

DECEMBER

2025



THE WITNESS

The Official Newsletter of WILKESBORO UMC

UWFAITH

Congratulations to our 2026 Officers: Jean Stetler (President); Vanessa Souther (Vice-President); Cindy Winslow (Secretary); Jan Taylor (Treasurer/Sunshine Fund); Gretchen Barelski (Membership/Pledges); & Margaret Cooper (Secretary of Program Resources & Social Action). Four of our members were elected as District officers: Jan Taylor (President); Jean Stetler (Vice President); Elizabeth Conrad (Social Action) and Margaret Cooper (Program Resources). We look forward to another successful year putting faith into action by advocating for social justice issues, such as racial and gender injustice, and working to improve the lives of women, children, and youth around the world.

In December, we will not have our regular meeting. Instead, we will meet for lunch at Olive Garden on December 9th at 11am. Instead of having an ornament exchange or “Dirty Santa”, we are asking all to bring diapers or baby formula for Wilkes Community Partnership for children to help fill a critical need in our community.

We want to thank everyone who supported our bake sale at the Bazaar and our Mrs. Pumpkins chicken pie sales, helping us raise money to support missions locally, nationally, and globally.

We also want to congratulate John Mabry as our Special Mission Recognition recipient this year— we presented him with a certificate and pin at the Children’s Sabbath worship service in October. John has diligently supported youth programs (i.e., summer literacy, VBS, Pumpkin Palooza, Trunk or Treat) and church missions (i.e., UMN, Catherine Barber Homeless Shelter, Samaritan’s Kitchen.) Thank you John for all you do!

Sewing Bee News



Lois Dills has just finished crocheting bedroll #400 in the few years she has been doing this! Thanks, Lois! We are praying your back is much improved and this string can continue. And special thanks to the dozens who shared our whispered goal “Keep Lois in plarn”!

A newer member of the crocheting team, Gretchen Barelski, has just completed bedroll #1! Whether it is #1 or #400, the person receiving the bedroll will be just as Happy! Glad to have Gretchen as a part of the team!

UMM

The men at our Nov. meeting agreed to support the Catherine Barber Homeless Shelter with a check for \$1000 and Circles of Cares with a check for \$300. We updated our food drive goals, and agreed to match food donations up to 1000 lbs. and match monetary donations up to \$2000. There was an anonymous individual who put up another \$1000 of matching money. Which makes a total of \$3000 of matching money available. If this is matched, our total contribution to Samaritan's Kitchen could be \$6000. WOW!!!

We also agreed to fix two large pots of vegetable beef soup to serve at the bazaar Nov. 8th. We decided to serve the soup at no charge and accept donations. Also agreed to pass all donations on to the UWF.



Thank You:

Thank You to everyone that donated blood. We exceeded our goal!!

Dear Loved Church Family

We want to THANK each of you for being so kind in sending monetary funds, gift cards, Ms. Pumpkin's pies, and fuel cards. We so gratefully appreciated your kindness and thoughtfulness. God's blessing to you.

Mary Summerfield

What's Going On:

WUMC will be ringing bells for the Salvation Army on December 10th from 9-6 in front of Walmart.

December Mission project we will be collecting diapers for Wilkes Partnership for Children. Additional details will be coming out soon.

Christmas Memories

By Cindy Winslow

I love memories of Christmas! Have you any to share?

Catching snowflakes and sledding and snow everywhere.

Going to Grandma's house—such a treat.

She always had cookies and good things to eat.

Turkey and stuffing, potatoes, corn and ham,

Cranberry sauce, biscuits, and candied yams.

And, Oh! So delicious—a treat to tongue and eyes.

Were the fabulous chocolate, pecan, and pumpkin pies,

Did you go out and cut your own tree?

The icy air, the smell of pine, it's all so dear to me.

And the decorations, can't you picture them all?

The shining and glistening of each colorful ball.

And colored lights and ornaments, like the ones you made.

When you were in Sunday School or in third grade.

Then turn off the lamps, let the room be filled with a glow.

Can you remember each mysterious gift tied up with a bow?

Quick! Hurry to bed! Santa's on his way!

You have to rise early on Christmas Day.

Wake up! It's Christmas! Check each gift and your stocking.

Did you get what you wished? Did you get a tie...shocking.

Now get dressed and head to church for the season.

That we celebrate the birth of Jesus this Christmas season.



Join Us To Celebrate Christmas



CHRISTMAS SUNDAY CANTATA

DECEMBER 21, 2025 @ 10:00AM



Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion

Service @ 7:00 p.m.

*NOTE: THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
December 25th & January 1st.*