



Wilkesboro United Methodist Church
309 West Main Street, Post Office Box 197
Wilkesboro, North Carolina 28697

PASTOR'S NOTE

September 2018

The recent passing of George McNeil prompted me to dig into my files and find the folder he gave me upon my arrival at Wilkesboro UMC. The file holds his brief account of the history of Wilkes County, specifically focused on the development of the Methodist churches in the area. George tells of the arrival of Bishop Francis Asbury, one of the first circuit riders in the American Colonies and the man that we most often credit with bringing Methodism to the state of North Carolina.

Upon his arrival in Wilkes County on February 3, 1785 Asbury wrote, "The people here are famous for talking about religion: and here and there is a horse thief." His journal is at times amusing and at times distressing as we can read of the toll taken on his body and soul as he traveled hundreds of miles on horseback attending to the souls of people who often showed no sympathy or regard for his work. Yet he persisted. From his first recorded quarterly meeting at the Gordon homestead (located where Wilkes Regional Medical Center now stands) we can see the steady rise of the Methodist people in Wilkes County.

The seeds of our church were planted by dedicated men and women like Bishop Asbury who traveled far and wide to preach in brush arbors, barns, living rooms, or anywhere else that would open their door and welcome him in. Devotion to spread God's word and the hospitality to welcome those who spread God's word is in the DNA of our Methodist Heritage.

The Discipleship Committee of Wilkesboro UMC plans to celebrate the tradition of inviting our neighbors over to hear God's Good News by holding a special "Camp Meeting" weekend. In appreciation for the past we invite everyone to come gather at our "homestead" of Wilkesboro UMC on Saturday, September 29th for an evening of fun and fellowship. You can come for a Hotdog supper by the campfire and enjoy some live music and fellowship and if you are so inclined, bring your tent or RV and stay the night! On Sunday morning, September 30th, we will have a breakfast followed by an Old Fashioned Hymn Sing and then ONE WORSHIP service, outdoors (weather permitting).

So, bring your chairs, bring your neighbors, bring your smile....come camp...come eat....come worship.

Peace,

Pastor Karen



Wilkesboro UMC
Invites you to
Homecoming Camp Meeting

September 29 & 30, 2018

Come Camp * Come Eat * Come Worship

(be sure to bring your own chairs)

Saturday, September 29:

2:00 pm - Camp Setup Begins

Tent camp sites are on the grassy field behind the church

RV's may park in the back lot for Dry-Camping (no water/electric)

6:00 pm – Hotdog Supper Fellowship by the fire

Bring a dessert to share

(supper sponsored by the Discipleship Committee and Methodist Men)

7:00 pm – Special Music & Games

Bring your favorite outdoor games to share

Sunday, September 30:

8:00 am – Coffee and Conversation to start the camper's day

9:30 am – Breakfast (sponsored by the United Methodist Women)

10:30 am – Old Fashioned Hymn Singing

11:00 am – Worship Outdoors (weather permitting)

Noon pm – Cleanup and Depart



**To reserve your camp spot call 336-818-0552
or email wumcadmin@wilkes.net**

**Non-Campers are invited to all meals and events.
Please RSVP as above and tell us "meals only"
to ensure we have enough food.**

Camping notes: Camping is primitive style, port-a-johns will be onsite,
bring your own snacks, water, and camp chairs