



September 07	Lydia Walsh
September 09	Braxton Collins
September 14	Renee Johnson
September 15	Emma Snow
September 16	Rob Church
September 17	Dr. Laura Crysel
September 19	Nancy Bumgarner
September 23	Jasmine Johnson



September 22   Tony & Renee Johnson



# The Union Messenger

## Union United Methodist Church

**Pastor: Rev. Randy Lankford**

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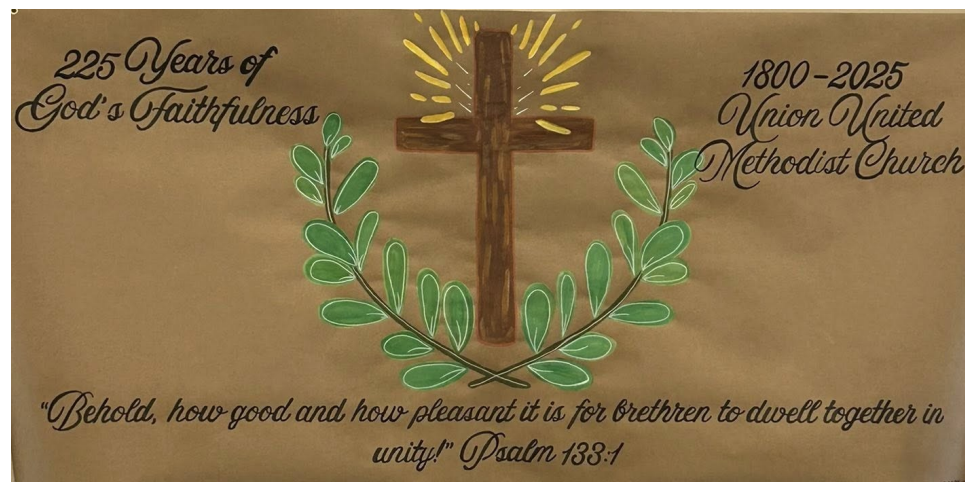
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### Pastor Share

Do you remember the first day of school when you were a freshman in high school? That is a very unique experience. The first day of school is always a new beginning, but starting 9th grade is a whole new ballgame. It's amazing how much can change in the course of a summer vacation, and combining that with brand new faces brings a whole host of possibilities, and by possibilities I mean everything from better grades to new friends and even new girlfriends or boyfriends. One even gets new school colors and mascots and sports teams to pull for. That first day of school has so many new possibilities that it is truly like starting over. Wouldn't it be interesting to have that same opportunity to start over every September 1st? How would that affect the way we go about our average day at work or at home or at church. Sometimes I feel like the most blessed person on the planet. As you know, this year Anna and I welcomed our first two grandchildren within 3 months of one another. We went from parents to multi-grandparents (new word?) in a matter of 72 days. At this age our grandchildren are changing almost at lightning speed and every time we are blessed to be with them they have grown and changed in some way. They are growing up right before our eyes and that becomes evident whenever we see a picture of them, if only taken a month ago. We just marvel at simple things like a smile, especially when they smile at us. I wish I could say that Anna and I were perfect parents, but that is not something any of us can say. I'd like to think we are going to be perfect grandparents, but that too is not possible. But with God every day is an opportunity to begin again, even though we try to always get things right the first time. Hope is always new because God is always new. Each day we're given is a new beginning. Let each day begin with God and even the simple things become like new. - Pastor Randy



(Banner Created by: Taylor Greer Baird)

What a joyous day! On Sunday, August 31, our church marked its 225th anniversary, honoring our rich history and looking forward to the future. The fellowship hall was filled with fond memories; presented through a display of photos, newspaper clippings, and meaningful memorabilia. A tribute video played in the background celebrating the cherished moments that have brought us all to this special day. The fellowship meal was a time for sharing memories, sparking both laughter and tears among the attendees.

To conclude our celebration, we gathered to look forward, sharing a presentation on church updates from the last two years and our collective vision for the future, including our short and long-term goals as well as a financial overview presented by our current pastor, Rev. Randy Lankford.

As we celebrated our 225th anniversary, we paused to reflect on God's steadfast presence and offer thanks for every member, past and present, who has made this church a vibrant body of Christ.

merry *Christmas*  
to all, and to all  
a good *breakfast!*

On **Saturday, December 6 at 9am** we will have our annual Christmas Breakfast! Come join us for a great time of Christian Fellowship and some really good breakfast food! More details will be given closer to the



## Other Christmas Events

The Praise and Worship Team will present a Christmas Cantata in December. We will have Advent Lightings each Sunday and a Christmas Eve Communion Service.

More details will be announced as we get closer to these very special Christmas events!

## A graphic where the word "HOMECOMING" is written in white, uppercase letters. Each letter is contained within a separate, slightly 3D rectangular block of a different color: H (red), O (orange), M (yellow), E (light green), C (green), O (teal), M (blue), I (dark blue), N (purple), and G (magenta).

Our annual Homecoming Service will be on Sunday, October 12th at 11am. Pastor Randy will be our speaker. A covered dish lunch will follow immediately after the service in the fellowship hall. We hope everyone will join us as we celebrate our church's heritage and welcome old and new friends to our church!

Come back Sunday evening as we welcome Rev. Roy Hamby of Hudson United Methodist Church. Rev. Hamby will be our guest speaker for revival services on Sunday—Tuesday evenings. Join us each night at 7:00pm!



**Sunday, November 23, 2024**

The annual Community Thanksgiving Service will be at Millers Creek UMC this year. We will be joining our friends at Millers Creek UMC for the service. Pastor Randy and Pastor Bradley from Millers Creek UMC will lead the service. Make plans to attend this special service! We will have more specific details closer to the event.



**(Cake by Lowe's Foods, Wilkesboro)**



**(Representation of the past – 1800 to Present Day Union UMC)**



## Bible Word Search

### Books of the Old Testament

R H A G G A I G J O N A H E I S A I A H  
E C C L E S I A S T E S A U H S O J F H  
S E G D U J E W E S T H E R S G N I K O  
T B N O M O L O S F O G N O S M B Y C S  
A M O S L O Z Y M O N O R E T U E D O E  
W K K K E K R V O Y H T U R H A Q B R A  
K U B Y U P F K I B L Q V D A N I E L A  
L K O C M S S K H I A E V E W I F O M Z  
A K J L A E A H J K K D V P X W I K Y N  
M A K S S L M A P U C D I I F O C I M Q  
E B I B C C U I P D H V L A T Z D F C S  
N A N R J I E R H H G A O U H I C U I Z  
T H J E E N L A A A J X M N F H C S S N  
A M S V R O I H I C O K N A T V E U K A  
T L M O E R S C M I E A U T L N C C S H  
I T L R M H W E E M L R M Q E A J M C U  
O K A P I C E Z H I X Z B G F I C E I M  
N E S H A F E I E B N E E Z V L X H E M  
S M P S H G Y H N H V V R Q U A G H I Y  
W N H A I N A H P E Z S S E Z E K I E L

AMOS  
CHRONICLES  
DANIEL  
DEUTERONOMY  
ECCLESIASTES  
ESTHER  
EXODUS  
EZEKIEL  
EZRA  
GENESIS  
HABAKKUK  
HAGGAI  
HOSEA

ISAIAH  
JEREMIAH  
JOB  
JOEL  
JONAH  
JOSHUA  
JUDGES  
KINGS  
LAMENTATIONS  
LEVITICUS  
MALACHI  
MICAH  
NAHUM

NEHEMIAH  
NUMBERS  
OBADIAH  
PROVERBS  
PSALMS  
RUTH  
SAMUEL  
SAMUEL  
SONG OF SOLOMON  
ZECHARIAH  
ZEPHANIAH



# Announcements and Upcoming Events

Saturday, September 20th we will resume our monthly Saturday night Fellowship Meal & Movie Nights (*watching the next episode of The Chosen*). For the September Meal we will have pizza and salad (*provided by the church*). We will have a sign-up sheet closer to the date in order to get a headcount for ordering pizza and for anyone that would like to contribute a dessert.



Saturday, October 18th we will have a Fellowship Meal & Movie Night (*watching another episode of The Chosen*). For our October Meal we will have wings (*prepared by our own Pastor Randy*). We will have a sign-up sheet closer to the date in order to get a headcount for the wings and for donations of sides and desserts.

