

The Main Stream

May 19, 2026 – Volume 2026, Issue 5



“The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.”

--Lamentations 3:22-23

I have always loved waterfalls. (The photo is from Lower Cascade falls at Hanging Rock). There is something about the power of that water, in its never-ending journey from the heights of the mountains, down through the varied contours of hills and valleys, through streams, creeks, and rivers, until it falls into the sea. This ongoing flow reminds me of the mercies of our Lord that never end. They can be counted on throughout the diverse chapters of our lives. We can never step into a place where the mercies of God will fail us.

Maybe you or a family member or loved one is graduating in this season and looking at a whole new episode of life. Maybe you are facing some other transition, whether it be considered “positive” or not. Or maybe you are just challenged by the daily tests of life in our world today. I want to encourage you with the fact that God’s mercies will appear for you in your moment of need. It may take many different forms from tangible helps to spiritual friends at church to a deep inner assurance that sustains you. Even in our darkest moments, the darkness and seeming absence of God reminds us that we long for the light of God.

It might even take the form of a thundering waterfall, with its crystal-clear caisson call. May this flow remind you of the flow of God’s mercies that are here today and will be all-new, once again, tomorrow morning.

Pastor Lenny

CELEBRATING
Baptism
IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

April 26 was a special day for our church family as Deacon Lee Taylor was baptized during the 10:55am service. Deacon is the son of Austin Taylor and the grandson of Richard Taylor.



Sharing in Joy:

- Congratulations to Brandon & Brooke Whitaker on the birth of their twin sons, Grant James and Reid Jon Whitaker. Grandparents are Mike & Tracy Whitaker and Great-Grandmother is Judy Osborne.



Congratulations to our 2026 High School Graduates, shown here with Senior Pastor Lanny Lancaster and Pastor of Youth Ministries Wayne Purdy: Alexis Hunter, Laney Blevins, Ryan Engle, Jack Christy, Luke Paulsen, Grayson Phillips, Daniel Hall, Laney Heafner, Testimony Olubunmi (not pictured), and Nathan Pitts (not pictured)



You're Invited to the next Quarterly Dinner

It's time to start making plans to attend the Methodist Men's dinner on **June 16** at 6:30pm. We plan to have Ashley Cooper speak to us that evening. Ashley is the coordinator of "Rest Stop", a program at Sedge Garden UMC. For those of you have haven't heard of "Rest Stop", it provides a helping hand to caregivers in the Kernersville area. The caregiver can take their loved one to Sedge Garden and leave them with trained caretakers,

and have a few hours to themselves or take care of other things. If you or someone you know is taking care of a loved one, plan on attending the dinner on June 16 to learn more.

Please remember to make reservations at mainstreetumc.org by Friday, June 12 so we can prepare enough food.

Everyone is invited, so if you're interested, you are welcome to attend!

We extend our sympathies to:

- Sandra Robertson Cain upon the death of her husband, Darrell Cain.
- The family & friends of Byron Bullard.
- Phil Bauguess upon the death of his sister, Kandis Fox.
- Lou Venable and Missy Craven upon the death of their aunt, Pat Stine.



May 24 is Pentecost—wear RED!

Wearing red on Pentecost is a great tradition: it's an outward sign of the inward transformation by the Holy Spirit in each of our hearts. As "tongues of fire" came to rest on the disciples on that first Pentecost long ago, we gather in worship and then leave still blazing with the fire of hope God offers all through God's Spirit. The red is a sign that the good news of Jesus came to all who were there, in a language they could understand from people with whom they would not otherwise have been able to understand.

Recognizing *Disciple Bible Study* Participants

DISCIPLE

BECOMING DISCIPLES
THROUGH BIBLE STUDY

Disciple Bible Study is a wonderful experience that fosters relationships and helps us to understand God's word more than ever before. Disciple classes began in September and finished up this Spring—what a commitment from all of the participants! We would like to recognize those listed below who took that “deep-dive” into the Bible and finished their Disciple curriculum.

Disciple 1

Mark Key, facilitator
Barry Baker
Rosemary Baker
Dave Black
Vicki Hodge
Joe Hooker
Gina Muller
Carmen Safrit
Amy Shaffer
Carol Walker

Disciple 2

Wayne Boger, facilitator
Kim Bradfield
Kevin Koeller
Tina Koeller
Connie Courtney
Gwen Bradshaw
Laura Hochstein
Missy Craven
Martha Boger
Margaret Bell



The Crisis Control item of the month for May is Baked Beans--drop off your donation of any non-perishable food item in the collection bin found at the Main Entrance to the Commons.



The Creation Care Committee is collecting used sneakers to be repurposed.

ONLY SNEAKERS, please.

Look for a collection bin in the Main Entrance to the Commons.



Vacation Bible School

July 20–23, 2026!

NEW TIME!

**We are excited to offer VBS in the
MORNING!**

9:15 am – 12:15 pm

sign up online at mainstreetumc.org

**Get your kids ready for a downpour of delight!
At Rainforest Falls, kids explore the nature of God!**

**Rainforest Falls 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.**





Main Street's Heritage Club is a group of fun-loving folks who enjoy an assortment of outings and activities throughout the year. Anyone is welcome to attend and join in the fun! Contact Debbie Smith if you have any questions.

Plan to join the Heritage Club for their next outing:

June 8 - Breakfast at Cagney's in Kernersville at 9:00am. Pay for your meal at the restaurant. No reservations needed.

When we talk about Creation Care here at Main Street UMC, do we really know all the ways in which we can participate? There are so many things that fall under the category of Creation Care. We automatically think about things like recycling, turning off lights as we leave a room, making sure the faucet isn't dripping so we don't waste water, but do we think about how we take care of our own yards, recreation activities, how we worship, the food we eat, or education? If not, we should.

Creation Care takes many forms. We can be more intentional about what we eat-buy local, grow our own vegetables without using pesticides. We can be more intentional about how we care for our yards. Plant native plants and/or plants that are pollinators. Use natural weed killers and insect repellants rather than harsh chemicals that seep into our ground water and harm any animal (including us) that may encounter the chemical in their food or water source.

We can use creation themes in worship through music, Sunday School curriculum, book studies, Vacation Bible School, Youth and Children's ministry programs. We can teach our children and youth, along with the adults, how to be good stewards of the earth that God has given us. We can spend more time in nature. Hike, take a walk, have a picnic at a park, sit on your porch-stop and really look at the natural beauty that surrounds us. We are called to take care of this beautiful, holy place that God allows us to call home.

On the Creation Care page of the Western North Carolina United Methodist website, there is this verse:

Psalm 24:1-2...The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters. (found at <https://www.wnccumc.org/wncc-creation-care-ministry>)

Reflect upon that verse and think about the ways in which you can be a caretaker of Gods creation.Blessings and Peace to you.

--submitted by Janet Lancaster





Church members who are 2026 college graduates (*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 31** to be included in the June newsletter.



Main Street UMC is blessed to offer two scholarships for current college students. Application information and more details may be found at mainstreetumc.org under Ministries and Youth on the red stripe. College students who have completed their freshman, sophomore, or junior years are invited to apply.

- The deadline for J.C. Grose scholarship applications is May 23 at 5:00pm.
- The deadline for Frank & Mary Palmer scholarship applications is June 25.

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



UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 25--Church Office Closed for Memorial Day
- May 27--Last Oasis service until after Labor Day
- May 28--Church Council meeting at 7pm
- June 7-13--Appalachia Service Project/High School
- June 18-21--Western NC Annual Conference at Lake Junaluska
- June 19--Church Office Closed for Juneteenth
- June 28-July 4--Appalachia Service Project/Middle & High School
- July 20-23--Vacation Bible School
- August 2--Churchwide picnic at Triad Park
- August 29--Hands Together Churchwide Day of Service
- Oct. 25-31--Helene Rebuild Mission Trip



Western North Carolina Conference

The United Methodist Church

Annual Conference is scheduled for June 18-21 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.

A highlight at this year's Annual Conference for Main Street UMC will be the Ordination of Rev. Wayne Purdy as a Deacon in the United Methodist Church at a service on Saturday, June 20.

Pastor Lanny, Pastor Sarah, and Pastor Wayne will be attending Annual Conference. Melissa Dreshfield, Athena Malit, and Emily Dreshfield will also attend as Main Street's lay delegates. Please pray for all of the delegates as they conduct the business of the Annual Conference.

Look for the bins at church to recycle your plastic bags!



Recycle your household bags & wrap into Trex's Earth-friendly composite decking and railing!

- produce bags
- store bags
- ice bags
- ziploc & other reclosable bags
- cereal box liners
- case overwrap
- bread bags
- newspaper sleeves
- dry cleaning bags
- bubble wrap
- plastic e-commerce mailers



Plastics must be clean, dry and free of food and organic residue.



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 ministry will meet in the Church Library at 9:30am on the following dates this summer:

June 11, July 9, August 13

Contact Patty Rapp for more information if you are interested in joining this friendly group!

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

FOR BETHANY CAFE TEAMS

Email Ann Ballard,
aballard9446@gmail.com
for more information or to
sign-up for your preferred
position.

Would you like to join the Bethany Café Team in sharing a meal and fellowship with those in need in our community? We have openings for the following positions:

- **Chef Team** – plan, shop and prepare meals – training is available from our experienced chefs
- **Serving Team-Delivery** - Fill to-go containers and package for the Delivery Team
- **Serving Team-In House** – Prepare plates for the Dining Room Team to serve to our guests
- **Soul Food Donation Program** – Pick up items donated by Starbucks and deliver to MSUMC
- **Rest Stop Team** – The Shepherd's Center has started a ministry to those who care for loved ones with Alzheimer's. This ministry is hosted by Sedge Garden UMC. MSUMC Bethany Café prepares food for this ministry. We need volunteers to pick-up the food on the Tuesday following the 3rd Sat. of each month at Main Street and deliver to Sedge Garden where the meal will be heated and served.

Email Ann Ballard, aballard9446@gmail.com, for more information or to sign-up for your preferred position. The Soul Food Donation Program sign-up is located at www.mainstreetumc.org under Sign-ups, Soul Food Donation Program.

KIDS CONNECT

Summer 2026



ELEMENTARY

All year, we walked through God's Story—ending with the vital role that each one of us has to play. During the summer, we're digging even deeper into our mission to live like Jesus and share His love with others. That's why this summer's theme is "Kingdom Quest-Seeking the Greatest Treasure."

WHAT'S NEW?

VBS registration is
OPEN!



Kids Connect



PRESCHOOL

We want every preschooler to know and celebrate this truth: I can be part of God's kingdom. Let's pray for our preschoolers and their families. Pray that they come to know that God loves them deeply and that God wants them to be part of His kingdom.

A Record of our Faithfulness

OUR PRESENCE:	4-26-2026	5-3-2026	5-10-2026	5-17-2026
Sunday School	112	101	97	81
8:30am In-Person Worship	70	79	111	68
8:45 Jubilee In-Person Worship	81	62	70	60
10:55am In-Person Worship	185	121	177	181
In-Person Worship Totals	336	262	358	309
8:45am Jubilee Live Stream Worship (<i>unique views</i>)	21	28	16	52
10:55am LiveStream Worship (<i>unique views</i>)	49	59	47	23
Total Live Stream Unique Views	60	87	63	75
Live Streaming Totals (<i>unique views x 1.8</i>)	108	157	113	135
Attendance Totals	444	419	471	444
OUR GIFTS as of:	4-26-2026	5-3-2026	5-10-2026	5-17-2026
Building Fund Weekly Contributions	3213	1615	2130	2030
Weekly Contributions to Budget	33,662	9656	13,302	16,306
Budget Contributions YTD	335,531	345,187	358,489	374,795

Main Street Ministries as of April 30

Regular Giving \$ 333,661
 Expenses \$ 354,220
 Over/(Under) \$ (20,559)
 Budget \$ 362,954

Building Fund as of April 30

Building Fund Giving \$ 44,498
 Building Loan Payments \$ 48,000
 Over/(Under) \$ (3,502)
 Loan Balance \$ 1,142,815

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 of 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*

Main Street UMC Staff

Lanny Lancaster, Senior Pastor
Sarah McIntosh, Associate Pastor
Al Ward, Minister of Visitation
Wayne Purdy, Pastor of Youth Ministries
Victoria Smathers, Dir. of Children's Ministries
Jill Gardner, Director of Music Ministries
Clay Howard, Jubilee Music Director

Tina Crew, Business Manager
Betsy Tang, Administrative Assistant
Kathryn Jenkins, Administrative Assistant
Kellie Vinay, Preschool Director
Jenny Lail, Alpha & Omega Youth Choir Dir.
Cynthia Barron, Kitchen Hostess
Anthony Simmonds, Custodian