

JORDAN
MEMORIAL UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH



**INSIDE
THIS ISSUE:**

Memorials & Honorariums 2
Homebound, Military, College

General Information 3
6

May Calendar 7

Community Meal 8

The Link

VOLUME 13 ISSUE 4

MAY 2023



The above picture is from the traditional site of the Upper Room. Note this is just the location, not the actual Upper Room. The original room would have been destroyed by Rome in 70 AD during the siege. This particular space was built sometime between 1187-1229 AD by Crusader knights. When we arrived, the space was full as indicated by the picture, but slowly it began to empty until it was just our group. When we recognized it was just us, we took advantage of this rare opportunity to sing. The acoustics were amazing as we sang through several hymns including “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”. This has always been one of my favorite hymns, “Prone to wander Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love, here’s my heart Lord take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.” It’s a hymn that reminds us that God’s blessings come no matter what we do; whether we are following or prone to wander, God is there. It was a special moment to worship in this space and to sing these words as we remembered the events of the Upper Room. Not only was the Upper Room significant for the Last Supper, but it also became the place where the disciples would meet when they were in Jerusalem. It was where they gathered after the crucifixion and hid; and when they returned for Shavuot 50 days later, they once again gathered in this place.

Pentecost marks fifty days after Easter and we will celebrate it at the end of this month. It is the day we remember the Holy Spirit coming upon the disciples. Perhaps the disciples were in this same place, we don’t know for sure. What we do know is that while they were there, God showed up. As with so many places in Israel the physical location is not what is important, it is what we remember God doing in that place that matters. The walls we saw

(Continued on page 2)

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

Ray Albright
230 East Presnell Street
Asheboro, NC 27203

Sharon Jones
2988 Tuttle Road
Archdale, NC 27263

Ann Robinson
2800 Spoons Chapel Rd
Asheboro, NC 27205

John and Sue Sinkewicz
814 McDowell Country Trail Lot#41
Asheboro, NC 27203

Jordan Memorial Military

SGT Trexler, Dylan
Unit#93199 TF Hammer
(553rd CTC)
APO AE 09008

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



College Students

Maria Almanza (NCSU)
PO Box 362
Ramseur, NC 27316

Kara Camp
5546 Nightwood Drive
Randleman, NC 27317

Hannah Harris
2504 NC Hwy 22 South
Ramseur, NC 27316

Ashley Shackelford
2367 Woodridge Drive
Asheboro, NC 27205

Melissa Strickland
2868 Spoons Chapel Road
Asheboro, NC 27205

(Continued from page 1)

were certainly not there in the time of Pentecost and perhaps it was not even the right location, but that doesn't matter. What matters is that God showed up, he kept God's promise to send a helper that would always be with us. Sometimes we get caught up in places and things that we miss seeing what God is doing around us. For us, the singing that morning was a Pentecost moment, you could feel the Holy Spirit flooding that room with His presence, for us it was the Upper Room of Pentecost.

God continues to come to us in new and fresh ways, the question is are we paying attention? We don't need to look for the Spirit in specific or certain places, the Holy Spirit is everywhere, bringing order out of chaos and helping us through the challenges we face each day. This month we celebrate Pentecost, and I pray that it will be a time that you feel the Holy Spirit moving in your life. I pray that as a church we will feel the Spirit guiding us into what is ahead. I pray that in whatever way you need that the Spirit will come and attend to what you are facing. Pentecost reminds us that we are not alone. God is with us, there is nothing that can separate us from the love of God. Look for ways in the coming month that the Holy Spirit is moving in your life, look for the small reminders that God is with you, look for ways that the Spirit is moving us to new and exciting things in the coming year. Pentecost is a joyful time because it is full of possibility and hope. May we all be filled with God's Spirit like a fount of blessing tuning our hearts to sing His grace.



Chris Smith

General Information

Jordan's Closet

We are open first and third Tuesday's, at 5pm.

Craft Circle Group

The Craft Group meets on Wednesday's at 3:00 PM in the fellowship hall.

AA Group

Jordan Memorial hosts Alcoholic Anonymous meetings on Monday and Thursday evenings at 6:30pm in the conference room.

We also host a women's only AA meeting Saturday's at 5pm in the conference room.



Back to School Bash 2023

Back to School Bash meeting May 23 at 6:30 PM in the Conference Room. The bags are already here, and donations are beginning to come in. If you would like to be a part of this wonderful ministry, please contact the church office so we can get you involved!



Leadership Team

Leadership Team Meeting Sunday May 7th at 4:00 PM

Faith & Fitness

Exercise class meets on Tuesday's & Thursday's at 9am in the fellowship hall. Equipment is provided and there is no fee.

Choir Practice

Choir Practice is Wednesday's at 7pm.

Handbell Practice

Handbell Practice is Wednesday's at 6pm.

Graduates: If you know if someone graduating this June please send pictures, write up and future interest to be included in the June Link. Thank you church office.



Growing Together

Join us for **Growing Together** May 27th 10:00 AM- 12:00 PM at the Parsonage. This monthly gathering is a chance to grow in our relationships with one another. Crossing cultural and language barriers, we seek to grow in our faith as we learn from each other and create out of our personal stories. The ladies enjoy crafting while the men have been going and enjoying breakfast together. Please RSVP with Jaidy or the church office in order to prepare adequate supplies. This is open to men and women and is a wonderful opportunity to create, share, and grow!

The Well

Join us for The Well on 2nd and 4th Thursdays!

The Well is a Fresh Expression where we seek to create a communal place where people can gather to talk about faith, life, and everything in between. This is open to anyone regardless of your religious background. We believe that the Well in the time of Jesus was a place of life-giving water, community engagement, and needed fellowship. We hope you can join us!

May 11th 10:00 AM in the Conference Room 1511 Main St. Ramseur
7:00 PM at the parsonage 307 Elam Ave. Ramseur

May 25th 10:00 AM in the Conference Room 1511 Main St Ramseur
7:00 PM at the parsonage 307 Elam Ave. Ramseur

Thank You to Our District Superintendent, Laura Auten



On May 7th we will have a combined worship service with a cover dish meal to follow. Our District Superintendent, Laura Auten, will be joining us and preaching that morning. Laura has faithfully served the Uwharrie District for the past 8 years and as of July 1st will be taking an appointment back within the local church. We want to take this opportunity to say “thank you” for all of her hard work in our district and especially within our churches. She has supported the ministries of Jordan Memorial and La Luz De Cristo with her time, leadership, and resources. Our lunch following the service will be in her honor as we take time to celebrate Laura and wish her blessings as she transitions back into local church ministry. Hope you can join us for this special day and bring your favorite dish to share!

Thank You!

Thank you so very much for all the wonderful heartfelt cards and notes of appreciation. It really means a lot to get them.

Donna

United Women in Faith

Thanks to all who participated in the collection of feminine hygiene items for the Food Pantry. We are grateful for these donations.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 21 at 2:30pm in the fellowship hall. We will have a guest speaker, Susan Hunt, from Keaton's Place. Please come and hear about this wonderful mission outreach.



The fact is, about 60% of Americans aren't going to church. That means the Sunday service, even with concert-style worship and its trendy coffee bar, will only ever attract less than half of the population.

Yet, the vast majority of church resources are poured into these prevailing forms of church.

Fresh Expressions makes space for laity and pastors to use both traditional services as well as innovative forms of church to live out Christ's mission. One does not replace the other, but rather creates a mutual benefit for both—a “mixed ecology of church.”

Here at Jordan, we offer several Fresh Expressions that we use to reach members of our community that would not otherwise attend a Sunday morning service. These include our Exercise group, Growing Together, our walking group, and the Well. Through our listening over the past year, we have met many new neighbors through Jordan's Closet and our Community Meal. These connections present us with new opportunities to be the church and to reach a wider portion of our community.

Third Meeting – Workshop in Salisbury with Dr. Michael Beck

May 13th 9:30 AM-3:00 PM

(We will take the church van, leaving the church at 8:15)

Fourth Meeting- Planning the details and implementation

June 11th 7:00 PM

Launch a New Fresh Expression!!!!



Robert Elwood Thomas
February 25, 1937 – April 22, 2023

Robert Elwood Thomas, 86, of Ramseur, North Carolina, passed away April 22, 2023, at his home. A service and celebration of his life will be held at Jordan Memorial United Methodist Church, where he was a long-time member, at 1511 Main Street in Ramseur, on Friday, April 28, at 2:00 pm. Officiating, Rev. Chris Smith and Rev. Josh Kurtz.

Bob was born in Asheboro, North Carolina, to Fred and Elinor Thomas. Growing up in Ramseur, Bob spent lots of time fishing and bird hunting, and made lifelong friendships with many of the boys he grew up with. He was very close to his older brother, nicknamed Tom, and grew up close to extended family. Always a hard worker, Bob's first job was a paper route in Ramseur, which found him rising early to ride his bike delivering papers and collecting subscription money.

He graduated from Ramseur School in 1955, where he played basketball and football (including All County selections in both, he liked to remind his daughter, Amy). It was after a basketball game that a 16-year-old Bob caught the attention of a 15-year-old Martha with the line, "Hey, girl." Following high school, he completed his undergrad and dental school at UNC-Chapel Hill. His courtship of Martha lasted through high school and college, and they married June 25, 1960. After completing his studies, Bob and Martha moved to Madrid, Spain, where Bob was stationed as an Air Force dentist - he described this as when he flew a dental chair for the Air Force. This three years in Madrid forever impacted them both with a love of travel and adventure, and the friendships they made while there have lasted decades.

When Bob left the Air Force, they moved home to Ramseur where he opened his dental practice in his first office, above the Bank of Coleridge on Main Street. Over the years, his practice grew and his reputation as a detailed and gentle dentist was established. He built a new office in the late 70s, and continued practicing until health concerns forced him to change course in 1989. He loved knowing his patients and their families, and he continued to hear from many over the years (one even wrote a poem about his finesse and skill in her book of poetry!). After leaving dentistry, Bob pursued life with an entrepreneurial spirit, and successfully started several businesses, including a hotel in Warrenton, Virginia, where his daughter and her family live. He managed his family's timber properties and served on the North Carolina Forestry Advisory Council.

Bob was truly a renaissance man, with a love for literature (particularly Ernest Hemingway, Mark Twain, MFK Fisher and Mike Gaddis), travel in Europe, F1 racing, time in the woods with his Bernese Mountain Dog, Bert, fly fishing in the North Carolina mountains, bird hunting in Georgia, active in church renovations in the early 80s, and supporting Martha's love of art. His storytelling skills were unmatched, and his memory was always sharp. Bob adored his grandchildren, Anna Galina and Toly, and he loved spending time with them, whether it was taking them on an incredible trip or teaching them to make something in his basement. Bob was skilled in refinishing furniture, wood carving, making flyrods and tying flies, building frames for Martha's paintings, creating wildflower gardens, and

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

identifying every type of bird, tree or plant imaginable (long before Google). An avid reader, when macular degeneration made reading more difficult, he quickly converted to the streaming joys of Netflix and spending time with the Yellowstone characters. Bob enjoyed following the Tarheels, but it was hard to top his experience being a student at UNC during the 1957 basketball national championship year, and his memories as a younger boy when Charlie “Choo Choo” Justice was on the football field. Kris Kristofferson was a music favorite for many years, as he loved the storytelling in his songwriting.

Bob’s life was rich with friendships of people from all ages and walks of life. He was quick to call and catch up with friends from childhood, college, dental school, Spain, Warrenton and more. When sharing stories with Amy last week, he said to her, “You’re going to wish there was more time to talk.” He was absolutely right.

Survivors include his wife of almost 63 years, Martha Allen Thomas, daughter, Amy Thomas Petty, his grandchildren, Anna Galina Petty and William “Toly” Petty, and beloved nieces, nephews and grandnieces and grandnephews. He was predeceased by his parents, his brother Fred “Tom” Thomas, Jr., and son-in-law Glenn Petty.

Martha and Amy thank the many family, friends and neighbors who have shown love through visits, calls and acts of kindness. Special thanks go to neighbor and friend Grant Cheek for his friendship and compassionate care in recent weeks, and to neighbor and friend Jameison Thomas for always lending a hand when one was needed. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Jordan Memorial Methodist Church, P. O. Box 848, Ramseur, NC, 27316.

Food Truck Festival



It was a great day on Main Street! Both churches were able to raise funds for missions while working alongside each other in true connectional form. La Luz has become known as the corn church because of their delicious elotes! (street corn) It was a great day to connect with each other and connect to the community. Thank you to everyone who came out and helped or stopped to get something to eat!



May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 9am Faith & Fitness Jordan Closet 5pm	3 Craft Grp 3pm Handbell 6pm Choir Practice 7pm	4 9am Faith & Fitness National Day of Prayer 12pm Town Hall AA Mtg 6:30pm	5	6 Women only AA Mtg 6:30pm
7 Leadership team 4pm	8 AA Mtg 6:30pm	9 9am Faith & Fitness Jordan Closet 5pm	10 Craft Grp 3pm Handbell 6pm Choir Practice 7pm	11 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm 10am & 7pm The Well	12	13 Women only AA Mtg 6:30pm
14 <i>Mothers Day</i>	15	16 9am Faith & Fitness Jordan Closet 5pm Community meal 5pm	17 Craft Grp 3pm Handbell 6pm Choir Practice 7pm	18 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm	19	20 Women only AA Mtg 6:30pm
21 UMW meeting 2:30pm	22	23 9am Faith & Fitness Jordan Closet 5pm Back to School 6:30pm	24 Craft Grp 3pm Handbell 6pm Choir Practice 7pm	25 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm 10am & 7pm The Well	26	27 Growing Together 10am Women only AA Mtg 6:30pm
28 Pentecost	29 Memorial Day Office Closed	30 9am Faith & Fitness Jordan Closet 5pm	31 Craft Grp 3pm Handbell 6pm Choir Practice 7pm			

Ramseur Food Pantry: Canned Collards and Turnip Greens. We will need volunteers May22-26.

May Birthdays

04-Melissa Urban
08-Debbie Campbell
08-Mary Gant Hudson
08-Debbie Huffman
09-Celia Harris
12-Barry Ellison
14-Hannah Harris
16-Mason Siers
18-Kay Parks
19-Addison Armfield
20-Peyton Leonard
21- Lauren Hutchins
22-Betty Jo Armfield

22-Liam Armfield
22-Jake Chaffin
23-Greg Fox
23-Devonia McNeill
25-Brian Leonard
25-Chris Watkins
27-Doug Gager
29-Thomas Hardin



Jordan Memorial United Methodist Church

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Community Meal May 16th, 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

Join us for our Community Meal, it's a great time of food, fellowship, and faith!

Worship times

Sunday School 9:30am
Worship Service 10:30am
La Luz Service 1230pm

