

JORDAN
MEMORIAL UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH



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VOLUME 12 ISSUE 2

MARCH 2022

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

March 2nd officially starts the season of Lent. It is a preparatory season similar to Advent. In the weeks before Christmas we are preparing for the coming of Jesus; during Lent we are preparing for his death and resurrection. Unfortunately Lent tends to get associated with Catholic Church tradition and for some that is a turn off. I wanted to share with you a brief description from our denomination’s website about Lent and what that means for us in this Holy season.

“Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, which means "spring." The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry. Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism. Today, Christians focus on their relationship with God, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of themselves for others. Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter" and the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.”

From www.umc.org/what-we-believe/what-is-lent

I love that we are reminded that Lent means spring. Lent is a season of hope. We have been enjoying the beautiful weather over this last week. It is a reminder that the cold days of winter will soon be gone, flowers will emerge, and trees will become green again. With each spring there is new life and rebirth. The same is true of Lent, because of the death and resurrection of Jesus; we are given new life and rebirth. No matter what you are going through, each day brings a chance for newness and transformation through Christ. Each flower that blooms is a reminder of God’s work in creation and of God’s work in each of our lives.

What does that mean for you this Lenten season?

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**Please send mail and
pray for our Homebound**

Ray Albright
217 Holly Hill Street
Ramseur, NC 27316

Bill Smith
Cross Roads Retirement Center
1302 Old Cox Rd (Room 1)
Asheboro, NC 27205

Sharon Jones
2988 Tuttle Road
Archdale, NC 27263

Ann Robinson
2800 Spoons Chapel Rd
Asheboro, NC 27205

Jordan Memorial Military

Aaron Bressler and Lundy Burge
10783 Scripps Ranch Row
San Diego, CA 92131-2509

SPC Trexler, Dylan

Quinton Smith
144 Mt. Vernon Ave.
Portsmouth, VA 23707

College Students

Nancy Almanza
PO Box 361
Ramseur, NC 27316

Kara Camp
5546 Nightwood Drive
Randleman, NC 27317

Colton Embree
1600 Longwood Dr.
Greenville, NC 27858

Hannah Harris
2504 NC Hwy 22 South
Ramseur, NC 27316

Nathan Harris
5128 Powell Townes Way
Raleigh, NC 27606

Fletcher Rains
225 New Prospect Street
Unit #101
Cullowhee, NC 28723

Ashley Shackelford
2367 Woodridge Drive
Asheboro, NC 27205

Melissa Strickland
2868 Spoons Chapel Road
Asheboro, NC 27205

Memorials and Honorariums

In Memory of Eddie Luck by

Emily Johnson
Betty Shackelford

In Honor of Jerry Boyd by

Betty Shackelford

Back to School Bash is scheduled for August 13, 2022 at 10am. Please mark this date on your calendar and if you're interested in helping please let the church office know.

Small Group

The Well meets every Thursday night at 6:00 PM at Mona Lisa's Restaurant next to Carlie C's. Feel free to come and eat or simply come to enjoy the conversation. We have met new faces and heard amazing stories as we have started out. There is always room for one more at the table so we hope to see you there!



Join us on Facebook, YouTube, or our website (www.JordanMemorial.org) for Lenten Conversations. I will go Live on Wednesdays at 11:00 AM but you can watch online at anytime after. We will look at various topics throughout the Lenten journey and following each episode there will be a Facebook post with questions that can be responded to in the comments section. With many people having hectic schedules we hope this will be a chance to digitally engage in conversation throughout Lent as we journey together.

General Information

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday service
March 2nd at 6:30pm in the
Sanctuary

Vision Team

Will meet on March
16 at 7pm.

AA Group

Jordan Memorial is hosting an open discussion **AA Group** on Monday and Thursday evenings at 6:30pm in the conference room. Please be in prayer for this important ministry.



Join us each Sunday at 10:00AM through **Lent** as we look in depth at Jesus' final hours. In this study we will look at the last 24 hours, from the upper room to the crucifixion as it takes us to Easter. Study starts March 6th and runs through Easter, hope to see you there!

During the month of March, the UMW is collecting toothpaste and men's and women's deodorant. You can leave the items in the container outside the church office. Thank You!!



Craft Circle Group

All Crafts Welcome. Every Thursday at
3pm in the Fellowship Hall.

JORDAN MEMORIAL
SPONSORS A LADIES'
EXERCISE CLASS ON
TUESDAY AND THURSDAY
MORNINGS IN THE
FELLOWSHIP HALL AT 9AM.
EQUIPMENT IS PROVIDED
AND THERE IS NO FEE.
PLEASE JOIN US FOR
EXERCISE, FUN AND
FELLOWSHIP!



OPEN ON 1ST AND 3RD TUESDAY'S AT 5PM

Jordan's Closet

Free clothes for women, men, & children

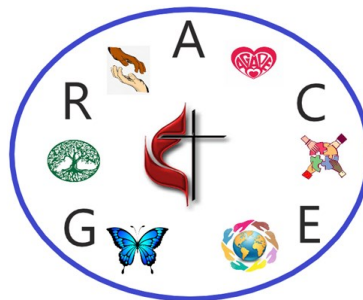
UMW NEWS

United Methodist Women held its first meeting of the year in February. We had good attendance and made plans for the year. We are especially excited to be in partnership with the Ramseur Public Library to offer reading selections for our UMW Reading Program! We have a special shelf of books in the library and I encourage each of you to READ! Our current mission projects are Backpack Pals, collecting deodorant and toothpaste for the Ramseur Food Pantry and school supplies for SERMS. We are planning a silent auction as a fundraiser on April 3 as well.

Our next meeting, which will be our annual Call to Prayer and Self-Denial is scheduled for Sunday, March 20 at 2:30 in the fellowship hall. Please come and join us. The district Prayer Breakfast is scheduled for April 12 at First UMC in Lexington. I hope that several will be able to attend this event.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve women, children and youth through the United Methodist Women.

Betty Jo Armfield



(Continued from page 1)

The second part that most people do is the act of giving something up for Lent. The idea is that you give up something you would normally do to spend that time with God in prayer and reflection. Unfortunately, we have turned it into a forty-day challenge to go without caffeine, chocolate, or sweets. If giving these things up brings you closer to God, Hallelujah! However, I would dare say that that is not what is going on. This year I want you to give up your most valuable possession; your time. Give time every day for prayer, reading, and reflection. Give time to come to our Lenten Bible Study on Sunday mornings, to worship, to attend small group, to volunteer at Jordan's Closet, or to participate in our Mission trip at the end of the month. Take time to help a neighbor, to listen to someone's story, to make a new friend. Make God a priority and see if the results are not better than going without sweets or Starbucks. This Lenten season we are going to be looking at our Discipleship journey. It is a process by which we are transformed through grace. Grace of course being the gift of God but also grace as an acronym for how we journey:

Grow: we must grow in our faith before we can go to others.

Reach: we reach out to our neighbors, our community, to those around us.

Agape: we share the love of God with them, we simply love them, no more and no less.

Connect: We connect with people, get to know them and their stories.

Equip: we begin to teach them to go and do the same.

This journey through grace leads to authentic transformation. Each Sunday throughout Lent we will focus on these various aspects of Discipleship in an effort to help us all grow deeper in our Discipleship journey. **What will you commit to in order to grow deeper in your discipleship this Lenten season?**

My prayer is that in this Lenten season we all take time to reflect on what Easter is all about and that we all may grow deeper in our walk with God.

Rev. Chris Smith

From the Safety Team;

We want to start off by saying Thank You to each one of you for your patience and sacrifices made during this pandemic. No one enjoys masks or the other restrictions we have had. We have endured through these times together, which is a testament to the love within our congregation. It has been months of making tough decisions that effect our congregation, a responsibility that none on our team take lightly. We have strived to maintain our calling as United Methodists to do good, to do no harm and love God and neighbor. As we prepare to enter Spring, we have received new guidelines from the state regarding mask wearing. The conference office has also encouraged all local churches to follow the state and local guidelines. Starting March 1st masks will be optional for indoor worship and other church events. We hope this is a step towards the end of all this madness but please note that if numbers should spike again, we may need to return to masks should the situation arise.

For now, we are simply asking that you respect the wishes of everyone. If you see someone wearing a mask, please respect their right to distance and avoid sitting within 6 feet to help ensure their safety. We also will maintain the side wing area for infants and small children that cannot be vaccinated. Please continue to avoid congregating or using this area unless you are a parent of a small child. We hope this will be a step in moving forward and reconnecting with one another. Let's continue to work together to stay together! We will continue to monitor all CDC updates and make changes accordingly. We really appreciate your patience and understanding throughout this process. The Safety Team

Dear Church Family,

I hope you all enjoyed the puzzle in last month's edition of the Link. If you are still struggling to find all 30, here are the answers.

This is **a most remarkable** puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, **keeping** him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much; he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his **john** boat. Another friend studied it while playing his **banjo**. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend **judges** the **job** of solving this puzzle so involving, **she brews** a cup of tea to help her nerves. **There** will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a **fact**. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a **jam**, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. **Truthfully**, **from answers** we get, we are forced to **admit it** usually takes a minister or a scholar to see some of the **m at the worst**. Research has shown that something in our **genes is** responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in this paragraph. During a recent fund raising event, which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta **Phi lemonade** booth set a new record. The local paper, The **Chronicle**, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As **Daniel Humana** **humbly** puts it, "The books are all right here in plain view hidden from sight." **Those** able to find all of them will hear great **lamentations** from those who have to be shown. One **revelation** that may help is that books like **Timothy** and **Samuel** may occur without their **numbers**. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are **normal**. A **chipper** attitude will help you **compete** really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad **exodus**; there really are 30 books of the Bible **lurking** somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found. God Bless.

Amos, Mark, Luke, John, Joel, Judges, Job, Hebrews, Esther, Acts, James, Ruth, Romans, Titus, Matthew, Genesis, Philemon, Chronicles, Daniel, Nahum, Hosea, Lamentations, Revelation, Timothy, Samuel, Numbers, Malachi, Peter, Exodus, Kings. Pastor Chris

Mark your calendar!

March 26th and 27th we will be having a missions weekend out at **Mt Shepherd Retreat Center** in Asheboro. Mt. Shepherd continues to be a beautiful place where kids encounter the love of God through day camp, overnight camp, and weekend retreats. It is a wonderful place to experience God, but it takes help from many folks to allow this to continue to happen. As the chair of the Buildings and Grounds committee for the camp I have a special interest in trying to help maintain our facilities and improve them for the campers to have the best experience possible. I have also learned that mission projects are great ways to get to know people better or perhaps meet someone new. They are great opportunities to learn new skills, form community, and help others all at the same time.

We will work from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Saturday and 1:00pm to 5:00 pm on Sunday. Feel free to come and go as you need to throughout the weekend. No special skills are required, there is plenty to do, and we can find something for you! Please let myself, (Pastor Chris) or the church office know if you are planning on coming and at which times so we can plan accordingly. We will also need volunteers to help with snacks, drinks, and lunch on Saturday as well, if that is your gift!




Projects will include:

- replacing a roof on a cabin (not steep)
- replacing a roof on the pool house
- painting the inside of the bath house
- painting the trim on the outside of the bath house
- Pressure washing and sealing the outside decks on the cabins
- converting an old bathroom into a laundry room and staff lounge
- replacing a walking trail bridge
- constructing a new gate at the entrance
- replacing the lighting in the cross as well as landscaping around the cross

As you can see there is a lot to do! We hope you will consider coming out to help for some if not all of the time! Feel free to share with anyone you know that might be interested. Let's work together to help make a difference at the camp so that it can make a difference for children right here in our community



March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Jordan Closet 5pm	2 	3 AA Grp 6:30pm Small Grp 6pm	4	5
6	7 AA Grp 6:30pm	8	9	10 AA Grp 6:30pm Small Grp 6pm	11	12
13 Daylight Saving Time 2-4pm Strength Finder mtg	14 AA Grp 6:30pm	15 Jordan Closet 5pm Community Meal 5pm	16 Vision Team 7pm	17 AA Grp 6:30pm Small Grp 6pm 	18	19
20 UMW meet 2:30pm 	21 AA Grp 6:30pm	22	23	24 AA Grp 6:30pm Small Grp 6pm	25	26 Mt Shepherd mission day
27 Mt Shepherd mission day	28 AA Grp 6:30pm	29	30	31 AA Grp 6:30pm Small Grp 6pm		

Ramseur Food Pantry: Dry Beans, Pork & Beans, Instant Potatoes

March Birthdays

02-Rosemary G. Odom
02-Dan Bressler
03-Denise Lowe
04-Susan Stevenson
05-Colton Embree
05-John Williams
07-Logan Armfield
07-Christy Embree
09-Beth Embree
09-Priscilla Allen
09-David Harris
10-Mary Cole Pike
10-Kimberly Ragsdale
13-Shirley Mitchell
14-Betty Mace

14-Hal Leonard
15-John Allen
15-Jason Gager
16-Tim Benbow
17-Benjamin Lankford
19-Micah Kurtz
24-David Posey
24-Lindsay Armfield
24-Bradley McPherson
24-Fletcher Rains
27-Keth Mace



Jordan Memorial United Methodist Church

1511 Main Street
PO Box 848
Ramseur, NC 27316



Phone: 336-824-2252

E-mail:

JordanMemorial@JordanMemorial.org

www.JordanMemorial.org

Worship times

Sunday School 10am

Worship Service 11am



YOU ARE INVITED TO A FREE COMMUNITY MEAL

MARCH 15, 2022 @ 5PM

THIS IS DRIVE THRU GRAB & GO BOX MEAL

JORDAN MEMORIAL UMC
1511 MAIN STREET RAMSEUR

