CHRISTIANITY IS NOT FOR WIMPS

But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. Jesus in Matthew 5:44

One of my favorite authors, Will D. Campbell, died recently. A Baptist preacher who refused to follow the crowd, Campbell wrote some awesome books like The Glad River and Brother to a Dragonfly. I highly recommend Campbell when you get tired of easy answers. One of the things that continue to impress me is his self-awareness about how easy it is to slide into comfortable hate. The following excerpt is from a sermon by Dan Clendenin about Campbell’s experience ministering to members of the KKK in the 1970’s and 1980’s.

Campbell was born and raised in the rural and very poor deep south of Mississippi. He was "ordained" by family members at a local Baptist church when he was seventeen, and, in a delightfully improbable life, played a central role as an activist on behalf of African Americans.

In 1957, for example, Campbell was one of four people who escorted the nine black students who integrated Little Rock’s Central High School. He was the only white person to attend the founding of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference by the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The hate mail from the white right poured in.

As he matured, Campbell had a self-revelation - that he hated those redneck bigots who hated blacks. Strange, he thought, how he enjoyed thinking that God hated all the same people that he hated. Campbell eventually came to realize that after twenty years in ministry he had become little more than a "doctrinaire social activist," which was something very different than being a follower of Jesus.

The key? "I came to understand the nature of tragedy. And one who understands the nature of tragedy can never take sides." Campbell saw how he had played favorites and taken sides; he had subverted the indiscriminate love of God for all people without conditions, limits, or exceptions into a ministry of "liberal sophistication."

Acting upon these convictions, he started sipping whiskey with the Ku Klux Klan. He performed their funerals and weddings, and even befriended the Grand Dragon of North Carolina, J.R. "Bob" Jones. When they were sick, he emptied their bed pans.

And then the hate mail came from the liberal left.

See what I mean? Loving enemies is so difficult, it rarely gets tried! But that is exactly what Jesus asks of me. Thank the Lord; God’s Spirit abides in us to help us not be satisfied with "sides" and to desire to strive to live in ways that follow Jesus into the most important places.

I am thankful to have known saints in Siler City who are striving for just such a love as this. May the God of love and peace bless you all, Clyde
Bishop Hope Morgan Ward and the Cabinet of the North Carolina Conference have asked me, as Chairperson of the Staff/Parrish Relations Committee of our church, to announce to you that we will receive a new pastor on July 1, 2016.

Our new pastor will be Carl D. Belcher who is currently serving at the Orange Chapel United Methodist Church located at 1634 Orange Chapel Clover Garden Road in western Orange County, North Carolina. Rev. Belcher is a life-long Methodist originally from Bluefield, West Virginia and Bland, Virginia. He graduated from Bluefield State College and Duke Divinity School. He says he is passionate about “Life, and living it abundantly in and by God’s Spirit”. His hobbies include hunting, fishing, and reading.

We give thanks to God for our pastor Clyde Denny and pray for continued blessings upon him and his family. We look forward to having Rev. Belcher lead us into a new season of life together in ministry. May God bless us all as we enter this period of transition.

Faithfulness in Stewardship

Financial Statistics are as of April 17th, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Budget Receipts</td>
<td>$ 113,412.84</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Budget Expenses</td>
<td>$ 73,614.88</td>
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<tr>
<td>Over/Under Obligations</td>
<td>$ 36,180.81</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016 Apportionment Balance Due</td>
<td>$ 58,995.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you for your faithfulness in giving.

Church and Family Members Away From Home

*Alex Daniels, US Navy, stationed aboard the USS OAKHILL (son of Le and Marti Greene)
IC2 Daniels // USS OAK HILL LSD 51 // Unit 10034 // Box 1202 // FPO AE 09573

*Doug Sparrow, US Army, Alaska (son of Bernie and Sara Sparrow)

*Wes and Stephanie Helmer Lail and son, Tellur, Teaching in Colombia (daughter of Stephen and Susan Helmer)

Senior Adult Ministry

Seniors on the Go:
Our Seniors will be meeting on Monday, May 23rd at Carolyn Clark’s home. Join us for lunch at noon.

Church Members of the Month

Maurice Tanner
7166 Jordan Rd
Ramseur, NC 27316

Please keep her in your prayers

SHARE: Wednesday, May 11 at 12 noon.
Join us for a time of fun and fellowship!
Invite a friend to join you!

Our food responsibility to the Chatham Food Pantry for May is for Soup.
**Feet on our Faith**

**Becoming the Answer to Our Prayers: A Few Ideas**

1. Take a break from noise. Turn off things that make noise for a day or a week, and spend the time in silence, speaking only when necessary. Also remember those in our world whose voices have been silenced.

2. Go to a home for the elderly and get a list of folks who don’t get any visitors. Visit them each week and tell stories, read together, or play board games.

3. Laugh at advertisements, especially ones that teach you that you can buy happiness.

4. Go down a line of parked cars and add money to the meters that are expired. Leave a little note saying something nice.

5. Connect with a group of migrant workers or farmers who grow your food. Visit their farm. Maybe even pick some veggies with them. Ask what they get paid!

**Taken from**: COMMON PRAYER: A LITURGY FOR ORDINARY RADICALS
Upper Room devotionals are available outside of the church office, in the Narthex and other areas of the church. They are available in regular and large print. Pick one up today for you and one for a friend!

The Sound Committee would like to remind the congregation about our amplification devices for the hearing impaired. The devices are available for anyone who has difficulty hearing during worship service. If you need this assistance on Sunday mornings, please see an usher. The usher and the sound technician will be sure to equip you with a small hearing device.

CARNATION ORDER FORM
I would like to purchase carnations to be used on Mothers’ Day, May 8. The cost is $5.00 per carnation. Profit from the sale of each carnation will be donated to the Apostle Build Pledge.

DONOR________________________________________________________________________
(EXACTLY AS YOU WISH IT LISTED IN THE BULLETIN)
(please use an extra sheet if more than one carnation)

IN HONOR OF ______________________________________________________________________

IN MEMORY OF _____________________________________________________________________

Total number of carnations____ (Make check payable to First Methodist and designate “Carnation”)

Deadline for ordering is 12 noon Tuesday, May 2.

From our Pastor
I give thanks for the great honor and privilege of serving as your pastor. I have been richly blessed by God and by you as we have shared this season of ministry. Thank you for your support, partnership and love.

As a United Methodist pastor, I am committed to our connectional life in Christ and to servant leadership where I am appointed. In June, I will move to a new appointment and become pastor of Zebulon UMC in Zebulon. Let us pray for one another as we enter into this time of transition.

Clyde

Calling All Graduates!
We need to know the names of First Methodists who are graduating. Please let the church office know if you are a graduate.

Poston Scholarship
Fred and Janice Poston’s children and grandchildren gave them a very special Christmas gift in 2013. They established a scholarship fund in their honor here at FUMC. Graduating seniors who attend this church and plan to continue their education next year may pick up applications at the church office. This scholarship will be presented on graduation Sunday in June.

Annual Birthday Banquet!!!
Join us in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, May 25 at 6 PM to celebrate our birthdays! A hot dog meal will be provided. Twelve cakes representing each birthday month will be dessert!
May Birthdays and Anniversaries

01 – Cindy Dameron
04 – LaJeanne Pierce
05 – Leigh Denny, Justin Snipes
06 – Paige Underwood
08 – Candace Hughes Thomas, Meg Moore
10 – Sylvia Reavis, Keith McManus
14 – Bob Steele, Nora Grace Baxter
17 – Bill Milholen
18 – Nathan Denny
19 – Mike Grigg, Trent Harris
22 – Hanna Stackhouse
24 – Jennings Milholen, Jane Blair, Bob Nunnery
27 – Lindsay Tate
29 – Stephanie Brewer, Lucinda Chreitzberg
31 – Brian Brewer

May Anniversaries
01 – Danny and Debra Branson
06 - David and Raelynn Seymour
20 – Jeff and Stephanie Brewer
23 – John and Sherri Powell
28 – Brent and Beth Elliott

If you would like to add the birthdays of you and your family members to the birthday list, please contact the church office.

Our Loved Ones in Long Term Care Facilities

—Aldersgate: Mary Lyall Howell
  3800 Shamrock Dr, Charlotte 28215
—Ashton Place: Helen Burns
  5533 Burlington Road, McLeansville 27301
—Avante: Myrtle Stephens
  4801 Randolph Rd., Room 121A, Charlotte, NC 28211
—Coventry House:
  Louise Sparks (John Daniel’s mother)
  260 Village Lake Road, Siler City 27344
—Genesis Rehab:
  Diane Biles (Kevin Biles’ mother)
  900 West Dolphin Street, Siler City 27344
—The Arbor House at Galloway Ridge:
  Zouline Machado
  300 Clynelish Close, Pittsboro, 27312
—Universal Health Care:
  Maurice Tanner
  7166 Jordan Rd., Ramseur, 27316
—Village Lake Inn:
  Charles Teague; Ada Jo Burke
  Eunice Terry (member of Seniors on the Go)
  Betty Pollock (member of SHARE and Seniors on the Go)
  219 Village Lake Road, Siler City 27344

Those who have moved away:
Jackie Ellis: 83 Jupiter Hills Dr., Weaverville, NC 28787

Please take time to send a card or visit!

From Cub Scout Pack 924

You are invited to come fish with us! We are in need of adult helpers to join us on May 21 from 9:30-11:30 AM at the Chatham County Wildlife Club, Wildlife Rd, Siler City NC. Bring a fishing pole if you have one. For more information contact Annette Wiedner 919-742-5933.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30a Service 9:45a Christian Education 11a Service 8p Links to Freedom</td>
<td>8a Flexercise 12:05p Prayer &amp; Meditation</td>
<td>12:05p Prayer 5:45p Handbells 7p Choir 7p Scouts</td>
<td>8a Flexercise 12:05p Prayer 8p Links to Freedom</td>
<td>Nat’l Day of Prayer 12:05p Prayer 1:30p FUEL UP</td>
<td>8a Flexercise 8p Links to Freedom</td>
<td>9:30a Lions District Mtg Chatham Literacy Council Classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30a Service 9:45a Christian Education 11a Service 8p Links to Freedom</td>
<td>8a Flexercise 10:30a Threads of Faith 12:05p Prayer &amp; Meditation 6:30p Lions 7p Lay Leadership</td>
<td>12:05p Prayer 5:45p Handbells 7p Choir 7p Scouts</td>
<td>8a Flexercise 12:05p Prayer 12 p SHARE 12:05p Prayer 8p Links to Freedom</td>
<td>12:05p Prayer 1:30p FUEL UP</td>
<td>8a Flexercise 8p Links to Freedom</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30a Service 9:45a Christian Education 11a Service 8p Links to Freedom</td>
<td>8a Flexercise 12:05p Prayer &amp; Meditation 1:30p JOY Group</td>
<td>12:05p Prayer 5:45p Handbells 7p Choir 7p Scouts</td>
<td>8a Flexercise 12:05p Prayer 8p Links to Freedom</td>
<td>12:05p Prayer 1:30p FUEL UP 7:30p Church Council</td>
<td>8a Flexercise 8p Links to Freedom</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30a Service 9:45a Christian Education 11a Service 8p Links to Freedom</td>
<td>Memorial Day 8a Flexercise 12:05p Prayer &amp; Meditation</td>
<td>12:05p Prayer 5:45p Handbells 7p Choir 7p Scouts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorial Day 8a Flexercise 12:05p Prayer &amp; Meditation</td>
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## Serving Stewards for May

### Lay Reader

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Person</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 1, 2016</td>
<td>Mickey Pore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 8, 2016</td>
<td>Sallie Milholen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 15, 2016</td>
<td>Joan Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 22, 2016</td>
<td>Mary John Resch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 29, 2016</td>
<td>Kathy Grigg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>Kathy Grigg</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jane Butler</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Adam Wrenn</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Meadows</td>
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### Acolyte/Crucifer

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 1, 2016</td>
<td>Cindy Dameron/Jennifer Dameron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 8, 2016</td>
<td>Debbie Fields/Rick Fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 15, 2016</td>
<td>Sallie Milholen/Patsy Andrews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 22, 2016</td>
<td>Carolyn Clark/Sylvia Reavis</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 29, 2016</td>
<td>Joan Thompson/Mickey Pore</td>
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<td>Olivia Diamont</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Meadows</td>
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<td>Hunter Murphy</td>
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<td>Austin Greene</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Olivia Diamont</td>
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### Altar Guild

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<td>May 1, 2016</td>
<td>Sherry Daniel</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 8, 2016</td>
<td>Mother's Day Carnations</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 15, 2016</td>
<td>Jo Briggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 22, 2016</td>
<td>Robin Stackhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 29, 2016</td>
<td>Elizabeth Meadows</td>
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### Nursery/Children’s Church (11:00)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Person</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 01, 2016</td>
<td>Shelly Steele, Susan Helmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 08, 2016</td>
<td>Dawn Murphy, Angela Lawrence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 15, 2016</td>
<td>Maria Tanner, Anne Mathias</td>
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<td>May 22, 2016</td>
<td>Amy Brewer, Eileen Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 29, 2016</td>
<td>Peggy Wood, Susan Helmer</td>
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### Ushers for May

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Andrews, Chief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jay Palmer</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Riley</td>
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<td>John Pleasants</td>
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### Sound and Audio

Audio Visual Team
The Church at Worship

**May 1 (6th Sunday of Easter)**
Acts 16:9-15, Psalm 67,
Revelation 21 and 22
John 14:23-29

**May 8 (7th Sunday - Ascension of the Lord)**
Acts 16:16-34, Psalm 97
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21
John 17:20-26

**May 15 (Day of Pentecost)**
Acts 2:1-21, Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:14-17, John 14:8-17

**May 22 (First Sunday after Pentecost)**
(Trinity Sunday)
Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31
Psalm 8, Romans 5:1-5, John 16:12-15

**May 29 (Second Sunday after Pentecost)**
1 Kings 18:20-39
Psalm 96, Galatians 1:1-12, Luke 7:1-10

Church Office hours: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Monday – Thursday
Phone: 919-742-2722  Fax: 919-663-5640

**Sunday Morning Schedule**
8:30 am and 11:00 am  Worship
9:45 am  Christian Education for all ages.
Worship Service CD's are available, please contact the office.

Reverend Clyde Denny, Minister
cell - 910-512-5785  clyde@fumcsilercity.org

Reverend Travis Owen, Pastor Emeritus

S. Timothy Davidson, Director of Music
tdavidson0608@gmail.com

Pam Whitaker, Financial Secretary
pwhitaker@fumcsilercity.org

Judy Herndon, Admin. Assistant
office@fumcsilercity.org
919/742-2722

Jeff Brown, Custodian