

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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SEPTEMBER 2024

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MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dearest Faith,

I've been thinking a lot about listening recently. A couple weeks ago in the sermon, we reflected on Solomon's prayer for wisdom. In 1 Kings 3, Solomon asks God for a discerning heart, or a heart that listens. How do we describe wisdom? It's like a heart that listens. Listening isn't easy; we have to practice it and pray for God's help just like Solomon. But it's really important.

My friend Luke Edwards writes a lot about listening. He even writes a newsletter called The Listening Church (<https://thelisteningchurch.substack.com/>), and in his most recent article he shared some fascinating data. In recent research, teens and adults of no faith were asked to imagine a Christian they would be interested in learning from. What would be their most important characteristic? Overwhelmingly, the response was "listens without judgment."

I'm convinced that listening is one of the most important aspects to how we love and how we practice our faith. Listening to God in our prayers. Listening to each other in our relationships. And even listening to our community around us. Listening is a spiritual practice. And it takes a lot of practice!

Dearest Faith, I'm grateful that I get to listen to and for God with you as we worship together, and I can't wait to see (and hear) you on Sunday.

By the way, I hope you'll get a chance to meet and get to know Riley Yarborough - he's a student at WCU, and he's our new pianist! We're grateful to have him join us in worship, and I hope you'll join me in welcoming him.

Grace and peace,
Jed



Message from Lay Leader Rachel

Another month has come and gone, and the church is beginning to grow. Our Saturday morning breakfast has ended for this year. We have given \$1350 to the church offering. I would like to thank Smoky, Sara, Teresa, and Lynn who have worked with me to cook and serve this breakfast. We had good fellowship with each other and with some of the locals at the sale. Have met previous members and families of former members and learned more about our church. It has been a blessing.

Just please keep Jed and the church in your prayers as we continue to become active and grow.

May God bless each and every one
Rachel Burnette, Lay Leader



BETH'S MISSION MESSAGE

We have supported Pathways center in many different ways over the years. There is currently a need for financial support. There have been news stories lately that some of the services Pathways offers may have to be suspended. First to go would be the Holy Cow food truck, then the family dorms. Finally regular dorm services would be cut in half. The financial guidelines they operate on requires cutbacks to begin when funds are under \$100,000. At last report they were at \$127,000.

Let us collect donations through the fall to aid this essential community service.

PPRC

We welcome Riley Yarborough as our new musician. Please take a moment to introduce yourself.



Stewardship News as of August 25, 2024

2024 Budget \$48,779.00

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Needed | \$33,169.72 |
| Received | \$23,485.25 |
| Behind | \$ 9,684.47 |
| Paid Out | \$26,087.82 |

"I will be loyal to The United Methodist Church and uphold it with my prayers, my presence, my gifts, my service, and my witness."

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 AM
WORSHIP 11 AM**

**SEPTEMBER 2024 DATES TO
REMEMBER**



**September 2 - Labor Day is celebrated
On the first Monday of September every
year, and it is a federal holiday in the
United States. It started on
Tuesday, September 5, 1882.**

**It is an important date as The United
States of America honors the American
labor movement and pays tribute to the
social and economic contribution of the
laborers toward society and recognizes
their individual rights.**

**Labor Day falls at the end of the long
weekend known as Labor Day
weekend and highlights the importance of
fair employment practices and the
ongoing struggle for labor equality.**

**Labor Day weekend is a time for
American workers to enjoy an extended
break, engaging in various celebrations
and activities and the start of the football
season. Additionally, it signifies the end of
summer and the transition to cooler
weather.**



**SEPTEMBER 22 - The fall equinox and
the first day of autumn arrives on
Sunday, September 22, 2024, at
08:44 A.M. EDT in the Northern
Hemisphere. The equinox occurs at the
same moment worldwide.**

**The autumnal equinox is an astronomical
event that marks the start of autumn (or
“fall”). In the Northern Hemisphere, the
autumnal equinox occurs in September;
in the Southern Hemisphere, it occurs
in March.**

What Is an Equinox?

**During an equinox, the Sun crosses what
we call the “celestial equator”—an
imaginary extension of Earth’s equator
line into space. The equinox occurs
precisely when the Sun’s center passes
through this line.**

**For those in the Northern Hemisphere,
when the Sun crosses the equator going
from north to south, this marks the
autumnal equinox; when it crosses from
south to north, this marks the vernal
equinox. In the Southern Hemisphere, it’s
the reverse.**

**After the autumnal equinox, days become
shorter than nights as the Sun continues
to rise later, and nightfall arrives earlier.
This ends with the winter solstice, after**

which days start to grow longer once again.

The word “equinox” comes from Latin *aequus*, meaning “equal,” and *nox*, “night.” On the equinox, day and night are roughly equal in length.

September is considered the month of the Bible because on the 30th Saint Jerome is celebrated, who was a person who devoted his entire life to the study of the Holy Scriptures and was the one who translated the Bible into Latin.



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

16 - Eduardo & Tracy Villeveces
25 - Scotty & Kari Setser



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 - Tryllis Autrey
2 - Rick Boen
7 - Rev. Jed Tate
20 - Thurman Blaine
23 - Susan Trantham

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are collecting school supplies for Haywood County Schools. You may bring supplies or give a donation through the church until September 15. Contact Beth or Smokey for a list of suggested supplies.

UMCOR is providing services to the victims of recent disasters. Donations to UMCOR are welcome.

The church will be in use on September 21.