

The Main Stream

June 17, 2025 - Volume 2025, Issue 6



"When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground."—Psalm 104:30 (NRSV)

After the 50-day season of Easter, the next season of the Church year is Pentecost, a season that focuses on growth through the Holy Spirit. This year, in worship, we are examining ***LIFE IN THE SPIRIT*** during the season of Pentecost. As the psalmist names, God's Spirit creates and renews everything on the earth, including you and me. It is God's Spirit that breathes into us the breath of life. It is God's Spirit that stirs in our hearts and minds the longing for something more. It is God's Spirit that moves us with compassionate love for those who are hurting in our church and world. It is God's Spirit that empowers our service for Christ and others. It is God's Spirit that accompanies us in times of change and new opportunities.

This is particularly true for this season in the life of Main Street United Methodist Church. God has been faithful to us, and God continues to lead us into the future, ever guided by the Spirit that has called us to the Mission to ***FOLLOW JESUS, MAKE DISCIPLES, AND TRANSFORM THE WORLD TOGETHER***. With all the changes that are happening in our world, in our community, and in our church, we can trust God to be the constant, the One who created us in the first place, and the One on whom we depend to re-new us on the spiritual journey of life.

How might you open your heart and mind to trust what the Spirit is doing in your life, in our church's life together, and in God's world? I invite you to take some time this summer to gather with us for worship and Sunday school as we fulfill our covenant to do life together as the people of God. I invite you to breathe, to enjoy Creation (locally or in your travels), and to notice the blessings and signs of new life that God is creating in you and around you. May you know that we can count on God to keep sending the Holy Spirit to give us life!

Peace,

Pastor Lenny

Welcome, New Members

Join us in welcoming our
recent new MSUMC members!



Martha Tilley



John Brookshire



Jack & Kristin McLeod



Gina Muller



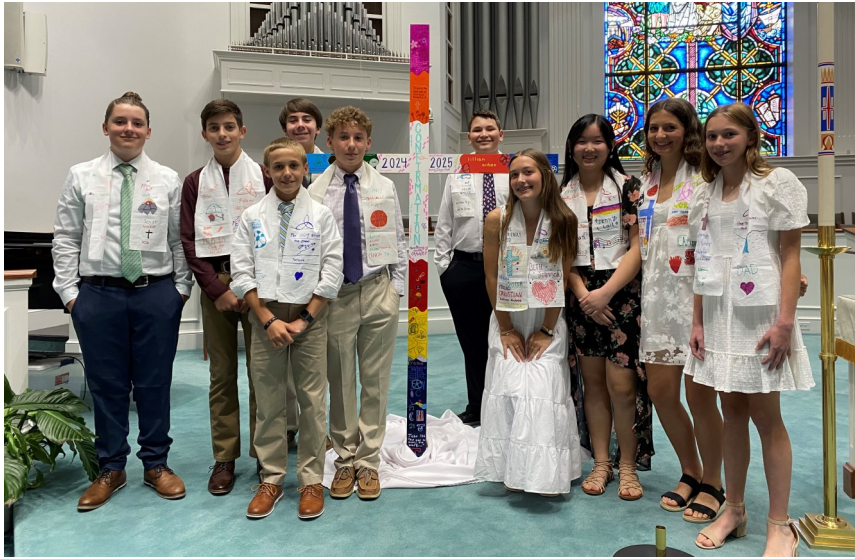
Jessica Medley



Bob Neuman



A collection box is in the new main entrance for donations to Crisis Control's Item of the Month. The items for June are PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY; other non-perishable food items can be donated as well.



Congratulations to our 2025 Confirmation Class as they became full members of MSUMC on June 1, 2025!

Bauer Medley, Eli Phillips, Ian Coulston, Andrew Coulston, Luke Brookshire, CJ Garrison, Lillian Aubee, Stella Turner, AubreyMay Davis, Allie Elmore



Western North Carolina Conference

The United Methodist Church

**Annual Conference is scheduled for June 19-22
at Lake Junaluska.**

Annual Conference is the yearly gathering of clergy and delegates to work together on denominational business and to celebrate milestones in ministry. Annual Conference is an opportunity to work across district lines and connect with others in both lay and ordained ministry in Western NC. In addition to business meetings, attendees are able to worship in special services to recognize the Ordination of New Pastors, Retirements of Clergy, and Celebrations of Life. Sharing Holy Communion, listening to inspirational speakers, feeling the brilliant notes of the organ, and raising voices together in hymns inside Stuart Auditorium with united hearts is a treasured part of Annual Conference.

Pastor Lanny, Pastor Phil, and Pastor Wayne will be attending, in addition to our Lay Delegates Carol Purdy, Chris Thompson, and Wes O'Brien. Kimberly Thompson is also attending as a District Delegate.

Please pray for all of the delegates as they conduct the business of the Annual Conference.

We are ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS for the Frank & Mary Palmer Scholarship

The Frank and Mary Palmer Scholarship provides financial support to MSUMC members and children of members who are pursuing college degrees at an accredited 2 or 4 year institution of higher learning. The scholarship will provide up to \$1000 dollars for students who are rising sophomores, juniors and seniors. Previous scholarship award winners must wait 24 months before applying for the award again. The student can be awarded the Palmer scholarship along with another Main Street scholarship.

Application is available online at mainstreetumc.org under Ministries and Youth. Details for applicants:

- Criteria- applicant must be a member of Main St and has participated in their programs. They also must be a rising Sophomore, Junior or Senior college student with a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher.
- If the scholarship criteria is not met, the scholarship will roll over to the next year.
- Scholarship amount \$1,000 for one recipient per year. At a later date, the Palmers reserve the right to increase the scholarship amount.
- **Deadline for Frank & Mary Palmer Scholarship applications is June 27.** Applications should be sent to the church office before that date. Applications received after June 27 will be returned.
- The scholarship will be awarded the first or second Sunday of August.



What an exciting past couple of weeks for our youth and the church!

- On May 18th we celebrated Main Street's high school graduating class of 2025: Brett Blevins, Hailey Coulston, Allee Davis, Claire Hutchens, Julia Malit, Miracle Olubunmi, Katie Riden, and Virginia Wyatt. Congratulations to Allee Davis for being awarded the Lola and Buck Linville scholarship.
- On Sunday June 1st, we had 10 youth confirmed into full membership of the church, with 2 of them being Baptized: Lillian Aubee, Luke Brookshire, Andrew Coulston, Ian Coulston, AubreyMay Davis, Allie Elmore, CJ Garrison, Bauer Medley, Eli Phillips, and Stella Turner.
- Please be in prayer for these and all of the youth and adult volunteers as we prepare for our summer mission trips with Appalachia Service Project in Avery County North Carolina the weeks of June 8-14 and July 6-12.

CHURCH STAFF NEWS FROM STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (SPRC)

SARAH MCINTOSH APPOINTED NEW ASSOCIATE

Sarah McIntosh and her husband, Shane along with her two daughters, Abigail and Ellie will be moving to their new home on July 1 in the Glenn High School area of Kernersville. Her first Sunday with us will be July 13 and everyone is invited to a Welcome Reception in the Commons during the Sunday School hour. Her husband, Shane, was appointed as pastor of New Mount Vernon UMC in the Friendship-Ledford community and New Beginnings UMC in Thomasville.



NANCY BLAKEMORE TO RETIRE

Nancy Blakemore has advised SPRC that she plans to retire as Choir Director and Director of Music at Main Street UMC effective July 31, 2025. Her last Sunday will be July 27, 2025. A combined worship service will be held at 10:30am to honor her. She has led our music program since August, 2008 with grace and distinction. We are indebted to her for her hard work and also providing our church a hint of heaven with the music performed. Nancy is a lifetime member of Main Street being the daughter of Theresa and

James Edwards. Her mother was a member of the choir for many years of which part of the time she and Nancy were members together. Nancy advises us that even though she is retiring, she will take a seat in the choir and keep singing. Her husband, Rich, will continue to play the trumpet, and we thank him for sharing Nancy with us. Make your plans to be at the 10:30am combined worship service on July 27 to honor Nancy.

JILL GARDNER TO BE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/CHOIRMASTER

The SPRC has hired Jill Gardner, presently our Organist/Pianist to be our new Director of Music and Choirmaster effective August 1, 2025. This will be a new position combining both organist, pianist, choir director, and director of the music program. She has had experience in such a position, and we feel fortunate that she was available to assume this position. We have been blessed to experience her music talents over the past few months.





If you are interested in joining an Adult Sunday School class, we have lots of options! Visit a few classes to find your perfect fit!

Class Name	Age Range	Building	Room #	Class Format	Contact
Seafarers	40+	Sanctuary	103	Open discussions in a friendly debate format	Mike Tozer 336-993-2210
Becoming	All Ages	Sanctuary	109	Join this Single Women's Class as we become who God created us to be.	Ann Ballard 336-354-9624
Christian Fellowship	50+	Connections	310	Non-Structured Bible Studies	Janice Atchison 336-788-4511
Cornerstone	55+	Connections	320	Community Building & Bible Study	Bill Dreshfield 336-996-6143
Genesis	40	Adult Ed.	Library	Bible Studies & Class Discussions	Tim Hemphill 336-971-7812
Grose-Kirkman	65+	Adult Ed.	412	Relevant issues pertaining to today	Eloise Anderson 336-996-2628
Great Expectations	40+	Adult Ed.	421	Current topics and video series	Chuck Foster 336-996-4307
Journey	20+	Adult Ed.	422	Contemporary Bible Study lessons	Amanda Frederico 336-391-6404
Rise	19-30	Adult Ed.	423	Discussion of various Biblical passages	Athena Malit 336-655-0605
New Horizons	35+	Adult Ed.	424	Bible Based Study	Tracy Roberson 336-499-7707

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



Main Street's Prayer Shawl group
will meet on
June 26
July 10 & 24

at 9:30am in the Church Library.

Contact Patty Rapp for more
information—this group loves to
have new friends join them!



Main Street's Heritage Club is a group of active adults
who gather for fun activities.

**For more information
and to make reservations,
contact Debbie Smith (336-671-1215).**

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

- **July 11 Burgers & BINGO** — Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 for ham-burgers & hotdogs. Cost will be \$5.00 to cover the food. Please bring a dessert to share. Reservations are required. Deadline to signup is July 7.



We're looking for some caring and enthusiastic volunteers to help us with our "True North" Vacation Bible School on **July 14-17** in the evenings (6:00-8:15pm)! VBS is one of the most exciting weeks of the summer and it provides us with an opportunity for the entire church to be involved with teaching our children about Jesus. Areas where we need volunteers include group leaders, station leaders (like games, music, Bible story, etc), and decorating. If

you are interested, contact Victoria Smathers, Director of Children's Ministries at 336-993-3411 and let her know that you or your teen are available to help!



2025 High School Graduates

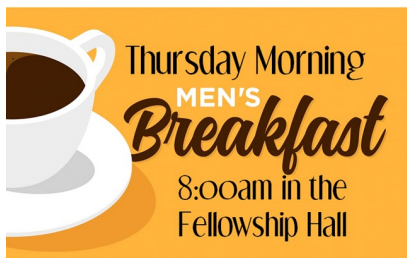


Hailey Coulston, Miracle Olubunmi, Allee Davis, Virginia Wyatt, Brett Blevins, Julia Malit.
Not pictured: Claire Hutchens and Katie Riden.



Congratulations to **Matthew Thompson** upon his college graduation! Matthew graduated from UNCW with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Accountancy.

Congratulations to **Rebecca Torres** upon her Graduate achievement! Rebecca graduated with her Masters of Education in Administration from UNC Pembroke.



Men, if you are free on Thursday mornings, plan to attend our men's prayer breakfast! We meet between 7:15 & 7:30 to greet each other and share our week's stories. We then are served a wonderful breakfast at 8:00am.

The cost is only a \$5 donation. So, if you're free, make plans to join us!



your name here

Let's focus on wearing our nametags to worship services throughout this summer as a way for our new associate pastor and other new MSUMC members to feel "at home".

Contact the church office if you need a new nametag!



Summer Worship, Summer Joy

Even in the relaxed pace of summer, God is at work! Our Sunday services continue to be a source of joy and encouragement—join us each week for inspiring worship and meaningful community at 8:30am in the Sanctuary, 8:45am in the Chapel, and 10:55am in the Sanctuary.

Our midweek Oasis service is on a summer break and will resume on September 3.



The July/August 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!



Members and staff of Main Street UMC will be hosting a luncheon and program as we honor our veterans with "A Veterans Day Salute!"

This very special event on November 1, 2025 will feature patriotic music and readings about the history and importance of Veterans Day.

Our members and staff have already started preparing for our celebration! Mark your calendars today!

If you are a veteran or know of a veteran in our church or community, please RSVP that information to kathryn.jenkins@mainstreetumc.org with their full name, address, contact info and branch of service.

We look forward to hosting the "Veterans Day Salute!"!

Sharing in Joy:

- Congratulations to Ken & Pat Drewry upon the birth of their new great-granddaughter, Stella Alice Roland.

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



Due to lack of winter clothing storage space at Hope Center, staff request that only summer clothing be donated now and that all clothing donations be delivered after June 10, 2025.



THANK YOU!

Our Wednesday Connect Dinner takes many hands to prepare each week. MSUMC is blessed to have our wonderful Kitchen Hostess, Cynthia Barron, who shops/plans/prepares/oversees each week's dinner.

We are also blessed to have "The A-Team" to volunteer with meal prep every week before the Wednesday Connect Dinner--thank you to Barbara Mays, Millie Sharma, Peggy Douth, and Helen Poteet for your time, dedication, and love that you put into each morsel that you mix, chop, and serve to your fellow church members!

In addition, we are grateful to the Adult Sunday School classes who take turns serving and cleaning up from the Wednesday Connect Dinner!



Monday, July 14th-Thursday, July 17th 6:00 pm - 8:15 pm

At True North VBS, kids discover that they can trust Jesus in a wild world! True North is filled with awesome Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, and touch! Hands-on science experiments, team-building games, unforgettable Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. (Since everything is hands-on, kids might get a little messy. Be sure to send them in play clothes and sturdy shoes.) Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life—something we call God Sightings. Get ready to hear that phrase a lot! The fun starts at 6:00 pm and ends daily at 8:15 pm. Registration is open for children 3 years old (must be potty trained) to 5th grade. Visit www.mainstreetumc.org and find the sign up on the red stripe!

Questions? Our Director of Children's Ministry would love to chat!
Email Victoria Smathers at victoria.smathers@mainstreetumc.org or
call the church office (336) 993-3411.



Dinner is provided each night, please be sure to include any allergies or dietary restrictions during sign up.





Preschool Scholarship Fund

Take a look around the church's campus and you will see recycled water cooler jugs with Main Street UMC Preschool's logo tucked in corners, beside doors, or in the hallways. What are they for, you ask? Main Street UMC Preschool offers tuition assistance for families in need or facing an unexpected hardship. Our Scholarship Fund pays a portion of a child's tuition for a period of time, and we need your help to replenish our fund!

Please donate your loose CHANGE to the jugs.

We appreciate you supporting our children, and our preschool ministry!
Cash, checks, and larger donations can be made anytime to the church office.

The goal of our **Books-A-Palooza** ministry is to give every child at one of our local elementary schools an age-appropriate book (new or used) to take home since many of these students don't have any books at home.



Ways you can help:

- You can donate new or used children's books into the container in the Main Entrance to the Commons
- You can donate used books for teens and adults to be taken to a used bookstore to be exchanged for store credit to be used to purchase children's books
- You can make a donation with the note Book-A-Palooza and the money will go into a designated account that will be used to purchase new or used children's books.

Contact Amy Pitts or Jennifer Graves for more information

We extend our sympathies to:

- The family & friends of Jan Manske.
- John Higgins upon the death of his mother, Hazel Tipton.
- Kevin Koeller upon the death of his mother, Arlene Koeller.
- Jan Hampton upon the death of her husband, Wade Hampton.
- Kelly Kenion upon the death of her mother, Linda Hilton Williams.
- Mary Helen Lamberson upon the death of her son-in-law, Tyler Wilson.
- Cathy Ossif upon the death of her brother, Stephen Brown.
- Ginger Hutchens upon the death of her mother, Louise Griffin.

Recycling is a great way to protect our earth, but a better way is not to use the item in the first place. For instance, one ream (500 sheets) of paper requires 47 gallons of water and 6% of a tree. No, I do not know how big the tree is. Main Street uses 2720 sheets of paper each month for bulletins alone. (Thanks for doing the math on that, Betsy.) That means over 250 gallons of clean water and 1/3 of a tree are required for something that is used for less than an hour. How can we do better?

We introduced the QR code last year. It allows you to view the bulletin on your phone. We are looking into redesigning the Jubilee bulletin to fit on half a page. If you choose to use a paper bulletin, please consider sharing with your family or pew neighbor. Examine your paper use at home. Could you use a cloth instead of a paper towel? Bills, newspapers, and even magazines can be delivered electronically. Of course, you want to recycle all your used paper and save confidential documents for our annual shredding event.

Despite having a wet Spring, we can expect dry days this summer. We can save water by washing cars at a service which recycles. A bucket in the shower will capture water for plants. Remember to adjust automatic sprinklers to stop them running on rainy days.

Together we can save water, trees, and money by being good stewards of God's Creation.

—submitted by Sandra Hemphill



- **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
- **July 13**—Associate Pastor Sarah McIntosh's first day in worship
- **July 14-17**—Vacation Bible School, details on page 11
- **July 27**—ONE COMBINED service at 10:30am to celebrate the retirement of Nancy Blakemore
- **August 3**—Churchwide picnic at Triad Park, more details in July
- **August 23**—Hands Together Churchwide Day of Service
- **Sept. 16**—Preacher Jeopardy at the Quarterly Dinner



Elementary-June & July



Living and loving like Jesus sounds great in theory, but may be a little hard in practice. However, with the help of God's Spirit, we don't have to do it alone. When we follow Jesus, God's Spirit transforms us, shaping us every day into who God has called us to be and how God is calling us to live. Live It Out is not JUST a theme, but a call to action. It encourages kids to actively live out their faith through their words and interactions with others. And the more we become like Jesus, the more we can make a true difference in this world and in the lives of those around us.



Preschool-June & July

What do you do when you don't know how to do something? Do you pick up your phone and do a quick search? Or do you find someone who knows how to do it and just ask them, "Hey, can you show me how to do this?" We all need people to show us how to do things, and when it comes to how to love others, well, there's only One who can truly show us how—Jesus! This month, we are going to discover how to live it out and love like Jesus. No matter how young or old you are, we all need Jesus to show us how to love others. Together, let's point preschoolers to the One who came to show them how to do the most important thing: loving others the way Jesus loves them.

a Record of our Faithfulness					
OUR PRESENCE:	5-18-2025	5-25-2025	6-1-2025	6-8-2025	6-15-2025
Sunday School	95	84	86	112	19
8:30am In-Person Worship	83	82	85	85	56
8:45 Jubilee In-Person Worship	55	56	64	76	67
10:55am In-Person Worship	160	74	180	153	139
In-Person Worship Totals	298	212	329	314	262
8:45am Jubilee Live Stream Worship (Unique Views)	14	15	22	Technical difficulties	17
10:55am Live Stream Worship (Unique Views)	44	42	53	Technical difficulties	62
Total Live Stream Unique Views	58	57	75	Technical difficulties	79
Live Streaming Totals (unique views x 1.8)	104	103	135	Technical difficulties	142
Attendance Totals	402	315	464	314	404
OUR GIFTS as of:	5-18-2025	5-25-2025	6-1-2025	6-8-2025	6-15-2025
<i>Moving Forward</i> Building Fund Weekly Contributions	\$ 1680	\$ 2452	\$ 1680	\$ 3397	\$ 1925
Weekly Contributions to Budget	\$ 21,831	\$ 28,222	\$ 11,750	\$ 12,482	\$ 15,161
Budget Contributions YTD	\$ 395,106	\$ 423,329	\$ 435,079	\$ 447,561	\$ 462,722

Main Street Ministries as of May 31

Regular Giving \$ 424,114
 Expenses \$ 431,596
 Over/(Under) (\$ 7, 482)
 Budget \$ 433,542

Building Fund as of May 31

Building Fund Giving \$ 72,958
 Building Loan Payments \$ 60,000
 Over/(Under) \$ 12,958
 Loan Balance \$ 1,235,890

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, Custodians