

The Main Stream

April 11, 2025 - Volume 2025, Issue 4



Christ is Risen!
Christ is Risen Indeed!
This will be our proclamation
From Easter Sunday through
The great 50 days
This season overwhelms
The 40 days of Lent
May we lean into your invitation, O Lord:
"I am about to do a new thing
Now it springs forth
Do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43:19)

And as we lean into the new thing,
The resurrection thing
May we know that, with Christ
And the dogwood blossoms,
We may retain scars and wounds
That you are still healing

That's ok.
Your Grace is Enough.
Your Grace is Enough for us!
Just as it was for Christ
Just as it is for the earth
So may it be for us,
Your followers at
Main Street United Methodist Church!

Pastor Lanny

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

Palm Sunday

April 13 at 8:30, 8:45, and 10:55 Celebrate Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem and hear the Passion Narrative during our Palm Sunday Worship Services with a message by Rev. Lanny Lancaster and special music at 8:30 and 10:55 from the Carol Children's Choir and the Handbell Choir

Maundy Thursday

April 17 at 7:00pm Remember the Last Supper at our Maundy Thursday Worship Service with a message by Rev. Dr. Al Ward

Good Friday

April 18 at 7:00pm Remember the Cross at our Good Friday Worship Service where Rev. Lanny Lancaster will share readings from the Stations of the Cross as we remember Jesus' suffering and sacrifice, recognize the gravity of sin and our need for a savior, and look forward to the resurrection of Jesus.

Easter Sunday

April 20 at 6:30am Celebrate the Resurrection at our Sunrise Service with a message by Rev. Wayne Purdy followed by a light breakfast.

April 20 at 8:30, 8:45, and 10:55am Celebrate the Resurrection with Holy Communion at our Easter Worship Services with a message by Rev. Lanny Lancaster. There will be joyous praise music at the 8:45am Jubilee service and triumphant music at the 8:30 and 10:55 services from the Combined Choirs with a brass quartet, organ, and timpani.

**Nursery is provided for the 8:30/8:45/10:55 services on April 13 and 20.
8:45 and 10:55 services will be livestreamed on April 13 and 20.**

Kernersville Cross Walk

a silent pilgrimage about God's love

Good Friday, April 18, 2025

11:30am - Gathering

Noon - Walk Begins

Beginning in the parking lot at
617 N. Main Street
and ending at Mt. Gur Cemetery



Sponsored by the Kernersville Christian Ministers Fellowship

The Kernersville Christian Ministers Fellowship invites you on April 18 at 11:30am to remember Jesus' sacrifice for our sins as we walk together on Good Friday in the 37th Kernersville Community Crosswalk.

As in the past, the procession will gather at 617 N Main Street for instructions and will process promptly at Noon to Mount Gur Cemetery. The procession will share in carrying a large wooden cross. In addition, individual, hand-held crosses will be provided to the first 100 or so attendees to carry if they choose. Upon arrival at Mount Gur Cemetery we will have a brief time of sharing and reflection.

We are grateful for the Kernersville Police Department who provide traffic safety and to Mount Gur Cemetery for allowing us gather.

THE
**UPPER
ROOM**
DAILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

The May/June issue of The Upper Room devotional booklets have arrived. These are located at the Member Pick-up Station in the Main Entrance to the Commons, in the Chapel Narthex, and in the Sanctuary Narthex. Pick up your copy today!

Reminder

We will NOT HAVE our Oasis service or Wednesday Connect Dinner on April 16 due to Holy Week

A collection box is in the new main entrance for donations of the following items to the Hope Center:

- Empty egg cartons
- Clothing in good shape (*including shoes and baby clothes*)
- Fresh produce from your garden
- Grocery items including Toilet paper and other paper products
- Diapers, wipes and baby food
- Feminine hygiene products
- Breakfast cereal, peanut butter, canned meat and other non-refrigerated foods



Main Street's Prayer Shawl group will meet on
April 24, May 8 & 22
at 9:30am in the Church Library.
Contact Patty Rapp for more information —this group loves to
have new friends join them!

FROM OUR PRESCHOOL . . .

Thank you so much to everyone that attended the Spaghetti Dinner and your generosity. It was a huge success again this year! We had over 225 people in attendance and raised over \$1200.00 for our Scholarship Fund. Building our Scholarship Fund allows us to continue one of our missions which is providing a nurturing and loving environment where children are made to feel that they are truly *someone special*. Our change jugs are back throughout the church so please, if able, drop some change in them. This helps us provide assistance to our families for their child to attend our preschool. Enrollment for the 25-26 school year is still open with limited availability for PreK and Two's. If you know anyone that is interested in enrolling their child(ren) please have them contact Kellie at kellie.vinay@mainstreetumc.org.

Each year during Kernersville's Spring Folly, our church parking lot gets heavy use and is a prime opportunity for MSUMC to make a difference in our community. Check out these 2 ways that you can participate on May 3, 2025!



Spring Folly Parking Lot Fundraiser for Crisis Control

Mark your calendars for Kernersville's Spring Folly and help us raise money for Crisis Control Ministry by collecting donations from those attending the festival who park in our main lot, the garden lot, and Swisher's lot.

This year, Main Street will need to fill volunteer spots from

10am to 12 and 12 to 2pm on Saturday, May 3.

Crisis Control will provide volunteers for the other time slots. Sunday School Classes, Circles, and other groups are welcome to sign up together. Sign up at www.mainstreetumc.org and click on "signups" on the red stripe. Thank you for helping our community provide for those who are in need!

Spring Folly Welcoming Event

MSUMC will have an "Ask Me About My Church" tent in our parking lot during Spring Folly and we need friendly folks to sit under the tent and share information about MSUMC. The goal is to give everyone who parks at our church parking lot an opportunity to learn more about the ministries of Main Street so they feel welcome and ready to come back and worship with us.

Shifts are 2 hours and run from 10am until 4pm on May 3.

Signup at www.mainstreetumc.org and click "signups" on the red stripe.

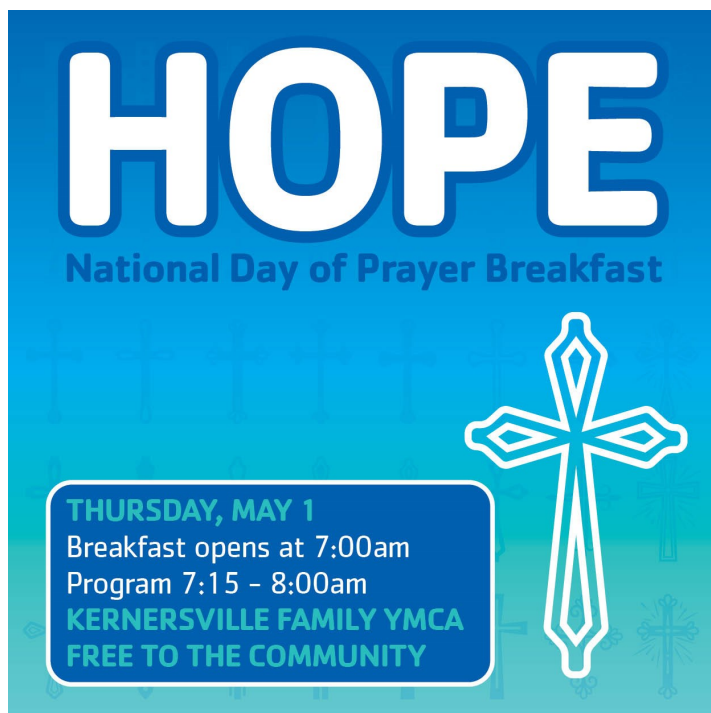
Dear Main Street, Notes to our congregation

Note of Gratitude from **Helen Poteet**: I am so grateful for all the support that I received from my church family here at Main Street during my bout with breast cancer. To the clergy, staff, and all the members who lifted me up with their prayers, cards, calls, and even some meals know that they were greatly appreciated. And I owe a very *special thanks* to a group of courageous women for their support. Some of them have either walked this path before or were walking it for the second time, and others were walking it for the first time. The courage you each have demonstrated during your own fight with cancer, finding the power within yourselves has been and will always be a model of what it looks like to put Christ on Display. Each of you in your own unique way have been a blessing to me and I thank you from the bottom of my heart. We all have so much to be grateful for.

Dear Church Family,

John and I want to thank you all for ALL of the support you have shown us during John's medical episode! The cards, texts, calls, visits, food and PRAYERS mean so much to us. It was overwhelming. He is just about back to "normal"!

Love, **John & Patty Stone**

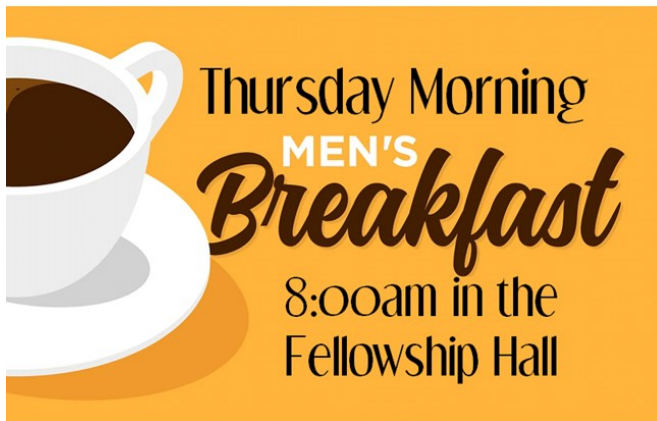


You are invited to the National Day of Prayer breakfast at the Kernersville Family YMCA in partnership with the Kernersville Christian Ministers Fellowship. This is a FREE community event and is open to all community members, churches, and leaders. The event will include breakfast, prayer, reflection, and fellowship. Mark your calendars and start your day inspired!

Please RSVP by April 25 to Adam Cardwell at 336-996-2231.



Church members who have recently graduated from college (*Associates, Bachelors, and post-graduate degrees*) are invited to submit their name, college, major, and degree earned to Kathryn in the church office (kathryn.jenkins@mainstreetumc.org) by May 30 to be included in the June newsletter.



ALL MEN are invited to join us on Thursday mornings at 8:00am for breakfast and Pastoral Devotion in the Fellowship Hall.

Come have breakfast and a great time of fellowship!

Suggested donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the meal.

Circle #2 Fundraiser

Shred Event

April 26

9:00am until NOON

MSUMC parking lot

All monies collected go to assist local ministries in our Kernersville area. Due to your participation in the past, we have been able to generously contribute to these local ministries.



**Suggested Donation
is \$5 per box**

We will be collecting Graduation Cards from our church members for the High School Graduates that will be given to the Graduates during the 10:55am service on Sunday, May 18.

The next time you are at the store, pick up cards for the High School Seniors listed to the right and place them in the collection box that will be located in the Narthex until

Sunday, May 11.



A collection box is in the new main entrance for donations to Crisis Control's Item of the Month. The items for April are APPLESAUCE and CANNED FRUIT; other non-perishable food items can be donated as well.



older adult
luncheon

May 8 at 11:45am

All Older Adults are invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall on May 8 for lunch and fellowship.

RSVP to Pat Knox at 336-993-5413

QR Code for your Bulletin

1. **Open your phone to camera mode and scan the QR Code.**
2. **You will now be shown a path to the Main St. website.**
3. **Once on the website, you will be shown the page that allows you to choose the service you want.**
4. **You now have your bulletin for your chosen service.**



SCAN HERE

Why Holy Communion is Important

Excerpts from an article by Steve Manskar on umcdiscipleship.org

Dr. Laurence Hull Stookey's book on Holy Communion, *Eucharist: Christ's Feast With The Church*, has information in its first chapter that provides a very helpful summary of the various meanings of the sacrament. To unpack this, Dr. Stookey employs the five Cs of sacramental theology: Creation, Covenant, Christ, Church, & Coming Kingdom.

Creation: Jesus' use of bread and wine tell us that God values the goodness of creation. Bread and wine are products of the earth and must pass through the work of human hands and systems before they arrive at the Lord's table. The Lord's Supper tells us that creation and human beings are good and for good.

Covenant: The sacrament is a sign and symbol of God's covenant with the Church and each of its members. It is a sign and symbol of God's self-giving love for us within the community of the Church in the world.

Christ: Holy Communion is a re-presentation of God's love for the world in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. When we come to the table to receive the bread and cup, we remember Jesus' breaking bread with sinners, tax collectors, prostitutes, lepers, Pharisees, Scribes, and Gentiles. We remember the feeding of the five thousand when everyone was fed. Christ invites everyone to his table where he gives himself away. He supplies the grace we need to repent of our sin and to receive the forgiveness and healing we need to live and serve with Christ in the world.

Church: *"Theologically understood, the church is the covenant community of Christ's people; it is the company of those who know they live by grace and believe themselves incorporated into the transforming work of the resurrection. ... "The church is a body, says Paul, an organic system, not a collection of separated individual parts. We should be reminded of this by the fact that the Eucharist is normally received by congregations assembled in one place, not individuals in their own homes. "The Eucharist is not each believer communicating separately with God, and happening to be in the same room for matters of convenience and efficiency. ... Christians come together because the believers by definition are bound together. The congregation, not the individual, is the irreducible unit of Christianity"*
(*Eucharist: Christ's Feast With the Church*, pages 22-24).

Coming Kingdom: The gospel of Jesus Christ is the reign of God. The heart of his preaching and teaching are summarized in Mark 1:14-15 and described in Luke 4:18-19 and Matthew 5:1-7:28. In the Lord's Supper the church enacts the nature of the reign of God that is among us in Christ and that is coming. All are invited and welcomed. All are fed. All are loved, forgiven, and reconciled. All are given the grace they need to live as citizens of God's realm.

The Lord's Supper is Christ's feast with the Church. In it he reveals for us the goodness of God and God's creation. He enacts God's covenant love for the Church and the world for which the Church exists. Christ gives himself freely to all who "love him, who earnestly repent of their sin, and seek to live in peace with one another." At the table, through confession and forgiveness, giving and receiving of life-giving gifts, and sending forth into the world he reminds the Church of its nature, life, and mission.

Finally, the Lord's Supper gives us a glimpse of the reign of God that is among us and that is coming.



- **April 21**—Church Office Closed for Easter Monday
- **April 27**—Prayer Shawl Sunday
- **April 27**—Alpha & Omega Youth Choir program at Jubilee
- **May 4**—Alpha & Omega Youth Choir program at 8:30 and 10:55
- **May 11**—Creation Care Sunday
- **May 18**—Graduate Sunday at 10:55 service
- **May 21**—Last *Oasis* service and *Wednesday Connect Dinner* of the semester
- **May 22**—Church Council meeting at 7pm in Fellowship Hall
- **May 26**—Church Office Closed for Memorial Day
- **June 1**—Confirmation Sunday at 10:55 service
- **June 19**—No Men’s Breakfast and Church Office Closed for Juneteenth
- **June 19-22**—WNCCUMC Annual Conference at Lake Junaluska
- **July 4**—Church Office Closed for Independence Day
- **August 3**—Churchwide picnic at Triad Park
- **August 23**—Hands Together Churchwide Day of Service

A flyer for a 'Spring Brunch' event. The background is dark green with a pattern of white daisies and yellow flowers. A central white box contains the event details. The text is as follows:

Join the United Women in Faith for a
Spring Brunch
Sunday, May 4, 2025
9:30am until 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall
Menu: Breakfast Casserole,
Fruit, Pastries, Beverages
\$6 suggested donation



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

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

- **May 29**—HPU Planetarium (10am show) & Lunch – 20-minute tour of the summer night sky and 25-minute full dome movie. Following the HPU Planetarium Show, we will stop for lunch. We will leave the church at 9:15am. Reservations are required.
- **June 10**—Breakfast at Cagney's in Kernersville at 9:00. Pay for your meal at the restaurant.

We extend our sympathies to:

- Sue Lineberry upon the death of her husband, Dan Lineberry.
- Jennifer Toffel's family upon the death of her father-in-law, Sam Toffel.
- Paul Dickens upon the death of his brother, Grayson Dickens.
- Gary Hodge upon the death of his wife, Linda Hodge.



Some of Main Street's members have joined Pastor Phil Kuntz and Melissa Dreshfield in initiating the *Compassion in Action Team*. Compassion is the caring response to the concerns of others. This ministry originated when a careful assessment of the needs of our Main Street family was completed; followed by the caring response of the team members.

Team members are Pastor Phil, Melissa Dreshfield, Barbara Mays, Betsy Dagenhart, Cheryl McKinney, Emily Dreshfield, Scott Sheppard, Pat Cunningham, Helen Poteet, Linda Wakefield, Jean Taylor-Beasley, Bob Oglesby, Mike Rapp, Dawn Marsh, Nancy Maddens, Kay Chesson, Sally Brown, Ann Ballard, Lisa Bishop, Missy Craven, Sharon Jordan, and Honorary Member Chip Cole.

Members of the *Compassion in Action Team* are here for you. If you would like to have someone visit with you, to listen to you, to be a caring presence, please call Pastor Phil in the church office at 336-993-3411.



Attention High School Seniors! All applications for the Linville Scholarship are due by **May 4, 2025**. The application form can be found online at mainstreetumc.org, look on the red stripe and click on ministries, then youth, and you will then be able to find the form under "scholarships".

College Students: Applications for the JC Grose Scholarship and the Frank & Mary Palmer Scholarship will soon be available for the 2025-2026 school year.

Small Choices Have a Large Impact

Here are five examples of choices that I may face on any given day. When you face these or other choices, consider their impact not as an individual but as if numerous people were going to follow your lead.

- 1. Turn my thermostat down or turn on the ceiling fan?**
Fans use many times less energy than dropping your AC by a few degrees and will keep you cool and comfortable as the weather warms up. If you have fans, use them!
- 2. Grab a disposable coffee cup in the breakroom at work or bring my own mug?** Keeping a coffee cup in your bag is an easy choice to make yet we as a nation throw out millions of disposable cups per day. Everyone has an extra mug at home and some coffee stores will even accept your own cup (namely Starbucks) so make the choice to avoid a disposable whenever possible!
- 3. Run my car engine for a few minutes or get into a hot (or cold) car?**
It is nice to get in a car that is just the right temperature, but when you consider hundreds of millions of car trips per day in the US our choices as drivers add up to a significant energy impact.
- 4. I am at the store and forgot my reusable bag. Should I ask for paper or plastic?**
There is no rule at the store saying you must bag your groceries! You may have good ways that you reuse grocery bags in your home, but if you already have a full supply then there is no sense in bringing home fifteen more.
- 5. When I see a piece of trash while on a walk should I wonder why people are such inconsiderate litterbugs or should I do something about it?** Picking up litter and dropping it in a trash can is an easy way to make a visible difference.

As a sinner I often make poor choices but each day brings new opportunities to make an impact. Consider as you are faced with choices regarding God's Creation that each decision is an opportunity to set an example for others and that our individual choices go a long way when considered in total.

—Submitted by Christian Keoleian





Vacation Bible School July 14-17, 2025

Save the date and plan to send your children and grandchildren to Main Street's Vacation Bible School. This year's theme is "True North" and our kids will go on an Alaskan Adventure where they will learn that we have Jesus—our true north! Give kids a rock-solid foundation and point them to Jesus, their unmovable, unshakable friend forever!

More details about registration and volunteer opportunities will be available soon!



Our **Take a Hike Small Group** comes together to enjoy the great outdoors and appreciate God's splendid creation on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month.

Our next hike is Tuesday, **April 15**. Next month's hikes are on Tuesdays **May 6 and May 20**.

Meet in church parking lot at 9.
Hikes are 2 to 3 miles long.
Contact the church office if you would like your phone number added to the *Take a Hike* text group to receive hike location and type of trail to expect.



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.

Apr. 16—no meal due to Holy Week
Apr. 23—**Chicken Cordon Bleu Casserole** with Genesis/Becoming SS classes serving
Apr. 30—**Lasagna** with Great Expectations serving
May 7 — **Sloppy Joes** with New Horizons serving
May 14—**Spiral Cut Ham** with Seafarers serving
May 21—**Smothered Pork Chops**—*last dinner of the season*— with Rise/Christian Fell. serving

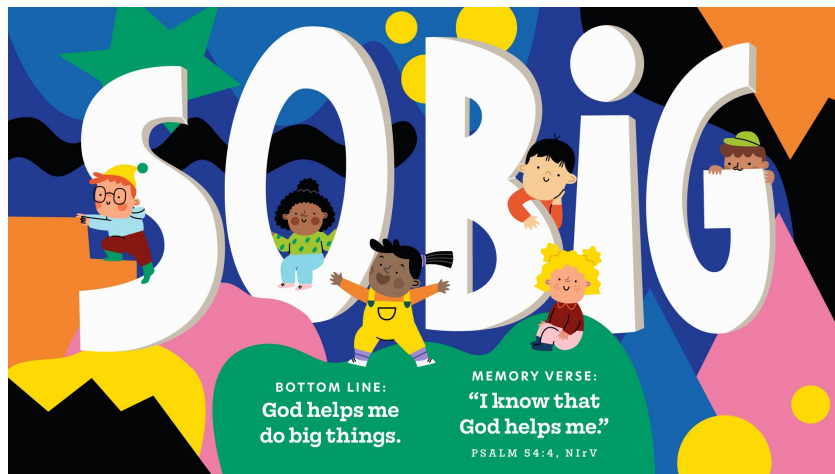
The suggested donation is \$6.00 per adult and \$3.00 per child (10 and under). We accept cash, check, or card. A gluten-free option is available upon request.

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



Elementary-May

Getting started can sometimes seem like the hardest part of meeting a need. But it actually starts before then. First we have to see the needs around us. Initiative isn't just some practical principle; it's really a spiritual principle that starts with God. God took initiative on our behalf by seeing that our relationship was broken and needed to be fixed. So God sent Jesus to make it right. And because we are made in God's image, we are wired to be able to take initiative and get things done too.



Preschool-May

There was a time when learning how to tie our shoes was a big thing. Walking into a new preschool class was a big thing. And sleeping in our own bedroom by ourselves, that was a really big thing—like SO BIG! And now that we're all grown up, the big things keep coming. God is going to give our preschoolers big things to do. God is going to give them little things to do. And whether it's a big thing or a little thing, we want our preschoolers to know that they have the Lord our God to help them. God helps me do big things!

| a Record of our Faithfulness | | | |
|--|------------|------------|--|
| OUR PRESENCE: | 3-23-2025 | 3-30-2025 | 4-6-2025 |
| Sunday School | 83 | 105 | n/a |
| 8:30am In-Person Worship | 100 | 88 | n/a |
| 8:45 Jubilee In-Person Worship | 73 | 101 | n/a |
| 10:55am In-Person Worship | 134 | 190 | <i>One combined service at 10:30 313</i> |
| In-Person Worship Totals | 307 | 379 | 313 |
| 8:45am Jubilee Live Stream Worship (<i>Unique Views</i>) | 18 | 27 | n/a |
| 10:55am Live Stream Worship (<i>Unique Views</i>) | 50 | 32 | 73 |
| Total Live Stream Unique Views | 68 | 59 | 73 |
| Live Streaming Totals (<i>unique views x 1.8</i>) | 122 | 106 | 131 |
| Attendance Totals | 429 | 485 | 444 |
| OUR GIFTS as of: | 3-23-2025 | 3-30-2025 | 4-6-2025 |
| <i>Moving Forward Building Fund Weekly Contributions</i> | \$ 3435 | \$ 12,596 | \$ 1440 |
| Weekly Contributions to Budget | \$ 21,350 | \$ 27,841 | \$ 24,995 |
| Budget Contributions YTD | \$ 227,331 | \$ 255,173 | \$ 280,169 |

Main Street Ministries as of Mar. 31

Regular Giving \$ 257,005
 Expenses \$ 257,974
 Over/(Under) (\$ 969)
 Budget \$ 280,602

Building Fund as of Mar. 31

Building Fund Giving \$ 55,957
 Building Loan Payments \$ 36,000
 Over/(Under) \$ 19,957
 Loan Balance \$ 1,250,615

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

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 in the Chapel
- Traditional Worship Service*: Sundays at 10:55am in the Sanctuary
- Oasis Mid-Week Service of Meditation: Wednesdays at 5:00pm (September-May)

** childcare is provided at these services*

Church Staff

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 Ministries
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, Willie Craven, and
La'Niah Johnson-Flemming, Custodians