In-Person Worship	75	74	75	84
8:45 Jubilee In-Person Worship	84	73	78	60
10:55am In-Person Worship	106	133	166	151
In-Person Worship Totals	265	280	319	295
8:45am Jubilee Live Stream Worship (<i>Unique Views</i>)	47	42	34	41
10:55am Live Stream Worship (<i>Unique Views</i>)	51	57	62	60
Total Live Stream Unique Views	98	99	96	101
Live Streaming Totals (<i>unique views x 1.8</i>)	176	178	173	182
Attendance Totals	441	458	492	477
OUR GIFTS as of:	9-22-2024	9-29-2024	10-6-2024	10-13-2024
<i>Moving Forward</i> Building Fund Weekly Contributions	\$ 832	\$ 5740	\$ 1155	\$ 670
Weekly Contributions to Budget	\$ 16,652	\$ 27,695	\$ 28,508	\$ 12,030
Budget Contributions YTD	\$ 639,491	\$ 667,187	\$ 695,695	\$ 707,726

Main Street Ministries as of Sept. 30

Regular Giving \$ 657,762
 Expenses \$ 753,014
 Over/(Under) (92,252)
 Budget \$ 840,691

Building Fund as of Sept. 30

Building Fund Giving \$ 105,956
 Building Loan Payments \$ 108,000
 Over/(Under) (2,044)
 Loan Balance \$ 1,294,454

PUBLICATION DEADLINE:
 Newsletter Articles are due by noon on the FIRST Friday of every month
 for publication in the mid-month newsletter.

**Main Street
United Methodist Church**

336-993-3411

306 South Main Street
Kernersville, NC 27284

Let's Worship Together

There is no better way to worship our Lord than
Worshipping Together. Come and Worship with
us at one or all of our services:

- Less-Formal Traditional Worship Service*:
Sundays at 8:30am in the Sanctuary
- Jubilee Contemporary Worship Service*:
Sundays at 8:45am Jubilee Service in the
Chapel
- Traditional Worship Service*: Sundays at
10:55am in the Sanctuary
- Oasis Mid-Week Service of Meditation:
Wednesdays at 5:30pm (September-May)
- NOW: Night of Worship*: 1st & 3rd
Thursdays of each month at 6:30pm in the
Chapel

* *childcare is provided at these services*

Church Staff

Our Ministers: the congregation of Main Street

Lanny Lancaster, Senior Pastor
Phil Kuntz, Associate Pastor
Al Ward, Minister of Visitation
Wayne Purdy, Pastor of Youth/College Min.
Victoria Smathers, Dir. of Children's Min.
Nancy Blakemore, Dir. of Music Min.
Jill Gardner, Organist/Pianist
Tina Crew, Business Manager
Betsy Tang, Administrative Assistant
Kathryn Jenkins, Administrative Assistant
Clay Howard, Jubilee Music Director
Kellie Vinay, Preschool Director
Jenny Lail, Alpha & Omega Youth Choir Dir.
Cynthia Barron, Kitchen Hostess
Anthony Simmonds, Theo Dunlap, and
Willie Craven, Custodians