

JORDAN
MEMORIAL UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Memorials &
Honorariums 2
Homebound,
Military,
College

Graduate
General 3
Information —
7

June 8
Calendar

July 9
Calendar

Back to 10
School Bash

The Link

VOLUME 13 ISSUE 5

JUNE AND JULY 2023



The above picture is from Tel Dan in northern Israel. It is known as the Abraham Gate. This gate dates back to 1750 BCE, making it 4,000 years old and one of the oldest archeological discoveries ever made. It was the entrance to an ancient Canaanite city called Laish. We read about it in Genesis 14 where scripture tells us that Abram went as far as Dan to retrieve his nephew Lot. Now Dan did not exist at this time since the name Dan comes from Jacob's Son who would have been Abraham's great grandson. So, Abram would have been in a city called Laish at that time which was controlled by the Canaanites. He would have entered the city in search of Lot and therefore would have passed through the city gate. This is why it got the name, the Abraham Gate, because there is biblical evidence that Abraham would have walked through it. Now whether he did or not is not important, he went to this region, along with a lot of other regions, and that is what I want to focus on today. What matters is not how Abraham did it but rather why.

When we read the Bible, in particular the Old Testament, we tend to ask the question; “How?” How did God create the world? How did God create humans, how did God choose a people, how did God liberate them? We tend to approach these passages as ancient history answering questions about how things were done. But when we look at the texts and in particular the cultural and social contexts of the Israelites that wrote these passages down, I do not see that as their focus. They are not concerned with **how** God did things; they are concerned with **why** God did these things. It's a subtle difference, but an important difference. What would happen if we looked at the Biblical text from this standpoint and sought to answer why instead of how?

Let's do that with Abram going to Dan. We know he went there to rescue Lot, who had been taken by an alliance of kings, but why were they there? Abraham left Ur, went to Haran, then to Canaan, then to Egypt, then back to the desert of the Negev. He set up shop in Bethel (house of God) and then gets word

(Continued on page 4)

**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 and Malvin 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

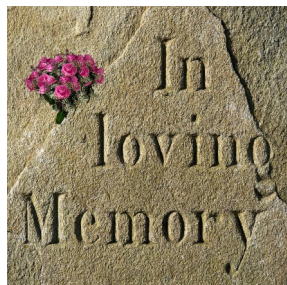
Melissa Strickland

2868 Spoons Chapel Road
Asheboro, NC 27205

Memorials and Honorariums

In Memory of Bob Thomas

John & Priscilla Allen
David & Celia Harris
Emily Johnson
Wayne & Ann Hutchins
Bob & Betty jo Armfield
Jerry & Debbie Cox
Jimmy & Cindy Carter
Ed & Shirley Mitchell
Betty Dorsett
Anne Cox
Larry & Crandall Ellison
Doris Allen
Toni Marley
Sam & Missy Rankin
Mickey & Pat Whitehead
Bruce & Claudia Ihme
Ralph C. Jones, Jr.
Steve & Carol Pearce
Betty Shackelford
Linda Brady
Jimmy & Cathy Riddle
Celeste Byrnes
Jane Maxwell
Bill & Jackie Craven
Grey Graham
Perry & Lou Stout
John Ellis
Nick & Deb Brady



Joyce Brown
Jimmy & Janice Horney
Shawn Daniel
Andy & Joyce Kirkman
George & Rebekah Wilkinson
John & Sandra Bailey
Dale & Susan Stevenson
Robert W. Sylcox
Coleman & Nancy Doggett
John & Christine Connolly
Billy & Jamie Poole
Mont Gilmore
Thomas & Pam Coward
Jerry & Sarah Reynolds

In Memory of Bill Johnson

John Ellis

**In Memory of Sarah Hendren
Gilmore**

Mont Gilmore

**In Memory of Ruth Holloman
Gilmore**

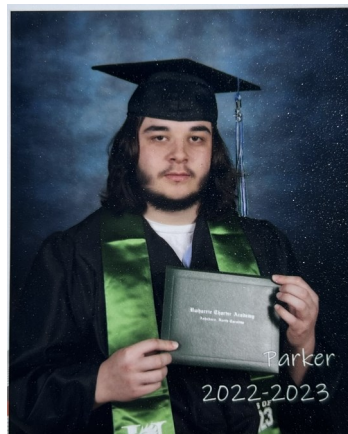
Mont Gilmore

**In Memory of Estelle Bland Gil-
more**

Mont Gilmore

Congratulations Graduate!

Parker Shackelford graduated on Friday, May 6 from Uwharrie Charter Academy. He will attend Randolph Community College in the fall.



General Information

Join us for **Growing Together** June 24th 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!

*Note the July Growing Together will be July 22nd, same times, hope to see you there!

Jordan's Closet

We are open first and third Tuesday's, at 5pm. .
We are in need of summer clothes; men's, women's and children's. The greatest need is for infant and toddler clothes. Please do not bring winter clothes right now, as we have nowhere to store them.

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 and Handbell Practice

There is no Choir or Handbell practice in June or July. Have a fun and safe summer!

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.

Craft Circle Group

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

Walking Group

The Walking group meets at Franklinville at 9am on Monday, Wednesday & Friday.

(Continued from page 1)

that Lot has been taken. He has done a lot of moving! Now we could get caught looking at the how, how did Abram travel so far at his age, how did he rescue Lot, or we could look at why; what was God doing through Abram, why was he promised a land that he never gets to and has to keep moving? The why is much more interesting because it points to the heart of Abram's calling and helps us see ours as well. The Promised Land is the end goal but not the current goal, the current goal for Abram is to live among the various peoples and cultures and be an influence of God's love and grace as he is in their midst.

Abram in his life covers a lot of ground, but in particular when we look at where he went, he covers the major Empires of his time. He travels through the Sumerian region, which is later the Assyrians and Babylonians, he travels through Canaanite territory, he then goes to Egypt, and now he is back in Canaanite territory. The how is he went to a lot of places but the why makes us stop and think. Why would God send him all over? It was to make a difference, to be an influence in these areas of polytheistic influence. Abram was sent to bear witness to God's love. The why is much more important than the how. Abram was called to live amongst various cultures, ideologies, and peoples in order to show them what God's love looks like.

The why has not changed from the time of Abram. Our calling to go out and be among our community, its various peoples, and to interact with different cultures is a part of the why of our calling. We are to be an influence, an example, a connection to God's love and grace for those we interact with. However, we cannot do that if we stay in our comfort zones or inside our walls. Just like Abram we are called to get out and go! We are called to be an influence of love to our communities, to our peoples, to those we interact with. We are called to engage in conversation with folks at our Community Meal, Jordan's Closet, and the new faces we continue to see on Sunday mornings. We are called to go and love. Notice this is not static, it is going out beyond the walls into the world in order to bear witness to God's love.

This summer many of you will travel. You will go to the beach, the lake, and the mountains. Some of you will travel to different states or perhaps even different countries. Take this opportunity of "going" to be an example of God's love to those you interact with. Be a positive influence on others by being an example of authentic love and grace. Don't worry about how to do it, focus on why you do it. We love because God first loved us. I pray this summer as we travel and go about to different places that someone somewhere will be impacted by your presence and experience God's love through you.

Chris Smith

Financial Situation of the Church

Church family, on behalf of our Leadership Team we are writing to inform you all of the current financial situation for our church. We recognize that inflation has affected all of us and for many of you, giving more is not an option, but for those that can we would greatly appreciate your gifts at this time. We have been operating at a deficit for the first four months and we all know this is not sustainable for long term ministry. We encourage you to help in any way you can.

If you can give, great! If you see a light left on, turn it off, make sure thermostats are set to optimum temperatures when a room is not in use. Through the little things we can save a lot! We recognize this is a difficult subject and simply ask that you prayerfully consider how you can help support the church at this time.

A Summer of visits and a time to say hello to Ms. Toni

Would you like to visit from Ms Toni Marley? If so, please contact Michelle or the church office to make arrangements.

Dear Friends at Jordan Memorial,

I want to say a special thank you for the special acts of love and kindness you shared with me when we worshipped together a few weeks ago. From the wonderful meal to the bounteous basket of goodies and the beautiful blue potter vase. I thank you! It has been my blessing to be in ministry with you over the past eight years. Do not give up in sharing the love of Jesus. Laura

Community Meal June 20th, 5:00 – 6:30 PM

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

This will be the last meal before taking a break for the summer. Let's make this one special as we connect with our community. Activities for kids, Live Music, Great Food, Better Conversations!

Announcements!

SPRC Meeting Sunday June 4th at 3:00 PM

Leadership Team Meeting Sunday June 4th at 4:00 PM. (No Leadership Team meeting in July).

Dear Methodist Ladies,
Thanks so much for your many acts of kindness, the food you bought for Dad's supper – he did so enjoy. May you be blessed as you have blessed us. Our hearts are sad at his passing.
The Hiatt Girls – Kathy, Joyce, Sandy

United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith had a wonderful program at its May meeting. Susan Hunt, from Keaton's Place, provided an overview of the services provided by this outreach. Following the meeting, a monetary donation was collected and given to Ms. Hunt. Our next meeting is scheduled for August 20. The guest speaker will be Kenita Matthews White, executive director of Grace Given. This is a nonprofit agency dedicated to serving those experiencing homelessness in Randolph County. Please join us for this program.

Our mission outreach project for June and July is collecting toiletries and hygiene products for the Ramseur Food Pantry. There is a particular need for men and women's deodorant, bar soap, paper towels, toilet paper and toothpaste. Thank you for helping to meet the needs of our clients at the Food Pantry.

Betty Jo Armfield

The Songs of Summer

Join us this summer as we look at the Songs of Summer! Music has a way of bringing out emotion, memory, or just joy when we think about the music that has influenced our lives. In particular there are songs we associate with seasons, and I am sure you have many songs that evoke memories of trips to the beach or lake. This summer we are going to enjoy the music! I invite you to think about those songs as we will have an opportunity to share them and perhaps even incorporate them into our worship! The sermon series will be based in the Psalms, a collection of songs that influenced the people of ancient Israel and had wonderful writers including King David! These timeless words still evoke emotion and memory for us today. We hope you can join us for a great summer series as we enjoy the Songs and Psalms of Summer!





Annual Conference

This year's meeting of the Western North Carolina Annual Conference will be held June 15th-18th at Lake Junaluska. Please be in prayer for all the pastors and delegates that will be traveling and doing the work on behalf of the Annual Conference.

Baccalaureate Service

The Baccalaureate Service is put on each year by the Ramseur Ministerial Association. It is a chance to celebrate the graduating Seniors from Eastern Randolph High School. This service will be held on June 4th at 6:00 PM in the School Auditorium. All are invited to come and celebrate with our seniors as we wish them the best in their future endeavors!



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 are continuing our study through the book of Genesis, and it is never too late to join. We hope you can join us!

June 8th 10:00 AM in the Conference Room 1511 Main St. Ramseur

7:00 PM at the parsonage 307 Elam Ave. Ramseur

June 22nd 10:00 AM in the Conference Room 1511 Main St Ramseur

7:00 PM at the parsonage 307 Elam Ave. Ramseur

July 13th 10:00 AM in the Conference Room 1511 Main St. Ramseur

7:00 PM at the parsonage 307 Elam Ave. Ramseur

July 27th 10:00 AM in the Conference Room 1511 Main St Ramseur

7:00 PM at the parsonage 307 Elam Ave. Ramseur



Lighthouse Congregations

(Part of the *UM Collective Movement in the WNCC*)



Lighthouse Congregations are local churches in the WNCC that are particularly equipped to welcome anyone whose church has closed or disaffiliated. These United Methodist faith communities are a resting place, with people who will offer care while providing a haven of peace and grace.

Our Church Council (Leadership Board, Administrative Council) met on May 7th, 2023 and approved the following:

Our congregation, Jordan Memorial United Methodist Church, has decided to become a Lighthouse Congregation of The Western North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church in partnership with The United Methodist Collective. In doing so, we not only commit to remaining a part of The United Methodist Church but also to serving those who have lost their church homes through disaffiliation or closure. We will partner in this work by providing a welcoming place, offering ministry opportunities, helping organize remnant groups in our community, and assisting individuals and groups in discerning their next steps as they find a new church home.

We will partner in this work in the following ways:

Provide a welcoming place to belong during this time of grief and transition, **which might be for just a season, or for a lifetime**. This includes a safe space with caring relationships, listening hearts, and unconditional love within a congregation that is confident it is remaining in the UMC.

Offer “No pressure” ministry opportunities (if the person or group is willing). These will include worship, discipleship, and mission.

Organize local Remaining UMC groups by proactively finding and connecting with individuals and groups displaced by disaffiliating churches.

Connect individuals or groups with Conference and District resources to help them discern their next steps as they consider a new church home.

*** Above is the document we as a church have agreed to in becoming a Lighthouse Church. Please make note that there are several false statements being made about what a Lighthouse Church is as well as several online articles that are simply not true. Our agreement to being a lighthouse church is based solely on the above-mentioned four points that we agreed to, and nothing more. If it is not mentioned in the four points above, then it is not a requirement of being a lighthouse. I hope this will help with some of the confusion and concern around Lighthouse Congregations. Our prayer is that we can live fully into being a place that welcomes all people to experience authentic love-based worship, small groups, and conversations, through the various ministries and Fresh Expressions offered at Jordan Memorial United Methodist Church.

June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
The Church office will be closed June 5th.				1 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm	2	3 Women only AA Mtg 6:30pm
4 Sprc mtg 3pm Leadership mtg 4pm	5 AA Mtg 6:30pm	6 9am Faith & Fitness Jordan Closet 5pm	7 Craft Grp 3pm	8 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm 10am & 7pm The Well	9	10 Women only AA Mtg 6:30pm
11	12 AA Mtg 6:30pm	13 9am Faith & Fitness	14 Craft Grp 3pm	15 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm	16	17 Women only AA Mtg 6:30pm
18 Father's Day	19 AA Mtg 6:30pm	20 9am Faith & Fitness Jordan Closet 5pm Community Meal 5pm	21 Craft Grp 3pm	22 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm 10am & 7pm The Well	23	24 Women only AA Mtg 6:30pm Growing Together 10am
25	26 AA Mtg 6:30pm	27 9am Faith & Fitness	28 Craft Grp 3pm	29 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm	30	

Ramseur Food Pantry: Instant Potatoes and Soups.

June Birthdays

01-Zach Clark
 03-Rebekah Wilkinson
 03-Shirley Lane
 05-William Johnson
 05-Ryan Leonard
 07-Taylor Leonard
 09-John Sinkewicz
 09-Ray Leonard
 10-Clara Vandiford
 12-Joy Gantt
 16-Anna Shelton
 16-Randy Cox
 16-Randy Strickland
 18-Mary Jane Elizabeth Albright
 21-Billy Mitchell
 23-Ricky Cox
 24-Mike Dorsett
 24-Chris Dorsett

26-Cindy Chaffin
 26-Pamela Trexler
 26-Margaret Vickory
 29-Emerson Allen
 29-David True
 30-Morgan Hainey



July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Women only AA Mtg 6:30pm
2	3 AA Mtg 6:30pm	4 9am Faith & Fitness Jordan Closet 5pm	5 Craft Grp 3pm	6 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm	7	8 Women only AA Mtg 6:30pm
9	10 AA Mtg 6:30pm	11 9am Faith & Fitness	12 Craft Grp 3pm	13 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm 10am & 7pm The Well	14	15 Women only AA Mtg 6:30pm
16	17 AA Mtg 6:30pm	18 9am Faith & Fitness Jordan Closet 5pm	19 Craft Grp 3pm	20 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm	21	22 Women only AA Mtg 6:30pm Growing Together 10am
23	24 AA Mtg 6:30pm	25 9am Faith & Fitness	26 Craft Grp 3pm	27 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm 10am & 7pm The Well	28	29 Women only AA Mtg 6:30pm
30	31 AA Mtg 6:30pm					

We will not have a community meal in July

Ramseur Food Pantry: Spaghetti Sauce and Spaghetti Noodles, Rice. We will need volunteers July 17-21.

July Birthdays

01-Tyler Wood
02-Cindy Strickland
03-Lisa Johnson
03-Sandra Leonard
04-Betty Fields
05-Judith L. Gibson
05-Dylan Trexler
05-Martha Kreiser
08-Deborah L. Goldsberry
09-Brad Graves
10-Eddie Leonard
12-Kim Shackelford
13-Daniel Cox
14-Kathy D. Posey
15-David H. Ihme
15- Heather Bateman
16 - Jaidy Smith

17-Perry Stout
18-Joseph Armfield
19-Kathryn B. Nichols
19-Robert Cody Allen
21-Wesley Kurtz
23-Jimmy Moody
24-Robert L. Armfield, Jr.
25-Weston Wood
26-Melissa Strickland
26-Brendon Trexler
26-Hunter Shackelford
29-Elizabeth Chaffin



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



Back to School Bash Meeting

Meeting June 19th 6:30 PM in the Craven 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!

Worship times

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

