

JORDAN  
MEMORIAL UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH



# The Link

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 3

APRIL 2026

## *The Garden Tomb in Jerusalem*



Spring has a way of sneaking up on us. One day the world looks gray and dormant, and then almost without warning, green shoots push through the cold ground, blossoms appear on branches that looked lifeless just weeks before; and the air carries something it didn't before, possibility. Of course, if you have stepped outside at all this spring, you know it has not exactly been a smooth ride. We have had days that felt like summer already here, followed by a cold snap that sent us back inside for our jackets. Warm and hopeful one day, gray and raw the next. In a strange way, this unpredictable spring has felt a lot like life itself — the good days and the hard days do not always follow a logical pattern, and there is not always a clear reason why today feels easier or harder than yesterday. We simply wake up and meet whatever the day brings.

It is no accident that Easter arrives in this season. As you read this, we are either just days away from celebrating Easter Sunday or we have just come through it together. Either way, the message of resurrection is not a once-a-year event we observe and then pack away with the decorations. It is a living reality that speaks directly into the world we are navigating right now.

And let's be honest, the world feels heavy right now. Many of us are feeling the pinch at the gas pump and the grocery store. We watch the news and see conflict, tension, and a world that seems more divided by the day. We scroll through our phones and feel an undercurrent of anger and anxiety that is hard to shake. Even conversations that used to feel safe now carry an edge. It is okay to name that. It is real, and you are not imagining it.

In times like these, it can be tempting to reach for easy answers. Some voices will tell you that faith means everything will simply work out fine, just believe hard enough and the hard things will disappear. Others suggest that the chaos around us is a sign that God is wrapping things up and that rescue is just around the corner. While these perspectives come from a place of wanting

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

**Genie Cross**

Clapp's Room 206  
500 Mountain Top Dr.  
Asheboro, NC

**Sharon Jones**

2988 Tuttle Road  
Archdale, NC 27263

**Malvin & Ann Robinson**

2800 Spoons Chapel Rd  
Asheboro, NC 27205

**Jordan Memorial Military**

Quinton Smith

**Memorials and Honorariums**

**In Memory of Ray Albright**

Jimmy & Cathy Riddle  
Randy & Cindy Strickland  
Malvin & Ann Robinson  
Celeste Byrnes  
Wayne & Ann Hutchins  
Dale & Susan Stevenson  
Bruce & Claudia Ihme  
Mary Faye Craven  
Kelly & Novie Craven  
Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Craven  
Tom & Debbie Hardin  
Anne Cox  
Ramseur ABC Board  
David & Kathy Posey

**In Memory of C.T. and Ora Hardin  
and Joe Hardin**

Bruce & Claudia Ihme

**College Students**

**Maria Almanza (NCSU)**

PO Box 361  
Ramseur, NC 27316

**Logan Armfield**

5017 Liberty Grove Rd  
Liberty, NC 27298

**Samantha Hicks**

Jagiellonian University  
ul. Gołębia 24, 31-007 Kraków  
Krakow, Poland

**Hunter Shackelford**

Lynch Hall Room 333  
9201 University City Blvd  
Charlotte, NC 28223.

**Jaidy Smith**

307 Elam Ave.  
Ramseur, NC 27316

**Melissa Strickland**

2868 Spoons Chapel Road  
Asheboro, NC 27205

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**Care Team**

Care Team will be going out April 29<sup>th</sup> leaving the church at 10:00 AM If you would like to join us, please let Pastor Chris know. This is a great chance to go and visit our church family we don't get to see on Sundays.

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**Summer Kick Off Yard Sale & Fundraiser –  
May 30<sup>th</sup> 9:00 Am -2:00 PM**

As you begin your spring cleaning, please consider donating your gently used items to our upcoming church yard sale. All proceeds will go toward the church's general fund, supporting our ongoing ministries and community efforts.

Donation Drop-Off: Bring your items to the church anytime leading up to the sale.

Yard Sale Day: Join us on May 30th to shop for great finds and support a good cause.

Lunch Fundraiser: A lunch will also be available that day, with all proceeds supporting the church.

Vendor Spots Available: Interested in selling your own items or handmade crafts? Spaces are available to rent—contact us to reserve your spot.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing you there!

# General Information

## **The Leadership Team Fundraiser**



The Leadership Team will have a fundraiser on Sunday, April 12 following the worship service. Our menu is hot dogs, chips and dessert.

All funds received will apply toward our yearly apportionment. Please save this date and plan to join us for good food and great fellowship. Look forward to seeing YOU.

## **Meetings**



April 12<sup>th</sup> at 4:00PM Leadership Team Meeting

April 20 Back to School Bash  
6:30pm in ESOL Room.

## **Jordan's Closet**

Jordan's Closet is open on the first Saturday and third Tuesday each month. Saturday hours are 10am-12pm and Tuesday 5pm-7pm. We always need help sorting and putting out new donations as well as folks who want to come and sit and talk with our friends who come. It is more than clothes, it is connection!

## **Lion's Club**

The Lion's Club is collecting old eyeglasses, hearing aids, and cell phones. There is a collection box outside the church office. The Lion's Club also meets in the conference room on the second Tuesday each month from 6-7pm.

## **Line Dancing**

Line Dancing class is on Wednesdays at 10:00am, Thursdays at 7-8pm and Fridays at 1pm.. Cost is \$3.00.



## **Being the Hands of Ministry**

Thank you for being willing to serve by adding your gifts to our worship services!

## **April Ushers**

Crandall Ellison  
JoLynne Allen

## **April Reading**

April 5<sup>th</sup> John 20:1-18  
April 12<sup>th</sup> Luke 24:13-35  
April 19  
April 26

## **Scouts**

The boy and girl scouts meet on Monday's at 6:30pm.

## **AA Group**

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

## **Faith & Fitness**

Exercise class meets on Tuesday's & Thursday's at 9am in the fellowship hall. Equipment is provided and there is no fee. It is more than just exercise, it is a time to connect with other ladies and share in stories, prayer, and scripture. There is a physical need that is met but even more so there is an emotional and spiritual need that is met when we come together. Hope you can join us.

## STEWARDSHIP

Did you ever wonder why you do some of the things you do? Specifically regarding money?? Rev. Dan Dick of Discipleship Ministries has created the “Money Autobiography” to help us identify where our money values may have been shaped.

All people of faith live in relationship to money and material wealth. As an issue of faith, Jesus speaks more about money than any other topic except the kingdom of God. Christian stewardship involves much more than money and our relationship to money and material possessions helps to define who we are, what we value, what we believe and how we live.

A money autobiography challenges us to explore our past to see how our attitudes, assumptions and values concerning money and wealth were formed. It allows us the opportunity to wrestle with our needs, wants and desires and helps understand the life choices we make.

The money autobiography was designed for a month of reflection—four weeks for each theme. For purposes of the Link we will do one theme per month for four months.

### Week 1: Formative questions

Day 1—What is your earliest memory of money?

Day 2—What is your happiest memory in connection to money?

Day 3—What is your unhappiest memory of money?

Day 4—What attitudes did your parents or other family members have about money?

Day 5—Did you feel rich, poor or neither growing up? Did you worry about when you were a child or teenager?

Day 6—Where did your money come from? Did you work for it, receive an allowance, have your parents buy you things?

Day 7—Who governed how you related to money; that is, how you spent money, saved money, gave money to charity or church?

Reflect on these questions and record your thoughts, feelings and observations.

In May we will look at values questions. In June, management questions and in July, lifestyle questions.

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# UWF NEWS

## United Women In Faith

United Women In Faith had a very informative program on Call to Prayer and Self-Denial. Our children are our most precious gift from God and look to us for their example. From the poem "If a child..." receives love, he will share this gift through life. We must remember our actions speak louder than words. We are all God's children and look to each other for help.

Our next meeting is Sunday, May 17th with a special guest speaker, Denise Wilson who will share her talent in a skit of "Edith Ann". She asks us to help others in their time of need by donating individual small packs of cookies, the small bottles of water and boxes of tissues. These items are much needed and will go to Hospice House. Hope you will help us with this mission project by placing items in the container outside the office.

Please plan to attend. All are invited.

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comfort, they can unintentionally lead us away from the deeper, truer, more durable hope that the resurrection actually offers.

Because here is what Easter really tells us. Jesus did not come into a peaceful, orderly world. He came into a world of occupation and oppression, poverty and disease, political tension and religious corruption. The world that put him on trial was a world driven by fear, power, and division, not entirely unlike the world we recognize today. And in that world, the worst happened. Betrayal. Injustice. Crucifixion. The darkness felt total and final.

But God was not finished. The empty tomb is not just a promise about what happens after we die. It is a declaration about right now. It tells us that God does not abandon us in our darkest moments. It tells us that love is more powerful than fear, that life has the final word over death, and that no situation, no matter how hopeless it looks on a Friday, is beyond the reach of a Sunday morning.

Resurrection hope is not the hope that says nothing bad will happen. It is the hope that sustains us when the road is long and the answers are slow in coming. It is the hope that walks beside us through the cold snaps and the hard seasons, the job that didn't work out, the relationship that is strained, the diagnosis that changed everything, the grief that still shows up uninvited. In all of it, God is not watching from a distance. God is present, at work, and deeply, stubbornly committed to love. The resurrection is God's loudest, clearest statement that no darkness, personal or global, gets the final word. Jesus demonstrated his love on the cross but it is more deeply realized in the empty tomb.

Resurrection hope is not the hope that says nothing bad will happen. It is the hope that says God is present in the middle of the bad things. It is the hope that sustains us when the road is long and the answers are slow in coming. It is the hope that says we are not alone, we have never been alone, and we will not be alone in whatever comes next.

Look outside. Notice what is happening. The earth, which looked cold and finished not long ago, is alive again and it did not have to try hard or believe correctly or get its act together first. It simply responded to something that was already at work beneath the surface. That is grace. That is resurrection. That is the God we worship.

This Easter season, wherever you find yourself, whether you are full of joy or quietly struggling, whether your faith feels strong or stretched thin, know this: the tomb is still empty. God's love is still at work. And hope is still the most stubborn, resilient, unstoppable force in the universe. He is risen. And with Him, so is our hope.

Pastor Chris Smith

### Share the Love Blood Drive Report

The United Women of Faith hosted the church’s first annual American Red Cross (ARC) blood drive on Saturday, February 14th. There were 25 donors, 5 of which were first-time donors. The American Red Cross (ARC) had 13 type O donors and 5 power red donations for a total of 28 units.

We plan to host our 2nd annual drive Saturday, February 13, 2027. Thanks to all donors, volunteers, and supporters!

# Easter List 1



X S A L V A T I O N S X M N B	
N T O J D T O I K U Q V O D N	
Y V W Z V P B A P E P I C A L	Angel
E V W P Z S O A Z X T R Q Y W	Bible
S S O R C W U L A C G H Z G E	Cross
J E B F Y V Q N E W Y J X I N	Disciples
X E L D Y F G R D A D I O J V	Faith
T Z S P F Z R K D A N A D I P	Good Friday
I L P U I U A I Y N Y N W V B	Holy
P A R D S C R H J B P G F I R	Jesus
G M M E A F S T R D Y E B V B	Lamb
P B R I D Y N I W Z K L T D Z	Love
N W K O H N A A D R E F M P N	Palm Sunday
S H O R K M K F H O L Y J B A	Resurrection
K G X Y A D N U S M L A P K T	Salvation
	Sunday



# April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Maundy Thursday Svc 6:30pm	3 Good Friday Svc 6:30pm	4
5 Easter	6 AA Mtg 6:30pm Boy Scout 6:30pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm	7 Faith & Fitness 9am Senior Bingo 10am Civitian Mtg 6pm	8 Line Dancing 10am	9 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm Line Dancing 7-8pm	10 Line Dancing 1pm	11
12 Hot Dog Fund Raiser 11:30am Leadership Team mtg 4pm	13 AA Mtg 6:30pm Boy Scout 6:30pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm	14 Faith & Fitness 9am Lions Club 6pm	15 Line Dancing 10am	16 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm Line Dancing 7-8pm	17 Line Dancing 1pm	18
19	20 AA Mtg 6:30pm Boy Scout 6:30pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm <b>School Bash</b> 6:30pm	21 Faith & Fitness 9am Jordan Closet 5pm Community meal 5:30pm Civitian Mtg 6pm	22 Line Dancing 10am	23 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm Line Dancing 7-8pm	24 Line Dancing 1pm	25
26	27 AA Mtg 6:30pm Boy Scout 6:30pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm	28 Faith & Fitness 9am	29 Line Dancing 10am	30 9am Faith & Fitness AA Mtg 6:30pm Line Dancing 7-8pm		

**Ramseur Food Pantry:** Cold and Hot Cereal.

## April Birthdays

04-Meredith Duell Craven  
05-Jasmine Gager  
05-Carolyn Albright  
05-James Rains, Jr.  
09-Dorsey Chamblee  
09-Harris W. Marley  
13-Arthur Gant, III  
14-Elisa Sumakeris  
14-Geri Bressler  
17-Teresa McNeil  
19-Katy Gant  
20-Sandy Ihme  
23-C. Mike Dorsett  
24-Timothy Rains  
25-JoLynne Allen  
27-Mont Gilmore  
28-Sidney Blake  
29-Joanna Sumakeris  
30-Lee Armfield

Happy Easter! He has Risen!



## Jordan Memorial United Methodist Church

1511 Main Street  
PO Box 848  
Ramseur, NC 27316  
Phone: 336-824-2252



E-mail:

[JordanMemorial@JordanMemorial.org](mailto:JordanMemorial@JordanMemorial.org)

[www.JordanMemorial.org](http://www.JordanMemorial.org)

**Community Meal** April 21st, 5:30 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

