

The Carillon

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The Mission of Fletcher United Methodist Church
is to proclaim the gospel and make disciples of Jesus Christ,
and to glorify God by actively growing and serving God's family through
Worship, Education, Fellowship, and Outreach.

One of my favorite hymns is number 383 in our hymnal *This is a Day of New Beginnings*. The meaning and power of it is even more appropriate at a time like this with a pastoral change. As you and I begin our first days together as pastor and congregation, we both will move on from our past relationships as distant friends with loving memories.

*This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on,
time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone.*

*For by the life and death of Jesus, God's mighty Spirit, now as then,
can make for us a world of difference, as faith and hope are born again.*

*Then let us, with the Spirit's daring, step from the past and leave behind
our disappointment, guilt, and grieving, seeking new paths and sure to find.*

I want you to know that I already know that no matter how hard I may try, I will not be everything you will want or need. You need to know that **Stephen** is going to be a lot different from **Steve** in many ways. Even the most self-assured of us know that being a pastor means you cannot do it all, so you do the best you can with what God's given you. God's church is too big, too multifaceted for any one pastor to do it all right. I will do some things better than your previous pastors, and I also admit I will not meet up to all of their wonderful gifts and graces. I do promise that I will bring all that I am, and will ask God to provide what I cannot do on my own. I need you to do the same.

That is the beauty of the Methodist way.

Because instead of living with the same pastor for decades like some other denominations, you get the opportunity to cherry-pick the best traits from a number of pastors in that same time frame. *This* pastor brings you this skill, *that* pastor satisfies that need, while the next pastor yet to come can teach you something that you never even expected. All because we change pastors regularly.

Sure it's not easy. Believe me, as we pack for our *seventh* move in the ministry, I **know**. I know that it becomes hard to look at getting used to *another* pastor, because we get comfortable, we get settled, we like the ways things are. Remember - you have to learn about me, but I have to learn about 400 of you! Comfort is good, but we must never forget that God calls us to new things, new challenges and new opportunities. *Behold, I make all things new* are the words Christ said to the church in Revelation twenty-one. New is not a curse, new is not something to be avoided, it is God's blessing, it is God's grace, it is life.

This is a day of new beginnings!
Stephen

Children and Youth!



The Youth Bible Study will continue to meet on Thursdays, at 11:00 am in the Justice Library, with the exception of Thursday, July 22nd.

Wednesday, July 14th, from 12:00 pm, on—The youth will be going to the Pink Beds and Sliding Glass Rock in Brevard for an afternoon of carefree fun. Please call Joy (777-5007) if you have any questions.



WILDERNESS TRAIL



Please keep our youth in prayer, as they take part in the Wilderness Trail experience the week of July 18th. Wilderness Trail is a backpacking ministry focused on discipleship, servant leadership, and God's unconditional love.

For more info on the Wilderness Trail ministry, check out www.wtrail.com.



On Sunday, July 25th, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, our youth will be heading up to the garden at the Haywood Street Congregation to do a little weeding. This garden provides fresh vegetables which will be served to those in need in the Asheville community.

On Saturday, July 10th, from 9:00 am to noon, both the youth and the F.R.O.G.S. will be working in the Calvary Food Pantry as a service project.



Adult Meetings and Events:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MEETING/EVENT NAME</u>
Sunday, July 4th	12:15 pm	Church Lawn	Reception for our new pastor (light refreshments)
Sunday, July 4th	12:15 pm	J & S Cafeteria	Lunch Bunch
Monday, July 5th			The Church Office will be closed
Tuesday, July 6th			Seniors will <u>NOT</u> have their monthly luncheon in July.
Wednesday, July 7th	11:00 am (call Joy @ 777-5007)	Haywood Street Congregation	Preparation & Serving of Meal
Thursday, July 8th	5:30 pm	Justice Library	Finance Team
Thursday, July 8th	7:00 pm	Sales Room	Staff-Parish Relations Cmte.
Sunday, July 11th	Following both Worship Services	Church Lawn	Relay for Life Bake Sale
Monday, July 12th	7:00 pm	Picnic at Fellowship Hall	Myrtle Sales Circle & Martha Schoch Circle
Wednesday, July 14th	6:00 pm	Fellowship Hall	Journeys-Adult Singles Ministry
July 16th-17th	5:00 pm—8:00 am	Fletcher Community Park	Relay for Life
Sunday, July 18th	12:15 pm	Fellowship Hall	Fellowship Luncheon: "Under the Big Top"
Sunday, July 18th	3:30 pm	Sales Room	United Methodist Women
Monday, July 19th	6:30 pm	Justice Library	Mission/Vision/Planning Team
Thursday, July 22nd	10:30 am	Sales Room	Visitation Team
Sunday, July 25th	1:00 pm—carpool leaves the church	Pearson Falls	Hiking Ministry
Sunday, July 25th	7:00 pm	Sales Room	Church Council
Tuesday, July 27th	7:00 pm	Sales Room	Trustees Team
Wednesday, July 28th	6:00 pm	Fellowship Hall	Journeys-Adult Singles Ministry

VERY SPECIAL THANK-YOU'S TO...

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♥ Dear FUMC Family, words can't express how much that all your love & support has meant to my family. It has been tough, but we will make it through with time. Thank you for all of the cards and prayers. We have all felt so loved. Many, many thanks! From the family of Joann Atchley Troutman - The Pete & Melissa Martin Family & The Cusick Family.

♥ Dear Fletcher Methodist Church—Your kindness in the months since the loss of Tyron is greatly appreciated. Your thoughtful expressions like music, have soothed my pain, and like flowers, your generous assistance has brightened my journey down the path of grief. My sincerest thanks, Gloria Piercy. May God bless all of you.

♥ A huge thank-you to Katie Moore for leading our VBS this year...and to our crew leaders, station leaders, those who made donations, to our Mission Team for covering the expense of t-shirts and pizzas. Together, we shared God's love with over 130 children from our church family and community.

♥ Appreciation goes out to Dick Davis and Lee Babcock for the work they did on the choir platform extensions. They are now better than ever.

♥ Words cannot express how grateful I am for all of the caring, wonderful people in our community, such as you. After letting people know about the need one of our families faced, I was truly amazed by the many* who sacrificed money, time, labor, materials and expertise in order to help. As you remember, the father of one of our students died unexpectedly over Christmas vacation, and her disabled grandmother rose to the challenge of raising her. Since she cannot drive she had to rely on others to take her to the grocery store and Laundromat. What I thought would be a simple project of getting her a washer and dryer in her house, turned out to be very complex. I can honestly say that if a lot of wonderful people had not stepped in and helped, this project would not have been possible.

Due to the tremendous effort that was put forth by people, this grandmother and her granddaughter are now able to wash and dry clothes at home. They also have new septic lines, their lawn mower has been repaired, their range has been replaced, and scrap metal from around the house is being cleaned up. We were also able to establish a fund for future home repairs.

Being able to wash and dry clothes at home probably doesn't seem like a lot to most of us who are blessed to have this luxury. For this family, however, it was huge. This grandmother has expressed her appreciation repeatedly and has been in awe of the wonderful outpouring of love and compassion our community has shown to her. I saw the emotions well up inside of her the day we finally were able to deliver the washer and dryer.

The fact is, it wouldn't have been possible without people like you who very graciously sacrificed for her. Thank you so much for everything! Susan Garren, School Counselor, Fletcher Elementary School.

* Please see the church office hallway bulletin board for a complete list of those whose help Ms. Garren is acknowledging.

To extend a special 'thank-you' to someone in our church, please email the church office at maribeth@fletcherumc.org.

2010 Fellowship Luncheons

Mark your calendars for the following dates—you will not want to miss out on these special good food and fellowship times with your FUMC family. All start at 12:15 pm.

- July 18th - Under the Big Top
- August 15th - Summer Safari
- October 17th - A Spooktacular Affair
- November 21st - Fall Frolic
- December 19th - A Mountain Christmas

BLOOD DRIVE

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The next Fletcher Community Blood Drive will be held on Saturday, September 18th, from 8:00 am to noon, in The Fellowship Hall.

Questions may be directed to Annette Traylor at 684-6747.



Do you play the guitar?

If so, Cathy Bashaw, our Music Director, would like to talk to you. Please contact her at 684-7155, Monday or Tuesday mornings.



SAVE THE DATE! We'll be having a church-wide picnic at Camp Tekoa on Sunday, September 19th, from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm. There will be fun for all ages, including a pot luck meal, singing, swimming, rocking on the porch, catching up with old friends and making new ones.

2010 Church Finances and Attendance:

Income, year-to-date: \$159,392 Budgeted, year-to-date: \$186,448

Expenses, year-to-date: \$179,332 Budgeted, year-to-date: \$196,638

Average Attendance at Sunday worship services for the month of June:

8:30 am service — 94 persons / 11:00 am service — persons

Average attendance of Sunday School (all ages) for the month of June: 76

The Prayers of the People

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*Almighty God, shield of the oppressed,
hear us as we pray for the friendless and the lonely,
the tempted and the unbelieving.
Be merciful to those who suffer, in body or in mind,
to those who are in danger or distress, and who have suffered loss.
Let your love surround the infirm and the aged.
Be especially near to those who are passing through the valley of death.
May they find eternal rest, and light at evening time;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

(Presbyterian Church of South Africa, 20th Cent., Alt.) from the United Methodist Book of Worship

For the gift of God's peace in Iraq, Haiti, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the Sudan. For those struggling to contain the oil spill in the Gulf and for the many whose lives, human and animal, that are being impacted by it. For our soldiers: Nick Blunt, Randy Borland, Andrew Eggers, Alex Erickson, Shawn Rodman, & Nathan Sumner.

For our new pastor, Rev. Dr. Stephen Ray and his wife, Holly, that they may find a welcoming new home, here in the beautiful mountains. For Brian Combs and the leadership of the Haywood Street Mission Church.

An individual with mental illness who is in special need of God; a friend's mother. For Allen, Annette, Doug, Gordon, Justin & Karen, Rhonda, Susan, Vickie & family. Fay Alcorn, Mack & Phyllis Allred, Helen Andrews, Mark Arrowood, Ralph & Gennie Biddle; Jean Blackburn (aunt of Brenda Chappellear); Valerie Borland, Jim Bristol, Bill & Wanda Burnette; Marie Burnette, Lucille Bush, David Chapman & Carol Paxton (siblings of Ruth Cannon); Eunice Chappellear, Rob Chappellear, John Clark, Lucy Cline, Bill & Jeanette Combs, Steve, Sandy, Luke, and Sam Combs; Bill & Shirley Conley (parents of Laurie Beitler), Charles Cordell; Raymond, Alan & Anita Culp; Grady & Juanita Cunningham; Martha DeShong, Joe & Marge Evans; Kris Furr, Margaret Hanyan, Vivian Hart (mother of Fran LeRoy), and Robert & Barbara Higgins.

Jim & Maggie Holbert, Tom & Kay Jones, Rosetta Kimzey, Spike Libby & Marilyn Ward; Pete & Melissa Martin & Family, Chuck Mentus' sister, Linda Moore, Esther Phipps, Larry Pressly, Joyce Reed, Larry Reeves, Shari Sprinkle, C.O. & Joan Stafford (Kim Roberts' parents); Dick Taylor, Annette Traylor, Hazel Ulmer, Don & Priscilla Watson; Harry & Jackie Whitaker, Ethel White, Willa Mae Whitson (sister of Doyle Freeman), Vic & Debbie Wilfong, Emmylou Wilson (Allen Squires' great aunt), Sherrill Wilson, Bob & Trudy Woodruff, Rod & Marilyn Wrone.

For the family of *Marilyn Clark*, who died on Sunday, June 13th. Marilyn was the wife of John Clark. They had been married 58 years. She was the mother of Bettina Clark Hall (husband, Kevin), Michael Patrick Clark (wife, Linda), and Lisa Clark Patterson (husband, Bob); grandmother of Jennifer H. Gravely (husband, Ross), Alyssa Hall, John Patterson, Benjamin Patterson, Will Patterson, Landon Clark (wife, Kayla), and Kelsie Clark.

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Visit our website at: www.fletcherumc.org
Worship Services: Sundays at 8:30 am and 11:00 am
Sunday School for All Ages: 9:45 am

Cathy Bashaw, Director of Music (email: cbashaw@bellsouth.net)
Maribeth Hockey, Secretary (email: maribeth@fletcherumc.org)
Patty Howell, Director of SonShine Pre-School (email: pattyabc@bellsouth.net)
Jan Kelly, Organist & Pianist
Joy Moss, Director of Children and Youth (email: joy@fletcherumc.org)
Cathy Naber, Treasurer (email: cnaber3@bellsouth.net)
Rev. Dr. Stephen J. Ray, Pastor (email: stephen@fletcherumc.org)

Articles for the next newsletter are due by **Monday, July 19th, 2010**

Fletcher United Methodist Church

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