

THE BEACON

Brookstown

United Methodist Church

Rev. James T. (Chip) Webb, Jr.

June 2026

A Message from Pastor Chip

Like a Glass of Cool Water, Mayim Bialik? “Yes, Please!”

My very best day in Jerusalem was a day when I decided to skip the guided **Masada** Tour – a magnificent experience of a desert fortress, fortified by cisterns, built by King Herod the Great – and go on a self-guided tour of the ancient parts of **Jerusalem**. In reality, my tour was guided, but certainly not by me. I departed the **Olive Tree Motel** on foot and entered the **Old City** of Jerusalem through the **Damascus Gate**, moving through the **Muslim Quarter** to the **Temple Mount** where I prayed at the **Western Wall**. Exiting the **Temple Mount** complex through the **Lions Gate**, I walked along the **City Wall** down through the **Kidron Valley** until I came to an edifice in the Wall covered with plexiglass. Through the glass, were the waters from the **Gihon Spring**, *gushing forth, welling up*, giving life to the inhabitants of the **City**. The **Spring**, and the tunnel bringing the water from outside to inside the **City Wall**, made possible Jerusalem’s resistance against those more powerful enemies who would surround and lay siege to the **City**. In **Jerusalem** of old, and in **Israel** today, the people are deeply aware that water is life.

...when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream [mist] would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground—then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. ~ Genesis 2: 5-7

In the Hebrew theology of Genesis, water (**Hebrew- Mayim**) very clearly precedes life – plant, animal and human life. Some dust to begin, some water to help shape and mold (mud!), and breath from God and you are a living soul; and if there is no water for too long, the breath departs and we return to dust. I am getting thirsty.

The books of the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, speak of the deep, rivers, mists, streams, rains, waters above and below the firmament, wells, even rocks that gush life-giving waters. Rivers have marked boundaries, transitions, promises, passages and provided places of prayer. At creation, the Spirit brooded over the face of the deep; judgment of humankind resulted in the waters of the deep overtaking all of the land; overcoming the destructive consequences of Jonah’s being tossed overboard into the deep, God provided a great fish to swallow him up; the deaths of Saul and Jonathan were memorialized on Mt. Gilboa with continuing localized drought. Our ancient fathers met our ancient mothers at the well. Then, Jesus asked a woman at the well for some water.

Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink?” (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?” (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.” ~ John 4: 6-10

(Continued on next page)

A Message from Pastor Chip (continued)

There is water; then there is living water. Jesus continues:

“Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

With each Sunday, wedding or funeral, we light candles at Brookstown. We are reminded of the **Light** of the world. And, we surely love sunny days, but are reminded of the promise that God blesses us with the sunshine and the rain. Both are blessings. Some day, the Light will be provided by the very presence of God, and the springs and rivers will provide living water, sustaining eternal life.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

~ Revelation 7:16-17

Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.” ~ Revelation 21:6

During these days of Pentecost, have a glass of cool water with your devotions. Reflect upon the essential nature of water and the spiritual symbolism of that which sustains physical and spiritual life.

And, you can even light a candle if you want.

***“God gave us five senses;
it is sheer ingratitude
to worship Him
with any less.”***
~ Martin Luther



***It is not the task of Christianity
to provide easy answers to every
question, but to make us progressively
aware of a mystery. God is not so
much the object of our knowledge,
as the Cause of our wonder.***

We Gather to Worship

When we gather together to worship, we are celebrating the most important events in human history — the events through which God brings salvation to the world. Through our celebration, these events become contemporaneous to us. That is, the saving and healing power of God becomes available to the worshipping community.

How do we do it? We tell the story; we dramatize it, sing it and festoon it. In this way we celebrate God's saving deeds.

~ Robert E. Webber

Audio Visual Training

Sunday, June 14

Immediately after 11am Worship

Anyone who is interested in helping with the sound and visuals for the 8:30 & 11am services, this is your opportunity! Volunteers are needed to fill in when someone's out, or to be on a rotation. You'll be sufficiently trained, so a lot of skills and/or experience isn't necessary. Let Teresa or Aubrey Apperson know if you're interested.

Master Chef Chip will provide lunch after your training!

***“Just as a body, though one, has many parts ... so it is with Christ,”
writes Paul. “For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body.
... Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.”***
~ 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, NIV

Numerous members, diverse functions, unique gifts – one God.

~ Heidi Mann

Graduate Recognition

Sunday, June 14



Brookstown's 2026 Graduates will be recognized Sunday, June 14. We're proud of our graduates and look forward to honoring them and their accomplishments. A complete list of their names will be published in the July newsletter.

Make plans to attend church June 14 to show Brookstown's continued support and love for our young people as they begin the next exciting phase of their lives!

*O Lord, You are my Shepherd.
Thank You for fulfilling my needs,
leading me along safe pathways
and restoring my soul.
Amen.*



*Trust in the LORD with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways submit to Him,
and He will make your paths straight.
~ Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV*

A Hidden Graduation Message

A college class was graduating on a hot and humid day. As the graduates walked across the platform and received their diplomas from the president, he smiled, shook their hands and said loudly, "Congratulations!" Then, in a much lower voice, one that was firm and could be heard only by the graduates, he would say, "Keep moving."

He was only trying to keep the line moving across the stage, but his words were good advice for a lifetime: "Keep moving." After every achievement — growing up, graduation, marriage, job promotion, even retirement — the best advice is, "Keep moving." Don't stop. Don't stagnate. There is more to life than you have found thus far. This is not the end; it is only the beginning. Keep moving.

~ Book of Wit & Wisdom

Thanks, Mom!

At his graduation, a young man giving a speech began reading from some notes.

"I want to talk about my mother and the wonderful influence she has had on my life," he said. "She's a shining example of parenthood, and I love her more than words can ever do justice."

The graduate then paused, appeared to struggle a moment, then looked up at the audience with a mischievous smile.

"I'm sorry, but it's really hard to read my mom's handwriting," he said.

(From "The Newsletter Newsletter")

*Graduation is a ceremony that marks the end
of study, and the beginning of education.*

~ Evan Esar

Applications for the William Shelton Scholarship

Those students who will be attending college for the year 2026-2027, and would like to be considered for the William Shelton Memorial Scholarship, should submit your letter of application by **June 30, 2026**.

Your letter should include the following:

*Current address ~ College you plan to attend ~ Status: full time or part time student
Please include brief summary as to why you feel this scholarship would benefit you, and any other information about yourself that you would like to share with the Scholarship Committee.*

Applications may be submitted by a third party. Only one application will be considered for the same applicant per year (July 1 through June 30).

You may send your application to the church office or directly to:

Susan Jameson
2105 Pendragon Court
Pfafftown, NC 27040

May God bless each of you as you continue your education.

~ Susan Jameson,
Scholarship Committee



A Special Invitation

65th Birthday Celebration for Terry Walters
Saturday, June 20, 3-6pm
Brookstown Fellowship Hall

Mark your calendars now to attend a special celebration in honor of Terry Walters' 65th trip around the sun! Karen will serve a low country boil for everyone to enjoy. They hope you will join them for a special time with family and friends!

*"It is only in the giving of oneself to others that we truly live."
~ Ethel Percy Andrus*

A Special Thank You

The Congregational Care Committee received this email from a member of Marge Lanier's family. We appreciate the ministry this team carries out for Brookstown, and would like to share this note:

"What a great job you folks did with the food for the celebration of Margie's life. Nothing could have been done better. Please reassure each of the people involved that it was not just nice, it was wonderful. We all love the warmth and friendship we feel when we arrive at your Church. That's the best kind of blessing.

*Thank you so much on behalf of the extended family,
Theresa*

United Women in Faith

For our meeting on Wednesday, June 17 at 6pm, we will meet in the pavilion for a covered dish meal. We always have plenty of food, so if you are a visitor, please join us and don't worry about bringing food. After the meal, we will have a short business session and a program called "Never Stop Learning." All women are invited to join us at this meeting.

Please note that we are changing our monthly meeting time from 11am to 6pm for the months of June and July. We hope this will encourage working women, who can't attend our earlier meetings, to visit and see what our organization is all about. Please invite friends who live nearby to attend also, since you don't have to be a church member to be a part of our organization. We hope there is enough interest to be able to form a circle that meets at night in addition to our daytime group. Anita Clifton, our vice president, will be sharing a little about our group during announcements at each of the three church services sometime this month.

June will be a busy time for our organization. We will help with VBS by preparing a spaghetti meal for Monday night. We will also make 70 fish-shaped back pillows that the children will decorate and stuff, then give to the residents at Vienna Village. Each pillow will have a prayer stuffed inside, and a card that also includes a prayer.

We will also continue our work in the community kitchen at Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC by helping package meals for children and adults in need throughout our district. We typically have 10 to 11 who help with this project each month and prepare approximately 1,000 meals.

2026 WNCC Annual Conference

June 18-21, Lake Junaluska
Clergy Session - June 18
Laity Session - June 18
Annual Conference - June 19-21

While the conference will be live streamed for at-home viewing, registration and full participation (including voting) will ONLY happen in person.

Our Lay Member to Annual Conference is Rick Cain. He and Pastor Chip will attend the conference. Our prayers go with them as they represent Brookstown.

~ Martha Isenberg, UWF President

The Brookstown Express

If they see God's love lived, they learn to live God's love.

Hello church friends,

The children are out of school and itching to keep busy! We look forward to a fun summer learning about Jesus, and ways that we can share His LOVE and KINDNESS. We continue to have good attendance in our Children's Sunday School class, which meets at 11am in our upstairs classroom. The children bring their Bibles, and are excited about reading and learning from them. Please take a moment to visit our bulletin board, pictured below. It's on the wall as you go down the ramp into the Fellowship Hall. We made this as part of our Ascension and Pentecost Sunday School lessons. Thank you, parents and grandparents, who bring your children to Sunday School each week. You are helping them become young disciples!

Speaking of Disciples, we are excited about our 2026 Vacation Bible School. This will be our fourth consecutive year of VBS, and we always have a wonderful time! This year's theme is "Come, Follow Me", and we'll learn about Jesus calling His disciples, and how WE can all be disciples too. See the following page for more information and details about this exciting event.

Children are gifts from God, and it's an honor to guide them on their faith journey. May God bless each of them richly!
~ Marsha Campbell, Children's Ministry Coordinator



You are a *Child* of God
You are *wonderfully* made,
dearly loved, and *precious*
in His sight.

- Psalm 139



Brookstown Summer Care

The last day of school was May 27, with the Summer Program beginning June 1. They have lots of fun activities in store! Drive safely if you come through the parking lot during the day. We pray that children everywhere have a safe and happy summer!

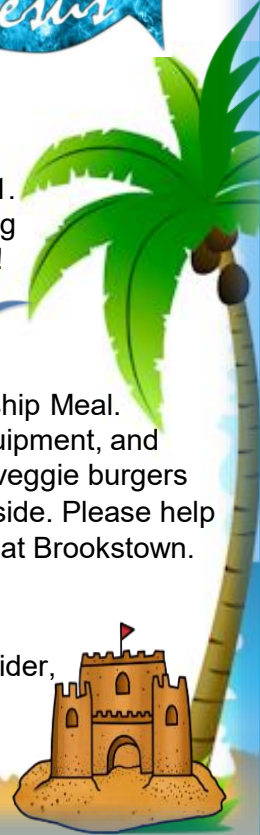
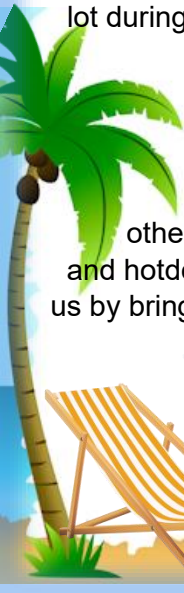
Fellowship Meal

June 24, 6pm

The Brookstown School and Summer Care will host this month's Fellowship Meal. Any donations collected will be used to help buy some new playground equipment, and other expenses for our summer care for the children. We will have hamburgers, veggie burgers and hotdogs at the pavilion, weather permitting. If it's too hot or raining, we will eat inside. Please help us by bringing sides like slaw, chili, and some desserts from the wonderful cooks here at Brookstown. Thank you so much for supporting the program!

Brookstown BASC board:

Susan Jameson, Karen Powers Pam Steppe, Roberta Lasley, Michele Snider,
Judy Ingle and Jenny Tilley, BSSC Director





2026 Vacation Bible School

“Come, Follow Me”



Monday, June 8 through Friday, June 12
6:00 – 8:30pm (Optional Family Meal 6 – 6:30pm)
Children aged 4 to 12

We are jumping into the summer with VBS and hoping to make a big splash...right into the Sea of Galilee! Monday, June 8 through Friday, June 12, we will experience a **“Come, Follow Me!”** themed VBS where we will dive into *Matthew 10:1–31*, discovering how Jesus called His disciples and what it means for us to be “fishers of men”.

Monday through Friday, from 6:00-6:30pm, we will host a family meal. Then from 6:30 to 7:30 children will be engaged in lessons and music, learning “seaside” all about Jesus’ disciples and how to be a disciple themselves. From 7:30 to 8:30 the children will play games, make crafts, and do a service project together. On Friday, families are warmly invited to stay with us for the full evening for a special celebration. We will have dinner together, the children will share some things they have learned, and play water games!

Registration is still open. Please sign up your loved ones and share an invitation with your neighbors and friends. We hope to see you there! Registration forms can be obtained from Jonna, Marsha, ushers at worship services, and online at our website: BrookstownUMC.com.

If you would like to help, here are ways you can dive into the fun:

- Wooden fish are available at every service. We ask you to take home and decorate a fish and then return it, with your name on the back, to be hung in our fishing net! The children will decorate these at VBS too.
- Our service project will be making small fish-shaped pillows for the residents at Vienna Village Assisted Living. Our wonderful UWF group has offered to pre-sew the shells of our fish so our children can stuff them and add a blessing or two. These pillows can be used as lumbar support, comfort seating in a wheelchair, support during bed-bound positioning, or as a cute decoration. We will teach the children all about the "Jesus Fish" or Ichthys symbol.
- We need volunteers to help with water game stations on Friday, June 12. The more volunteers we have, the more stations and activities we can provide for the children.
- We will decorate for VBS on Friday, June 5 at 4pm, and Sunday, June 7 after 11am worship.

Please reach out to Jonna Lasley if you can help out. We can barely contain our excitement! Hope to see you there!

VBS Food Donations

We are also asking for food donations. You know we love to eat! If you would like to help by donating food, please contact Roberta Lasley or Teresa Apperson. Here’s our list:

Monday – Rice Krispy Treats

Tuesday – Cookies, preferably not large

Thursday – Chocolate and/or vanilla cupcakes with icing, and the ichthus/ixthus symbol (known as the "Jesus fish") drawn in the icing or piped on. We will pipe the fish if you prefer.

Friday – Please bring your favorite desserts for our Family Cookout Meal.

Other – Snack bags of Goldfish, popcorn, pretzel sticks, and raisins. Mini Marshmallows, chocolate chips, cereal

There’s a box in the kitchen labeled “Food Donations for VBS” for your contributions.

Contact Roberta Lasley or Teresa Apperson with questions.



We appreciate everyone’s help! ~ Jonna Lasley, Youth Ministries Coordinator
Marsha Campbell, Children’s Ministries Coordinator

2026 Community Festival



Festival Bible Verse:

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25, NIV

Preparations are underway for our upcoming Community Festival, to be held September 12, 2026. We are all looking forward to another great Saturday filled with delicious food, inspirational entertainment, lots of great vendors, helpful volunteers, and wonderful fellowship!

We already have some vendors registered, with a variety of items for sale. Roberta Lasley is our Vendor Coordinator, so contact her if you have any questions or know of possible vendors.

We are working on filling volunteer slots, so please contact Tim Lasley, Jimmy Holder or Roberta Lasley if you are able to help. We will need help for set-up, breakfast, lunch, Country Store, Bakery, Tractor Pull, frozen baked goods, vendor assistance, and clean-up.

Our Festival planning meetings will begin soon and the dates will be published. Anyone who would like to help with planning is welcome!

~ The Festival Committee
Jimmy Holder, Tim & Roberta Lasley

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. ~ Colossians 23:23-24



Sometimes we think we must do something big to serve God. Today, when you smile at someone on the street, take time to entertain a child's question, take cookies to a neighbor, thank a server or clerk ... know that you are serving Jesus and worshiping God.



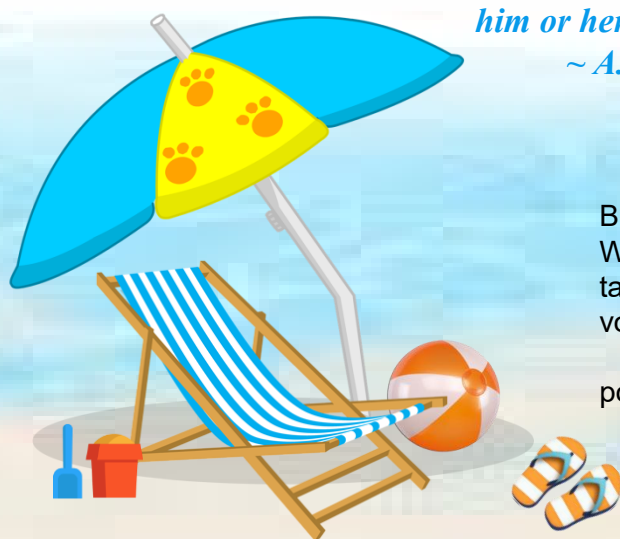
Crisis Control Gifts of the Month

Peanut Butter & Jelly ~ For Kids: Gummy Fruit Snack Packets
Thanks to everyone who gives generously to Crisis Control Ministry each month!

Thought for the Day

“There is not a thing that God expects of a person, but that God will give him or her the power to do.”

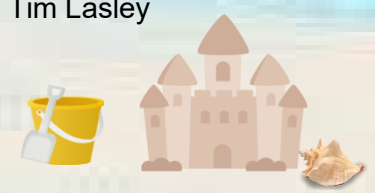
~ A.B. Simpson



Blood Drive

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Red Cross Blood Drive held May 6 in the Brookstown Fellowship Hall. We had a good turnout and collected 20 pints of blood! It takes everyone to make it all work, and we appreciate our volunteers and donors.

The next Blood Drive will be in July. We'll keep you posted!
~ Tim Lasley



Thank God for Fathers

Father's Day Quotes

- Fatherhood is an adventure that takes you places you never knew existed, and provides you some of life's greatest joys.
- A man's children and his garden both reflect the amount of weeding done during the growing season.
- I believe that what we become depends on what our fathers teach us at odd moments, when they aren't trying to teach us. We are formed by little scraps of wisdom. (Umberto Eco)
- A father is a guy who has snapshots in his wallet where his money used to be.
- My father gave me the greatest gift anyone could give another person; he believed in me. (Jim Valvano)
- My father always told me, 'Find a job you love and you'll never have to work a day in your life.' (Jim Fox)
- Before I got married, I had six theories about raising children; now, I have six children and no theories. (John Wilmot)
- When I was a kid, I said to my father one afternoon, "Daddy, will you take me to the zoo?" He answered, 'If the zoo wants you, let them come and get you.' (Jerry Lewis)
- A truly rich man is one whose children run into his arms when his hands are empty.

*For fathers and other good and faithful men in our lives,
we give You thanks, O Father-God.*

The Origin of Father's Day

The first celebration of Father's Day is thought to have been in July 1908, in Fairmont, West Virginia. Grace Clayton suggested the special observance to her pastor after a deadly mine explosion killed 361 men.

Soon after, Sonora Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington, wanted to show her gratitude to her father, who'd cared for the family after his wife died. Dodd asked her pastor to choose a June Sunday to honor all fathers, and he selected June 19, 1910.

In 1924, President Coolidge suggested that Father's Day become a national holiday. In 1966, President Johnson designated the third Sunday of June to be Father's Day. In 1972, President Nixon instituted Father's Day as a national observance.

But devotion to and pride in fathers does not need to wait for official approval. As long as there have been families, love and respect for fathers has existed.

*"Dads are most ordinary men turned
by love into heroes, adventurers,
storytellers, and singers of song."
~ Pam Brown*

The Rose

The official flower of Father's Day is the rose. Sonora Dodd selected the rose for this special holiday. A red rose is worn for fathers who are still living, and a white rose honors fathers who are deceased.

*We pray a special blessing for
fathers and father-figures,
and give thanks that our
Father in Heaven blesses
and loves us all.*

*A father is neither an
anchor to hold us back,
nor a sail to take us there,
but a guiding light whose
love shows us the way.*

*"The greatest gift I ever
had came from God;
I call him Dad!"
~ Anonymous*





June

Birthdays

Trey Greenwood	1
Kay Lasley	2
Howard Greenwood	6
Gail Hogan	6
Mickey Samuel	7
Paul Cofer	8
June Hayes	10
Connor Steppe	15
Terry Walters	16
Danielle Lewis Edwards	18
Tracy Apperson	19
Amanda Isasi	19
Brady Warlow	20
Makenzie Douglas	23
Ellen Thomas	23
Rick Cain	25
Pat Ziglar	26
Larry Snider	26
Melisse Hopping	28
Judy Macemore	29

Anniversaries

Randy & April Hager	2
Rick & Pam Steppe	4
Terry & Karen Walters	17
Joel & Debbie Cofer	18
Johnny & Gina Reed	19
John & Susan Jameson	24
Mark & Darlene Davis	27
Guery & Nancy VanWinkle	30

If your birthday or anniversary needs to be added, please let Lavonda know.

Flowers for Worship Services

June 21 – Garland Apperson
June 28 – Randy & April Hager
(June 7 & 14 are open)

*“In early June the world of leaf and blade and flowers explodes, and every sunset is different.”
~ John Steinbeck*



*“Summer night — even the stars are whispering to each other.”
~ Kobayashi Issa*

*“In summer, the song sings itself.”
~ William Carlos Williams*

Church Contact Information

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Pfafftown, NC 27040
336-945-3029

Brookstown@triad.twcbc.com
BrookstownUMC.com
Like us on Facebook



Quiet Space

“Rest is not idleness,” said John Lubbock, “and to lie sometimes on the grass on a summer day listening to the murmur of water or watching the clouds float across the sky is hardly a waste of time.” Most of us need more, not less, rest built into our daily routine.

Only when we are quiet can we hear God’s whisper. Summer is a great time to find a peaceful, outdoor spot to read, rest and pray even if only for a few minutes. God is eagerly waiting for us to make space for him.





June Schedule of Events at Brookstown UMC

<i>June 8-12</i>	<i>Vacation Bible School, 6:00-8:30pm</i>
<i>June 14</i>	<i>Graduate Recognition Sunday</i>
<i>June 17</i>	<i>United Women in Faith Meeting in the Pavilion, 6pm</i>
<i>June 24</i>	<i>Fellowship Meal, 6pm, Hosted by Brookstown School Care</i>
<i>Tuesdays</i>	<i>Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall, 6:30pm</i>
<i>Wednesdays</i>	<i>Choir Practice</i>
<i>Monday – Friday</i>	<i>Brookstown Summer Care , 7am-6pm</i>

Worship Opportunities at Brookstown UMC

<i>Sundays, 8:30am</i>	<i>SonRise Worship Service & Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall</i>
<i>Sundays, 10:00am</i>	<i>Informal Worship Service & Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall</i>
<i>Sundays, 11:00am</i>	<i>Adult Sunday School in the Ola Apperson Room</i>
	<i>Traditional Worship Service in the Sanctuary</i>
	<i>Children & Youth Sunday School</i>

Have a Safe & Blessed Summer!

