

WELCOME OUR NEW CHILDREN'S MINISTER

My name is Melissa Miller and I am so excited to be joining the staff as the Children's Minister at Front Street UMC! I am originally from Tennessee, but have also lived in Alabama, Missouri, and have been living in North Carolina for 13 years, so it feels very much like home. I studied psychology and child development at the University of Tennessee, and received my Master of Arts in Ministry from Wesley Seminary in 2021, where I concentrated my studies on children, family, and youth ministries.



I have two daughters, Lauren and Rachel. Lauren is 26 and recently engaged. Rachel is 19 and is studying architecture at the University of Tennessee.

I enjoy reading, exercising, and spending time with friends. Most of my life has been devoted to education in some way or another, whether it has been volunteering in the school systems, teaching preschool, or in Christian education. Most recently, I served for 6 years as the Director of Children and Family Ministries at University United Methodist Church in Chapel Hill. I have a strong passion for building community both inside and outside the church walls. I look forward to meeting and getting to know the people who make Front Street the special place that it is.

STEWARDSHIP CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Jesus tells us not to store up treasures on earth, for they will perish. You see, holding on to money is letting its value and potential perish. That couldn't be the "keep" that God told Adam and Eve. Adam and Eve keeping the garden meant they must nourish and grow it. That must be what we need to focus on during this season. It is not about giving our money (that's only our participation), it's about keeping the church. The church is our garden gifted to us by Jesus. Let us take seriously the charge to be good stewards of God's created world.

Pastor Stephan

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by Front Street United Methodist Church
136 South Fisher Street
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Postmaster, Send Address Changes to:
Front Street United Methodist Church
PO Box 2597
136 South Fisher Street
Burlington NC 27216-2597
Church Office (336) 227-6263
Fax (336) 227-7905
email: fsumc@frontstreetumc.org
website: www.frontstreetumc.org
FSUMC Playschool (336) 227-6603
FSUMC Afterschool (336) 227-6772

FRONTLINE

Focusing on the life and ministry
of Front Street UMC



November 11, 2021 Volume MMXXI No. 20

STEWARDSHIP

We are in the midst of stewardship! What is the first thing you think of when you think of stewardship? Maybe, "oh no, the church is asking for me to give all my money away again." Part of this is true. No, the church doesn't want all of your money, but it is a time for each of us to commit to supporting the works of the church through our giving. However, this act of giving should be considered only a small part of what stewardship means. Yes, it is a big act, but stewardship has bigger intentions in our life. In fact, it's a lot less about giving things away, and a lot more about keeping them.

Stewardship by definition is about caring for and tending to something. In this sense the very first stewards of the world were Adam and Eve. After creating these first humans God tasked them with caring for the Garden of Eden and all the creatures of the earth. In Genesis 2:15 God told Adam and Eve to "dress it and keep it." This work of dressing and keeping the Garden is the true intention behind stewardship. Sure, the act of doing this involved giving up time and effort, but the purpose God gives the first stewards and us is to keep it. To keep something may seem counter active to what we do during this season, until we understand that keep doesn't mean "hold on to."



continued

A LOOK AHEAD:

KNOWING CHRIST

BEL CANTO CONCERT



Bel Canto Company (Greensboro, NC) will present their Christmas Concert on **Monday, November 29 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Sanctuary. All are invited to attend. A love offering will be collected to defray cost.

GROWING IN CHRIST

CHURCH-WIDE COVERED DISH LUNCH

Join us for a covered dish lunch in Aldersgate Hall on **Sunday, November 21** following 11:00 a.m. worship. Please bring enough food for your family plus one other. The church will provide the drinks. Let's start the week of Thanksgiving sharing a meal in community together.



ADVENT DEVOTIONS

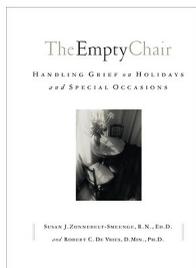
Front Street's Advent Devotions 2021 will be available **Sunday, November 28**. Please pick up a copy in the Welcome Center, Narthex, or Heritage Center. We ask that you only take one copy per family. Beginning November 28, a daily devotion will be posted on Front Street's Facebook page. 'Like' us to receive notifications. Alternatively, sign up at our website, www.frontstreetumc.org, to receive a daily Advent devotion straight to your inbox. We hope these devotions will be a source of renewal for you this Advent season.

Advent Devotions



THE EMPTY CHAIR: HANDLING GRIEF ON HOLIDAYS

Many of us still grieve the loss of loved ones when the holidays roll around. Join Pastor Ross for a 5-week journey and learn how to handle grief during the holidays. The small group will use the book *The Empty Chair*.



In the words of the author: "Grief, like the aftermath of a forest fire, is a process of recovery. Dealing effectively with the holidays while experiencing the pain of loss through

death necessitates some extra care and attention. Join us on a journey exploring both the pain and the eventual joy of rebirth."

This group will gather on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in Room 401 from December 1 – 29. The cost of the book is \$8.50. Please let Pastor Ross know if you would like to participate by emailing ross@frontstreetumc.org by **Friday November 19**.

SHARING CHRIST

TURKEY MEALS FOR EASTLAWN ELEMENTARY

Thank you to everyone who purchased a turkey meal for an Eastlawn Elementary family. We are still accepting donations towards turkey meals (\$35.00). Make checks payable to Front Street UMC with "turkey" in the memo-line and turn into the church office by **Sunday, November 14**. Also, volunteers are needed to assist with delivering the turkeys to Eastlawn on **Monday, November 22 at 9:00 a.m.** Please contact Betty Huneycutt at missbetty11@gmail.com to volunteer.



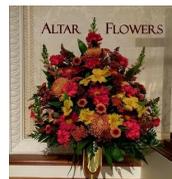
POINSETTIAS

Poinsettias will be placed in the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 28. They may be given in honor or in memory of someone. To place your order, please complete a form by **November 14**. Forms are located in the Welcome Center and at www.frontstreetumc.org.



Cost is \$25.00. Make your checks payable to FSUMC and mark for Poinsettias.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS



The following dates are available to place flowers in the Sanctuary in honor or memory of a loved one: **December 5, 12, 19, 24, and 26**. For more information, please contact Linda Paul at 336-543-5081 (cell) or kpaul5@triad.rr.com (email).

Prayers

- **The family of W. S. Gardner** upon his death on 10/31
- **Suzie and Tom Lambeth** upon the death of her father, Bill Story, on 10/27

Continued prayers:

- **Cynthia Powell**

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Matthew and Amanda Warren** upon the birth of their daughter, Addilyn Lu, born on Wednesday, October 27 at 7:26 a.m. Mom, dad, and baby are home and doing well.



The Church Office will be closed Thursday, November 25 and Friday, November 26 in observance of Thanksgiving. From all of us at Front Street UMC, we wish you and your family a very Happy Thanksgiving.

~ FSUMC Staff

FINANCIAL GIVING UPDATE FOR 11/5/2021

YTD Actual Giving - \$896,572.97

YTD Budgeted Giving - \$1,154,224.28

STAFF

Senior Pastor
Ross Carter

Pastor of Discipleship
Stephan Margeson

Youth Minister
Chris Huneycutt

Children's Minister
Melissa Miller

Minister of Visitation
Leslie Peavy

Organist/Director of Music
Matt Brittain

Choir Director
Brad Logan

Director of Aldersgate Music
Clay Stevenson

Finance Manager
Tammy Page

Administrative Assistant
Pamela Shields

Communications Coordinator
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Afterschool Director
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