

First Methodist Church of Clinton

208 Sampson St
Clinton, NC 28328
Telephone: (910)592-2035
Church Email: info@fmcnc.org
Website: www.fmcnc.org



The Cornerstone

1815 - 2025 . . .
Ephesians 2:20

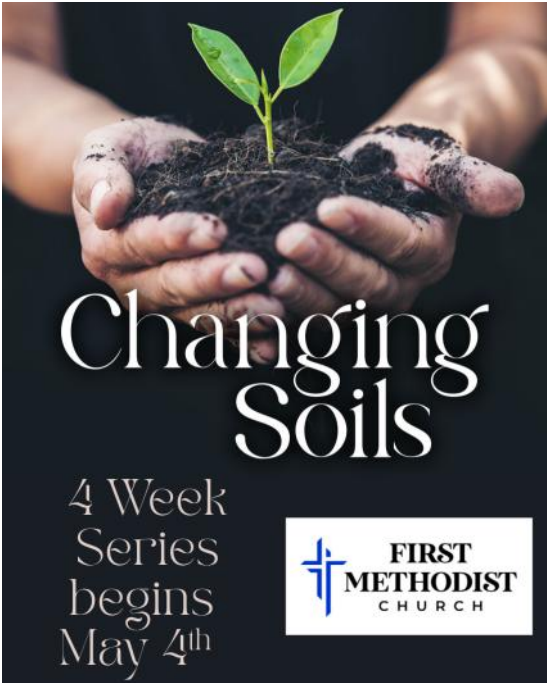
MAY 2025 NEWSLETTER



PASTOR'S CORNER

As I write this article, I notice a lot of preparation going on around me in different areas of life. In the church, we are preparing for Holy Week and Easter activities. Students and teachers in our public schools are preparing for spring break. All of our students and teachers are preparing for the end-of-year programs, tests, and activities. As I ride throughout the area, I see many farmers preparing the soil for the growing season. I thought about this last one and how much work goes into preparing for the growing season. To get to where seeds will grow and bring good results, a farmer or someone has many things that must be done to the ground. Now, you will have to talk to Rachel Grantham or a farmer about all of the ins and outs of this; they don't teach this kind of stuff in seminary. But, Jesus does teach us about soil and the importance of being on good soil in Matthew 13. Our focus during May will be on Discipleship and how we are not just to be disciples of Jesus but be disciples who make disciples. We will begin by looking at the parable of the four soils from Matthew 13. We will consider where we are in this life, whether we are on good soil hearing the word of God or living differently because of our hearing and belief.

After that, we will explore what it looks like to pray like a disciple maker, engage the lost, and disciple someone. Please join us this month as we explore this series on changing soils and what it looks like to be disciples who make disciples.
Blessings,
Pastor Matt pastor@fmcnc.org



Prayer List

Caroline Butler, Wayne Boyette, Ethan Youngblood, Mary Margaret Hobbs, Homer Morris, Debra Morris, Sherri Fonbille, Brendan Capparuccia, Jane Waters, Jared Hall, Pam Griffin, Caroline Cleary, Wayne Tew, Louetta Carr, Pat Warrick, Emery Walker, JoAnn Westbrook, Janet Johnson, Brantley Williamson, Candi Kerhoulas, Brandi Apperson Connelly, Cheryl Moore, Wes Keen, Bobby Beard, Frances Pearson, Zachery Johnson, Ronnie Wheeler, Steve Baker, Mike & Myra Humphrey, Glenn Brewer, Phil Ferrell, Bryson Capps, Ed Owen, Merry Wicke, Greg Moore, Jimmy Smith, Carolyn Wrench, Wayne Reynolds, Angie Hall, Danny Dyson, Violet White

Those who are homebound

Eva Creed, Mary Humphrey, Ruth Godwin, Barbara Carr

Those who are in long term care

Loraine Butler, Margaret Oates, Anthony Balkcum, Pat Green

First Church Music Corner

Dear Church Family,

*“Since Jesus came into my heart,
Since Jesus came into my heart,
Floods of joy o’er my soul like the sea billows roll,
Since Jesus came into my heart.”*

A few weeks ago you may remember that we sang the hymn “Since Jesus Came into My Heart” (no. 552). This hymn speaks of the joy we have in knowing Christ. This is a good reason to sing out!

This hymn was written by Rufus H. McDaniel. According to the book “The Singers and Their Songs”, McDaniel was ordained in the Christian church in 1873. He found much joy in church music. He began writing hymns in the 1880s. He wrote, “I feel in my soul that God has something for me to do in brightening the experience of struggling souls. My chief desire is to be a blessing, if possible, to my fellow-men through these hymns and thereby glorify God in the name of his dear son ‘whose I am and whom I serve.’”

Amazingly, the lyrics to this hymn were penned just a year after McDaniel tragically lost his youngest son. What a testimony and an example! The text of this hymn affirms that when we consider our salvation through Jesus Christ, there is a joy that is beyond worldly comprehension. Even in the midst of great sorrow, grieving, and loss, we, as Christians, can sing with the joy of resurrection power. The last stanza of the hymn looks forward to the happiness of an eternity spent in heaven for those who believe and have Jesus in their hearts.

“I shall go there to dwell in that city, I know,
Since Jesus came into my heart!
And I’m happy, so happy, as onward I go,
Since Jesus came into my heart!”

As we continue to reflect on Christ’s Resurrection this season, let us try and sing with the happiness and joy that only He can provide.

For more information about this beautiful hymn and its story check out the following article by Yvette Lau. <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/history-of-hymns-since-jesus-came-into-my-heart>

As a reminder, the children’s choirs will sing in worship on May 4th. This will be the last time they sing in worship until the Fall.

In Christ,
Marquita Someliana-Lauer, Organist, etc.
(910) 548-2719
music@fmcnc.org

First Kids Corner

Abby Tomell-children@fmcnc.org

Happy May! If you are anything like me, May tends to find you with a long to-do list and an almost empty tank. Attending school events feels like a part time job within itself. But take heart, summer is near, and so is Jesus. How amazing is it that God understands all of this and thankfully His patience does not wear thin. So, hang in there friends, the lighter summer schedule is just around the corner.

That being said, VBS is June 8-11 from 5:30-8. The registration link can be found on our website and on our Facebook page. Our theme this year is Road Trip (on the road with Jesus). If you would like to help decorate, please see either myself or Leslie.

Our Easter butterflies were once again a reminder of how beautiful things can come out of the dark. Thank you to all who helped make Palm Sunday, the Easter egg hunt, and Easter morning such a success. You are much appreciated.

Summer Sunday School schedules will start next month. We will have one Sunday School class for all K-5. We will also move to one church service, as well.

Lastly, a huge shout out to Holly for all that she does for our littles. She loves on them and teaches them with a full heart, and it clearly shows. Thank you, Ms. Holly. You are seen, appreciated, and loved!

"While we were still weak, at the right moment, Christ died for ungodly people. It isn't often that someone will die for a righteous person, though maybe someone might dare to die for a good person. But God shows his love for us, because while we were still sinners Christ died for us." Romans 5:6-8 CEB

Whether we are at home, a friend's house, or at a restaurant, when we sit at a table, we eat. So, the obvious thing to do when we come to Christ's table is eat. When we eat at Christ's table we Experience Atonement and Transformation. Before we dive into the E.A.T. acronym, we need to understand what the table is and how we approach it.

At Christ's table, there is always a seat open for any seeking salvation and a relationship with God. All of the seats are the same, there is no seat better than the other. It is where atonement for sin is found and the beginning to a new life for some and the continuance of a new life for others occurs. When approaching this table, we have to recognize the sin in our lives. This is spiritual hunger. The way that this hunger is filled is through salvation in Jesus Christ. When we recognize the need of atonement for our sin through Christ, then we are able to sit and eat.

When we come to the table, we experience atonement. Atonement is reparation for the sin, the wrong, we have done against God. When Christ died on the cross, he made atonement for the sin of all the world creating the way to be right with God. Although the atonement for sin is available to us, we have to receive that atonement. The physical practice of this is through the receiving of the bread and juice in communion.

It is through atonement that we experience transformation. We begin to recognize that when Christ was crucified on the cross, our sinful nature was crucified with him. It is Christ who now lives and it is we who have died. (Galatians 2:20) We are transformed from the sinful person that sat down at the table into Christ who now leaves the table and goes into the world. As a recipient of grace, we now share grace through compelled service to those who are coming to the table.

Come to the table and E.A.T. Experience Atoning Transformation. Sit at the table often for it is Christ who quenches our spiritual hunger. When you get up from the table, serve others remembering that there is space at the table for all those who seek forgiveness from sin. May the grace and love of our Lord fill you and give you peace. Amen.

•

Joel Wise

May Youth Schedule

Sunday, May 4th - Youth Study @ 5pm

Sunday, May 11th - NO YOUTH

Sunday, May 18th - Youth Study @ 5pm

Sunday, May 25th - Youth Study @ 5pm

Registration for Youth Worship band ends May 11th.

Email youth@fmcnc.org to register.



May 15, 2025

**We will gather at the home of
Wayne & Lesa Moore, 502 Allen
St. Clinton, for a pool party,
hamburgers, hot dogs, and
homemade ice cream.**

4:00pm-6:00pm.



Meals On Wheels

5/9 Helen Hobson

5/23 Jane Spell

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Holly McMillen at 910-551-2917.

Birthday Cake Volunteers:

Shelia Steed, Sandra Pearson, Sarah Swartz

This ministry provides birthday cakes for handicapped adults. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Christy

Boyette @

wcboyette@intrstar.net.

Nursing Home Member Residents

Mary Gran - Anthony Balkcum,
P.O. Box 379 Clinton, NC 28329

Rolling Ridge - Loraine Butler
700 Mt. Olive Dr. Newton Grove,
NC 28366

First Baptist

Church

Food Bank

Collection

Sugar (2 lb. bag/box)

Mary and Martha Congregational Care Team

This team of volunteers works to provide care to each member of the church by delivering Sunday Morning flowers, meals, cards, visits, and calls. If you would like to be part of a team that takes communion to our friends that are homebound please contact Pastor Matt.

Skill Creations Ministry

Every month we have an opportunity to go and be a blessing to the residents at Skill Creations in Clinton.

Our time there includes a Bible Lesson, singing, and a craft. We enjoy some sweet fellowship with the residents at Skill Creations and leave blessed each time. You are welcome to join us each month for this great time of worship. Please meet at Skill Creations. If you have questions or want more information, contact Leslie Seals.

Worship Corner - May

Altar Guild:

Bob & Sue Williams

Ushers:

Volunteers Needed

Greeters:

Ida Johnson Circle

Acolyte Schedule: Please contact Sarah Stone at (910)990-9726 to sign your child up.

Chancel Flowers:

5/4 Tiffany Rivenbark

5/11 Tracy & Beth Pope

5/18 Mandy DuBose

5/25 Tracy & Beth Pope

Flower Calendar 2025

Hi friends, there are plenty of **vacancies** ready to be claimed! To sign up please contact the church office or you may go online. Arrangements are \$55 for one slot or \$110 for both. Please make sure payments are made before your slot date.

Thank you,

Maykala Bishop, Administrative Assistant

May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7:00am National Day of Prayer Breakfast @ Rowan Baptist 12:00pm Prayer @ City Market 6:30pm Prayer Service @ Lisbon St. Baptist	2	3 5:00pm Speak Jesus Event @ Clinton Community Church
4 First Fellowship 9:30am Sunday School 10:00am Traditional Worship 11:00am 3:00pm Tim's Gifts Rise Up @ Hubbs Farm 5:00pm Youth	5 10:00am Intercessory Prayer 11:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Stewardship	6 9:00am Chat with M@ 10:00am Back Pack Buddies Packing 6:00pm NOW Team	7 10:00am Bible Recap 5:30pm Brass Ensemble 7:00pm Chancel Choir	8 10:00am Medicare 101 Seminar 7:00 pm Skills Creation Ministry	9	10
11 Mother's Day Son-Up 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Traditional Worship 11:00am NO Youth	12 10:00am Intercessory Prayer	13 9:00am Chat with M@ 7:00pm Admin Board	14 10:00am Bible Recap 5:30pm Brass Ensemble 7:00pm Chancel Choir	15 Birthday Cakes: Shelia Steed, Sandra Pearson, Sarah Swartz	16	17
18 Methodist Men Breakfast 8:00am Son Up 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Traditional Worship 11:00 5:00pm Youth	19 10:00am Intercessory Prayer 11:00am Ida Johnson Circle	20 9:00am Chat with M@ 6:30pm Eleanor Powell Circle	21 10:00am Bible Recap 7:00pm Chancel Choir	22	23	24
25 Son-Up 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Traditional Worship 11:00am 5:00pm Youth	26 NO Intercessory Prayer OFFICE CLOSED	27 9:00am Chat with M@	28 10:00am Bible Recap Study Group 7:00pm Chancel Choir	29	30	31 9:00am-3:00pm Lay Speaker Training

Birthdays & Anniversaries

	Anniversaries
2	Jonathan & Charlesanna Williams
8	Reid & Leigh Butler
27	Rex & Ellen Moody
31	Phillip & Elizabeth Andrews
	Birthdays
1	Janet Sargent
2	Caroline Evans
3	Lisa Turlington, Patrick O'Quinn
4	Kevin Raynor, Tyler Baxter, Joel Wise
6	Steve Williams, Katie Holland
7	Luke Swartz
8	Anna Keith Rivenbark
9	Doris Gore
10	Beth Pope, Avery Driver
12	Helen Griffin
13	Ashley Szulak
14	Brittany Serafini, Sarah Lane
15	Marquita Someliana-Lauer, Kay McClanahan
17	Alex Holland, Johnny Vann
19	Blake King
20	Will Andrews
23	Camille Kleine, Alan Williams
26	Joe Bell, Spell Carr
27	Rachel Schuber
29	Anthony Steed, Christy Boyette
31	CharlesAnna Williams, Kalyn Herring

Medicare 101

FREE EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR

YOU'LL DISCOVER ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS:

- If I'm still working and have insurance, do I have to join Medicare?
- What's the difference between Medicare plans A, B, C, D...?
- I keep hearing about Medicare changes. How will they affect me?
- Medicare Scams - Facebook ads, telesales, etc. What to know?
- Q & A after the presentation



208 Sampson St. Clinton, NC 28328



919-619-1196
tpdunlapinsurance@gmail.com

May 8, 2025
10:00 am



FIRST METHODIST CHURCH



Change *For life*

It's that time of year when we collect change for Life Line of Sampson. Bottles will be distributed Sunday, May 4th.



Your change, changes LIVES!

Help us provide LIFE, LOVE, & SUPPORT to moms, dads, & babies!





May 1st

National

Day of Prayer

7 am Rowan Baptist

12 pm Farmers Market

6:30 pm Lisbon Street Missionary Baptist

Tim's Gift invites you to our 14th Annual Rise Up Christian Event!



SUNDAY, MAY 4TH
• **HUBB'S FARM** •
3:30PM – 6:00PM
FREE ADMISSION!
FMI: WWW.TIMSGIFT.COM
910-592-1126
ALL AGES WEELCOME!

GREAT THINGS WILL BE HAPPENING...

**Holly Grove Praise Team &
Clinton Community Church Praise Band
MC – Billy Brewington**



- ❖ We will be collecting canned food items for the Salemburg Food Bank!
- ❖ Limited seating around the fire pit! You may bring your own lawn chair or blanket.
- ❖ Snack break(snacks provided) and Social Time
- ❖ Release your burdens into the FIRE PIT!

**YOUTH COME EARLY!
HAVE FUN ON THE FARM'S PLAY AREA.**

Join us at 3:00!

*IN CASE OF RAIN: Event will be held at
Clinton Community Church.*



"A local footprint of God's grace!"



10276 N US Hwy 421
Clinton, NC 28328

SUMMER MISSION TRIP

**JUNE 19-22
RODANTHE, NC
TO REGISTER**

**EMAIL
YOUTH@FMCNC.ORG**



**Baptism and
Membership Sunday
June 8th
10:00 am Worship Service**

If you are ready to make a public profession of your faith and be baptized, become a member of First Methodist or would like to renew your baptismal covenant and remember your baptism.

Contact the church office to connect with Pastor Matt
info@fmcnc.org 910-592-2035



2025



GRADUATE INFO NEEDED

As we near the end of the 2025 school year, it is time to collect information for our 2025 graduates. Please fill out the online form regarding your high school or college graduate so they may be recognized on our Graduate Sunday. Please contact the church office with any questions or concerns.



OFFICE VOLUNTEERS ★ NEEDED ★

The office is looking
for volunteers!

Times

Monday 2:00pm - 4:00pm
Tuesday 1:00pm - 3:00pm
Thursday 10:00am - 12:00pm

These times will be weekly. So if you would like to commit to a time to volunteer each week please let Maykala know!!

Duties:

- Answering the phone
- Assisting people who stop by
- Fold and stuff bulletins and newsletters
- Miscellaneous Tasks

**You may contact the office to
sign-up or sign-up online.**

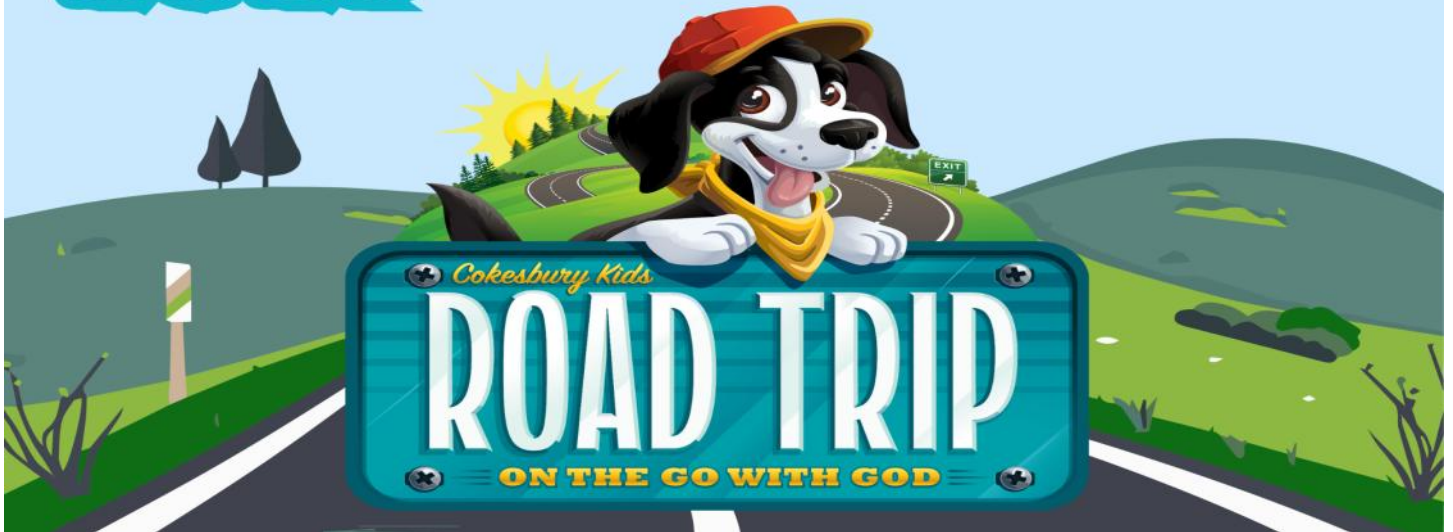
Office Contact Info

☎ 910-592-2035

✉ info@fmcnc.org

**VBS
2025**

Registration for VBS
opens this week!



Speak JESUS

COMMUNITY WORSHIP EVENT

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025

5 PM - 8 PM

1901 SUNSET AVENUE- CLINTON

Featuring
SPECIAL
GUESTS:

Kinfolk Worship, His Voice, Elevated Worship,
Holly Grove Worship, Katy Hales,
and Pastor Jeremy Hairr

Jukebox Summer Series Volume 2

Summer Sunday Schedule

June 8th- August 3rd

Sunday School 9:00 am

Worship 10:00 am

