

The Main Stream

August 18, 2026 – Volume 2026, Issue 8



***Connect with Christ
Connect with Each Other
Connect with our Community***

***Do you want to Connect with God more deeply?
Do you want to Connect with Others more deeply?***

Main Street United Methodist Church is a place and people focused on Connection. This fall, we will be starting a new worship and teaching series on our new Vision Statement to *Connect with Christ, Connect with Each Other, and Connect with our Community*.

Our Vision names how we are called to live out the Mission to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World. Our mission does not change because Jesus gave us the mission. (See Matthew 28:16-20) But how we fulfill that mission should be responsive to the times and culture in which we live. In the book of Acts and beyond, the Apostle Paul exemplified this responsiveness and creativity as he traveled the Mediterranean world to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. How is God calling us to share the Good News in this day and time?

Our New Series will explore this! Here are just a few of the many opportunities you have to Connect at Main Street:

- Connect Bible Studies on Wednesdays, starting 9/9 at 11am or 6:30pm in the Chapel
- Connect Worship Services, starting 9/13 at 8:30, 8:45, and 11am and online on Sundays
- Connect Bible Studies on Sundays, starting 9/13 at 5pm in Room 320 (upstairs Commons)

You will not want to miss any of these special opportunities to Connect. If you would like to join us for one of the Bible Studies, register online at mainstreetumc.org and click "signups" on the red stripe.

May God bless you today with meaningful and life-giving connection with Christ and with others!

Peace,



HANDS TOGETHER DAY



Here are some hints to what can await you on *Hands Together Day*
Saturday August 29.

- Help throw a baby shower for moms-to-be you've never met.
- Find out how that broken Walkman in your basement can save a gorilla.
- Unleash your inner decorator to spruce up a stately old home.
- Or unleash your inner decorator to spruce up our lovely parsonage.
- Find out what pearls have to do with knitting, even if you can't sew a stitch.
- Make the blinds shine in our preschool rooms.
- Take a delicious lunch you didn't have to cook to the door of hungry seniors.
- Be a shopgirl or salesguy for a day at our favorite second-hand store.
- Enjoy helping others shop for food and clothing.
- Bake a cake, cupcakes, or lasagna.
- Enjoy a light breakfast at church, accomplish all these projects, and be home for lunch!

Don't miss all the fun on our churchwide day of service!

Sign up by August 23 at mainstreetumc.org under "signups" on the red stripe or get a paper form after church.





**CONNECT
BIBLE STUDY**

CONNECT BIBLE STUDY

Do you want to go deeper with Christ?

- *Come join Pastor Lanny in the Chapel on Wednesdays at 11:00am or 6:30pm starting September 9*

OR

- *Come join Mark Key in Room 320 on Sundays at 5:00pm starting September 13*

Register at mainstreetumc.org and click “signups” on the red stripe

Want to help with Hands Together Day but cannot attend on August 29?

Every year people tell us how sorry they are that they are out of town or otherwise committed on Hands Together Day. We have great news: there are three ways you can participate in advance:

- 1) For the cooks: We need two lasagnas, two pound cakes and 12 baby-shower themed cupcakes (maybe blue and pink icing?). If you are able to help with one of these food items, please sign up at mainstreetumc.org.
- 2) Bring new (unwrapped) baby clothes or pre-worn baby clothes and maternity clothes in good condition for the expectant mothers at Room at the Inn. From **August 23 to August 29**, there will be a baby-themed box behind the information desk in the Commons. Prayer Shawl Committee is providing baby blankets for the six current moms. (Note: they do not need diapers.)
- 3) Bring in small electronics (nonworking is fine) to be recycled to help gorillas. This Creation Care project for Hands Together Day is sponsored by the NC Zoo. More details on page 7.

Fall Start-ups for Choir Programs

Adult Chancel Chorale and Choir:
Wednesday Combined Rehearsals in
August,
starting **August 5th** at 7pm

Carol Choir:
rehearsals begin on
Wednesday, **September 9th** at 6:15pm

Main Street Ringers:
rehearsals begin on
Monday, **September 14th** at 6pm

**Contact Jill Gardner at 336-993-3411 for
more details about our Choir Programs**



The Creation Care Team is focusing on **ReUse** by holding a **REALLY, Really Free Market** on October 10. No money is involved! You are invited to bring your unneeded or unwanted items to the church parking lot where tables and helpers will be available. You can also shop. It's really that simple. Bring what you don't want and take what you do. We also hope to have local organizations there to provide information for our neighbors in need. This event serves many purposes besides clearing out clutter. We keep these items out of the landfill and allow them to be used by someone who would otherwise purchase a new item or possibly go without due to financial constraints. We also get a chance to connect with neighbors and possibly connect them with vital services. More details will be published soon. In the meantime, start clearing out those garages and closets. We won't be able to handle large furniture or appliances, but those can be donated to the Habitat for Humanity ReStore or GreeNest.

Don't forget to bring your worn out or outgrown sneakers for our GotSneakers collection! That bin is always in our collection area. Thank you for all you do to protect God's beautiful creation.

-submitted by Sandra Hemphill



Preacher Jeopardy!

It's that time of year again! Time to make your reservations for the Main Street Methodist Men's Edition of Preacher Jeopardy. This year's event will take place on Tuesday, **September 15**. Dinner will be served at 6:30, with the game starting soon after. Please sign up to attend as soon as possible, because this has become a popular dinner the last couple of years. So, clear your calendars for September 15, **make your reservations by September 11** online at mainstreetumc.org under "signups" on the red stripe, and we look forward to seeing you there. The Methodist Men thank you in advance for your support. Donations will be accepted to cover the cost of the meal.



Oasis is an intimate 30-minute service with music, prayer, communion, and a brief message of encouragement by a member of our congregation.

Oasis resumes on September 9 and will meet only on weeks when we have the Wednesday Night Connect Dinner.



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.

Sept. 9--Pork Tenderloin

with Grose-Kirkman/Becoming serving

Sept. 16--Taco Bar

with Cornerstone SS class serving

Sept. 23--Chicken Marsala

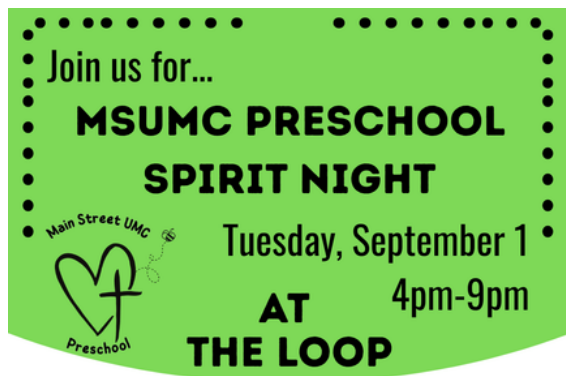
with Christian Fell./Rise/Genesis serving

Sept. 30--Meatloaf

with Great Expectations class 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 the church office at 336-993-3411 or email receptionist@mainstreetumc.org



Be sure to tell them you are with Main Street Preschool and a portion of the proceeds will come back to supporting us!



Our NOW service is held in the Chapel at 6:30pm on the third Sunday of each month. Join us on

September 20

for an uplifting message and dynamic music from the NOW Praise Band!

We extend our sympathies to:

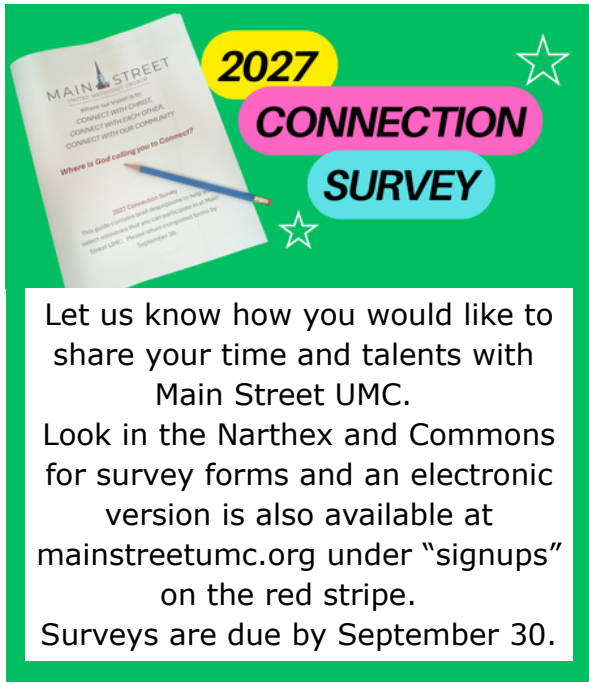
- Dawn Marsh upon the death of her brother, Jack Angel.
- Carole Eidson upon the death of her brother, David Mayo.



We are excited to be offering the *Disciple 3 Bible Study: Remember Who You Are* which covers the Prophets and the Letters of Paul. This study examines the connection between memory and identity as the people of God. Participants will find common themes, including calls to remember, calls to repent, calls for renewal, and calls for

community. In this study, there are 12 sessions on the Old Testament Major and Minor Prophets and 12 sessions on the New Testament letters of Paul. Class size will be limited to 15 participants.

Wayne Boger will lead this class and it will meet on Wednesdays at 6:30pm for 24 weeks. The orientation meeting will be held on **September 9** at 6:30pm and the first class will begin on September 16. The cost for materials is \$40 and you can pay at the orientation meeting. Please register in advance for the class at mainstreetumc.org under "signups" on the red stripe.



2027 CONNECTION SURVEY

Let us know how you would like to share your time and talents with Main Street UMC.

Look in the Narthex and Commons for survey forms and an electronic version is also available at mainstreetumc.org under "signups" on the red stripe.

Surveys are due by September 30.



Circle #2 Fundraiser

Shred Event

September 19
9:00am until NOON
Main Street UMC parking lot

All proceeds go to benefit local missions in Kernersville.

Suggested Donation is \$5 per box

Creation Care's Hands Together Day Project

North Carolina Zoo: Gorillas on the Line

Cell phones and other small electronic devices contain coltan, a mineral mined in Africa where gorillas live. Recycling these electronics reduces demand for newly mined coltan and helps support gorilla conservation.

We have a donation bin located behind the Welcome Desk in the Commons for you to bring your small electronics to donate to this recycling program. Deadline is **August 29**.

Items accepted (in any condition)

- Cell phones or smartphones.
- iPads or tablets.
- E-readers.
- GPS units.
- iPods or MP3 players.
- Digital cameras.
- Apple Watches or smartwatches.
- Adapters or chargers.
- Handheld gaming systems.
- Headphones or earphones.

**Larger items are not accepted by the NC Zoo Recycling Initiative. You are encouraged to take your larger electronic items to the 3RC Envirostation in Winston Salem.*
<https://www.cityofws.org/1158/3RC-EnviroStation>

Items not accepted

- Desktop computers or laptops.
- Monitors or smart screens.
- Televisions or smart TVs.
- Game consoles.
- Calculators.



**Before turning in a device, the Zoo recommends backing up any data you want to keep, resetting the device to factory settings, and removing cases, attachments, and screen protectors.*

As you know, there is still a lot of need in the wake of Hurricane Helene even though it's been almost 2 years. This year's October rebuild mission will be near Asheville, NC. We'll be staying at a Baptist On Mission (BOM) facility and helping families that BOM has screened and approved. BOM has been a huge presence in Western NC. Through the end of July, they have already completed 1,073 home rebuilds with 225 in progress. They've also got 25 new home constructions in progress. We're very excited to be part of this effort. We hope you'll join us!

Here are the highlights:

- DATES: October 25 - 30
- LOCATION: Swannanoa, NC
- ACTIVITY: Construction-related home repair and/or new build (details TBD)
- SKILLS NEEDED: All/any skill level is needed. In the past we've done any of the following: painting, caulking, finish trim, framing, roofing, insulation, window/door installation, siding and more.



Sound good? Contact Ivan Johnson for more details and/or go online to register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CLR5ZCJ>

THE UPPER ROOM

The new issues of The Upper Room devotional books for September/October have arrived! Pick up your copy in the Sanctuary Narthex, at the "Member Pick-up Station" inside the Main Entrance to the Connections Building, or in the Chapel Narthex.



MSUMC currently has three job openings. We would like to hire: a part-time Receptionist/Administrative Assistant; a part-time Custodian; and a part-time facilities lock-up person. If you are interested, please contact Tina Crew in the Church Office. Be sure to visit our church website, mainstreetumc.org and look under "News" to find more details about the positions.



We are excited to be making plans for the start of Kids Connect Carol Choir on September 9! This year we are asking parents to register your children for Kids Choirs. Register using the form at mainstreetumc.org under "signups" on the red stripe. We are looking forward to hearing from you!



On Saturday, August 1st, a group of Main St. UMC volunteers traveled to Winston-Salem to assist in a Habitat build. While the group was not large in numbers, they had a lot of enthusiasm and can-do attitude. They finished attaching the foam insulation to the house so that the vinyl siding could be put up. They then installed all the windows and the front door along with a few other odd jobs. During lunch the group experienced good conversation and fellowship at Pulliam's Hotdogs.



It was such a fulfilling time that another Habitat Day will be scheduled in the next couple of months. So, if you are interested in a work mission of only one day, keep your eyes open. There will be another opportunity in the near future.



COLLECTION BOXES

are in the Main Entrance to the Commons for:

- **BOOKSAPALOOZA** – donate new or used books
- **HOPE CENTER** – donate empty egg cartons, clothing, groceries
- **CRISIS CONTROL** – donate non-perishable food, each month has an item to focus on; August's items are toilet paper and paper towels.
- **GOT SNEAKERS** – donate used sneakers to be repurposed.

A collection box for **RECYCLE BEYOND THE BAG** plastic film recycling is located at the Member Pickup Station in the Commons, Fellowship Hall, and Preschool.



- September 7--Church Office Closed for Labor Day
- September 9--Oasis and Wed. dinner starts back up
- September 20--NOW service in Chapel at 6:30pm
- September 24--Church Council in FH at 7pm
- October 3--pumpkins arrive at 8:00am!
- Oct. 25-30--Helene Rebuild Mission Trip
- November 7--Never Forget Veterans event
- November 19--Charge Conference

KIDS CONNECT

September 2026



ELEMENTARY

FREQUENCY - Learning to hear from God.

Our world is so full of noise and anxiety that learning to hear God's voice is vital. It's a rescue. When kids learn to stay close to Jesus and hear directly from God that they are loved and valuable, they can walk through a chaotic world with a growing peace and confidence.

WHAT'S NEW?

We hope everyone has a great school year!



PRESCHOOL

Preschoolers cannot see God, but they need to know that He is always with them. God is close enough to hear their giggles and tears, and He hears them when they pray to Him. So, we have four Bible stories to share this month that will help preschoolers learn this month's Bottom Line: God is always with me.

A Record of our Faithfulness

OUR PRESENCE:	7-26-2026	8-2-2026	8-9-2026	8-16-2026
Sunday School	100	104	103	107
8:30am In-Person Worship	60	71	73	68
8:45 Jubilee In-Person Worship	58	74	83	71
10:55am In-Person Worship	167	112	110	129
In-Person Worship Totals	285	257	266	268
8:45am Jubilee Live Stream Worship (<i>unique views</i>)	10	26	15	18
10:55am LiveStream Worship (<i>unique views</i>)	30	49	49	39
Total Live Stream Unique Views	40	75	64	57
Live Streaming Totals (<i>unique views x 1.8</i>)	72	135	115	103
Attendance Totals	357	392	381	371
OUR GIFTS as of:	7-26-2026	8-2-2026	8-9-2026	8-16-2026
Building Fund Weekly Contributions	3405	2235	1725	920
Weekly Contributions to Budget	21,805	9,568	9401	5598
Budget Contributions YTD	528,185	537,753	547,154	552,752

Main Street Ministries as of July 31

Regular Giving \$ 525,289
 Expenses \$ 599,301
 Over/(Under) \$ (74, 012)
 Budget \$ 635,052

Building Fund as of July 31

Building Fund Giving \$ 73,757
 Building Loan Payments \$ 84,000
 Over/(Under) \$ (10,243)
 Loan Balance \$ 1,129,510

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)
- Night of Worship (NOW) service*: Third Sundays at 6:30pm in the Chapel

** 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

Kellie Vinay, Preschool Director
Jenny Lail, Alpha & Omega Youth Choir Dir.
Cynthia Barron, Kitchen Hostess
Anthony Simmonds, Custodian