

First United Methodist Church of Union County
859 Hwy 515
Blairsville, GA 30512
(706) 745-2073



Contact Us

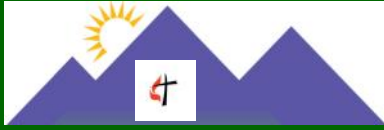
STAFF MEMBERS	TITLE	PHONE EXT.	EMAIL ADDRESS
Ben B. Lewis	Pastor	223	blewis777@aol.com
Richard Rivera	Executive Ass't	232	solidrockcafe@windstream.net
Tricia Wallace	Children's Minister Interim	227	kids@fumcunioncounty.org
Stan Wallace	Older Adult/Recreation	222	stanwallace@windstream.net
Evelyn Ueltzen	Administrative Ass't	234	firstumc@windstream.net
Bill Earnest	Financial Secretary	235	fumcbill@windstream.net
Parish Nurses		224	parishnurses@gmail.com

Church Email Address: firstumc@windstream.net

Church Web Address: fumcunioncounty.org

Church Fax Number: 706-781-6252

Times that Services are aired on Cable Channel 4: Sundays at 9:00 am and 8:30 pm.



First News

Vol. 2, issue 11

First United Methodist Church of Union County

November 2009



*An Abundance
of Thanks*



Five Kernels of Corn And Prayer

Pastor Ben Lewis Our Pilgrim ancestors who landed at Plymouth Rock over 300 years ago knew nothing of the prosperity which we enjoy today in this great country of ours. For example, during that first long winter at Plymouth Colony, seven times as many graves were made for the dead as homes for the living. The ship which was to bring food and relief brought 35 more mouths to feed, but not an ounce of provisions. Legend has it, that the winters were so bad they had only five pieces of corn per person each day to eat. The next spring, however, because of God's bountiful blessings and through the help their Native American friends, they had a bountiful harvest and a great time of thanksgiving.

Since that time, a great tradition has been observed by many families on Thanksgiving Day: the tradition of placing five kernels of corn beside each plate at the Thanksgiving meal to remember the suffering and spirit of thanksgiving of our Pilgrim ancestors. Many families also take turns sharing around the table five things for which they are thankful. Try this in your home this Thanksgiving. These are my "Five Kernels of Corn" of thankfulness:

Hold up a piece of corn... This day I give thanks for my family...No man ever had such a family as I have been given. Thank you, God for my Gwen, Dusty, Natalie, Matt, and Katie.

Hold up the second piece of corn... I give thanks today for my extended family, the church. Thank you for all the dear souls who have loved, taught, nurtured me in the Lord. Without you, I would not be here today, doing what I am doing, and knowing and loving God...Thank you, God for First United Methodist Church of Union County.

Hold up the third piece of corn... I give thanks this day for our country, for those courageous men and woman who came here seeking a better life, and who, by the grace of God, found it, and found a land truly flowing with milk and honey. Also, I give thanks for the men and women of the armed forces who stand watch over the freedom that I enjoy. Thank you, God, for America.

Hold up the fourth piece of corn... Today I give thanks for all those little blessings that I take so for granted...the fresh air I breathe even now...for the food that so bountifully covers our tables...for work that gives us ways to use our gifts...for shelter...for clothes...for music...for books...for winters, springs, summers, and falls, for all the things, the simple things that bring such joy and blessing to my life, thank you, Lord. And I thank you dear Lord for the adversity in my life that causes me to lean more on you than I do myself.

Hold up the fifth piece of corn... And I give thanks this day for Jesus Christ. He is the most important person in my life. No one has ever done more for me, given me more, loved me more, helped bring the best out of me, challenged me, convicted me, nurtured me. Lord, I give You thanks for this and every day.

As you sit down to enjoy your Thanksgiving meal this Thanksgiving, take time to thank God for these blessings—these five kernels of corn.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Worship Services

To Know Christ - To Make Christ Known

8:30 am Casual Service
Sanctuary
Pastor Ben B. Lewis

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages
10:45 am Traditional Service
Sanctuary
Pastor Ben B. Lewis

10:45 am Contemporary
The MAC
Pastor Richard Rivera

Membership News

October Average Worship Attendance

8:30	Early Service	84
9:45	Sunday School	151
10:45	Traditional	243
10:45	Contemporary	108



Ushers: Roy Hamby
Gene Hodgson
Artie Hodgson
Ron Byers
Kit Carson
Tonia Albright

Greeters:
8:30 Tom & Jean Rogers
10:45 Gary & Lois Connolly

Meetings

CHARGE CONFERENCE
Sunday, November 1st
6:00 pm

MISSIONS COMMITTEE
Monday, November 9th
6:00pm



**TURN YOUR
CLOCKS
BACK!**

Remember to turn your clocks back on Saturday night (Oct. 31st) for Sunday!

New News

THE GATHERING is a short time set aside before Sunday School (9:30 am) for us ALL to come together. THE GATHERING is downstairs in the MAC in the youth room. Thanks to the adult Sunday School classes for bringing the snacks for THE GATHERING each week.



THE GATHERING

The schedule for November is:

1st	Joy Class
8th	Friendship Class
15th	Bridges Class
22nd	Fidelis Class
29th	Friendship Class

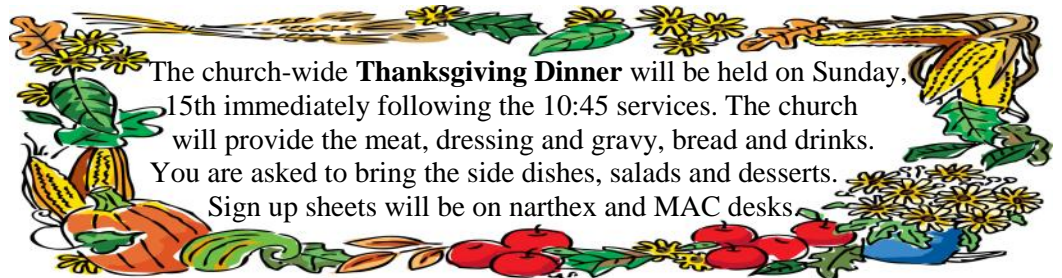


Church Dinner

Charge Conference is Sunday, November 1st. We will have a church-wide dinner at 5:00 pm before the 6:00 meeting. It will be a covered dish meal with the church only providing drinks. There are sign up sheets on the narthex and MAC desks.



The Morning Glory coat project would like to start providing coats to families in our church that need them. Please write your phone number on a piece of paper and drop it in the collection plate. Paula Myers will get in touch with you confidentially.



The church-wide **Thanksgiving Dinner** will be held on Sunday, 15th immediately following the 10:45 services. The church will provide the meat, dressing and gravy, bread and drinks. You are asked to bring the side dishes, salads and desserts. Sign up sheets will be on narthex and MAC desks.



Church offices will be closed Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of the week of Thanksgiving so that we might enjoy time with our family.



The Walkers' Club will NOT be having breakfast meetings from now on. A spring picnic is being planned. Continue to hand in mileage and check the map on the track for your progress. If you have questions, please call A.G. Sherman at (706) 745-1087.



One of the projects for this year's Junior Board of UCB is to display graduates of UCHS or Woody Gap who are actively serving our country. This display will be in the main hall of the high school. If you know of someone, please provide the following information: Name & rank, Location serving, mailing address, year graduated from school, parents and siblings, and a small size photo. You may contact Rita Gunter at UCB at (706)745-2151 x2251 for further details.



- November 2 Hildegard Lucarelli
Les Myers
Mike Thomason
- November 3 Phyllis Baker
Richard Klein
JoAnn Strickland
- November 4 Diane Simonsen
- November 5 Tonia Albright
Ralph Evans
- November 6 Judy Bryner
Peg Gordon
- November 7 Ron Schultz
Rick Siefken
- November 8 Diane Bauman
Melissa Devereaux
- November 10 Minnie Schartz
- November 11 Ron Taylor
Karen Williams
- November 12 Judd Plott
Joan Wiley
John Wischmeyer
- November 13 Kellie Hughes
- November 14 Roger Pope
Michael Rivera
- November 15 Barbara Klein
- November 16 Julie Rittenhouse
- November 17 Stephanie Shilling
- November 18 Gretchen Burrell
Joyce Byers
Jim Eddins
Pennie Hebble
Norman Thompson
- November 20 Brenda Turner
- November 22 Sharon Hess
Chuck Stancil
- November 24 Diane Thomason
- November 25 Sarah Partain
- November 26 Olivia Burrell
Doug McGinnis
- November 27 Angie Hughes
Richard Jewett
Jane Wilson
- November 29 Lib Read
Phil Salling
- November 30 Ty Cobb
Marian Malac
Mac Warren
Barbara Williams

November Calendar

- Sunday, 1st Daylight Savings Time begins
Blood Pressure Screening
Worship Services
Children’s Ministry Team mtg, 4:00pm
DSL/MYF, 5:30 pm
Charge Dinner and Conference, 5:00pm
- Tuesday, 3rd Scrapbooking, 9:30 am
Yoga, 9:30 am and 5:30 pm
- Wednesday, 4th Morning Glory Circle, 10 am
FUNdamentals, 3:30 pm
Supper 5:00 pm, Programs 6:00 pm
Choir, 7:00 pm
- Thursday, 5th Parish Nursing, 9:00 –11:00 am
Last fall OASIS
Circle of Love, 6:30 pm
- Sunday, 8th Worship Services— Veterans Day
- Monday, 9th Missions Committee Mtg., 6:00pm
- Tuesday, 10th Scrapbooking 9:30 am
Yoga, 9:30 am and 5:30 pm
- Wednesday, 11th Friends of the Library, 1:00 pm
FUNdamentals, 3:30 pm
Supper 5:00 pm, Programs 6:00 pm
Choir 7:00 pm, with children
- Thursday, 12th Parish Nursing Office. 9:00—11:00 am
- Sunday, 15th Worship Services—Children sing
Thanksgiving Dinner, noon
- Monday, 16th MIFT, 6:30 pm
- Tuesday, 17th Scrapbooking 9:30 am
Yoga, 9:30 am and 5:30 pm
UMW Missions, 10:00 am
- Wednesday, 18th FUNdamentals, 3:30 pm
Supper 5:00 pm, Programs 6:00 pm
Choir 7:00 pm
Parish Nursing Office 9:00—11:00 am
Circle of Love, 6:30 pm
- Thursday, 19th UMM, 8:00 am
- Saturday, 21st Worship Services
- Sunday, 22nd Scrapbooking 9:30 am
Yoga, 9:30 am and 5:30 pm
- Tuesday, 24th Offices Closed
- Wednesday, 25th Happy Thanksgiving!
- Thursday, 26th Offices Closed
- Friday, 27th Offices Closed
- Sunday, 29th Worship Services



Thanksgiving

WNL

5:00 Supper
5:30 Beginning Hand bells
6:00 Youth B.A.S.I.C.S.
Hand bells
Children's Programs
Adult Bible Study
7:00 Adult Choir



THE CHURCH'S NEW
ADDRESS IS:
938 Highway 515
Blairsville, Georgia 30512

PASTOR'S NEW HOME
ADDRESS IS:
95 Beale Drive
Blairsville, Georgia 30512

**To get current addresses of
Blairsville members,**
you may go to www.usps.com

On the left hand top bar there is a red tab "Find a Zip Code" click on it and it will link you to a site where you can type in the old address and it will give you the new address.

Remember that only Union County residents were affected by the change. Those living in other areas did not change.

Wednesday Night Suppers

- November 4 Italian Theme Night: Beef and cheese manicotti, spinach and cheese stuffed shells, pasta with sauce, salad, bread, fruit and tiramisu cheese-cake dessert
Kids: pepperoni pizza, quesadillas with chocolate chip cookie kisses
- November 11 Ham and bean soup, vegetarian veggie soup, potato soup, Brunswick stew, cornbread, toasted cheese sandwiches, salad bar, fruit and veteran's day cake
Kids: ice cream sandwiches
- November 18 Pork Roast, broccoli casserole, tomato casserole, sweet potato soufflé, salad bar, cranberry apple bake
Kids: Chicken strips, fruit
- November 25 No meal due to Thanksgiving holidays



Children's News

We've had an extremely busy Fall and looking forward to the Holiday seasons of Thanksgiving and Advent.

As we make progress on implementing different components of our Children's ministry programs, I have to say a BIG thank you for all who have stepped up to help and support. The foundational framework has been laid for Sundays and Wednesdays, and we will move forward with depth and detail with such items as safe sanctuary, child/parent information, volunteer sign-up/curriculum and programming plans.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns or ideas just contact me. - Tricia

November Operation Christmas Child

11th-Practice with chancel choir, need to stay till 7:15 pm

15th-Music with Chancel Choir

25th- No Wednesday activities due to Thanksgiving holiday

December 2nd- Hanging of the Greens, 6:00 pm

13th- Children's Advent Program, 5:30 pm

16th- Angel Workshop/Happy Birthday Jesus Party

Thanks in advance for the great response to our Happy Fall Y'all festival. We are looking forward to many blessings on a beautiful day.

Youth News



We are now taking registration for REAL '10: ONE LIFE. The dates for this event are January 15-17, 2010 held in our very own MAC. The cost for the retreat is only \$30. Registration forms and the fee of \$30 should be turned in by Wednesday, December 16, 2009.

Missions News

Operation Christmas Child is Coming.....

The Children's Ministry will be sponsoring and assembling around 30-40 boxes during our Mission Mania on Wednesdays. Information table is in the MAC.

Watch for information and collection areas at church. Also check the website for this program at www.samaritanspurse.org.

New Members



Greg and Virginia Lane
178 Coosa Bend Drive
Blairsville, Georgia 30512
706-745-8058

Doug and Teri McGinnis
111 Lowell Lane
Blairsville, Georgia 30512
706-745-1883

Hubert and Pat Warden
399 Hideaway Hills Road
Blairsville, Georgia 30512
706-835-4297

Opportunities @



The MAC will be closed November 25th, 26th and 27th in observance of the Thanksgiving holidays.

MAC Hours:

Walking Track/Weight Room	Monday-Wednesday	8:00 am—5:30 pm
	Thursday	8:00 am – 8:00 pm
	Friday	8:00 am—1:00 pm
Gym (Basketball courts)	Thursdays	5:00 pm—8:00 pm

Upward Basketball & Cheerleading -



Upward Basketball Players and Cheerleader Parents... You should already have been contacted by your child's coach with your practice schedule. Games begin on Saturday, November 7th. All games will be at the House of Prayer. We will be hosting the end of the season "Awards Banquet" at the MAC on Saturday, December 12th. Mark your calendars now!



Print Info

Some people have said that they like having the newsletter on email but still wish to have a hard copy for the calendar or birthdays or military list. There is a way to print just particular sheets from your computer. With the newsletter on your screen, on the bar at the left top of your page, there is the picture of a printer. When you click on that, your print menu will come up. Under "Print Range" you have the option of

- All
- Current Page
- Pages _____ to _____

You click on your choice and hit "Ok" at the bottom right on the menu.

The page number is listed on the top bar "1/8" meaning you are on page 1 of 8 pages.

This should print just the pages you desire to have.

"Walk Across America" Walking Club is now walking the Appalachian Trail! All 2,175 miles! You can join. Mileage sheets and the map are available on the information table upstairs in the MAC. You can walk anywhere; in your neighborhood, on a treadmill, or in the park. Just keep track of your mileage and once a month leave it on the Parish Nurses' office desk. For more information call AG Sherman at 706-745-1087 or Stan at the church office. Sponsored by the FUMC Health Cabinet!

Sr. Adults Young- At- Heart

Our S.M.A.R.T. (Small Maintenance and Repair Team) is ready to do small maintenance or repairs for any of our shut-ins or older adults that are unable to do for themselves around their house. If you know of anyone needing assistance with small home or yard projects, call Stan at the church office and give a description of the work needed. Call today. We are ready to help!

"A Callaway Garden's Christmas" trip to Pine Mountain and Warm Springs, is FULL. Watch for other trips coming soon.



Three kinds

"There are three kinds of giving: grudge giving, duty giving and thanksgiving. Grudge giving says, 'I have to'; duty giving says, 'I ought to'; and thanksgiving says, 'I want to.' The latter comes from a full heart. Thanksgiving is an open gate into the love of God."
- Robert Rodenmayr

Prayer Corner



“Great Expectations is one of the best definitions of prayer I have heard.”

Just like an author-you must write in order to be one. To have fellowship with God-we must pray.

Prayer is our communication line to God-24/7, three hundred sixty-five days a year. We don't have to flip open our cell or move the mouse to link up with our Heavenly Father. We don't have to be in a small country church or a big city cathedral to initiate our prayer channel with Him. He is ready for us anywhere, just as we are and regardless of our circumstances.

The true secret and joy of prayer is in choosing to place that fellowship with God as a daily priority. He is worth it!

Excerpt from Journey to Wholeness by Patricia Rush.

Prayer Pagers:

Available in the parish nurses' office. To call someone, you simply dial their number and when you hear the beep, hit 1111#.

Roy Cardell 706-379-6775

Roy Mellor 706-379-6780

Les Myers 706-379-6772

Homebound:

Bonnie McCullum

Lavon Butt

Sharon Jones

Elizabeth Henley

Omah Rogers

Harry Madducks

Melissa Devereaux

Shirlee Evans

May Langman

Lois Barr

Hattie Gleasure

United Methodist Women

Circle of Love will meet Thursday, November 5th and 19th at 6:30pm in the Joy SS classroom. We will continue our Bible Study the “4:8 PRINCIPLE” led by Glenda Taylor.

Morning Glory Circle will meet Wednesday, November 4th at 10 am in the Friendship Sunday School.

UMW Mission Circle will meet on Tuesday, 17th at 10:00 A.M. in the Bray Chapel. Beverly DenBleyker will present the program on "UMW Mission Giving" and a pledge program will follow.

MIFT will meet Monday, November 16th at 6:30 pm.

Military Addresses

PFC Jeff Cook, Bravo Troop 1-40 Cav (ABN) FOB Gardez APO, AE 09354. He is Omah Roger's grandson.

Fireman Brandon Rightnour, 320A Dewey Avenue, BEQ 634 RMG 208, Great Lake, Illinois 60088. His email is: brandonrightnour@yahoo.com. He is Rosa Mandon's great-grandson.

EN1 (SW) Blane Dorton, 355 Aoloa Street, Apt. M101, Kailua, HI 96734. He is Buddy & Teresa Moore and Bob Dorton's son.

ND Brody Dorton, MDSU One, Bldg. 17 Bishop Pt., Pearl Harbor, HI 96860.—He is Buddy & Teresa Moore and Bob Dorton's son .

AW3 Evan Albright, HS-10, P.O. Box 357119, NAS North Island, San Diego, CA 92135-7119. He is the son of Tonia Albright.

1 Lt. Loertscher, Seth, J., HHC 3-187 IN REGT, 3 BCT 101 ABN DIV, APO AE 09344. He is Ruth Stefko's nephew.

A1C Lewis 4003 S. Westshore Blvd. Apt. 4005, Tampa, FL 33611. She is the daughter of Barry and Shelley Lewis.

Chris Varian, Bravo1-321 AFAR, FOB Salerno, ATO AE 09314

Pvt, Prentice, Nathaniel, B Co. 1-222 D AVN Regt., 1004 Pearl Place, Ft. Eustis, VA 23604. (on back write 3rd PLT) He is the grandson of Juanita Prentice.

Krogmeier, Cory Army **Gilhooley, Ryan** USAF

Dr. John Quigley, USN

Capt. Paul Hargrove (Army Special Forces), 1266 Arailia Drive, Fayetteville, NC 28314. He is Myrtle & Henry Von Staden's grandson in law.

1st Sgt. Kevin Ryan (Air Force), 104 Creekside Lane, VAFB, CA 93437. He is Henry Von Staden's grandson in law.

Cpt. Laura Jeffrey, 1 Sgt. Craig Jeffrey, Lt. Andre LaTaste All children of Vern and Angie Craft

S/Sgt Josh Pierce, grandson-in-law of George Houdeshel Serving in Iraq and Afghanistan

UMW Pecan Sale

If you placed an order for nuts from the Circle they will be available for pick up the first of this month. Be watching for more details in the bulletins.

United Methodist Men

The Methodist Men will meet Saturday, November 21st at 8:00 for breakfast. Rick Siefken will be your cook, and Rod Johnson will be giving the devotional.

Welcome Desk Receptionists

Thanks to all our Welcome Desk volunteers. The November schedule should be available the week of October 26th. Please pick up a copy in the file drawer under "schedules". Remember the Welcome Desk binder has a wealth of information in it and can answer a lot of queries.



Instructors are lined up and anxious to start teaching the winter term starting January 7, 2010. The class brochures will be mailed November 5th and will be available in the Narthex on Sunday, November 8th. Some Saturday workshops continue and are ideal for those not able to take a class on Thursdays. We continue to expand the OASIS music classes with a new class on fiddles. We added bagpipes in the Fall term and that continues. This should be an exciting term with more classes than we have had for a winter term. Many thanks to the volunteers that make the OASIS program so successful.



Parish Nursing



The following are generally true facts, but there is a variation in individual cases. Depend on your physician to make a diagnosis and give health advice.

Difference between flu and cold symptoms:

Sudden symptoms: colds develop over a few days, flu often has a rapid onset within 3-6 hours. It often hits hard with high fever, aches and pain.

Fever: rare with a cold, but usually present with the flu. A temperature of 100 degrees or higher for 3 or more days is associated with the flu.

Chills: are not common with a cold, but more common with the flu, accompanying fever.

Coughing: a hacking, mucus-producing cough is often present with a cold; a dry cough is more associated with the flu.

Aches: slight body aches and pains can be part of a cold; more severe aches and pains are present with the flu.

Stuffy Nose: is commonly present with a cold and typically resolves within a week; is not commonly present with the flu.

Sore Throat: common with a cold; not commonly present with the flu.

Sneezing: is commonly present with a cold; but not common with the flu.

Headache: headache is fairly uncommon with a cold, but very common with the flu.

Tiredness: is fairly mild with a cold, but moderate to severe with the flu

Chest Discomfort: mild to moderate with a cold; often severe with the flu

The flu is primarily a respiratory disease and passed in through the nose and mouth and on hands touching the face. Although vomiting and diarrhea may also occur, it is rare without the other symptoms of flu listed above. The seasonal flu shot will not prevent the H1N1 ("Swine") flu, but it is intended to prevent the regular seasonal flu that is expected every year. The H1N1 vaccine will be available to specific groups.

Frequent hand washing, avoiding touching face with hands, gargling with warm salt water, eating foods that are rich in Vitamin C, avoiding people who are sick, and getting plenty of rest are a few things that will help you prevent getting the flu of either kind. Remember to pray for the health of others and yourself.