

WELCOME!!!

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

We welcome each of you to our worship services today.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES & TEACHERS

Blackburn Education Building

Nursery (Infant to Pre-K): Rm. 102 - Kelly Hayes, Alicia Gregory, Nicole Duenas

Sunday School

Children's Sunday School (Pre-K—5th Grade)
Room 104 Hannah Bland, Kate Putney, Ellen Poland, Amy Stadiem

Adult Classes

Bradshaw Class: Parlor, Barbara Robl
Transforming Lives Class: 2nd Floor, Room 202

Sanctuary Building

Adult Classes

Pathfinders Bible Study Class: Chapel, Michelle Newton

Woman to Woman: First Floor, Conference Room - Debbie Bradley

Hardison Discussion Class: 2nd Floor, Dave Williams, various class members



Want to receive our weekly newsletter? Scan the QR code or call the office at 252.237.6121

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
100 Green Street NE
Post Office Box 1423
Wilson, North Carolina 27894-1423

First United Methodist Church

100 Green St., NE, P. O. Box 1423
Wilson, NC 27894

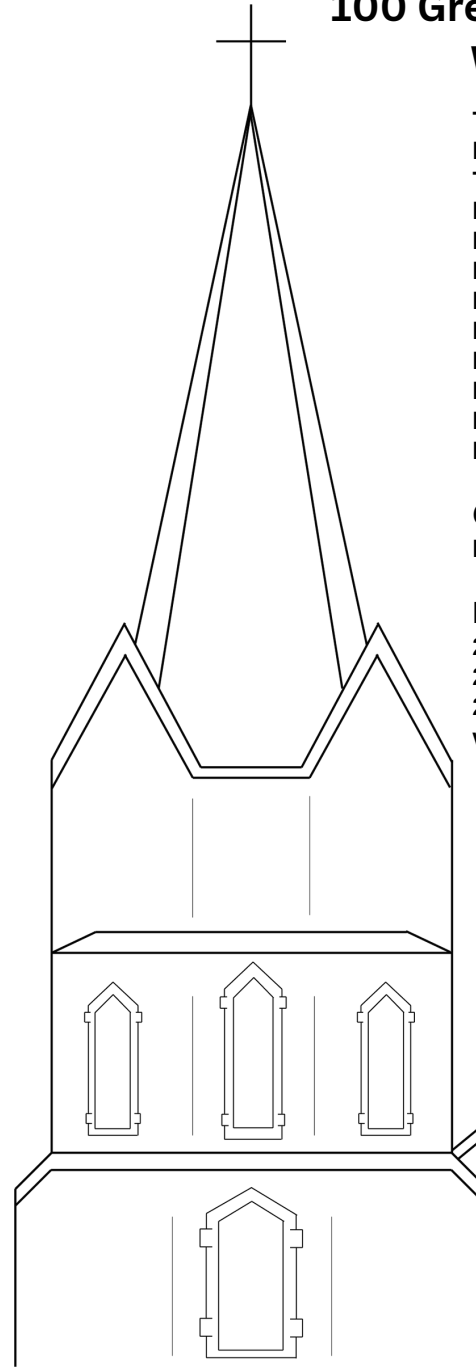
The Reverend Mike Frese, Senior Pastor
Dr. William M. Presnell, Pastor Emeritus
The Reverend Robert E. Bergland, Pastor Emeritus
Mr. David Bellows, Director of Traditional Music Ministries
Ms. Blythe Evans, Contemporary Worship Leader
Mrs. Hannah Bland, Director of Children and Family Ministries
Mr. Tiler Bland, Director of Youth Ministries
Mrs. Lindsey O'Neill, Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Shelley Gibson, Director of Communications
Mrs. Lorie Daniel, Director of Weekday School
Mrs. Fran Stafford, Financial Secretary
Mr. Boris Farmer, Custodian

Church Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Phone Numbers

252-237-6121 Office
252-291-4588 Weekday School
252-237-0699 FAX
www.fumcwilson.org



"Invite, Inspire, Ignite"

**January 5, 2025
Epiphany Sunday**

Find the 12 underlined letters hidden in the picture.

Jesus said to him,
“Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” At once the man
was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.



Parent/Child Dance: FUMC Kids is hosting their annual Parent/Child Dance on February 8 from 6 - 8 p.m. It is \$20 for one parent and one child and \$5 for additional children. Register by scanning the QR code, or by calling the church: 237-6121.



Parent's Night Out: FUMC Youth is hosting a babysitting fundraiser on February 14 from 6 to 9 p.m. The cost is \$20 for the first child and \$10 for additional children, with a maximum cost of \$40 per family. All ages are welcome, and dinner is included (chicken nuggets and fries). Register by scanning the QR code below, or by calling the church: 237-6121.



Volunteers Needed: We need 2 volunteers to help with sound during the 11 a.m. worship service. This consists mostly of muting and unmuting speakers/vocalist. You do not need to know how to run AV equipment to help! We will train you! Email Shelley to volunteer: shelleygibson@fumcwilson.org

Joyful Hands Circle: Will meet at the home of Donna Allen (3002B Westshire Drive N) on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. It will be the Pledge meeting for this year. Please be in prayer about giving of your love, time, and resources for the glory of God.

MUSIC MINISTRIES

The New Year is a great time to join one of our choirs!

CHILDREN'S CHOIR will resume rehearsals on January 5 at 5:00 p.m.

HANDBELL CHOIR will resume rehearsals on January 7 at 6:00 p.m.

CHANCEL CHOIR will resume rehearsals on January 8 at 6:30 p.m.

HARP CONCERT join us on January 17 at 7:00 p.m. to hear Heather Hills play a program of inspirational and sacred music. This concert is free. Donations accepted for the "Psalm 150" music fund.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

9:00 Contemporary Worship Service - Asbury
10:00 Adult Sunday School Children/Youth Small Groups - Sanctuary Building and Blackburn
11:00 Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary
5:00 Children's Choir & GSK

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

Weekday School Closed - Teacher Workday

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

8:30 Weekday School - Blackburn Weekday School
10:00 Staff Meeting - Conference Room
1:30 FMW Board Meeting - Conference Room
6:00 Handbell Choir Rehearsal - Watson Classroom

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

8:30 Weekday School - Blackburn Weekday School
6:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Music Suite

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

8:30 Weekday School - Blackburn Weekday School
6:00 Finance Committee Meeting - Watson Classroom
6:30 Praise Band Practice - Asbury Hall

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

8:30 Weekday School - Blackburn Weekday School

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

LOOKING AHEAD...

January 13: CHEW Packaging

January 14: Trustees Meeting

January 17: Harp Concert

February 8: Parent/Child Dance

February 9: Boy Scout Sunday

February 14: Parent's Night Out

February 21-23: Youth Ski Trip

February 24: CHEW Packaging

February 25: Missions & Outreach Meeting

March 2: Youth Sunday

April 13: Easter Egg Hunt

From the Pastor . . .

This Sunday we begin a sermon series entitled, “The Game of Life.” Milton Bradley created the precursor to the current Game of Life in 1860. It was called, The Checkered Game of Life, not because he was cynical, but because the game was played on a modified checkered board. Bradley created the game with a strong moral message. It was designed to offer participants the opportunity to learn about risks and rewards, as well as decisions and consequences.

Of course, the most basic rule of a game is that you must play to win. This is true about life as well. Taking action, living intentionally, and deciding wisely is key to finding joy and meaning in life. However, we can be guilty of abdicating our agency in life. As we turn the calendar and welcome the new year, we all get to decide how we will embrace the gift of 2025. Will we allow inertia to prevail and simply continue living like we did in 2024, or will we seek to make alterations that will break greater health, connection and meaning to our existence?

Our Scripture lesson is from John 5:1-8. It is the story of Jesus healing a man at the Pool of Bethesda. While the outcome of Jesus’ encounter with this man is positive, the man reveals that he had lost a sense of agency in his own life. We will reflect upon his situation and hear the gospel’s call to “take our turn” in life.

Mike Frese

UPHOLDING OUR VOWS TO THE CHURCH BY OUR PRAYERS

Remember those in hospitals, retirement and rest homes, and the sick and shut-ins with prayers, cards, calls, and visits.

BY OUR PRESENCE

The following numbers represent our in-person and livestream numbers for Sunday, Dec. 29, 2024:

10:00 am Combined Service

In-Person - 135 Online - 63

Total In-Person Attendance - 135

Total Online Worship Attendance - 63

5:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

In Person - 291 Online - 115

9:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

In Person - 110 Online - 52

BY OUR GIFTS

2024 Operating Budget	\$1,083,500
Weekly Requirement	\$20,837
Received December 29, 2024	\$12,708
YTD Requirement	\$1,083,500
Received YTD	\$1,069,212
Over (Under)	(\$14,288)

BY OUR SERVICE AND OUR WITNESS

Flowers for 2025: If you would like to remember or honor a loved one by putting flowers in the chancel for the 11:00 a.m. worship service for 2025, please email Lindsey O'Neill (lindseyoneill@fumcwilson.org) with the date you'd like to reserve or call the front office (252-237-6121). *1st Quarter Dates Available:* January 12, 19, February 2, 9, 16, 23, & March 2, 9, 16, 23.

Preschool Open Enrollment: Give your child a strong start with our fun, engaging, and nurturing program at FUMC Weekday School! We focus on early learning, creativity, and social emotional growth in a safe, supportive environment. Enrollment opens for current families and members of First Church-Wilson on Monday, Jan. 13 and to the public on Tuesday, Jan. 21. For more information or to set up a tour, please contact program director, Lorie Daniel at loriedaniel@fumcwilson.org.

The Worship of God

9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Hour

Epiphany Sunday

Gathering of God’s People

Sharing in Song

**LEAD ON GOOD SHEPHERD
CALL IT GRACE**

Praise Band

Welcome and Announcements

Children’s Moments

Isaiah 6:1-8

First Lesson

Morning Prayer

Special Music

TRUST IN GOD
(Please sign and pass the attendance pad)

Praise Band

Prayer of Dedication

Second Lesson

John 5:1-8 – Pool of Bethesda
WORD FOR THE DAY

Morning Message

“Take Your Turn”

Reverend Mike Frese

Holy Communion

OUR RESPONSE

Sending Forth

NEW WINE

Praise Band

Sound Operator: Bill Bass

ProPresenter: Johna Kite

Video: Eddie Reel

Reader: Heather Williams

Greeters: The Stinagle Family

We are so grateful to all who give of their time and talents to our Praise Band. Thank you for leading in worship and for your ministry to our church!

The Worship of God

11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Hour
Epiphany Sunday

Please let the first note of the prelude be a call to silent meditation.

PRELUDE "How Brightly Shines The Morningstar, BuxWV 223" D. Buxtehude

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+HYMN NO. 254 "We Three Kings" KINGS OF ORIENT

CHORAL INTROIT "Behold That Star!" J. BIRNER

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day He rose from the dead;
He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

+HYMN NO. 71 GLORIA PATRI GREATOREX

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 6:1-8 OT pages 635-636

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Please sign and pass the attendance pads.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Songs Of Thankfulness And Praise" D. Jackson

+HYMN NO. 95 DOXOLOGY OLD 100th

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

+SECOND LESSON John 5:1-8 – Pool of Bethesda NT page 96

MORNING MESSAGE "Take Your Turn" Reverend Mike Frese

HOLY COMMUNION

Everyone is invited to join in the singing of the Communion hymns.

Improvisation on 'Picardy' Anonymous
Hymn 626 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence PICARDY
Hymn 184 Of The Father's Love Begotten DIVINUM MYSTERIUM
Prelude on 'Of The Father's Love Begotten' W. Held

+HYMN NO. 419 "I Am Thine, O Lord" I AM THINE

+DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

+A TIME OF SILENCE AND TRINITY CHIMES

POSTLUDE "Praeludium in C Major" J. C. Kellner

+Those who are able, please stand.

The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God from The Flower Fund.

Participating with the clergy today:

Sound: Shelley Gibson

Reader: Michelle Newton

Video: Mark Godwin

Greeter: Carrie Maravi

Prepare for Next Sunday: *The Number 1 Rule for Life*

First Lesson: Romans 13: 8-10 (Galatians 5: 13-14)

Second Lesson: Matthew 7:12