

Valdeese First United Methodist
Church
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i am thankful for....

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____



Kingdom Kids News



Wow!!! October sure was fun!! We had our first “Family Movie Night” and boy was it fun!!

We had Trunk or Treat and I enjoyed seeing all the fun costumes. GracePointe has started practice for their liturgical dance in December. We added “Acolytes” in our worship service in October. Each one has done a great job and have added so much to our worship, bringing the Light of Christ into our worship and taking the Light of Christ out into the World!! Anyone that is 9 years old or older is welcome to participate just let Susan Ogle or Lisa Roberts know that you are excited about joining the acolytes.

November looks to be just as FUN packed. On Sunday November 5, we will be packing Christmas Shoe Boxes. These boxes are prepared for Samaritan’s Purse to deliver to children all around the world. We have been collecting items for these boxes all year and now the fun part is here, packing the boxes. We will meet in the fellowship hall right after worship on Nov 5 to pack as many boxes as we can. We will also have pizza for lunch!! Packing boxes makes you hungry!!! Last year we packed around 85 boxes, so we will need all the help we can get!!

Next is Thanksgiving Day on November 23. This is one of my favorite days to celebrate.

This is a day for all of us to think of all the people, places and things that we are thankful for. We are going to do something special this Thanksgiving. There is “I am thankful list” with 10 lines to list what you are thankful for. Each child that brings Ms. Susan their list with all 10 lines completed will get a surprise!! We want to show each child how thankful we are for YOU!!!

Adults, make sure your children, grandchildren, any child, completes the thankful list!!

SAVE THE DATE!!! On Sunday, November 26, from 3-5pm, we are having “Advent Adventure”!!! We have some incredibly fun activities planned to help the children prepare for their Advent journey, such as Making Cookies, Crafts and a wonderful movie, “The Star”!!!

You don’t want to miss this!!! Love & Blessings, Ms. Susan

Follow Jesus. Make Disciples.
Change the World.

The Messenger

November 2023

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH VALDESE, NC



- ♦ **Pastor**
Bill Roberts
- ♦ **Director of Music**
Nancy Epley
- ♦ **Organist**
Nancy Epley
- ♦ **Secretary**
Joan Hogan
- ♦ **Custodian**
Pat Pons
- ♦ **Groundskeeper**
Larry Holden

My father, Charles Palmer “Charlie” Roberts, was born on November 1, 1927. If you follow such things, and I hope you do, you will realize that my father was born on All Saints’ Day, a fact that was never ignored by my father. He liked to remind us of the connection of his birthday with the honoring of all the saints of Jesus Christ each and every year.

There are some things I’d like you to know about my father as we approach his birthday. First of all, he loved corny jokes. The cornier the better. If you moaned instead of laughed, he laughed even harder. Today, such jokes are called “Dad Jokes”, and you can hear countless painful examples on the internet. We didn’t have that name for them during my childhood, so my brothers and I called it “Pop’s Corn”.

You should also know that my father couldn’t sing to save his life, but loved to sing at the top of his lungs, especially in church. When I was a kid, my friends would always sit near me, not because I was so popular, but so that they could hear how badly my father would sing each and every hymn. My father knew this. My father loved this. He would always remind us that the Bible tells us to make a joyful noise to the Lord. “It doesn’t say anything about being on key.” My father was never on key, but he was always joyful.

I think my father is the reason I grew up loving church. My father loved being in church. He taught Sunday School almost all of his adult life. He served on nearly every committee, especially the finance committee, and, along with my mother, seemed to be at church whenever the doors were opened. He stirred Brunswick stew all night long for the United Methodist Men’s annual fund raiser, and grabbed a shovel or a rake or a broom whenever there was work to be done.

My father knew Jesus Christ as his Savior and his friend, and he strove to love the Lord his God with all his heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love his neighbor as himself. By his own admission he was not a perfect man, but he was a saved man, and I thank God for him every day.

So, on November 1 of each year I get to celebrate a two-fer. I get to celebrate All Saints’ Day, remembering all the wonderful Christians who have had an impact on my life throughout the centuries in general and over my sixty-two years in particular. And, I get to celebrate my Dad. There are decades of Pop’s Corn stored inside my head, so if you hear me moaning on November 1, it will be moans of joyful celebration rather than sadness or pain.

I know my father and my mother are alive and well and having a wonderful time in heaven all thanks to their friend Jesus, who, due largely to my parents’ faithful witness, is my friend too. I miss their presence and yet feel their love each and every day, and the enduring smiles they give far outweigh any tears that may flow.

(cont’d)

On Sunday, November 5, during our regular 11:00 a.m. hour of worship, First UMC-Valdese will observe All Saints' Sunday. This will be a time to remember those members who departed from our earthly presence to enter God's eternal presence since FUMC-Valdese last observed All Saints' Sunday in November 2022, as well as to cherish all the living saints who are making a difference even today. This will be a wonderful time of worship, and I hope that you will all be present. Both tears and laughter will be welcome.

The Lord be with you!

Bill Roberts

Rev. Bill Roberts

A message from Beth Heile and Friends of the Valdese Rec (FVR)

FVR is hosting free Lunch & Learns for Adults in our fellowship hall. These occur the 3rd Thursday of each month.

To RSVP for lunch, email friendsofthevaldese-rec@gmail.com or call church office by Tuesday before event.

You may attend if you do not RSVP, but lunch is only guaranteed for those who reply

November 16
Guardian ad Litem
(advocating for kids in court)



Honoring our Saints on All Saints Day, November 5, 2023

Annie Homan	August 30, 1926—December 22, 2022
Anna Cox	March 6, 1955—January 24, 2023
Jean Dalmas	May 31, 1948—February 10, 2023
Helen Bernard	April 13, 1925—March 2, 2023
Ruth Neelands	May 11, 1943—April 8, 2023
Gary Delp	June 1, 1949—April 13, 2023
Linda Wilkinson	June 3, 1943—May 10, 2023
Jack Jonas	January 30, 1931—May 23, 2023



Cinderella Tea in honor of
Debra Gasper
November 4, 2023
2:00—3:30 pm (floating)
Home of Jen Boggs
Light refreshments served
All are invited, including young daughters and/or granddaughters.

What a gift!
Thank You Acolytes



November Fellowship Meals Menu

November 1: No Meal
November 8: Covered Dish
November 15: Ham, Potatoes, Green Beans, Cranberry Salad, Deviled Eggs & Roll
November 22: No Meal
November 29: Pinto Beans, Cornbread, Slaw, Pork Patty

First Wednesdays are Covered Dish (no charge).
Bring your favorite dish to share!!

Please use the brown envelopes in the pews to sign up weekly or monthly.
Cost: \$7/adult and \$4/child



Dinner Church
Tuesday, November 7 & 21st, 2023
Fellowship Hall -5:30 pm
Dinner Church is for all of us.

Dinner Church is built on the Rock of Jesus Christ.
Won't you please come and join us? We meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month from 5:30 -7:00 pm! Hope to see you there! -Jen Boggs

Pass Along Project

Norma Rains is looking for donations of Advent Books for the Pass Along Project. There is a box in the Narthex to place the books in and if possible please bring the books by November 5th.

Waldensian Presbyterian Food Pantry item for November is: Canned Soup



Dear FUMC Family,
Thank you all for your kind words, thoughtful gifts, and beautiful cards given to us at the luncheon this past Sunday, and the thoughtful cards and expressions of support throughout Pastor Appreciation month. I hope you know that the pastor and his wife appreciate all of you, too!

With Love, Bill & Lisa Roberts

Thank You



United Methodist Men will have their next Breakfast meeting on Sunday, November 5 @ 8:30 am.

We have plenty of room, come meet, eat and fellowship with us.

BackPack Ministry News

We continue to provide supplemental weekend food items for 32 students at Valdese Elementary, Heritage Middle School and Draughn High School. We appreciate the monetary donations for this ministry. Through our connection with school counselors, we were able to provide extra food for a family of 6 this month. Through God's plan, we were also able to share love and fellowship with this family at our recent Dinner Church and Fellowship Meal.



God is Good, All the Time!

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes & Change the World Offering
(Monies and items collected on the 3rd Sunday of each month)

Thank for supporting this offering! Our kids will pull the little red wagon to collect shoebox items as well on the 3rd Sunday so bring items to drop in wagon—The kids love the wagon!



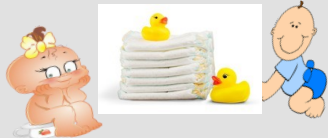
November 5th
Immediately following Worship
Join us for our Shoebox Packing Party
Pizza will be provided



Dry Bottoms Ministry Update

We certainly appreciate Bud Sweezy's help at the October giveaway as an interpreter and carrying items to cars. A special thanks also goes to Sharon Aikens, Bobbie Seagle and Pat Pons for working in the stockroom. If anyone is interested in assisting with this monthly ministry, please sign up on the Dry Bottoms door (1st floor). We saw a record 62 families involving 82 children. Laura Kelley and Anita Andrews' Agape quilting group continue to provide beautiful handmade items. We are so blessed to have received the grant award from the Community Foundation of Burke County and a donation from the Rutherford College Lions Club.

Thanks for your prayers and continued support.



Blessings,
Ingrid

Article for local newspaper

Jane Jones and Phyllis Sweezy represented the Dry Bottoms Ministry of Burke County at the Community Foundation of Burke County Annual Donor and Grantee Recognition Luncheon on October 24, 2023 at the Community House in Morganton. This ministry received a \$5,000 grant this year from Community Foundation to continue the distribution of diapers and baby supplies to



Burke County parents of children ages birth - 3 who need assistance. Ingrid Farrar is the director of Dry Bottoms Ministry which is held on the second Tuesday of each month from 3:30 - 5:30 pm in the former church nursery. Diaper donations and volunteers are greatly appreciated. Diapers may be left outside of the room. There is a signup sheet on the door for those willing to volunteer.

MUSIC NOTES

By the time you read this, the Month of Sundays will be over. What a wonderful month! Deb Gasper did a superb job of pulling all of these groups together and presenting all of us with music to live by. I will look forward to this next year and I hope you will, too.

Before we know it, Thanksgiving and Christmas will be upon us. This is a busy time for all of us for a variety of reasons. The choir and handbells will be working on music for Thanksgiving and for the Advent season. There is so much beautiful music for Advent and I am excited about the possibilities. Honestly, it make it difficult to decide what to sing!

Let us all prepare for the coming of our Savior. Let us not get so caught up in the "things" of Christmas that we forget the Reason for the Season - the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

In His Love, Nancy

