

✝ SCRIPTURE READING

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22, 29-32

SERMON

“Turning the Tables”

Rev. Howard James

✝ HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP

“We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations”

UMH 569

(You are invited to pray at the Communion railing.)

✝ COMMUNION

✝ CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

✝ BENEDICTION

✝ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

For such a time as this we have been called to be the church. As His hands and feet, we will go into the world sent by God, who turns our mourning into dancing, and our sorrow into joy. We go forth from this place as his agents of relief, deliverers of peace, and builders of the faithful community. May we walk boldly, speak truth with conviction, and stand up against injustice wherever it is found. Now may the peace and truth of the Almighty guard your hearts this day and forevermore. Amen.

✝ POSTLUDE

“Postlude on NATIONAL HYMN” setting by E. Mead

Nan Leggett, Organist

✝ Please stand if you are able.

*The lovely flowers on the altar are given in loving memory of
James and Ann Pait.*

Given by Alan, Vickie, Leah and Kelly

SERVING THIS MORNING

Greeters.....	Rob Conway & Tom Leggett
Music Director.....	L.A. Cothorn
Organist.....	Nan Leggett
Pianist.....	Geneva Ashley
Altar Committee.....	Sandy Turner, Margie Rabon and Elizabeth Gibson

WHITEVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

902 Pinckney Street, Whiteville, NC 28472

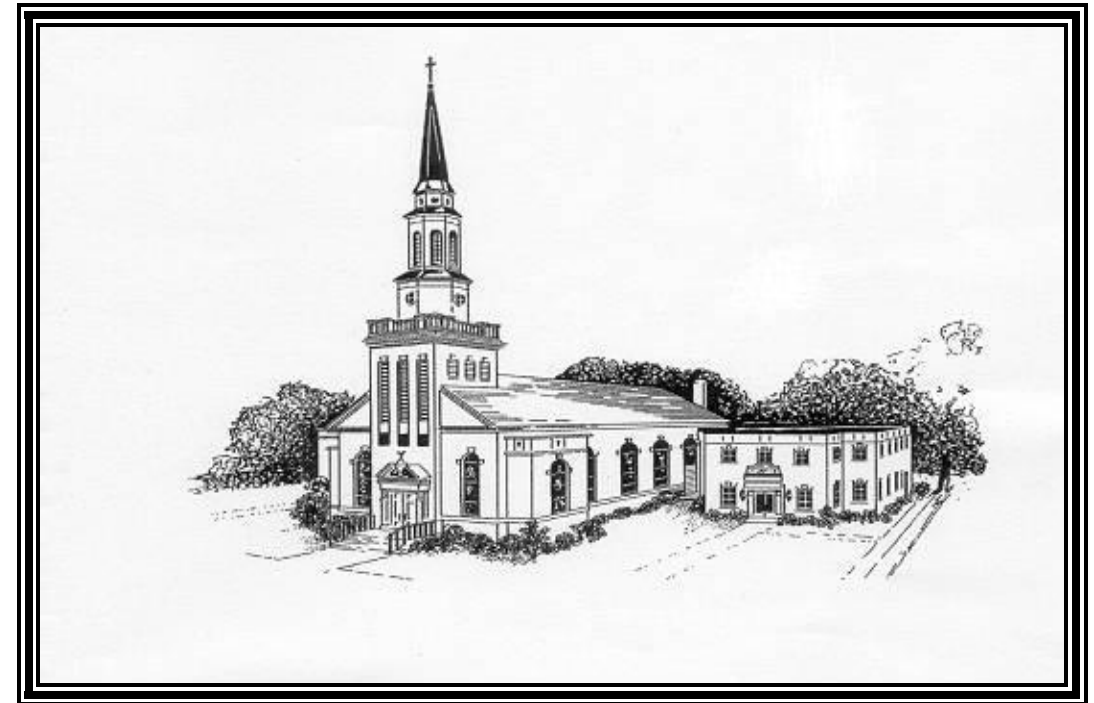
(910) 642-3376

wumc@whitevilleumc.org

Rev. Howard James

July 5, 2026

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



Mission Statement of Whiteville United Methodist Church

As people of the body of Christ, we will gather for and be strengthened by Word and Sacraments, participate in loving fellowship, grow in discipleship, and serve our community and the world in Christ’s name.

Welcome to Whiteville United Methodist Church

Thank you for worshipping with us today! We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in our worship, program, and ministry life here.

We hope the worship will inspire and comfort you as we hear God's message proclaimed. During this time, now more than ever, may the grace and love of Christ surround you.

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please use a microphone.)

Rob Conway

PRELUDE "Prelude on MUNICH" setting by C. Callahan

Nan Leggett, Organist

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

(Symbolizing the presence of the Spirit of the Lord in our service.)

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME

✠ RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: If it had not been God who was on our side, the troubles of our world would have swallowed us whole.

People: If it had not been God who was on our side, the sorrows of our times would have swept us away.

Leader: Are any among us suffering? Come and pray.

People: Are any among us cheerful? Come sing songs of praise.

Leader: Are any among us sick? Come and ask for healing.

People: Our help is in our God, the One who made heaven and earth.

Leader: Call upon God, creator and rescuer.

People: God is on our side. Come and let us worship the Lord!

✠ HYMN OF PRAISE

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

UMH 117

✠ UNISON OPENING PRAYER

O God, our guide and help in alien and contentious places: as Esther prayed faithfully and worked courageously for the deliverance of your people, strengthen us to confront the oppressor and free the oppressed, so that all people may know the justice and unity of your realm. Amen.

✠ STATEMENT OF FAITH

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

✠ GLORIA PATRI

**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.**

✠ WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND RESPONSE

Leader: Loving Father, In Jesus Christ, you show us that you are on the side of all people, but never at the expense of the weakest among us. Forgive us when we try to hoard you for ourselves and try to control who has access to your love. Forgive us when our greed, our control, and our scandals keep others from knowing you. Redeem us and transform us, O God. Open our hearts, our lives, and our ministries, that we may become a doorway to your realm.

People: God turns our sorrow into gladness and our times of mourning into celebration. God hears the prayer of faith. Be confident as we pray for one another, for God heals us and forgives us.

✠ THE PASSING OF CHRISTIAN PEACE

Piano Selection

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND PRAYER

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

"Behold the Lamb" arr. by Mark Hayes
Chancel Choir

✠ PRESENTING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

"Praise God"

UMH 95

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

✠ HYMN OF PREPARATION

"A Charge to Keep I Have"

UMH 413

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Whiteville United Methodist Church.

Visitors, please complete a Visitor's Card, which can be found in the pew rack, and place it in the offertory basket in the Narthex. We are happy to have you here with us today. Thank you.

Take me out to the ballgame! Catch the excitement of the Myrtle Beach Pelicans. Bring your glove and hat and let's have some fun. Information listed below. For any other questions contact Tammy!

-Wednesday, July 29

-Meet at the church at 4:55 pm

-**Tickets are \$14 each must be purchased by July 8.**

*Cash or check made out to Tammy McCullum

Cool Off with Us at VBS! August 9th-11th, 5:00-8:00 p.m., ages 4-10. This year we have accepted the Snowball Mountain Challenge, and we want you to join us as we gear up and become challengers in some frosty games, and snowy surprises. While facing our challenges we will also learn about some amazing people from the bible that faced some intense challenges of their own, but were reminded "I can do all things through him who strengthens me" Philippians 4:13. If you are up for a fun snowy challenge, please contact Mrs. Debbie Conway to see how you can help!

Summer Office Hours 9:00-1:00 Mon.-Fri.

This summer the WUMC Food Pantry will be accepting donations of toiletry/self-care items. Items desired include soap, shampoo, toothpaste, and deodorant.

The Church Office will be closed Monday.

Save the Date for a lunch celebrating Chamers Waddell after worship service Sunday, July 26. More details to come!

Prayer Concerns: Chalmers Waddell & Family, Lewellyn David, Janice Simms, Jan Avant, Wayne & Linda Overcash, Dick & Janice Simms, Butch & Sharon Dutton, Sabra Allen, John Turner, Florence Marlowe, Mary Hutchins, Phil Stoll, Wendy Hood, Peggy & Ralph Huffman.

Prayers of Support for our ongoing ministries: WUMC Preschool & Staff, Scouts, Food Pantry.

Prayer Requests: Contact the Church Office at wumc@whitevilleumc.org to add or remove names.

Ongoing ministries:

Adult Sunday School: Meet in parlor @ 9:00 a.m.

Children's Sunday School (ages 3-12): Upstairs classroom @ 9:00 a.m.

Handbell Rehearsals: On Hiatus until September.

Choir Rehearsals: On Hiatus until August.

Boy Scouts [ages 11-18] Mondays @ 7:00 p.m.

Cub Scouts [ages 6-10] Tuesdays @ 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study: @ 10:00 a.m. in the parlor

Preschool [ages 2-4]: Will resume in September.

Fifty-Plus Exercise Class: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00-11:00 a.m. in the parlor

Food Bank: distributes food on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 9:30-11:00 a.m.

United Women of Faith: 1st Monday of the month @ 6:00 p.m. in the parlor

Caregivers Support Group: 2nd Thursday of the month @1:30 p.m. in the parlor

Reaching Out: 4th Tuesday of the month @ 11:30 (support group for widows and widowers)

<i>2026 Church Budget</i>	<i>\$394,528.00</i>
<i>As of 06/28, Needed</i>	<i>\$135,606.00</i>
<i>As of 06/28, Received</i>	<i>\$90,395.00</i>
<i>Needed Each Sunday</i>	<i>\$5,664.00</i>
<i>Received on 06/28</i>	<i>\$1,147.00</i>
<i>Attendance 06/28</i>	<i>33</i>
<i>Online Views</i>	<i>21</i>