

First Edition

Monthly Newsletter of FUMCFV

August 2014



A Note from the Pastor

Even after 13 years of being a pastor, it is still unsettling every spring when our bishop and district superintendents begin making appointments for the upcoming conference year. It is not easy for me to surrender control over where my family and I will live and serve. Especially when we are so happy at First UMC and as residents of the Fuquay-Varina community. I cannot express our gratitude that we are able to continue to live, serve, play and worship with you. You have allowed me the grace to grow in this role as pastor, while allowing me time to be a mother as well. Now as I face issues with aging parents, I am grateful that they are only 30 minutes away and that you have been both understanding and supportive when needs arise.

Thank you for the opportunity to be your pastor another year. I am the most blessed pastor in our conference for the privilege of serving here at First UMC.

Grace and peace,

Anne

Mark Your Calendar

8/6

Love Thy Neighbor

8/23-8/24

Youth Retreat

8/24

God Squad Kickoff

9/5

Family Fun Night

CREW News

The CREW is looking forward to a new year! We are kicking off our year by having a fall retreat at Camp Rockfish on August 23-24. All rising 6th graders thru 12th graders are invited to attend. Please contact Victoria Benditz for information on this trip.

Matthew Project

We are in need of several items for our Matthew Project.

kitchen table and chairs (6 person seating)

2 recliners or living room chairs

baby clothes

refrigerator

microwave

Please contact the church office if you have any of these items.

Wednesday Night Dinners

Fellowships meals will resume the 3rd Wednesday in September.

There will be a meal on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of October and November. The last meal will be the 1st Wednesday in December. Groups have signed up to host meals in October. If a group is interested in hosting a meal please contact the church office, Sally Stewart, or Jeanne Elks.



Love Thy Neighbor: [Wednesday, August 6th at 11:20am](#)

Our next Love Thy Neighbor meal at West Jones Street Park is [on Wednesday, August 6th at 11:20am](#). This ministry provides a meal the first Wednesday of each month to our neighbors in need. We also enjoy a wonderful time of fellowship together! We will meet at the church and then head over to the park together.

We are in need of the following items for the meal:

- ~1 large chicken salad, 1 large egg salad, 1 large tuna salad
- ~bread: large round rolls
- ~sliced lettuce and tomato
- ~4 bags of chips
- ~2 large fruit salads
- ~2 desserts
- ~4 sodas

Please contact Beth at bmunzenmaier@fumcfv.org if you would be willing to provide any of these items. You can bring the food to church on Tuesday or Wednesday. Also, please contact Beth if you can set up [at 10:30am](#).





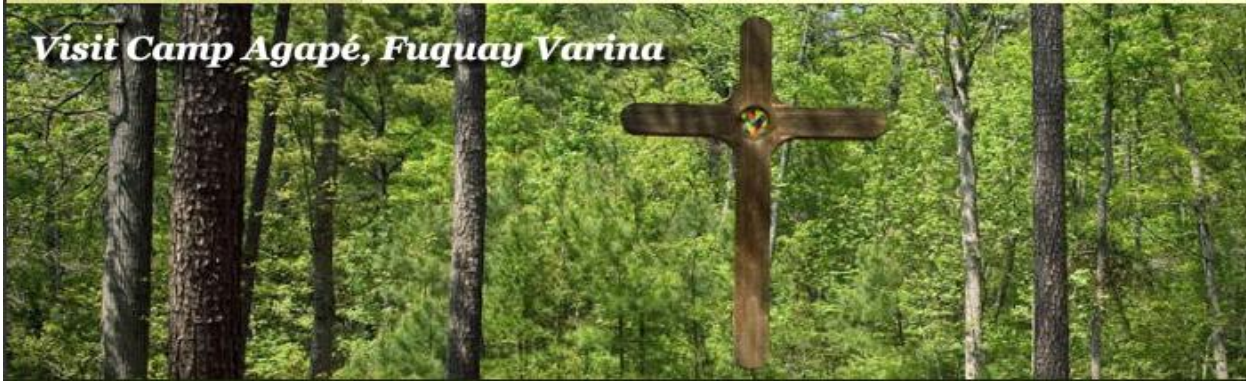
Laser Tag
Huge Slides
Rope and
Tire Swings
Basketball,
Ping-Pong
Sand Pit and
Sand Volley-
ball

**FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 6TH
6:30-8:30 PM**

first church family night

Join us for a fun night with your church family! We will play from 6:30-8:30pm. Bring your own picnic supper or hotdogs to cook over the campfire. Remember to wear clothing to cover your swimsuit and also bring a towel.

Visit Camp Agapé, Fuquay Varina



GOD SQUAD KICK-OFF PICNIC

August 24th

12:30-4:00PM

You are invited to join God Squad at First United Methodist Church of Fuquay-Varina! God Squad is a group for 3rd-5th graders that meets twice a month for supper, fellowship, Bible lessons, games and activities. We will celebrate the new year with a kickoff picnic at Camp Agape! Please have your child at church by 12:30pm dressed in old clothing and closed toe shoes. If your child would like to play in the mud pit, please send a change of clothing. We will return to church at 4pm.

Picnic Lunch,
S'mores at Fire
Pit, Lakeside
Chapel

Four Square
and Nine
Square

Fishing at the
Lake

Gaga Ball,
Basketball,
Sand Volleyball

Mud Pit, Games



Attention Facebook Users

If you are on Facebook, please "Like" the church page "First United Methodist Church of Fuquay Varina". During the summer we have begun a "where is it" game. I post pictures from around the church and see if anyone can guess where it may be. There have been some stumpers already and some many have guessed correctly! Come join the fun!

Also, on the church's page you'll get updates from the district, UMCOR (United Methodist Committee On Relief), the United Methodist Church, and other related updates that are informative and uplifting. Often there is information about what is going on around our own church as well! So come join us for a little fun and stay informed as well!

Prayer Ministry of First Church

We hope you are enjoying your summer! As always, whether you're near or far, we can lift you up in prayer. Send us an email, prayforme@fumcfv.org, to let us know what your praises and concerns are, we'd love to hear from you! Also, if you are in church there are pew prayer cards that can be filled out and placed in either the offering plates or baskets that are at both entries of the sanctuary.

Aug 5-13 we have a team from this church heading out on a mission trip. Please keep them all in your prayers, both those going and those they will be helping. We pray that, like most mission trips, it will be hard to tell who is helping and teaching more. We go to help but come back fuller than we left is the type of comment many come back telling us. Our prayer is that this will be the case again when our mission trippers come back from Haiti and the Ryan Epps Home for Children!

We presented the youth that went on their mission trip already with wristbands from our committee and will be presenting the Haiti group with them as well on Aug 3. The wristbands are printed on both sides. The outside says "Be Joyful in Hope, Patient in Affliction, Faithful in Prayer. Romans 12:12". The inside says "First UMC of FV, NC" So they go knowing they have our prayers with them and they know to whom they will be returning, to share stories and pictures, to bear witness to all God has done through them and for them.

On August 3 & 10 there will be an insert in the bulletin for everyone to take home and pray over. It will have information on who is going, when and what they will be doing (as best as they know).

Our Prayer Team here at First Church is open to all that wish to pray for the members, family and friends of our church family. If you feel God nudging you to join our team, please speak with me or send me an email. There is always room for more pray-ers on our team!

May God's grace and peace be with you,

Debbie White

Prayer team coordinator

prayforme@fumcfv.org

919-285-4592



New
Choir Members
Welcome!

First UMC offers a variety of opportunities in Music Ministry. From singing to handbells and instruments; From 4 year olds to 94 year olds; there is a place for you to



All groups will be starting for the fall with all new music as we prepare for Advent and Christmas Ages 4 year olds- 5th grade
Weekly rehearsals Sundays, 4:15-5:00pm beginning September 7

Children's
Choir



8:30 Music Team Grade 6- Adults
rehearsals on 2nd and 4th Sundays 5-6:30pm



Grace Notes Intermediate Handbell Choir

Weekly rehearsals Tuesdays, 7:00-8:15pm beginning September

Genesis Gemtones Beginning Handbell Choir

weekly rehearsals Mondays, 5:30-6:30pm beginning

Chancel Choir Weekly Rehearsals
Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30pm beginning August 2



Instrumental Ensemble

TBD Contact David Markle



This summer was filled with a variety of music by our very talented First UMC members. Thank you for sharing the gift of music in worship this summer!

Garrett Family,

Pat Kellam,

Women's Ensemble,

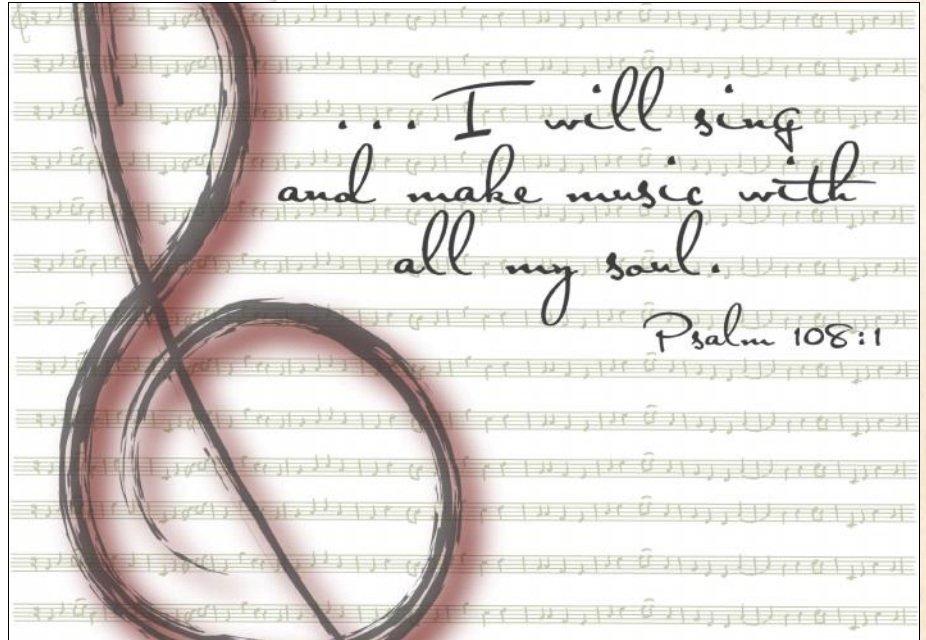
Men's Ensemble,

David Markle,

Will Reams,

Phyllis Dewar

Denise Dianaty.



Coming this Fall!



Annual Mum Sale Vibrant, hearty mums will be available in September. Your purchase supports the Music Ministry at First Church. Orders begin August 24.

Now is the time to start gathering items for the Annual Music Ministry Yard Sale on Saturday, October 10. Furniture, Kitchen Items, Home Decor, Electronics, Toys, Baby equipment, Books, CDs DVDs, Tools, Sports equipment, Holiday decorations etc. will be accepted. Contact Victoria Benditz regarding clothing donations.



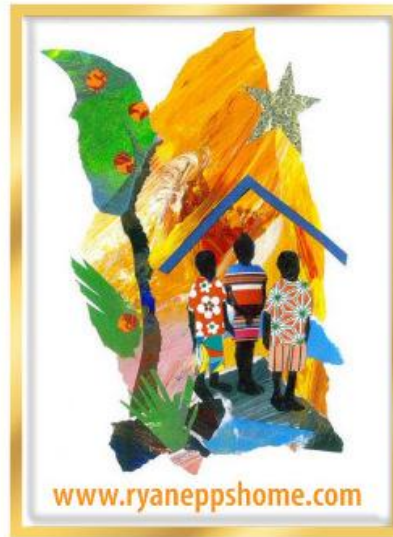
Ryan Epps Home for Children is a safe haven for orphaned boys and girls in Haiti. We believe that children are the future even in such an impoverished place as Haiti. It is therefore our mission to provide these young ones a place which is nurturing, safe, and welcoming. Here they can be raised with attention to their physical, intellectual and spiritual growth in an atmosphere of Christian love.

Haiti Mission Trip

Our Mission team will be leaving on Tuesday, August 5th and returning Wednesday, August 13th. We will be serving at the Ryan Epps Home for Children. Our team will work with the children of the orphanage, do manual labor in the community, prepare meals for the local families and worship alongside those in the community.

Meet the members of our team:

1. Hayden Campbell
2. Steve Campbell
3. Katrin Haege-Gardner
4. Marilyn Gardner
5. Marion Haege-Gardner
6. Laura Garner
7. Julie Gilbert
8. Carrie Jackson
9. Matt Jackson
10. Dana Vaughn



Prayers for our team would be greatly appreciated while we are in Haiti. Please pray specifically for our safety, protection of our health, our families at home, the people we will be serving, and that we will be molded and changed to be more like Christ.

We would like to extend a big thank you to our congregation for supporting this trip! We will be delivering a huge supply of fabric/thread, seeds, toy cars, hair accessories and school supplies to the children and people of Michaud. Thanks to your donations we will also be able to feed over 200 families through our rice and beans ministry!




Birthdays

8/2	Josh Gaines	8/18	Laura Kendall
8/2	Karen Garrett	8/20	Tami Ashworth
8/3	Bob Bogardus	8/21	Mary Collins
8/3	Sarah Campbell	8/24	Brad Peele
8/3	John Collins	8/24	Rebecca Welch
8/5	Anna Akins	8/26	Carol Hartley
8/5	Gerald Gibbs	8/27	Shirley Fields
8/7	Emily Holloway	8/28	Angela Cameron
8/8	Barbara Hackney	8/28	Laeron Roberts
8/8	Anna Parker	8/29	Jean Borland
8/8	Rudy Seymour	8/29	Amy Lynn
8/9	Emily McFalls	8/30	Mike Austin
8/13	Vernelle Blue	8/30	Mona Fortune
8/16	Nancy Hartley	8/30	Marilyn Gardner

Anniversary

8/9	Richard & Mary Collins	8/16	Charles & Diana Schnitzlein
8/11	Mike & Carol Hartley	8/16	Derrick & Wendy Avery
8/12	Don & Sue Tripp	8/17	Jeff & Melissa Scherpereel
8/13	Rich & Beth Buck	8/17	Bryant & Rebecca Welch
8/14	Jay & Carole Root	8/18	Jared & Emily Jessee
8/16	Stu & Jeanne Gruggel	8/18	Jerry & Dana Vaughn



And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

— Romans 8:30