

An Order For  
**THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD**

15th Sunday after Pentecost

11:00 am

September 9, 2007

*When the prelude begins, please prepare for worship through silent prayer and meditation. Following the service, greet one another with joy and affection!*

(\* denotes congregation standing)

GATHERING

WELCOME AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

PRELUDE

\*HYMN OF PRAISE #529.....“How Firm a Foundation”

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We find it easy to say, “Yes, we will follow Christ.”

**P: But sometimes discipleship makes uncomfortable demands on us.**

L: Yet, in all of this, Christ calls us continually to follow.

**P: He is present with us as we are spiritually formed like him.**

L: Let us place our trust always in his guidance.

**P: Let us open our hearts to his will and his ways.**

\* OPENING PRAYER

**Lord, from the very beginning of your creation, you breathed your love into all that you made. You gave us the breath of life and asked us to be good stewards of all creation. You placed your trust and love in us. Help us to turn again with joyful hearts to you, placing our trust in all that you have done for us. Let us be a blessing for you. AMEN.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Forgiving God, we have messed up in so many ways. You gave us a wonderful world, filled with beauty, power, and majesty, and we have ravaged it - tearing away at its gifts with our own greed and cowardice. We have not treated this world or one another with compassionate love. We have turned our backs on situations of need in which we could have been instruments of help, healing, and peace. We have neglected service to others and have focused our lives on accumulating things and status. We have chased after false gods - greed, power, fame. You are the potter, O Lord. You fashioned us, but we focused on developing our flaws rather than working with our strengths. Please forgive us, Lord. Refashion us to be your people, celebrating your love in service to others. For we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. AMEN.**

A Moment of Silence for Personal Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Hear then Christ's words of grace to us: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

**All: THANKS BE TO GOD.**

\* PASSING THE PEACE

*(Offer signs and words of reconciliation and love to one another)*

SONG OF ILLUMINATION #601 "Thy Word Is a Lamp"

MESSAGE WITH THE CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

*(Children 4 and under may go to the nursery following Children's Time)*

READING FROM THE PSALMS: Psalm 119:71-82 *Spence Townsend*

ANTHEM: "The Wonder Of It All" *Sanctuary Choir*

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

SERMON: "Healthy Practices of the Church:  
Spiritual Formation, from the Cradle to the Grave"  
*Rev. Mike Sykes*

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE #454 "Open My Eyes That I May See"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH #881 "The Apostles' Creed"

\* GLORIA PATRI #71

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

The Lord be With You.

**And Also With You.**

Let Us Pray.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

PRAYER RESPONSE: "Weber's Two-Fold Amen in F-Major"

THE WORSHIP OF GOD WITH GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY: "There Is A Savior" *Solo, Brenda Dunn*

\* DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING.....Hymnal Page #94;

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God, all creatures here below:**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!**

**Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts!**

**Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

\* HYMN OF SENDING FORTH TO SERVE

#580 "Lead On, O King Eternal"

\* BENEDICTION

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE: "May The Light of Christ"

\* THE LIGHT OF CHRIST LEADING US TO SERVE  
IN THE WORLD

\* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

\* POSTLUDE

Thank you for choosing to worship at First United Methodist Church today. Please sign and pass the pew pad so that we may greet each other by name. If you would like to know more about the church, please speak to an usher or the pastor.

**PRAYERS**

Please see Prayers insert

"Prayers arising out of the context of the family are perhaps the most common expression of praying.... As we pray in the context of the family, we learn that holiness is homemade."

Richard J. Foster

**PRESENCE**

**Presence through 9-2-07**

Christian Education Classes	56
Worship Attendance 8:30 am	28
Worship Attendance 11:00 am	100
Small Group studies	7
Staff Parish Relations	12

**GIFTS**

**Stewardship through 9-2-07**

Building Fund Receipts to Date	\$37,400.00
General Budget Receipts to Date	\$198,563.36
General Budget Expenses to Date	209,710.41
Unpaid Connectional Askings to Date	26,423.98
Over/Under Obligations to Date	(37,571.03)

The new line under our stewardship information indicates the money that is owed to the NC Conference for our Connectional Askings. In previous years, this commitment has not been shown on our stewardship information until actually paid. This year, due to our cash position, we have been unable to meet the monthly payment schedule. This line in the bulletin will now show the balance that we are behind on our 12-month schedule. For questions, contact Lois Oldham in the office or Meg Burke, Finance Chair, at mburke@southcorr.com or 742-4429.

Note: It is our goal to pay Connectional Askings monthly but full payment is due by the end of the year.

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Hazel Lisk's birthday by Jane Andrews.*

**SERVICE**

	<b><u>8:30 am</u></b>	<b><u>11:00 am</u></b>
<b>Lay Reader:</b>	Susan Helmer	Spence Townsend
<b>Acolyte:</b>		Frank Davis
<b>Crucifer:</b>		
<b>Ushers:</b>	Mickey Pore, Chief	Robert Andrews, Chief Mike Andrews, Sr. Doug Townsend
<b>Greeters:</b>	LaJeanne Pierce and Rev. Travis Owen	
<b>Sound :</b>	Mark Murphy	

**Altar Guild:** Jane Andrews  
**Nursery I:** Sallie Milholen  
**Coffee Hour:** Challengers Class  
**Nursery II:** Debbie Fields  
**Offering Counters:** June Huddleston, Beulah Harvey, Joanne Phillips, Ida Smith and Baxter Reitzel



**STEPHEN MINISTRY**

**"Let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."**

**Galatians 6:10**

**LECTIONARY FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEK**

Psalm 14	Jeremiah 4:11-12,22-28
1Timothy 6:6-19	Luke 16:19-31

**THE CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. R. Michael Sykes, (msykes@fumcsilercity.org).....Minister  
 Angela Millsaps, (amillsaps@fumcsilercity.org).....Dir. of Lay Ministries  
 S. Timothy Davidson, (tdavidson@fumcsilercity.org).....Dir. of Music  
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**Mailing Address** 1101 West Raleigh Street  
 P.O. Box 212  
 Siler City, North Carolina 27344

**Telephone** Office: 919-742-2722  
 Fax: 919-663-5640  
 Moment of Prayer: 919-742-4646

The church office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Welcome to  
**First United Methodist Church**  
 Siler City, North Carolina



The people of The United Methodist Church™

*At First United Methodist Church,  
 our hearts, our minds, and our doors are always open.*

## POINTS OF INTEREST

### **West Chatham Food Pantry**

Our church is responsible for covering one door at Walmart during the West Chatham Food Pantry Food Drive on Saturday, September 15 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. If you or your group would like to volunteer for one to two hours please contact Angela as soon as possible.

**Our food responsibility for September is canned meats. Please put donations in orange tubs outside the church office.**

The **Seniors of the Month** for the month of September are Willis and Sara Wrenn. Their address is 526 W. Glendale St. Siler City, NC 27344. Take some time this month to visit them and /or send them a card.

**We would like to stay in touch with our college students** by mail and email. Please contact the church office or drop a note in the offering plate with your college student's information.

### Disciple Outreach Ministries Special Offering (Today)

Disciple Bible Outreach Ministries (DBOM) is a ministry of which we can all be proud. It grew from a call to take Disciple Bible Study to the prisoner. Today, 7000 inmates have taken Disciple in North Carolina prisons! In addition, this ministry has reached hundreds of juvenile offenders through the RINGS OF FELLOWSHIP program. Please use the special offering envelope in today's bulletin. You are invited to contribute your time, talent and gifts to this important ministry.

### Special Offering Opportunity in Memory of Jerry Lowry **Sunday, September 15, 2007**

The Sanford District is requesting this one time special offering be taken in the churches of the Sanford District. This will be our collective thanks for one whose limited years were "all out" for the glory of God, and the needs of humanity - spiritually, socially, culturally, economically - wherever they may be on the ladder of need. Our gifts will be given to the Bishop's Academy of Leadership Excellence, which was deemed an important ministry by Jerry himself.

**The Joy Group** will meet on Monday, September 17 at 1:30 pm in the small dining room.

*Senior United Methodist Youth Fellowship,*

*We want to thank each of you for the lovely orchid, but most of all, we want to thank you for the experience of working with you. You are a delight and a joy and our church is so fortunate to have such great youth. We wish each of you the very best in the future. Thanks again.*

*Terry and Patsy Andrews*

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## This Week's Opportunities

Sunday, September 9

8:30 am Worship Service  
9:30 am Intercessory Prayer Team, Chapel  
9:30 am Church School  
10:30 am Fellowship Time - Small Dining Room  
11:00 am Worship Service  
12 noon **Junior High Youth**  
2:30 pm **Choir Cantata Practice**  
3:00 - 5:00 pm Open House/Dedication of West Chatham  
Food Pantry  
3:30 pm **Children's Council**  
6:00 pm **Senior High Youth**

Monday, September 10

8:00 am Flexercise  
6:30 pm **Stephen Ministry**  
6:45 pm Lion's Club

Tuesday, September 11

8:00 am **Senior Adult trip to Charlotte**  
6:00 pm Handbells  
7:00 pm Choir Practice  
7:00 pm Scouts

Wednesday, September 12

8:00 am Flexercise  
12 noon **SHARE**

Thursday, September 13

7:30 pm Siler City Squares

Friday, September 14

8:00 am Flexercise

Sunday, September 16

8:30 am Worship Service  
9:30 am Intercessory Prayer Team, Chapel  
9:30 am Church School  
10:30 am Fellowship Time - Small Dining Room  
11:00 am Worship Service  
4:45 pm **Youth leave for District Youth Rally**

### Looking Ahead:

September 17 Joy Group  
September 19 KIDS IN CHRIST  
September 19 Parents in Christ  
September 26 Wonderful Wednesday

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PRELUDE

WELCOME AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

\*HYMN OF PRAISE #529.....“How Firm a Foundation”

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

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**P: But sometimes discipleship makes uncomfortable demands on us.**

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SONG OF ILLUMINATION #601....."Thy Word Is a Lamp"

MESSAGE WITH THE CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

READING FROM THE PSALMS: Psalm 119:71-82      *Susan Helmer*

SPECIAL MUSIC:      "There Is A Savior"      *Solo, Brenda Dunn*

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

SERMON:      "Healthy Practices of the Church:  
Spiritual Formation, from the Cradle to the Grave"  
*Rev. Mike Sykes*

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE #328....."Surely the Presence of the Lord"

JOYS AND CONCERNS

The Lord be With You.

**And Also With You.**

Let Us Pray.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE WORSHIP OF GOD WITH GOD’S TITHES AND  
OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

\* DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING.....Hymnal Page #94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God, all creatures here below:**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!**

**Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts!**

**Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

INVITATION.....Hymnal Page 12

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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PASSING THE PEACE

*(Offer signs and words of reconciliation and love to one another.)*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING.....Hymnal Page 13

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\* HYMN OF SENDING FORTH TO SERVE  
#580 "Lead On, O King Eternal"

\* BENEDICTION

\* THE LIGHT OF CHRIST LEADING US TO SERVE  
IN THE WORLD

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