

53 HENDRIX STREET
WAYNESVILLE, NC 28786
FUMCWNC.ORG

<https://www.facebook.com/faithumcwaynesville>

REV. ROBO 828-345-4652

JANUARY 2024

PASTOR: Rev. Jed Tate

828-226-1715
jedtate@gmail.com

Lay Leader: Rachel Burnette

828-289-1328
mintzlynn@yahoo.com

Trustee Chairman: Gerald Trantham

828-356-4652
PO Box 713, Canton, NC 28716

Treasurer:

Susan Trantham
828-356-4652
PO Box 713, Canton, NC 28716

Leadership Team Chair/Newsletter:

Judy Ferguson
828-456-6944
jlf25c@gmail.com

Missions/SPRC/Church Secretary:

Beth Williams
828-550-4528
bwdwwms@aol.com

Music Director: Lauren Harris

laharris5@catamount.wcu.edu
(336) 831-4682

**Finance Chairman/Trustee Asst. Chr.
Sunday School Superintendent/Annual Conf.**

Lay Representative:
Mark Dooly
828-316-1613
markdooly@yahoo.com

Leadership Team/Bulletin Contact:

Dr. Smokey Dooly
828-316-1504
smokeydooly@gmail.com

Financial Secretary:

Tracy Edwards-Villaveces
828-452-1950
evillaveces@gmail.com

Communion Steward:

Tryllis Audrey
828-627-1018
tryllisautrey1@gmail.com

Leadership Team Members:

Earl Cogdill
828-456-6735

Betty Gant
828-586-9100
gant34betty@yahoo.com

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dearest Faith,

Happy new year! As we enter into this time of new beginning and new possibility, I think we often bring with us our hopes and dreams. The new year seems to bear with it both anticipation and opportunity. And so maybe we take on new projects. Or we resolve to try new things or grow in new ways. Or maybe we resolve to let something go, to rest more, or to be healthier in some way. In our Wesleyan tradition, we take on a kind of resolution every year, but it's a little bit different.

A Methodist practice that dates back to the eighteenth century is the tradition of the covenant renewal. This new year's worship service can take different forms, but typically centers around John Wesley's Covenant Prayer, which we prayed together last Sunday. The point though is less about taking on something new, like we do with new year's resolutions, and more about *renewing* our commitment to our relationship with God. We resolve to refocus on spending more time with God.

How, then, might we do that? Maybe that's something worth contemplating during this time of new beginning and new possibility. The covenant renewal service in our United Methodist Book of Worship gives us some recommendations: One, set aside time to be alone with God, seeking God's assistance and gracious acceptance of you. Two, have a spirit of awe and reverence. Three, remember to rely on God's grace (and not your own strength). And four, resolve to be faithful in your relationship with God. Maybe one or more of those commitments speak to you.

Something I really love about the covenant renewal though is that it's less about the activities we commit to doing or the things we want to accomplish, and more about just being in loving-relationship with God. No pressure, just presence. Just grace.

Happy new year, Faith. My prayer for each of us, and for all of us together, is that we may practice being present in loving-relationship with God, and that we may be filled with the goodness of his grace.

Grace and peace,
Jed



BETH'S MISSION MESSAGE

As we begin another new year, do you make resolutions? Something specific or general like being a better person? Or do you resolve to make and keep a budget? Or do you resolve to spend more time in prayer and study of your Bible? As you budget your money, time, and prayer life, please remember those who aren't as comfortable as we are. We may have specific mission requests, or you may make donations to your favorite mission through the church. Keep eyes and ears open for opportunities to bless someone.



Stewardship News as of December 30, 2023

I will be loyal to the United Methodist Church and uphold it with my Prayers, my Presence, my Gifts, my Service, and my Witness."

2023 Budget \$50,519.00

Needed to date for budget	\$50,519.00
Received to date for budget	\$40,821.00
Behind Budget	\$ 9,698.00
Paid out to date for budget	\$41,868.04

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS!

JANUARY 2024 DATES TO REMEMBER

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP 11 AM



JANUARY 1 – NEW YEAR’S DAY

In many countries the New Year begins on January 1. However, this wasn't always the case. In fact, for centuries, other dates marked the start of the calendar, including March 25 and December 25. So how did January 1 become New Year's Day?

We can partly thank the Roman king Numa Pompilius. According to tradition, during his reign (c. 715–673 BCE) Numa revised the Roman republican calendar so that January replaced March as the first month. It was a fitting choice, since January was named after Janus, the Roman god of all beginnings; March celebrated Mars, the god of war. (Some sources claim that Numa also created the month of January.) However, there is evidence that January 1 was not made the official start of the Roman year until 153 BCE.

In 46 BCE Julius Caesar introduced more changes, though the Julian calendar, as it became known, retained January 1 as the year's opening date. With the expansion of the Roman Empire, the use of the Julian calendar also spread. However, following the fall of Rome in the 5th century CE, many Christian countries altered the calendar so that it was more reflective of their religion, and March 25 (the Feast of the Annunciation) and December 25 (Christmas) became common New Year's Days.

It later became clear that the Julian calendar required additional changes due to a miscalculation concerning leap years. The cumulative effect of this error over the course of several centuries caused various events to take place in the wrong season. It

also created problems when determining the date of Easter. Thus, Pope Gregory XIII introduced a revised calendar in 1582. In addition to solving the issue with leap years, the Gregorian calendar restored January 1 as the start of the New Year. While Italy, France, and Spain were among the countries that immediately accepted the new calendar, Protestant and Orthodox nations were slow to adopt it. Great Britain and its American colonies did not begin following the Gregorian calendar until 1752. Before then they celebrated New Year's Day on March 25.

January 6 - Feast of the Epiphany: It always falls 12 days after Christmas to mark when the Magi arrived in Bethlehem. Epiphany is a Christian holiday typically celebrated on January 6. It is also known as Three Kings' Day, Twelfth Day and Little Christmas.



JANUARY ANNIVERSARY

25 – Rev. Terry & Vickie Rowland



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

11 – Walter Lee
19 – Doug Rogers
20 – Carolyn Taylor
23 – Janie Benson
27 – Chris Johnson