

JORDAN
MEMORIAL UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH



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VOLUME 13 ISSUE 10

DECEMBER 2023
JANUARY 2024



In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” Luke 1:26-28

The Church of the Annunciation is located in Nazareth and stands as a reminder of the angel Gabriel appearing to Mary. One of the most beautiful parts of this church are the mosaics that fill the walls. These mosaics each depict Mary and baby Jesus and were donated by Christian communities around the world. Each mosaic reflects the culture of the country it was made in and the way they envision Jesus and Mary. There are 43 mosaic paintings from all over the world that are a reminder that Jesus came into the world for everyone. The above picture is the mosaic from Korea, it depicts Mary and Jesus within their culture. It is a beautiful reminder that Jesus comes to us as we are not as we would make him to be.

We are beginning the season of Advent, and this is the season we prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus. I would ask the question, what are you expecting? I am sure Mary had all sorts of expectations. She was thinking about her wedding to Joseph, where they would settle, and what would married life be like. I am sure she expected children but, in a few years, they needed time to get to enjoy just being them. She had all sorts of expectations for how things were going to be, and Jesus came in and changed all of it. Her expectations were out the window but in their place was something more beautiful than she could imagine. Here she is wrestling with the fact that God is going to be with her in a real way, that the *ruach*, the Spirit of God, will bring life to her womb and in turn life to all the world. The same Spirit that brought order to the chaos in Genesis 1 is about to bring order to the chaos of a broken world.

I will ask again, what are you expecting? I wonder if our own biased images of Jesus have made it hard for us to answer this question truthfully. If

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**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

Quinton Smith
4009 Timberland Drive
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Memorials and Honorariums

**In Memory of
Dr. Robert E. Thomas**

David & Dianne Leonard

In Memory of Hal Leonard

Martha Thomas
Dorothy C. Canoy
Emily Johnson

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

Parker Shackelford
245 Iron Mountain Rd
Asheboro, NC. 27205

Ashley Shackelford
2367 Woodridge Drive
Asheboro, NC 27205

Melissa Strickland
2868 Spoons Chapel Road
Asheboro, NC 27205

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we come back year after year expecting a baby in a manger and for all to be calm and bright, we are going to get disappointed. When we expect Jesus to look, sound, and act like us it presents a problem. Because if Jesus is that for us, how do we reconcile Jesus being different for someone else? Too many times we jump to statements of judgment or try to separate from those altogether. But the church of the Annunciation reminds us that Jesus is for all people and we come with different expectations of the Christ child as we enter Advent. The challenge we all face is when we seek what is only best for us, it affects others inversely. This is why the call to love neighbor is so paramount, it places others above our own interest. But here is the amazing thing; if everyone did, that then the good we seek for ourselves would happen because others would be looking out for us as well. I know that is a perfect world scenario and we don't live there yet, but we are all called to help bring glimpses of the kingdom, no matter how small they may be. If we are willing to give a little, then others will see, and it starts a chain reaction.

This year I invite you to loosen your expectations of Jesus. Be open to what the Spirit is doing in this year. Be open to Jesus looking different and sounding different than maybe what you expect. Be open to let the winds, the *ruach*, of the Spirit take you down new paths as we seek to make thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. Mary had expectations that were certainly turned upside down but look at her response. *"Here I am the servant of the Lord, let it be with me according to your word."* Luke 1:38 As we find our expectations changing, I hope that we can learn from Mary to respond with here I am. God's word spoke order into chaos in the beginning, His word became flesh to dwell among us, and his Spirit continues to speak to us today amidst the challenges we face. Expect the unexpected and enjoy where the Spirit takes you this Advent season.

Pastor Chris Smith

General Information

Jordan's Closet

Jordan's Closet will be open on Dec 9, 12, 16.

Christmas on Main

Christmas on Main is December 2nd 11:00 AM – 7:00 PM The church will have our usual spot where we can serve hot chocolate, coffee and other goodies. If you would like to help, please contact the church office.



Christmas Eve Service

Join us for a special Candlelight Christmas Eve service on December 24th, at 10:30 AM during our morning worship.

“O Come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord” the light of the world that came into the darkness!



You are invited!

Thumbs Up Christmas Party

Saturday, December 9th In the Fellowship Hall from 12:00 – 3:00. **Free** Lunch with rolls from Texas Roadhouse!

We will have our usual nail wrapping, and will also do a craft together and there will be **presents** for everyone!! Contact Beth Burton with any questions.

Ramseur Senior Bingo



Monday, Dec. 4th
10:00am

FREE! - Everybody wins!

**Jordan Memorial
United Methodist Church
1511 Main Street,
Ramseur, NC 27316**



Contact Susanne Allen for more information
at 336-625-3389 ext. 212



Hosted by: Randolph Senior Adults Association

336-625-3389

www.senioradults.org



Celebrate the Christmas Season with a Choir & Handbell Concert

Dec 10 Sunday 4pm at
Jordan Memorial UMC

JORDAN'S CLOSET HOURS!

Monthly hours are the first Saturday from 10am - 12 pm & third Tuesday from 5-7pm.

Offering free clothes for Women, Men and Children
We also accept donations of gently used clothes



Jordan Memorial UMC 1511 Main Street Ramseur

Nehemiah Project

The Nehemiah Project will be December 16th. This is a joint effort from churches in our community to provide a full Christmas meal to families for the holidays. As a church we have agreed again to providing the green beans for these boxes. Our goal is to get 1200 cans of green beans. Once again for ease we will order these from Carlie C's so we will be accepting donations to cover the cost of the beans. You can mark your check or envelope **For Green Beans**. Thank you for helping in this great ministry. Last year was truly a blessing as all 300 boxes were distributed. We look forward to this time again.

We will also need volunteers on December 15th at 9am to pack boxes and 16th to help distribute.

THE NEHEMIAH PROJECT

Bridging THE GAP

REBUILD RESTORE UPLIFT

Family Meal Box Giveaway
Free and Open to the Public
*ONLY ONE BOX PER VEHICLE

Drive-Thru Service
Saturday, December 16, 2023
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Jordan Memorial Church
1511 Main Street
Ramseur, NC 27316

Host: Mt. Nebo Church and the Randolph County Community at large.



Contact Info
Holly Gray
336.267.7501

January 7th Meetings

3pm Worship Team

4pm Leadership Team

Leadership Training and Visioning Day!

January 20th 10:00 AM- 12:00 PM

The Leadership Team will meet for training and to begin focusing on the “why” of our church and to help us better clarify our mission and values for ministry. I am asking for all Leadership Team members to be present, but this will also be open to anyone else who wishes to attend and offer their voice for our future. We will meet in the Sanctuary.

United Women in Faith News

Our mission outreach for December and January will be feminine hygiene products. We are particularly in need of pads at the Food Pantry. Please place donations in the container outside the church office.

If you have not yet made your pledge for UWF, please give this information to Celia before mid-December.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 21 in the fellowship hall at 2:30pm.

Please mark your calendars for our fundraiser, scheduled for February 11 immediately following the church service. We are offering a soup, salad and dessert luncheon, donations only.

Our Christmas card collection will be somewhat different this year. There will be a basket placed in the hall near our church office. This year, we are only collecting cards for our shut-ins. These names are listed in the church bulletin. These cards will be delivered by a UWF member. Please contact Betty Jo if you have questions. We do not expect donations for this mission outreach.



Growing Together

Growing Together will not meet in December. Come join us January 27th, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM for a Craft and time of fellowship together. As always this is open to men and women, the ladies will craft while the men go out for breakfast. Hope you can join us as we Grow Together! We will meet in the new Growing Together room (former Nursery)

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.

The Well

Meets December 14th and 28th
10:00 AM in the Conference Room
7:00 PM in the Parsonage
January dates are TBD

Walking Group

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

Craft Circle Group

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

Faith & Fitness

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

Congratulations!

BETTY JONES DORSETT

Article by Emily Johnson

We have two women members of Jordan Memorial who are centurions and I don't mean Roman Soldiers. Both will have a birthday on December 15, 2023. Everyone knows that Miss Toni will be 102 on that day – however few know that Betty Dorsett will turn 100 on that day. So if you want to live to reach age 100 perhaps your birthday should be December 15. That seems to be the day!

Miss Toni may be our oldest member, but Betty Dorsett is the longest serving member of Jordan Memorial. When she was eleven years old she joined the Ramseur Methodist Episcopal Church South on April 28, 1935. That was before the Uniting Conference was held on April 26-May 10, 1939 that brought back together the Northern Methodist Episcopal Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church South and the Methodist Protestant Church which had split prior to the War between the States better known as the Civil War. The Reuniting Conference formed the Methodist Church which in 1968 became the United Methodist Church when we merged with the Evangelical United Brethren Church.

Betty has been active in United Methodist Women -now known as United Women in Faith, as long as I can remember. I had to look through my mother's yearbooks and program books to try to find dates. 1967-68 were the earliest records I could locate that showed Betty was involved and serving the church through this group. And by the way, I noticed, Chris Dorsett was acolyte for the month of October in 1967. I wonder if you remember that Chris?

When Betty first joined, however, it was known as Woman's Society of Christian Service. We called it the WSCS for short. We had a Bishop's wife at one time that said it meant "We serve Chicken Stew", which we did!

As a member, Betty served on the Altar Guild and was responsible for assigning flowers for services, scheduling acolytes, changing altar cloths and preparing communion. She also presented devotions for meetings and held leadership positions over the years. For several years prior to our group joining as one, Betty was a member of Circle II. As part of this Circle, she served as hostess, gave programs, and served on the kitchen committee.

In addition to her work in the church, Betty also served as a clerk for the Town of Ramseur. Through this position, she became someone the town relied on and trusted immensely.

Although I don't have an exact date Betty joined United Women In Faith, I can certainly say our church and community have benefited by Betty's service and support in the 88 years she has been a member of Jordan Memorial. Her calm, quiet demeanor are attributes we all aspire to have. Her steady support of the United Women In Faith organization has made a difference in many ways.

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It has been the tradition through the years to give a pin and an honorary membership to members of United Methodist Women. We recognize them for special events in their lives, significant achievements or for their service. The first pin we gave was in April 1950. Betty was first recognized with a pin in 1964 and was our 39th recipient. Only twice has our organization presented a special recognition pin for service and special events. Today, Betty Dorsett becomes the third recipient of a pearl pin and gift to missions in honor of her long service to Jordan Memorial and her 100th birthday.

CONGRATULATIONS – Mrs. Betty Dorsett



We are pleased to announce the new Ministry Teams for 2024!!!

At our Charge Conference we formally approved our new leadership team and committees for the upcoming year. Below you will find a list of all the committees, their chairpersons, and their members.

Leadership Team (Administrative Council, Trustees, & Finance)

Celia Harris (Chair of Council)	Betty Jo Armfield (SPRC Chair)	John Allen (Finance Sec)
Brian Shackelford (Lay Leader)	Kathy Posey (Conference Delegate)	Melisa Perry (Secretary)
David Posey (Trustee Chair)	Doug Collins (Connection Liaison)	Hunter Shackelford (Youth)
(Finance Chair)	Jim Rains (at Large)	Ann Hutchins (At Large)
Lauren Hutchins (Treasurer)	Crandall Ellison (at Large)	Eric Hutchins (At Large)

Staff Parish Relations Committee

Betty Jo Armfield (Chair)
Jo Lynne Allen
Tommy Perry
Bruce Ihme
Celeste Byrnes

Nominations

Chris Smith (Pastor/Chair)
Anne Cox
Betty Jo Armfield
Doug Collins
Brian Shackelford

Worship Team

Chris Smith (Chair)
Rob Roberts
Melissa Strickland
Brian Shackelford
Beth Burton
Hunter Shackelford
Anne Cox

Fresh Expressions Team

Celia Harris (Chair)
Jaidy Smith
Doug Collins
Rebecca Hinshaw
Jim Rains
Tommy Perry
Melanie Rains
Melisa Perry

Maintenance/Impact Team

David Posey (Chair)
Eric Hutchins (vice chair)
Wayne Hutchins
Ann Hutchins
Dorsey Chamblee
Tony York

Community Meal Team

Doug Collins (Chair)
Donna Roberts
Rob Roberts
Beth Burton
Anne Cox
Joy Collins

Fundraising Team

Brian Shackelford (Chair)
Crandall Ellison
Eric Hutchins
Emily Johnson
Betty Shackelford

Jordan's Closet Team

Melisa Perry (Chair)
Ann Hutchins
Celia Harris
Nancy York
Emily Johnson
Bruce Ihme

Back to School Bash Team

Donna Urban (Chair)
Tommy Perry
Eric Hutchins
Kim Shackelford
Lauren Hutchins
Hunter Shackelford
Melisa Perry
Crandall Ellison

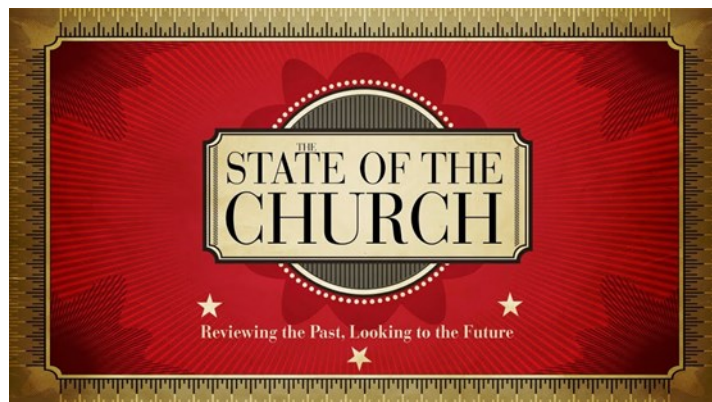


Fresh Expressions

Join us on January 28th for Fresh Expressions Sunday in the Uwharrie District. During our morning service we will hear about Fresh Expressions within our district and conference as well as celebrate the Fresh Expressions we have right here in our church. Not sure what Fresh Expressions is? Join us this Sunday to learn more about how we can be the church beyond our walls.

State of the Church Address

Join Us Sunday January 28th at 3:00 PM for our annual State of the Church Address. During this time, we will address matters pertaining to the upcoming General Conference, the Leadership Teams work around vision and mission, and any other information regarding our ministries. There will be time for questions at the end for anything not covered during the address.



Health Fair

Saturday January 20th 12:00 PM-2:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Sponsored by the Randolph County Department of Health.

December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Women only AA Mtg 5pm Christmas on Main 11am-7pm
3	4 Senior Bingo 10am AA Mtg 6:30pm	5 9am Faith & Fitness	6 Craft Grp 3pm	7 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm	8	9 Jordan Closet 10am Thumbs up 12pm Women only AA Mtg 5pm
10 Choir & Handbell Concert 4pm	11 AA Mtg 6:30pm	12 9am Faith & Fitness Jordan Closet 5:30pm	13 Craft Grp 3pm	14 9am Faith & Fitness The Well 10am & 7pm AA Mtg 6:30pm	15	16 Jordan Closet 10am Nehemiah Project 11am Women only AA Mtg 5pm
17	18 AA Mtg 6:30pm	19 9am Faith & Fitness	20 Craft Grp 3pm	21 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm	22	23
24 Candlelight service 10:30am	25 AA Mtg 6:30pm Office Closed	26 9am Faith & Fitness	27 Craft Grp 3pm	28 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm	29	30
31	The church office will be closed on Monday Dec 25 and Jan 1.					

Ramseur Food Pantry: Canned Pinto & Green Beans, Instant Potato's & Soups.
We will need volunteers Jan 1—5.

December Birthdays

04-Billie Thomas
04-Dylan Leonard
07-Kathleen Posey Daniel
10-Mark Trexler
11-Wesley M. Gilliland
14- Izzy Benbow
14- Michelle Keeling
15-Christian Miller
15-Toni Marley
15-Betty Dorsett

17-Allen Mitchell
18-Sawyer Mitchell
19-Linda Brady
20-Sailor Boyd
23-William R. Craven
24-Jack Robert Shelton
25-Crandall G. Ellison
26-Richard J. Thomas, Jr.
31-Dale Byrnes

Merry Christmas



January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 AA Mtg 6:30pm Office Closed	2 9am Faith & Fitness	3 Craft Grp 3pm	4 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm	5	6 Jordan's Closet 10am Women only AA Mtg 5pm
7 Leadership Meetings Worship team 3pm Leadership 4pm	8 AA Mtg 6:30pm	9 9am Faith & Fitness	10 Craft Grp 3pm	11 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm	12	13 Women only AA Mtg 5pm
14	15 AA Mtg 6:30pm	16 9am Faith & Fitness Jordan's Closet 5pm Community Meal 5:30pm	17 Craft Grp 3pm	18 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm	19	20 Leadership Training 10am Women only AA Mtg 5pm
21 UMF meeting 2:30pm	22 AA Mtg 6:30pm	23 9am Faith & Fitness	24 Craft Grp 3pm	25 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm	26	27 Growing To- gether 10am Women only AA Mtg 5pm
28 State of Church 3pm	29 AA Mtg 6:30pm	30 9am Faith & Fitness	31 Craft Grp 3pm			

Ramseur Food Pantry: Powdered and Canned Milk

January Birthdays

01– Martha Thomas
 01– Katherine Sumakeris
 02– Megan Chamblee
 03– Richard Thomas, Sr.
 04– Nina Ruth Foust
 05– Jan M. Shelton
 05– Jill M. Wood
 06 – Sarah Strickland
 08- Anne Cox
 09– Amy Riddle
 09- Easton Rains
 11– Payton E. Shackelford Beeson

14- Susan Sinkewicz
 15– Michael Bressler
 16– Susan Bodsford Wesley
 20– Charles D. Lane, Jr.
 21– Elton L. Smith
 23 – Bill Blake
 23– Ellen Williams
 28- Aaron Hardin
 28– Matthew Hardin
 29– Viletta Embree
 29- Billy Poole



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 9:30am

Worship Service 10:30am

La Luz Bilingual Service 12:30pm



Community Meal

Community Meal **December 12th at 5:30 PM** – 6:30 PM.

Join us for a Christmas celebration as we enjoy good food, fellowship, some Christmas Carols, and even a surprise visit from Santa! All are invited but especially kids to come and enjoy time with Santa! Nothing represents the Holidays better than time around the Table. Hope you can join us on this evening at the Table at Jordan Memorial UMC.

*** Note that January's Community Meal will be January 16th.**