

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Sunday, December 24, 2017, we welcomed Hal and Cindy Wilson and their son, Seth, into the membership of Wilkesboro UMC. We rejoice that they have chosen to make this congregation their home.

### A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR



When I was young I used to love the excitement of staying up to ring in a new year. The anticipation of a new beginning and the ability to redeem the past was intoxicating. My New Year's Eve celebration is quite a bit different now. Now we gather with a few family and friends at a lake house where we all struggle to stay awake until midnight, when we drink a sip or two of Champaign and then say "goodnight" and go to bed. Sometimes I wonder if our lack of enthusiasm is because we are old(er) or if it is because we have become more cynical that a new year actually holds any power for a new beginning. Perhaps our struggle comes from too many failed resolutions and disappointing redemption attempts.

This year I wonder what it would be like to claw our way out of our piles of discarded gym memberships and diet plans and make a resolution that truly has the power to change everything for us in the coming year. What if we resolved to be better Disciples in 2018? According to "Becoming a Disciple: A Lifelong Adventure" by Adolf Hansen and Colleagues there are eight elements that make a disciple.

A Disciple of Jesus Christ is a person who...

- ◇ Experiences the forgiveness and acceptance of God
- ◇ Follows the life and teachings of Jesus Christ
- ◇ Demonstrates the Fruit of the Spirit
- ◇ Shares in the life and witness of a faith community
- ◇ Serves in some form of ministry every day
- ◇ Participates in God's suffering and transformation of the world
- ◇ Anticipates a future life in the presence of God
- ◇ Yearns to lead others to become disciples

Can you imagine the transformative power of a new year, which included our striving to meet these characteristics each and every day? We would not only transform our lives but the lives of others around us and the life of our church! It would surely make 2018 a year to remember.

Peace and Blessing,  
Pastor Karen

### OLDER ADULTS MINISTRY



The Keenagers (older adults ministry), get together monthly for lunch & a daytrip. Plus they participate in mission projects such as sending Love Packages to church family serving in the military and Birthday/Bingo Party with residents of Westwood Hills. All are welcome to join the Keenagers for the journey!

- ⇒ Jan. 2nd - 11:30am. Village Inn Pizza, N. Wilkesboro
- ⇒ Jan. 16th - Meet at the church at 9:30am. Travel together to Shiloh General Store that has Amish goods in Hamptonville. Then enjoy lunch at Theo's Italian Restaurant in Jonesville. If you plan to participate, contact Jenny Miller, virginiamis@aol.com or 336-667-9495 (so no one gets left behind).

### MISSION: GUATEMALA



Wanda Sapp and Kay Hayes will travel to the mountains of Guatemala with a UMVIM (United Methodist Volunteers in Mission) Building Team this month. The team will continue work on a Methodist church building for a congregation of 300. Their current facility is too small and unsafe. Contributions are needed for this project as well as school supplies and airline fees for dresses/shorts [provided by the Sewing Bee mission project], tee shirts, and glasses [provided by the Lions Club eye-glasses program] to be distributed in the community. Please indicate "Guatemala Mission" on your donation to WUMC. All monetary contributions are appreciated. Please pray for the safety and effectiveness of the entire mission team.

### MISSION: RISE AGAINST HUNGER



(formerly Stop Hunger Now)  
\$5,800 is needed to pack 20,000 meals for the world's most destitute and hungry. Your financial gift to WUMC (memo: RAH) and help packaging meals in February 18, 2018 are welcomed.

- 🕒 Hunger kills more people each year than AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis combined. Source: FAO, The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2015
- 🕒 The vast majority of hungry people, 780 out of 795 million people, live in developing countries. Source: FAO, The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2015
- 🕒 Approximately 792.5 million people in the world do not get the food they need to live a healthy life (nearly 1 out of every 9 people). That figure is down 167 million over the past decade and is 216 million less than in 1990-1992. Source: 2016 FAO Stats
- 🕒 Visit [www.riseagainsthunger.org](http://www.riseagainsthunger.org) to learn more.

## CHURCH BUSINESS

### ALL FUNDS GIVING REPORT

11/26 \$ 3,830.25  
12/03 \$ 15,852.85  
12/10 \$ 7,269.00  
12/17 \$ 10,245.00

Administrative Council meeting minutes and Treasurer Reports are available in the Sanctuary narthex and on our website (via the *Newsletter* link).

General Budget YTD 12/16/2017

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Tithes and Offerings | \$364,275 |
| Expenses             | \$344,641 |

## CHURCH STAFF

**Senior Pastor: Karen Roberts**

karenroberts@wilkes.net

**Choir/Handbells: Jim Brooks**

jbrooks@wilkes.net

**Music Ministry Accompanist:**

**Cathy Freeman**

**Church Secretary: Regina Koons**

wumcadmin@wilkes.net

**Church Treasurer: Glenda Pierce**

treasurer@wilkes.net

## DONATIONS APPRECIATED

A bin is located in the Education Building labeled accordingly.

**CC/JAM/N** = Children's Church, JAM, & Nursery construction paper, cups (8oz or less), plates (small size), markers, paper towels, paperclips, snacks (Goldfish), stickers, tape, young child friendly toys...etc.

**HIH** = Hand In Hand Ministry

**BOX TOPS** for Education and school supplies for Moravian Falls Elementary: colored pencils, markers, highlighters, notebook paper...etc.

## ALTAR FLOWERS



Contact the church office if you would like to place flowers on the altar for Sunday worship.

## MISSION: SEWING BEE



The Sewing Bee mission project began in August 2014 making dresses and shorts for children in countries such as Costa Rica, Guatemala, Belize, and Honduras delivered by mission teams. Many thanks to the dozens of people who volunteer their time and donations to fulfill the purpose of this mission. We will continue to share these tangible expressions of God's love with the children around the world.

You are invited to participate in this "local" but international mission. The first Sewing Bee of 2018 is Saturday, January 6th from 8:30am until noon at the Shire's residence. Our 2018 campaign is to match our 2017 success of 1000 dresses and 1000 shorts! Extra help with cutting and ironing are always welcome! RSVP: Tanya Shire, tanyashire@aol.com or 336-927-0911.

Donations of supplies and materials are welcomed such as new or gently used pillowcases, bias tape, ric rac, and lace...etc.

## Children's Ministry [K—5th Grade]

The Children's Ministry invites Pre-K through 5th grade aged children to be involved: "Children's Church" during Sunday morning services, Sunday School at 10am, and on Wednesdays the J.A.M. (Jesus And Me) group meets at 6:30pm for mission projects & fun activities.



The J.A.M. group handed out 160 donated gloves during the Christmas parade, December 2nd, along with church information and the JAM motto "being the helping hands of Jesus". Eighteen children and adults participated (and two dogs). Congratulations to those who had

a helping hand in creating the float! They won the Grand Marshal award. Thanks to Taylor & Jean Brown for driving their truck and to all those who donated. On December 20th the group enjoyed singing Christmas carols to residents in Rose Glen Village. More information to come soon regarding their Spring project: Growing a garden of fresh vegetables to give to the local homeless shelter and His Light Ministries.



## WOMEN'S & MEN'S MINISTRY—UMW & UMM



New faces are invited to join the United Methodist Women & Men on the 1st Tuesday each month for fellowship and a meal at 6pm. Both groups participate in missions and outreaches throughout the year such as providing meals to homebound church members and Wilkes Circles of Care training students, the annual UMM Golf Tournament, human trafficking awareness event, blood drives, and more.

⇒ Jan. 2nd: the Women's executive committee will meet at 5:30pm; the Women & Men will gather for spaghetti dinner (meat sauce, garlic bread, salad, and desserts) at 6pm; both will hold their member meetings at 6:30pm.

Reminder: Bring food items, bottled water, paper products, etc. for the Catherine H. Barber Memorial Homeless Shelter in North Wilkesboro.

## JANUARY CELEBRATIONS

### Happy Birthday!

**1** RAY BESHEARS, JIM DAY, BECKY LAKEY, RAY RICH; **2** KATHY BENFIELD, JACKIE MCENTIRE, RACHEL MILLER; **3** JIM DAVENPORT, CAROLINE RANDOLPH, LAURA SNYDER; **4** PAM WHITTINGTON; **5** HAILEY DILLS, HERB TAYLOR; **6** ROSIE DRUM; **7** TRENTON GREENE, TREVOR GREENE, AIDYN HARKLESS; **8** TERRI GROCE, LINDSAY WARD; **9** TOM KINLAW; **10** JOSEPH BUMGARNER, JOSHUA CECIL, TERRY PIERCE; **12** MATT PERKINS, CYNTHIA STURDIVANT; **13** ANSLEY JOYCE, MISTY SMITHEY, PAUL SUMMERFORD II; **14** JEREMY DULL, ROB THORNBURG; **15** ASHLYN CHAVEZ, MODIO CHAVEZ II, MATT HARROLD; **16** KRIS ARMSTRONG; **17** CATHY FREEMAN, SHIRLEY INSCORE; **18** STEPHEN DILLS, TERRY HAYES; **20** PAUL BARELSKI, JAKE SHEPARD; **21** TIMOTHY BALDINGER; **22** STAN CLARK, CARY ROUSSEAU; **24** LEIGH COMBS, MOLLY KOLSTAD; **25** REBEKAH LAKEY, SONNY THOMAS III; **28** JOHN YORK; **30** VAN SOUTHER, CLAYTON WARD; **31** BILL ALEXANDER JR

### Happy Anniversary!

**5** TOMMY & CAROLYN PRICE; **21** TODD & BETH HUBBARD; **27** KEN & KIM HAYES; **27** TERRY & LEAH HAYES

### THANK YOU

Dear Wilkesboro United Methodist Church,  
Thank you so much for the kind thoughts and extremely generous gift during this difficult time. It will be very helpful to us and greatly appreciated. We don't know how to thank you for such a kind act.

~ Love Kate, Beth, and Chuck Campbell  
[Charles & Joyce Campbell's son and family affected by the CA forest fires]

Season's Greetings, May the spirit of the season fill your heart with peace, love, & joy. Thank you for all you have done for the shelter throughout the year!

~ Thanks, SAFE, Inc.

Dear Church Family,  
We would like to offer our heartfelt Thank-You for all the Prayers, concerns, and visits for and with Dad, during his life, especially during the past six years. Your love and support has meant and means so much to us all. We are so Blessed to have such a loving and giving Church Family.

~ With our Gratitude and Love, The Family of Troy Carpenter  
(Becky and Jerry Kilby)



## YOUTH MINISTRY

**Sunday Mornings: 10am**

**Sunday Nights: 4pm**

**Wednesday Nights:**

**6pm (\$5 for meal) + Bible Study**

**Sunday School Youth meetings**

**at 10am with Donnie Thornton.**

**Sunday Night Youth "Confirm" class**

**at 4pm with Pastor Karen.**

**Wednesday Night Youth meetings**

**6:30pm after Fellowship Supper**

**with Cary Rousseau,**

**caryrousseau@gmail.com.**

*Thanks to all who participated in giving blankets to the students of Moravian Falls Elementary on December 20th.*

**Valentine Banquet**

**February 3rd**


**Planning is in progress!**

**Rise Against Hunger**

**February 18th**

**See page 1 for RAH information.**

**Youth Inclement Weather Policy:**  
If school is canceled due to winter weather or if there is a huge chance of winter weather or if conditions are bad...Youth will NOT meet.

| JANUARY                                | 7   | 14   | 21  | 28   | Monday, January 8  |
|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| <b>Communion</b>                       | 9a Tbd<br>11a Tbd   |  |   |  | <b>UPPER ROOM PRAYER CENTER MINISTRY</b><br>8:00—10:00pm<br>Jim Davenport  |
| <b>Acolyte &amp; Crucifer</b>          | 9a Kaleb Thornton<br>11a Luke Shepard                                       | Seth Wilson<br>Jenny Smithey<br>Caitlyn Summers                      | Hannah Thornton<br>Sailym Kilby                                       | Angela Chavez<br>Jenny Smithey<br>Caitlyn Summers            |  |
| <b>Children's Church &amp; Nursery</b> | 9a Heather McGroarty<br>Kaleb Thornton<br>11a Luke Shepard<br>Misty Smithey | Tracey Harkless<br>Hannah Thornton<br>Vanya Greene<br>Angela Summers | Suzanna Chavez<br>Mady McGroarty<br>Caitlyn Summers<br>Susie Triplett | Tracey Harkless<br>Kaleb Thornton<br>Kim Hayes<br>Luna Hayes | <br>The Prayer Center is a 7-day-a-week (7am-11pm CST) intercessory prayer ministry staffed by Christian volunteers. To learn more visit <a href="http://www.upperroom.org">www.upperroom.org</a> . Contact the church office if interested in becoming involved. |
| <b>SS K-5</b>                          | 10a Tba   | Tba  | Tba   | Tba  |  |
| <b>CC &amp; SS Topic</b>               | Deep Blue Kids  | Deep Blue Kids   | Deep Blue Kids  | Deep Blue Kids   |  |
| <b>Ushers</b>                          | 9a Mike & Margaret Cooper<br>11a John Henry Groce, Billy Hayes, Mike Roope  |  |   |  |  |
| <b>Media</b>                           | 9a Jerry Kilby, Caleb Thornton, Seth Wilson<br>11a Mike Reid, Jacob Smithey |  |   |  |  |



# WILKESBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*exists to share the good news of Jesus Christ,  
comfort the troubled and embrace God's love.*



## Sundays

9:00am & 11:00am Worship  
10:00am Sunday School

## JANUARY 2018

- 1 Mon *New Year's Day*—Church Office Closed
- 2 Tue 10:00a Krafters  
11:30a Keenagers—Luncheon, p. 1  
5:30p UMW Executive Committee  
6:00p UMM, p. 2  
6:30p UMM Member Meeting, p. 2  
7:30p Jubilate Ringers
- 3 Wed 6:00p Fellowship Supper & Programs, p. 4
- 6 Sat 8:30a Mission—Sewing Bee, p. 2
- 7 Sun 9:00a+ Worship + Sunday School, p. 4  
4:00p Youth—"Confirm" Class, p. 3
- 8 Mon 8—10p The Upper Room Living Prayer Center Ministry
- 9 Tue 10:00a Krafters  
7:30p Jubilate Ringers
- 10 Wed 6:00p Fellowship Supper & Programs, p. 4
- 14 Sun 9:00a+ Worship + Sunday School, p. 4  
4:00p Youth—"Confirm" Class, p. 3
- 15 Mon *Martin Luther King, Jr. Day*—Church Office Closed
- 16 Tue 9:30a Keenagers—Daytrip, p. 1  
10:00a Krafters  
7:30p Jubilate Ringers
- 17 Wed 6:00p Fellowship Supper & Programs, p. 4
- 21 Sun 9:00a+ Worship + Sunday School, p. 4  
4:00p Youth—"Confirm" Class, p. 3  
6:00p Administrative Council
- 23 Tue 10:00a Krafters  
7:30p Jubilate Ringers
- 24 Wed 6:00p Fellowship Supper & Programs, p. 4
- 28 Sun 9:00a+ Worship + Sunday School, p. 4  
4:00p Youth—"Confirm" Class, p. 3
- 30 Tues 10:00a Krafters  
7:30p Jubilate Ringers
- 31 Wed 6:00p Fellowship Supper & Programs, p. 4

## Wednesday Nights

- |                              |                          |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 6:00pm Fellowship Supper     | 6:45pm Adult Bible Study |
| 6:30pm J.A.M. Children, p. 2 | 6:45pm Carilloners       |
| 6:30pm Youth, p. 3           | 7:45pm Chancel Choir     |



**Interested in preparing Wednesday's Fellowship Supper?** Simply reserve the night by writing the menu items and name of class, group, or family on the board in the kitchen. As of 12/27/17, all Wednesdays in January are available for signup.

## SAVE THE DATES

### February 3, 2018

### *Celebrating God's Love for Us*

A special evening of fellowship, dinner, fun and laughter with your spouse, favorite friends, and neighbors. Hosted by the Youth. Nursery is provided. Profits benefit Youth Missions.

### February 5, 2018

### *Relay for Life Card Party*

Hosted by WUMC Sharing the Flame. A delicious array of soups with a grilled cheese sandwich and homemade desserts are served while participants play Bridge, Dominoes, Rook, etc.—Benefit for American Cancer Society.

### February 18, 2018

### *Rise Against Hunger*

Meal Packaging Event. See page 1 for more information. Hosted by Missions Outreach Committee.

### February *Love Tree*

The Love Tree annually raises funds in the month of February to help those in need of financial assistance. Donations received will be utilized to help church members with crisis needs, St. Paul's Episcopal Crisis Ministry, and Wilkes Ministry of h.o.p.e.

**Wilkesboro United Methodist Church**  
309 W. Main Street / PO Box 197, Wilkesboro, NC 28697  
Office: (336)818-0552 \* Mon.-Fri. 9am—3pm  
[www.wilkesboroumc.com](http://www.wilkesboroumc.com)

*The Witness Monthly Newsletter—January 2018*

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT #2  
WILKESBORO NC



## INCLEMENT WEATHER

If a decision is made to cancel or alter meeting times, it will be posted via the following: TV-WXII; Radio-WIFM, WKBC, WWWC; Facebook; and via email/phonetree when possible.