

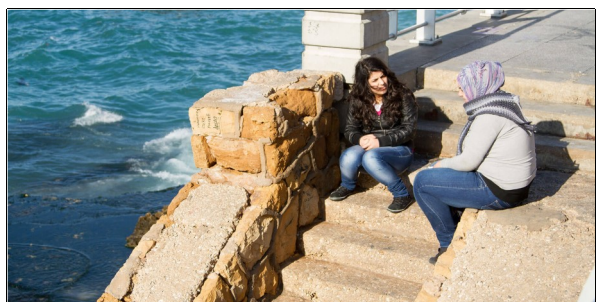
“Long before the Samaritan woman needed water the well was already dug to meet her need.”

John Chapter 4



Volume 1* Issue 6
June, 2023

First Troutman UMC
Troutman, N.C.



“Come and see a man who has told me everything I have done! Could this man be the Christ?” Many Samaritans in that city believed in Jesus because of the woman’s words when she testified, “He told me everything I have ever done.” John 4:29; 39

When you tell your story, it’s God who is responsible for changing people’s hearts. We are simply called to be ready and then to share what God has done in our lives. We have the power to share our story of faith. Scripture reminds us of that power. God’s Spirit lives inside you from the moment you first trust Christ as Lord and Savior. The Holy Spirit gives you the power to be His witness (Acts 1:8). We do not even have to muster up courage or even be an amazing speaker (1 Corinthians 2:1-5). Just be honest about who Christ is and what He’s done in your life.

God is already working in the lives of others. You cannot tell whether someone is moving toward or away from Him based on simple outward appearances (Acts 17: 26-27). Do not let assumptions keep you from asking others about their spiritual journey and sharing your story of how God has met you. God invites us to be a part of other people’s spiritual journey to faith (2 Corinthians 5:20). Your story might help connect someone to Jesus. We just have to be ready. We should always be ready to give a reason for the hope that we have in Christ (1 Peter 3:15). One great way to be prepared is to write out your spiritual story (your faith testimony) ahead of time. After you have written out

your story, practice it out loud a few times. Try recording yourself. Time it out, aiming for five minutes or less. Make sure what you’ve said is clear.

Ask God to bring someone to your mind—a friend, a family member, or an acquaintance—who doesn’t have a relationship with God yet. Then pray for God to draw that person to Himself. Ask God to help you see and take the opportunities He provides to share your story. He might give you that chance in the midst of everyday conversations, or you could set up a time to talk. Before you begin to share your story, ask permission. You might say, “Can I tell you a little about my spiritual experience.”

Sharing your story is not meant to be a one-way conversation. It is a chance to show you care by listening and taking an interest in the other person’s story. Ask questions to clarify what you have heard such as: “What have you tried on your spiritual journey, where are you now on your spiritual journey, where do you want to be on your spiritual journey?” Share your story in the power of the Holy Spirit and leave the results to God. No matter how someone responds, continue to pray for them. You never know how the Lord will move in someone’s life down the road. Sharing your story is not about accomplishing a task; it is about loving the person you are talking to—someone God loves (Ephesians 2:4-5) and wants to be in a relationship with. Who has God brought to your mind for you to share your story with this week? Pray for an opportunity to share with someone this week, take that step of faith.

Pastor Jeff Hamrick

Bible Study (Adults/Kids/Youth)

Weds. June 7th & 14th

6:30–7:30 PM

Bible Study Topic—Telling Your Story

Wonderful Wednesday Meals

Meals served from 5:30–6:20 PM

Weds. June 7th & 14th

Methodist Men

Tuesday, June 20th @ 6:30 PM

Meeting & eating At Talley House

WNCC Annual Conference

Emerging Community Session June 13th

Clergy Session—Thursday, June 15th

WNCC Annual Conference—6/16 - 6/18

Leadership Mtng w/Wesley Chapel

Sunday, June 4th @ 6:30 PM

Troutman First Fellowship Hall





Fun June Facts - Superman appears for the first time in D.C. Comics on June 1st. Queen Elizabeth II crowned as the Queen of England in 1953. June 4th Women’s Right to vote passed by Congress in 1919 (the 19th Amendment). First drive-in theater opens on June 6th in Camden, New Jersey. Graceland, Home of Elvis Presley opens on June 7th, 1982. Donald Duck makes his first appearance on June 9th in a short by Walt Disney. John Wayne dies on June 11th, 1979 from cancer. Phrase “Under God” added to pledge of Allegiance by Eisenhower.

Troutman First UMC - Notable June Birthday’s

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| June 1 - Julie Yager | June 2 - Samantha Lasker |
| June 2 - Perry Mills | June 8 - Tammy Whitener |
| June 8 - Donna Miller | June 10 - Sonya Yager |
| June 18 - Marsha Johnston | June 18 - Linda Troutman |
| June 18 - Carol Hebbard | June 20 - Linda McCabe |
| June 22 - Leigh Payne | |

Troutman First UMC - Anniversaries

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| June 7 - Shon & Stephanie White | June 16th—Aaron & Carrie Larson |
| June 29th - Jeff & Dawna Hamrick | |

Troutman First UMC Mission Statement

Discover

All eyes are opened to the grace and love of God and lives are transformed through the act of worship.

Develop

In a love and inclusive environment, disciples of Jesus Christ are nurtured and prepared.

Deploy—*We respond to needs locally and throughout the world as the Holy Spirit sends disciples forth to serve.*



First Troutman United Methodist

CONTACT



704 528-5110



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P.O. Box 717
204 Mills Avenue

SOCIAL



Facebook
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Upcoming Sermon Topics

June 4th - Trinity Sunday
 Win The Day—Sermon Series
Flip the Script—Genesis 50

June 11th —2nd Sunday After Pentecost
 Win The Day—Sermon Series
Kiss the Wave - Exodus 14

June 18th —3rd Sunday After Pentecost
 Father's Day
 Guest Speaker Pastor at Annual Conf.

June 25th —4th Sunday After Pentecost
Eat The Frog—Matthew 7, 12:43-45

During the Month of June – As we get ready to enter into a new season on an Emerging Cooperative Parish with Wesley Chapel UMC, we will look at how we can **“Win The Day.”** The first Sunday, we look at if we want to change our life, we have to be willing to change our story. The second Sunday, we serve a God who loves to take His people on journeys. It is a little scary when you do not know the territory, but we do not God alone, God is with us. The last Sunday, June 25th, we look at tasks that may be difficult to accomplish, but a frog is a big ugly task, one that you would rather not face. We will look at how to deal with the frogs in our lives. Come join us in worship as we study and learn how we can **win the day.**

Bible Study Series Month of June

In the month of June, we have two sessions before we take a short break for vacation when school is out for the summer. During this short break, we encourage personal and private study time, or form a study group with friends and keep in God's word. Our two week short session is entitled “Tell the Story.” Moses commanded Israel to make sure that their children knew the story of their journey of faith. Everyone of us has a story to tell. Not all of us has lived a life that is exactly the same as another. While the same God has been present to all of us, he has met each of us through unique experiences, situations, and individuals. In sharing our own personal faith stories with others, we encourage others to live lives that remain committed to the one true God who richly blesses His people with grace.

June 7th - Telling the story of God's work in your life is not an option—it is a commandment—Deut. 6:4-25

June 14th - Passing on the faith advances the kingdom of God on Earth—Titus 2:1-8.



TRY Again - *The Circle Maker* (Bible Study / Fast—Praying for Big Changes in our Church, Community & Our Life). Please sign up.

Looks like the study will be in July—sign up now. Troutman First and Wesley Chapel will begin a study and prayer fast entitled “*The Circle*

Maker.” In “*The Circle Maker*,” Pastor Mark Batterson shares powerful insights from the true legend of Honi the circle maker, a first-century Jewish sage whose bold prayer ended a drought and saved a generation. Drawing inspiration from his own experiences as a circle maker, Batterson will teach us how to pray in a new way by drawing prayer circles around your dreams, your family, your problems, and most importantly God's promises. In the process, you'll discover this simple yet life-changing truth: **GOD HONORS BOLD PRAYERS AND BOLD PRAYERS HONOR GOD.** Come discover that our God is big enough to enlarge our church, heal your marriage or your child. He is bigger than a positive MRI or a negative evaluation. Our God is bigger than our brokenness. I can't wait to see how our MIGHTY GOD is going to move in our church, town, and our lives. AMEN!



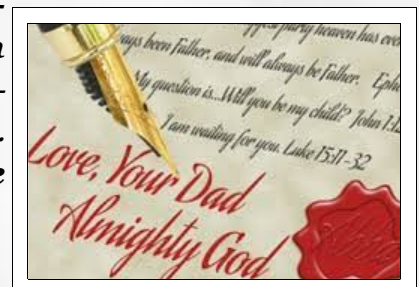
FATHER'S LOVE LETTER

An intimate message from God to you



My Child,

You may not know me, but I know everything about you. **Psalm 139:1.** I know when you sit down and when you rise up. **Psalm 139:2.** I am familiar with all your ways. **Psalm 139:3.** Even the very hairs on your head are numbered. **Matthew 10:29-31.** For you were made in my image. **Genesis 1:27.** In me you live and move and have your being. **Acts 17:38.** For you are my offspring. **Acts 17:28.** I knew you even before you were conceived. **Jeremiah 1:4-5.** I chose you when I planned creation. **Ephesians 1:11-12.** You were not a mistake, for all your days are written in my book. **Psalm 139:15-16.** I determined the exact time of your birth and where you would live. **Acts 17:26.** You are fearfully and wonderfully made. **Psalm 139:14.** I knit you together in your mother's womb. **Psalm 139:13.** And brought you forth on the day you were born. **Psalm 71:6.** I have been misrepresented by those who don't know me. **John 8:41-44.** I am not distant and angry, but am the complete expression of love. **1 John 4:16.** And it is my desire to lavish my love on you. **1 John 3:1.** Simply because you are my child and I am your father. **1 John 3:1.** I offer you more than your earthy father ever could. **Matthew 7:1.** For I am the perfect father. **Matthew 5:48.** Every good gift that you receive comes from my hand. **James 1:17.** For I am your provider and I meet all your needs. **Matthew 6:31-33.** My plan for your future has always been filled with hope. **Jeremiah 29:11.** Because I love you with an everlasting love. **Jeremiah 31:3.** My thoughts toward you are countless as the sand on the seashore. **Psalm 139:17-18.** And I rejoice over you with singing. **Zephaniah 3:17.** I will never stop doing good to you. **Jeremiah 32:40.** For you are my treasured possession. **Exodus 19:5.** I desire to establish you with all my heart and my soul. **Jeremiah 32:41.** And I want to show you great and marvelous things. **Jeremiah 33:3.** If you seek me with all your heart, you will find me. **Deuteronomy 4:29.** Delight in me and I will give you the desires of your heart. **Psalm 37:4.** For it is I who gave you those desires. **Philippians 2:13.** I am able to do more for you than you could possibly imagine. **Ephesians 3:20.** For I am your greatest encourager. **2 Thessalonians 2:16-17.** I am also the Father who comforts you in all your troubles. **2 Corinthians 1:3-4.** When you are broken-hearted, I am close to you. **Psalm 34:18.** As a shepherd carries a lamb, I have carried you close to my heart. **Isaiah 40:11.** One day I will wipe away every tear from your eyes. **Revelation 21:3-4.** And I'll take away all the pain you have suffered on this earth. **Revelation 21:3-4.** I am your Father, and I love you even as I love my son, Jesus. **John 17:23.** For in Jesus, my love for you is revealed. **John 17:26.** He is the exact representation of my being. **Hebrews 1:3.** He came to demonstrate that I am for you, not against you. **Romans 8:31.** And to tell you that I am not counting your sins. **2 Corinthians 5:18-19.** Jesus died so that you and I could be reconciled. **2 Corinthians 5:18-19.** His death was the ultimate expression of my love for you. **1 John 4:10.** I gave up everything I loved that I might gain your love. **Romans 8:31-32.** If you receive the gift of my son Jesus, you receive me. **1 John 2:23.** And nothing will ever separate you for I have always been Father, and will always be Father. **Ephesians 3:14-15.** My question is.. Will you be my child? **John 1:12-13.** I am waiting for you. **Luke 15:11-32.**





Coming July 2023 - Troutman Emerging Community Parishes

The North Carolina and Western North Carolina Conferences of The United Methodist Church (UMC) are thrilled to announce that they have each received a generous grant from The Duke Endowment to support the creation of new United Methodist faith communities and the strengthening of existing congregations within the UMC conferences. Over five years, these grants for \$5.25 million for each Conference will provide vital resources to help the conferences address the challenges posed by recent disaffiliations and continue to spread the message of Jesus' love and hope throughout the state of North Carolina.

The Duke Endowment grants will fund a range of initiatives, including resources for training and equipping pastors and lay leaders, developing innovative ministry programs, and embracing forward thinking as the conferences refocus and regear for this season of ministry. The grant will also provide the conferences a strategic opportunity to better understand the needs and opportunities for new faith communities and congregational revitalization in this post-disaffiliation environment.

Beginning July 1st, Troutman First and Wesley Chapel UMC will be partnered together in the Appalachian District as an Emerging Community with the recent growth coming into our areas and the large number of UMC churches disaffiliating in the Mooresville area that borders Troutman. There will be three Pastors assigned to the Troutman Emerging Community Parish—Rev. Jeff Hamrick, Rev. Todd McCullough will be Community Pastors, and Rev. Tommy Ingalls will be serving alongside as a part-time associate with hopes of becoming full-time within the year. Part of the Duke Endowment grant will cover portions of the three assigned pastors salaries and to help fund innovative outreach ideas to share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The North Carolina and Western North Carolina Conferences are committed to creating and strengthening welcoming and vibrant churches where people of all backgrounds can encounter the love of God and grow as disciples of Jesus. With the support of The Duke Endowment, the conferences will be better equipped to fulfill this mission and make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The three pastors assigned to the Emerging Troutman Parish are excited about the opportunities to working together to further the kingdom of God in our town and beyond.

Troutman First, will you pray, pray, pray, for vision, direction, for outreach. Pray that the message of God's love will spread to all within our community. That all will be welcomed. Pray how God can use you in spreading the good news of God's love for everyone. Remember, we are never too old to be used by God. Let His Holy Spirit lead and guide you, to be your strength, and shield as you share your story. Have you noticed there is a connection to what our Bible Study and sermon series is going to be in the month of June. Please come join us. We need everyone in this exciting challenge before each of us.



MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

Back 2 School Bash 2023

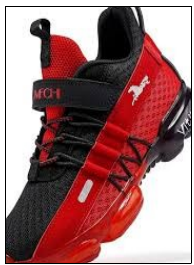
Back 2 School Bash Shoe Tags are here. Please consider helping with the Bash by purchasing Athletic Shoes and bringing back to the church by Sunday, June 25th.

Pink Tags are for ***girls*** and Blue Tags are

for ***boys***, Each tag shows the size of shoe and whether for infant, child, youth, or adult. With each pair of shoes purchased, please purchase a pair of socks. If you would rather donate money and have someone from outreach committee to shop for you, you may ear-mark your offering—Back 2 School and leave in offering plate. The shoes will be prayed over and dedicated before being delivered for the Back 2 School Bash event.

The logo for the Back 2 School Bash 2023 event. It features the words "BACK 2 SCHOOL" in red, "bash" in large black lowercase letters, and "23" in large red numbers. There are red splatter effects around the text.

The Back 2 School Bash event will be held at Statesville High School on Saturday, July 29th at 9:00 Am until 1:00 PM. This event allows families to pick-up school supplies, get physicals for school children, get a pair of new athletic / tennis shoes & pairs of socks. Families also receive a free meal. Our church has participated in years past. Also, consider volunteering for this event. There are many ways you can get involved. Handing out school supplies or pairs of athletic shoes, greeting visitors at the food tent and handing out bags of food. Pray how you could help out. Let Leigh Payne or Pastor Jeff know if you could help.



Love Offerings during month of June

Sewing Camp - Melina Guterrez will be leading this year's summer sewing camp. If you would like to donate money to help purchase supplies or materials needed for sewing camp, please mark your church offering Sewing Camp. All monies earmarked for sewing camp will be used to purchase supplies needed for the 2023 class. Thank you Melina for offering sewing camp this year for the children.

B2SB 2023 - *Each year*, Troutman First donates a love offering to the Back 2 School Bash sponsored by the United Methodist and with ecumenical churches gathering to support our efforts. Last year, Troutman First donated \$1,000 to the effort to purchase school supplies. Beginning in June, can you consider giving extra to help our local UMC churches purchase school supplies. Please mark your love offering / check or envelope (Back 2 School Bash offering).

Annual Conference Love Offering - Currently in our TFUMC budget, there is not a line item to cover Annual Conference expenses for our lay delegate or Pastor and wife. Last year, we took a love offering and was able to cover their expenses for the Annual conference scheduled June 13th—June 18th. Would you consider contributing by making a love offering donation: Please mark your check or offering envelope—*Annual Conference Gift*. Thank you for helping out with these worthwhile causes.

Meet Ralph Dagenhart (author within our Troutman First Congregation)



Ralph's book entitled, "Pop Smoke" is a true account of his experience of an infantry soldier's one-year combat tour to South Vietnam in 1969-1970. Ralph wrote this book for his children, and his grandchildren to share with them a part of his life that they knew little about. Ralph explains that for infantry soldiers, there were many things that were experienced in war that you wish to forget, but was not possible. He goes on to explain that his military experience is not unique to other combat veterans.

We all faced the same fears, and the same emotional upheavals from injuries and deaths, and the same survival guilt, Ralph shares. Ralph hopes that as people read his book, that they come to understand the impact that the war had on his life and the difference it makes today as he approaches life. Ralph explains that his opinions and attitudes today, and not just about my life, but also about our great country and the faith I have for my creator, reflect a lot on that challenging time in military service. If you wish to purchase a copy of Ralph's book, "Pop Smoke," please contact Ralph Dagenhart or call the church office. The cost for the book is \$14.00.

Open Door Friends Program - June 20th @ 10:00 AM - At Troutman First UMC

The monthly gathering of Open Door Friends (55+and older) will meet at Troutman First UMC on Tuesday, June 20th at 10:00. Brunch items will be served at the gathering time from 9:45—10:00 AM.

The program this month will be presented by Teresa Holbrook, one of the owners of ***Dragon Fly Mission Store***, located here in Troutman. Teresa will share how Dragon Fly assists and helps those families in need and how churches can be a part of their ministry.

The morning will also include fun activities such as devotionals, music, and a time of fellowship & fun. Make plans to join us, invite a friend and bring them with you to the event. Please call the church office by Thursday, June 15th, if you plan to attend the event. Hope to see you there.

You can also contact Jim Wollin (704) 724-7942 to confirm your attendance to the event. Or call Jim if you have ideas for future Open Door Friends programs or events.



Greetings from the Children's Ministry

June News from Alice Ward (Children's Coordinator)

Greetings from Children's Ministry!

"Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him." (Psalm 127:3) I am so blessed to be working with the children at Troutman First UMC!

In Sunday School, we will continue our series of lessons on the twelve disciples. So far, we have learned about Peter, Andrew, and James. The children are also working on the books of the New Testament. In Children's Church, we finished our lessons on "Who is the Holy Spirit" and have started a series on "God's Garden." We also took pictures of the children, made picture frames, and created flowers for Mother's Day. We will celebrate fathers on Father's Day as well. For the summer, the children would like to have another water fun day. We could also have a Vacation Bible School or Day Camp.

We are in the process of selecting tables and chairs for the children's classroom. Thanks to all who donated funds for this project!

All children are welcome to come to Sunday School (9:15am) and Children's Church (10:15am) every Sunday. See you there!

I would also like to invite you to work with our precious children. Come join us for lots of fun, fellowship, and building of faith. They bring us such joy!

Alice Ward, Children's Coordinator
Troutman First UMC

Come work with these precious children!
See how much joy it can be sharing the love
of Jesus to our children!



Congregational Care

Please remember these shut-ins during the month of June by sending them a card letting them know you are praying for them. These notes are always encouragement and support to our friends as they wish they could be with us for worship. Some are recovering at home, while others are in nursing facilities.

Ms. Carleen Willard
502B North Ash Ave
Newton, NC 28658
Birthday—May 25th

Mr. Don Levan
Autumn Care Room #303
2001 Van Haven Dr.
Statesville, NC 28625

Ms. Janet Dengler
188 Woodfield Dr.
Statesville, NC 28677

Ms. Maxine Warren
Peachtree Room 12
2806 Peachtree Road
Statesville, NC 28625



Blood Drive **First United Methodist Church**

Fellowship Hall
204 Mills Avenue
Troutman, NC 28166

Thursday, July 6th
2:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: FUMCTroutman to schedule an appointment.

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients. If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation. Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.

Walk-ins welcome but may be limited.



Come give 7/1 thru 7/11 for an exclusive Red Cross dry bag, while they last! See rcblood.org/gifts.



Be part of something big. Make an appointment.

1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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News from Troutman First United Methodist Youth Group

We have lots of fun and exciting things coming up soon with the youth! We can not wait to share everything with you all!

On Tuesday, April 18th I had the privilege of going to a workshop at the district office and I learned so much! I am excited to bring that into the life of our youth and church! We are finishing up our women of the Bible Study and will be starting a new one in the coming month. We are taking things “outside” of the normal and going to do an outreach study with the youth group. They are all very excited and eager to learn about taking our church outside the four walls and inviting others to do so as well.

The youth have come up with the names for the food pantry and youth group and we will be sharing them soon when all of the youth have had a chance to talk about them. We have a ton of different ideas for service projects and activities for the youth and can not wait to get them scheduled and in the works! We will be making a schedule of all of these after the consignment sale is over. We are busy gearing up for that and are excited for that to bring in some funds for our youth’s ideas!

This month we are starting our “YOUth Bio Spotlight”. The kids are excited about sharing some things about themselves so you can get to know them better. This month we will start with Melina. Melina’s Bio....



Melina has been in our youth group for the past two years and we have all enjoyed her very much. She is always willing to share things in her life and relate them to what we are studying in scripture. She has a very outgoing personality and she has the best ideas when it comes to decorating. She is off to UNCG in the fall to study Music Education. Melina is a super talented musician and plays the clarinet and is in our praise band. She is a cat person and is very chill. She is very confident in herself and we know that will take her very far. The sky is the limit for her and she will surpass that no problem! Sewing and crafting are some of her hobbies. She loves to hike and travel. She doesn’t like seafood but is a pizza connoisseur! If there was a flower to describe her it would be a sunflower. She has always been a ray of sunlight in our group and we will miss her when she goes off to college! She will always be welcomed back in our group when she visits and we wish her the best of luck. God Bless you Melina and thank you for sharing your time with us. We love you!

That’s a wrap for this month. Please continue to pray for the Youth of our church and the blessing they bring to us all. Thank you! ***Blessings from Julie Yager and the Youth***
Youth Coordinator

Graduation Sunday / Recognition

Sunday, June 4th, we will recognize those associated with Troutman First United Methodist who are graduating from Kindergarten, Middle School, High School, and colleges or universities. If you have a child or grandchild that is graduating, please notify the office so that we can pay tribute to them on Graduation Sunday. We like to pay tribute to their accomplishments. Blessings to all our graduates of 2023.

Troutman First United Methodist
P.O. Box 717
Troutman, NC 28166

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The MESSENGER

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