

# April 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>2 Passion/Palm Sunday</b> <b>Communion</b> <b>Prut Butler/Oodmeel Sun.</b> 9:15AM Sunday School 10AM Worship 3PM Discern Team Presents (Sanct) SPM UMYF (Youth Rm)	<b>3</b> Walking Group (Time Varies)	<b>4</b> 10AM StoryTime (Ch Care) <b>DEADLINE FOR EASTER LILY ORDERS</b>	<b>5</b> ~10AM Care and Nurture Treat Bogs (Conf Rm) Walking Group (Time Varies)	<b>6 Maundy Thursday</b> 10AM Children's Chapel (Sanct.) 4PM Children's Chapel (Sanct.)	<b>7</b> 	<b>8</b> 
<b>9 Easter</b> 6:30AM Sunrise Service (Cem) 9:15AM SS 10AM Worship 	<b>10 Easter Monday</b> <b>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</b> Walking Group (Time Varies)	<b>11</b> <b>9AM-1:30PM FH &amp; Kit in use (Friendly Club prep, etc.)</b> 10AM StoryTime (Ch Care) 11AM Friendly Club (FH)	<b>12</b> Walking Group (Time Varies)	<b>13</b> <b>7PM Maundy Thursday Service (Sanct)</b>	<b>14</b> <b>BUWC Child Care Closed</b> <b>7PM Good Friday Service (Sanct)</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16 2nd Sunday of Easter</b> <b>Heiler Offering Received</b> 9:15AM Sunday School 10AM Worship SPM UMYF (Youth Rm)	<b>17</b> <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b> Walking Group (Time Varies)	<b>18</b> 10AM StoryTime (Ch Care)	<b>19</b> Walking Group (Time Varies)	<b>20</b> 10AM Children's Chapel (Sanct.) 4PM Children's Chapel (Sanct.)	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 
<b>23 3rd Sunday of Easter</b> <b>Mother's Day Bulletin Begins</b> 9:15AM Sunday School 10AM Worship <b>1-5PM FH &amp; Kit in use (Family Event/Baby Shower)</b> SPM UMYF (Youth Rm)	<b>24</b> 10AM Admin Staff (Joseph, Robin, Erica, Et Al in parlor) 10:30AM Arlene Stokes (Young-at-Heart Room) Walking Group (Time Varies)	<b>25</b> 10AM StoryTime (Ch Care)	<b>26 Admin Professionals Day</b> <b>Wonderful Wednesday</b> (Bus leaves at 9:40AM) Walking Group (Time Varies)	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30 4th Sunday of Easter</b> 9:15AM Sunday School 10AM Worship SPM UMYF (Youth Rm)	<b>1</b>  Walking Group (Time Varies)	<b>2</b> 10AM StoryTime (Ch Care)	<b>3</b> Walking Group (Time Varies)	<b>4</b> 10AM Children's Chapel (Sanct.) 4PM Children's Chapel (Sanct.)	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 8AM Bibles & Biscuits at Climax Fire #35

**GREETERS:**

4/2 Desi & Gail Williams  
 4/9 Elaine Bowman  
 4/16 Phyllis Wicker  
 4/23 OPEN  
 4/30 OPEN

**FLOWERS:**

4/2 OPEN  
 4/9 Easter Lilies  
 4/16 OPEN  
 4/23 OPEN  
 4/30 OPEN

**ACOLYTES:**

4/2 Braxton Wall  
 4/9 Quart Fulk & Maysa Downing  
 4/16 Braxton Wall  
 4/23 Quart Fulk  
 4/30 Maysa Downing

**USHERS FOR APRIL:**

David Fields  
 Todd Garrett  
 Bud Louder  
 Barry Norris

**APRIL OPENER:**

Sandie Harris

**APRIL CLOSER:**

Greg Wicker

# THE CHALLENGE

## Bethlehem United Methodist Church

Volume 11

Issue 4

April 2023

### From the Pastor's Desk...

#### *Empty ?!?!?*

We have made it! We have made it through Winter, and it is officially Spring. A lot of cool things happen in Spring: grass turns green, flowers blossom, trees bud, the days get longer with sunshine, the air gets warmer, and we get to celebrate; we get to celebrate Spring Breaks and Easter. Also, we get to celebrate *empty*. "What do you mean, kind sir, celebrate *empty*?!?!?"

*Empty* does have that connotation of being something not pleasant or something not good. When our stomachs are *empty*, that is not good and being hungry often affects our attitude; you know *hangry*. If we are hungry and we go to the cabinet and the cabinets are *empty*, that is not good because we cannot take care of our hunger. If we go to get in our vehicles to go grab something to eat and the gas tank is *empty*, that too is not good because now, how are we going to get there to get the food we need? We have now found a ride to get to the store and then we discover our wallets are *empty*; that is not good, for we now cannot buy the food we need to help with that hunger. So, we settle for a drink of water, but we reach down and the glass is *empty*.

But again, I say, "We need to celebrate *empty*." We need to celebrate an *empty* tomb. A tomb where death was/had been overcome by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. An *empty* that gives us Hope of a better day; that gives us Peace that God is True and so is His Word; that proves God is Almighty and has defeated evil, darkness, sin, and death; that shows a fuller measure of God's Love (that cannot be fully measured) of how far, to what extent He will go for His Creation. This *empty* is one that feeds our soul and quenches our thirst as Jesus Christ is the "Bread of Life" and the "Living Water." These things that fill us up to GO! To go love the Lord our God with all we have and to love and serve our neighbor in Christ Jesus' name.

I hope this Easter Season you may truly be able to experience and celebrate *empty* and be filled with God's Love.

Happy Spring to everyone and prayers for a blessed Easter...

Blessings,

Pastor Joseph, III

<sup>5</sup> *The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay."*

Matthew 28: 5-6 NIV



**Our Mission at Bethlehem UMC**  
is to share the love and spirit of  
Christ, be a welcoming  
fellowship for all, nurture  
followers of Jesus and send  
them, as servants, into the world  
in need of God's grace.

#### **Pastor**

Rev. Joseph Fulk, III  
336-674-0155

[jfulk1@wnccumc.net](mailto:jfulk1@wnccumc.net)

#### **Church Office**

Robin Bunton  
336-674-0155

[bethumccclimax@gmail.com](mailto:bethumccclimax@gmail.com)

#### **Organist**

Jane Reddick

#### **Pianist**

Laura Cranfill

#### **Child Care Director**

Erica Shanahan  
336-674-9879

#### **Custodian**

Ovido Sorbito

#### **Webmaster**

Kylie Russell



#### **Join us on Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/214541575234325/?ref=share>

#### **Visit our Website at**

[bethlehemumc.org](http://bethlehemumc.org)





Springtime Greetings!

Here are a few items from the Church Office:

- The deadline for Easter Lily orders is Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>.
- The Church Office will be closed on Easter Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Special Lenten offering(s) for Heifer International will be received during worship on Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup>.
- The deadline for the May newsletter is Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. As always, please send your newsletter items to the office via email. Please email items to [bethumcclimax@gmail.com](mailto:bethumcclimax@gmail.com)

Also, a reminder - Pastor Joseph holds a planning meeting with church-paid staff on the last Monday of the month at 10AM. Please keep in mind that Robin will be away from the Church Office during this time.

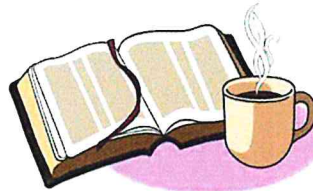
The Church Office is looking for a recycling helper. If you are planning a trip to Target, Office Depot or another place which accepts/recycles used printer cartridges, and you are willing to take used cartridges from the church, please let Robin know. We have accumulated quite a few. It would be much appreciated.

Thank you all for everything you do!

Blessings, **Robin**



## **Bibles & Biscuits** (A Men's Bible Study)



Meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the Month  
at 8AM., Climax Fire Stat. #35



### **An Invitation from Children & Family Ministries:**

**Come Join the Easter Egg Hunt**  
on  
**Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**5:30PM Hunt for preschoolers**

**6:00PM Hotdog Supper**

**6:45PM Activity**

**7:15PM Glow in the Dark Hunt for  
kindergartners and older**

**Fun for all!**



### **Join Us...**



**Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Palm Sunday**

**9:15AM Sunday School  
10AM Morning Worship**

**Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 7PM  
Maundy Thursday   
Holy Communion Service**



**Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 7PM  
Good Friday Service**

**Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>  
Easter**



**6:30AM Sunrise Service  
9:15AM Sunday School  
10AM Morning Worship**

## APRIL FRIENDLY CLUB

Friendly Club will meet Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 11AM in the Fellowship Hall.



**Tabernacle Church** and the **SE Guilford Community** want to say **THANK YOU!**

You're invited to a **FREE** breakfast honoring all first responders!

**What:** All You Can Eat pancakes, sausage & coffee

**When:** Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>

**Time:** 8-10AM

**Where:** Tabernacle United Methodist Church  
CLC Building  
5721 Methodist Road  
Greensboro, NC



## **SAVE THE DATE ...** Grasshoppers Game/Fireworks **Fri. May 12<sup>th</sup> (In the Evening)**

We may take the bus if enough folks want a ride. We will be in section 103. (This is near where we sat last time, third baseline.)

Ticket prices are as follows:

**\$12 for adults**

**\$10 for seniors (62+)**

**\$10 for military/veterans**

**\$10 for 2-12**

**Free for 2 & under (no seat)**

We need to confirm by April 28<sup>th</sup>. Sign-up sheets will be available during worship. Please contact Lorrie Roth at (919) 818-6536 if you have questions.



## SECRET PAL REVEAL/ SAVE THE DATE

Secret Pal reveal will be during worship on Sunday, June 11. A reception in the fellowship hall will follow worship. Be sure to put this special event on your calendar. Questions – please contact Fran Getner (336) 685-2086.



*The Arlene Stokes Circle would like to thank all who helped with the recent Chicken Stew. We made a record 300 quarts of stew, which was good since this is our major fundraiser for the year. Thanks for your time, culinary talents, and purchasing the stew and desserts; and especially, thanks to all the men who helped. We're blessed, also, to have a stew leader, Cindy Fields, who gave so much of her time and wheels to pull this project together. Thanks Cindy!*



## Prayer LIST

### Those in Need of Prayer:

Cory Fields

Kelsey Garrett

Carlie Hanner

Candy Hinshaw

Ruby Hockett

Wayne & Ruby Kirkman

Lorrie Roth

Francis Snow

Frank & Julia Willis

Our Homebound & Shut-ins





## Honorariums & Memorials

Since the last newsletter publication, the following gifts have been made in honor/memory as listed.  
BUMC gratefully acknowledges each gift received.

### HONORARIUMS

In Honor of **Lucille McClintock's** 92<sup>nd</sup> Birthday  
By Angie Routh

In Honor of **Stacy & Lucille McClintock**  
By Wes & Lisa Taylor  
By Anonymous (for Meals/Wheels Service)

In Honor of **Ruby Hockett**  
By Wayne & Sheila Moser

In Honor of **Justin, Abbey, Ben, & Joe Windsor**  
By Wayne & Sheila Moser

### MEMORIALS

In Memory of **Worth & Mary Allred**  
By Margaret Royal

In Memory of **Dalton Bowman & Boys**  
By Louise Bowman

In Memory of **Jeanette Fields**  
By Linda Duncan, Kim & Cindy

In Memory of **Ed McClintock**  
By Melvin Hinshaw

In Memory of **Robbie Monnett**  
By Jerry & Karon Monnett

In Memory of **Bill Waugh**  
By Helen Waugh

In Memory of **Bobby Waugh**  
By Helen Waugh

In Memory of **A.C. & Bette Weatherly**  
By Jerry & Karon Monnett



### April

4/1 Phyllis Alley  
Jeff Neelley  
4/2 Madigan Downing  
4/3 Beth Walsh  
Casey Welborn  
4/4 Craig Massarelli  
4/5 Ashley Neelley  
4/7 Eddie Wilkinson  
4/8 Doyle Ingold  
4/9 Phyllis Garrett  
Jane Williams  
4/10 Wayne Dunham  
Jim Jones (Alice's son)  
4/11 Louise Bowman  
4/12 Frances Jean Fields  
4/13 Christopher Bass  
Danny Dunham  
Glenna Staley  
4/17 April Wreath  
4/18 Anna Parrish  
4/19 Shirley Hackett  
Matthew Young  
4/20 Daniel Moser  
Craig Smith  
4/24 Erica Reed Sypole  
4/25 Haley Parrish  
Lexie Terry  
Jane Reddick  
4/27 Julie Spencer  
4/29 Rachel Grace Hill  
Sandra Southard  
4/30 Ruby Kirkman  
Parker Robb

### May

5/1 Allison Eanes  
Russell Hill  
5/2 Ruby Hockett  
5/5 Lore Lambert  
5/6 Mark Wilkinson  
5/7 Wendi Lowe  
5/8 Tim Parrish  
5/9 Jana Fields  
John Holder  
Shirley Kinne  
Barry Norris  
Alan Wilkinson  
5/13 Wayne Kirkman  
Jeanne Suggs  
5/15 Anna-Grace Fulk  
5/16 Kelly Fields  
5/17 Caleb Windsor  
5/19 Kelsea Owens  
5/20 James Evans  
5/22 Eutha Bowman  
Nancy Golden  
Brittany Ingold  
Taylor Martin  
5/26 Adam Garrett  
Todd Ingold  
Joy Massarelli  
Lowell Suggs  
5/27 Doris Kirkman  
Faye Fields  
Debbie Waugh  
Londa Parks  
5/28 Gilbert Suggs  
5/29 Christal Owens  
Karen Barbone  
5/31 Mike Hinshaw





# STEWARDSHIP REPORT

## Budget Results for February 2023

\$492,720.28 Total Budget Money Available February 1, 2023

+ 26,769.29 Money Received in February

- 28,415.59 Money Spent in February

\$491,073.98 Money Available February 28, 2023

For the month of February, 2023, the Church Budget spent \$1,646.30 more than it received. For the year, the Church Budget received \$36,330.39 more than it spent.

**Major Maintenance & Repair Fund** – this designated money will be used to pay for major maintenance or repair projects to the Church building, parsonage or parking lot. The Board of Trustees must recommend all expenditures from this fund to the Church Council, and the Church Council must approve all expenditures from this fund. This is a perpetual fund and a minimum balance of \$2,500.00 shall be maintained at all times.

\$75,037.78 MM&RF Money Available February 28, 2023

**Other Designated Gifts** – occurs when the Church receives money for a designated purpose and the Church shall only spend this money for the purpose that it was given.

Camp Tekoa	\$ 781.88	Arbor Fund	\$ 882.70
Food Pantry	\$ 1,743.22	Handbells	\$ 160.52
Discretionary Fund	\$ 2,194.67	Scholarship-Religion Ed	\$ 1,983.22
Records & History	\$ 581.56	Missions-Undesignated	\$ 18,331.72
UMYF	\$22,857.13	Christmas Shoeboxes	\$ 290.06
Family Ministries	\$ 2,746.77	Cemetery Fund-Maint.	\$ 28,524.15
Helen Grady Endow.	992.00	Choir Fund	\$ 345.80
(\$800 History/\$192AltarFlowers)		Flowers	\$ 80.50
Brunswick Stew(Care/Nurture)	\$ 189.92	Camp Meeting Fund	\$ 1,160.00
Heifer Collection	\$ 650.00	Misc In/Out (Childcare)	\$ <292.80>

Total Other Designated Gift Money Available February 28, 2023 \$84,203.02

## \$101,800.00 **Perpetual Care Cemetery Fund**

In order to plan and provide the necessary funds for the care and upkeep of our cemetery, a Perpetual Care Cemetery Fund was created. This fund was a non-expendable trust fund in which the principal (donations) cannot be spent but the interest earned on the principal can be spent for the care and upkeep of the cemetery. The Perpetual Care Cemetery Fund was capped as of February 17, 2016 by the Church Council and is no longer taking donations.

## \$50,091.75 **Helen Grady Endowment Fund**

The money was donated to our church from the estate of Helen Grady in 2007 to be used for improvements to the church, community, or the development of an individual. The money is at the United Methodist Foundation of WNC, Inc. and the amount that can be spent annually is 5% of the last three (3) years average end-of-year balance.

Frank Willis, Stewardship Ministry Chair



Bethlehem United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 56/6103 Appomattox Road  
Climax, NC 27233

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Climax, NC  
PERMIT NO. 1

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

