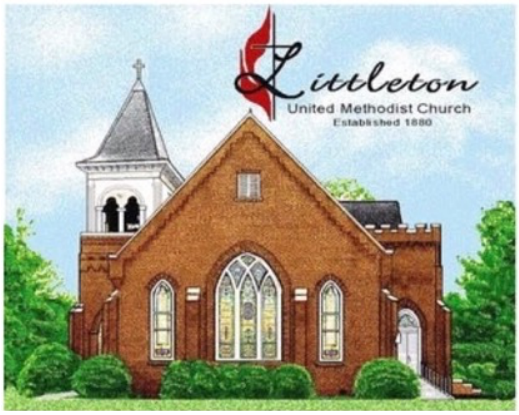

Big News

from

Littleton United Methodist Church

September / October 2026

Pastor: Rev. Keith Porter

Littleton UMC
105 East South Main St.
PO Box 26
Littleton, NC. 27850
252-586-5385
www.littlton-umc.org
Sunday Worship 9:15 am

"If God gives such attention to the appearance of wildflowers—most of which are never even seen—don't you think he'll attend to you, take pride in you, do his best for you? What I'm trying to do here is to get you to relax, to not be so preoccupied with getting, so you can respond to God's giving. People who don't know God and the way he works fuss over these things, but you know both God and how he works. Steep your life in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. Don't worry about missing out. You'll find all your everyday human concerns will be met."

Matthew 6:31-33, MSG Bible

Greetings beautiful people of God. Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ!

It's September. What a month. We've made it through another summer. Students of all ages are back in school. Parents are carting kids around to extracurricular lessons and sports. Anglers are enjoying the fine fishing of fall. Hunters are already bowhunting, waiting for muzzleloader or gun seasons while checking for rubs and scrapes. Farmers are making final preparations for the fall harvest. Gardens are either being bedded down for the year or planted for a fall crop. Deciduous trees are letting go of their leaves and wintergreens soon will have their day. Soon people will be complaining about Christmas merchandise in stores way too soon. It's a wonderful time of year. I'm sure you can think of more examples. God's grace is abundant and overflowing. How can we keep from singing!

The church is busy! The Holy Spirit is on the move! Charge conference will be held on September 13, the earliest date we can ever remember, and reports are well underway. New leaders are stepping up to vacancies in church leadership positions, and many are continuing on. We have been approved for a site visit as part of our Connect Church grant application to provide coaching and support for the ecumenical work that we hope for. We are so delighted to have children joining us in worship services at both churches on Sunday and we are asking ourselves how we can serve young people in our communities and beyond.

I have been moved by how well these two churches attend to the sick and elderly of these congregations. I thank you all. These days warm my heart. We have many who need visiting and helping. It's a wonderful opportunity for serving God.

We are all children of God and I know it's a busy time. It can also be a time of anxiety from all this activity. Please remember to take care of yourself. Take a Sabbath. Pause to pray; pray unceasingly. Search your scripture. Ask someone if you can help and ask for help if you need it. Call or text me if you would like a visit or just to talk.

If you haven't been to church in a while, we'd sure love to see you. Come and see.

I'm praying for all of you. God bless you.

With much love,
Pastor Keith

NEWS from MARIE!

UWF: UWF (United Women in Faith, formerly UMW, United Methodist Women) will not meet Sept 14 but will meet on October 12, 2026 at 11:30 in the Fellowship Hall with lunch first and then our meeting. We will already be discussing Christmas plans and scheduling our Breakfast with Santa event. Please join us!



Game Night will be held in the Fellowship Hall on September 9 and then on October 14, 2026. This starts at 4 PM with games and then around 5:30 we eat a light supper. If you've not attended these before, now is a good time to try it out! The time together is full of food, fun and fellowship. Let Marie know if you plan to attend (for food-planning purposes).

The LUMC "Book Club" meets on the third Thursday evening of the month. Our goal is to read menus and have a wonderful Girls Night Out kind of fellowship as we enjoy a wonderful meal, not cooked by us. We try to go to a variety of places in our local area. We often carpool and we regularly laugh a lot while we enjoy our meal...please come when you can! Call Sandy or Marie to let us know you are coming. The next Book Club outing is on September 17th, and we plan to go the Long Horn Steakhouse in Roanoke Rapids. In August, we had a fun time at LKG Pizza.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE SUMMARY
Sandy Millner

In July:

- We participated in Vacation Bible School at Littleton Baptist Church for two days, including a snack one day.
- We reached out to Littleton Academy as well as Haliwa Saponi Tribal School with no responses.
- I have reached out to Shannon McAllister with John 3:16 Center to see what we can assist with, since we didn't do a school supplies drive.

In August:

- We are looking to put a meeting together next month to get ideas to move forward. (September 3rd at 1:30 at Sandy Millner's house).
- On August 22nd, we participated in the Roanoke Valley Fights Hunger to pack over 40,000
- harvest pack meals for local families in conjunction with the John 3:16 Center, East Tenth Street Christian Church, and Halifax Community College.
- So far, we definitely have John 3:16 on the books for the Christmas Outreach program- dates TBD.



September and October:
We will be collecting new socks and underwear in original packages for the John 3:16 Center. All sizes are needed.



Richard Odom's Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, September 12, at 11am, followed by a light lunch. Please keep Anne Odom in your thoughts and prayers as we prepare to honor Richard's memory.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sept 7	Steve DeWitt
Sept 20	George Alston
Sept 21	Macon White
Sept 22	Anne Odom

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Oct 18	Judy Woodburn
Oct 19	Lewis Fields
Oct 25	Sylvia Alston
Oct 28	Dorothy Eisenson



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Sept 13	George & Sylvia Alston
Sept 14	Bill & Rhonda Kessinger
Sept 21	Clark & Crickett LeMasters

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

None

Lay Reader / Worship Leader Schedule

Date	Worship Leader	Lay Reader
Sept 6	Bill Kessinger	Bill Kessinger
Sept 13	Bill Kessinger	Rhonda Kessinger
Sept 20	Bill Kessinger	Crickett LeMasters
Sept 27	Marie Fields	Marie Fields
Oct 4	Bill Kessinger	Bill Kessinger
Oct 11	Bill Kessinger	Rhonda Kessinger
Oct 18	Marie Fields	Crickett LeMasters
Oct 25	Marie Fields	Marie Fields
Nov 1	Bill Kessinger	Bill Kessinger

Thank you for serving as lay readers. Verses will be provided as part of the bulletin information, and as always, you can find a large-print copy of the reading in the church office before the service.

Refreshment providers

Sept 6	Mary
Sept 13	Marie
Sept 20	Sandy
Sept 27	Susan C
Oct 4	Rhonda
Oct 11	Cathy
Oct 18	Sandy
Oct 25	Susan M

