



# THE BEACON

WATAUGA FIRST  
United Methodist Church

Rev. Sheila Fiorella, Pastor

February 2020

## *A Message from Our Pastor*

### Recent News Regarding the United Methodist Church

Since many have not read any of the recent news, here is a quick summary of recent events within the denomination. In February 2019 there was a special called session of General Conference to address ongoing disagreement within our global denomination around issues related to human sexuality. The General Conference typically gathers every four years (which we refer to as a quadrennium), so May 5th-15, 2020 will be the next quadrennial gathering of this legislative body.

More than a dozen proposals have been announced from various groups within the denomination to move forward with some form of separation, believing that the United Methodist Church in its current form is at an impasse regarding the questions addressed during February's special called session.

The following is a significant statement from this most recent proposal: *"The United Methodist Church and its members aspire to multiply the Methodist mission in the world by restructuring the Church through respectful and dignified separation."*

While churches within United Methodism and churches affiliated with other denominations live it out in differing ways, we all are united around the Great Commission Christ gives in Matthew 28: *"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..."*

Our church's mission of *Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World* will remain the same, regardless of what is decided at General Conference, for the city of Watauga needs you. The world needs you. Christ is counting on you. And God believes in you.

I will speak more on this topic in a sermon on February 16, but if you have questions in the meantime, please feel free to email me at [wataugapastor@gmail.com](mailto:wataugapastor@gmail.com).

Rev. Sheila



### Ash Wednesday Worship, February 26, 7:00 pm

Ash Wednesday is a significant day on the Christian calendar, denoting the beginning of the repentant period of Lent preceding Easter, when we focus on turning from our sin and selfishness and toward God.

***Worship God, Learn the Scripture, Live it in the world.***



Date	Ushers	Liturgists	Acolytes	Counters
Feb 2	Rosemary Norris and Wendy Garcia	Nikki McLeroy	Emma Corrigan	Duane Buckley and Henry Harrison
Feb 9	Peggy Gearen and Celia Stibbens	Jack Bell	Jacob Hoppe	Carol McKone and Jim Bates
Feb 16	David Adair and Susan Tucker	Melanie Bell	Langdon Corrigan	Lori Duncan and Duane Buckley
Feb 23	Debbie and Henry Harrison	Betty King	Maddie Mazza	Doris Maxwell and Paul Killion

### Wednesday Night Bible Study

Potluck Dinner  
At 6:00 PM

Bible Study  
At 6:45 PM

New Day Worship  
at 7:30 PM

Feb 5 Soup

Feb 12 Sub Sandwich

Feb 19 Mexican

Feb 26 No Potluck Today

No New Day Worship on February 5th and 19th

### Do you know how to sing?

Our choir director would love to have you join the choir and/or the bells.

Contact Darin Hoppe at  
darinhoppe@gmail.com.



### Mission Statement

Making disciples of Jesus Christ  
for the transformation of the  
world.

### Vision Statement

Worship God,  
Learn the Scripture,  
Live it in the World

### STAFF:

**Rev. Sheila Fiorella**  
*Senior Pastor*

**Darin Hoppe**  
*Director of Music Ministries*

**Tristan Tian**  
*Piano Accompanist*

**Cathy Reigel**  
*Custodian*

**George Miadis**  
*New Day Music Leader*

**Rae Bridegam**  
*Admin Assistant  
Newsletter Editor*

### CONTACTS:

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[http://www.facebook.com/  
Groups/firstumcwatauga.com/](http://www.facebook.com/Groups/firstumcwatauga.com/)



Brandon Stringfellow	02/02
Lois Bridegam	02/06
Rosalie Hickey	02/06
Seini Mila	02/06
Lorin Walls	02/08
Ruth Strong	02/15
Jackson Mazza	02/16
Jim Autry	02/18
Benjamin Bledsoe	02/19
Candice Wyatt	02/28

If your birth date is incorrect  
or is not listed, please email  
the church office at  
fumcwatauga@att.net

## 2020 Ad Board Meeting Dates



- \* January 27
- \* March 23
- \* May 18: Moved to eliminate conflict with Memorial Day.
- \* July 27
- \* September 28
- \* November 16: Moved to eliminate conflict with Thanksgiving week.

Thanks,  
Kin Pier



On a recent Friday, a man came into the Shop carrying everything he owned in a duffle bag and backpack. Said he recently left Salvation Army shelter and was inquiring about a place to sleep and shower, which we couldn't help him with. He had slept outdoors the previous couple nights. He was optimistic about starting job at a Watauga taco restaurant the following Monday. He needed some dry clothes, which we did help with. He came back in Saturday. Slept outdoors again and a lot of his things were stolen! He picked out a few more clothes and a coat - just in the nick of time since it snowed later that day! He was very polite, not greedy, and very thankful!

Also, we had a lady come in who needed comfortable shoes. She was returning to work after six months of unemployment for medical reasons.

Several area thrift/second-hand stores in our area have raised their prices significantly this past year. That's why it's important for us to keep prices down and serve those in need. Wouldn't be possible without your donations of good, clean, useable items! Bless y'all!!!

Ruth Strong



## "Souper Bowl" Canned Soup Drive

Let's get going with the "Souper Bowl" can soup drive. If each person brings just one can of soup, it will go a long way toward keeping our people filled up with good nutrition and warmth for the winter. Please bring cans of soup to the church by Sunday, February 9, 2020. Let's see which soup will win this year.

In His service, Ron

## Craft Fellowship

The craft group on Tuesday morning is going strong. We just finished quilting a quilt and are starting another as well as making Christmas ornaments, embroidered pillow covers, and kitchen towels and dish cloths. If you have a project, bring it and join the fellowship. Someone else might want to learn about it. We are so glad to have Liz's mother from New York join us for 2 months. 10:00 AM each Tuesday in the room next to the nursery.

Doris Maxwell







## Chili Cook-Off Contest

Sunday, February, 16, 2020

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Get your taste buds prepared for tasting chili at our chili cook-off. Vote for your favorite while enjoying the fellowship. There will be a sign-up sheet the first Sunday in February for the contestants. We'll need some sides to go with the chili, like corn bread, crackers, onions, grated cheese, jalapeños, and maybe some sweets. The voting will be done by putting quarters in the cup in front of your favorite chili. After the winner is chosen, all of the money will go to the church. We'll have quarters available to make change. I think it will be fun, so bring or invite your family and friends.

Yoma Johnson

## Pancake Supper

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Come enjoy a pancake supper with us on Fat Tuesday. As usual, we'll need some help with donations of sausage, bacon, syrup, and pancake mix. This was a fund raiser for the UMW, but now it's for the church. Please continue to support it. It's very tasty! Again, bring others to share some pancakes.

Yoma Johnson



# Valentine's Day

[illegible]

NEED

## Sandwich Making for the Presbyterian Night Shelter



## Craft Fellowship

## Ladies Luncheon



*Ladies'*  
**LUNCHEON**

## New Day Gatherings

A decorative graphic for Valentine's Day. It features a large, vibrant red heart at the top center. Below the heart, the words "Valentine's Day" are written in a highly ornate, cursive script. The letters are dark red with a white outline and a subtle drop shadow, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. The text is surrounded by elaborate, swirling flourishes in the same red and white color scheme.



First United Methodist Church of Watauga  
6112 Watauga Road  
Watauga, TX 76148

## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### **THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WATAUGA WELCOMES ALL TO COME AND JOIN US**

#### **SUNDAY WORSHIP CELEBRATION SERVICE**

8:30 A.M. AND 10:30 A.M.

#### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

9:15 A.M.

#### **NEW DAY GATHERINGS**

6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

COMMUNITY POTLUCK 6:00 TO 6:45,  
BIBLE CONNECTION GROUPS, 6:45 TO 7:30,  
NEW DAY WORSHIP 7:30 TO 8:00



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Senior Pastor**

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