

JORDAN  
MEMORIAL UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH



INSIDE  
THIS ISSUE:

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Homebound               | 2 |
| Memorials & Honorariums |   |
| Military College        |   |
| General Information     | 3 |
|                         | 4 |
| Back to School Bash     | 5 |
| Homecoming in September | 6 |
| August Calendar         | 7 |
| Worship with us!        | 8 |

# The Link

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 5

AUGUST 2026

## Welcoming Like Corinth



This month our summer journey with Paul brings us to the end of the road through Greece. We will pass briefly through Athens, where Paul stood in the marketplace and debated philosophers under the shadow of the Parthenon, before settling in for the rest of August in Corinth, the city where Paul stayed the longest on any of his missionary journeys. Acts tells us he remained there a year and a half, working alongside Priscilla and Aquila, teaching in the synagogue, and building a church that he would go on to write to twice in our New Testament. Something about Corinth made Paul want to stay.

Corinth was a crossroads city, a port town full of merchants, travelers, and people from every corner of the empire. And like much of the Greek world, it operated under an old and sacred understanding of hospitality, what the Greeks called *xenia*. You welcomed the stranger at your door, fed them, gave them a place to rest, because you never knew who might be standing before you. A traveler in need might just as easily be a god in disguise.

Jaidy and I recently watched the new *Odyssey* film, and that theme runs through it from beginning to end. Homes are judged not by their wealth but by how they treat the guest at the door, because the visitor you turn away just might be Zeus himself, testing you. We don't share that belief, of course. But our own scriptures carry an echo of it. Hebrews reminds us not to neglect showing hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. And Jesus goes even further, not an angel in disguise, but Christ himself: truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me (Matthew 25:40).

It seems Paul may have found something in Corinth, and in Greece more broadly, that resonated deeply with what he already believed about the gospel. He writes to the Roman church to contribute to the needs of the saints and extend hospitality to strangers (Romans 12:13), and later, to welcome one another, just as Christ has welcomed you (Romans 15:7). Paul was not always an easy man to have around; he ruffled feathers everywhere he went, Corinth included, and his letters show a church that argued with him and with each other. But he was welcomed there long enough to put down roots, long enough to be shaped by a city that valued the stranger at the door. Perhaps that hospitality, however imperfect, gave

(Continued on page 2)

**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

**Memorials and Honorariums**

**In Memory of Mont Gilmore**

Glen & Julie Mullins  
Rodney & Donna Smith  
Curtis Seabolt  
Malvin & Ann Robinson  
Randy & Cindy Strickland

**In Memory of Frank Vestal**

Anne Vestal Cox

**In Honor of Jamie & Haddie  
Poole – Yard Sale Fundraiser**

Hiram Marziano

**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**

917B Arvada Dr.  
Charlotte, NC 28262

**Jaidy Smith**

307 Elam Ave.  
Ramseur, NC 27316

**Jordan Memorial Military**

**Quinton Smith**



(Continued from page 1)

him room to do some of his most important work.

This is worth sitting with as we prepare for our 11th annual Back to School Bash. It is not that our church fails at hospitality, far from it. But hospitality is never something we finish learning. There is always a fuller welcome to offer: to the family we don't recognize, the child who needs a bookbag, the neighbor who doesn't look, talk, or believe like we do. Paul's gospel and Corinth's culture agreed on this one thing, that welcoming the stranger is not a nicety on the edge of faith, it is close to the center of it. It is one of the places where being a good Christian and simply being a good human being turn out to be the same thing, regardless of nationality, race, language, or belief.

So, as we hand out bookbags and school supplies this August, as we encounter people in the grocery store or around town, let's remember we may be doing more than meeting a practical need. We may be entertaining angels. We may be welcoming Christ himself. Let's welcome all people knowing this truth because we are all created in God's image and the reality is when we welcome the stranger, the marginalized, the one that seems different, we are truly welcoming Christ. May Christ be welcomed in our community, our church, and our homes.

Chris Smith

# General Information

## United Women in Faith

UWF will meet Sunday afternoon, August 23 at 2:30pm. Our guest speaker will be Sarah Lee, our District UWF President. Please plan to attend. All are welcome to come.



## Ramseur Civitans

The Civitans meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 6:30pm

## Line Dancing

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

## Senior Bingo!

Join us the first Tuesday of each month at 10am in the Fellowship hall for Senior Bingo.

## Being the Hands of Ministry

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

### August Ushers

Doug Collins Celia Harris

### August Acolyte

Celia Harris

### August Communion Steward

Anne Cox

## Announcements!

Leadership Team Meeting

Sunday, August 16th at 3:00 PM

Staff Parish Relations Committee Meeting

Sunday August 30th at 3:00 PM

United Women in Faith Meeting Sunday, August

23rd at 2:30pm with guest speaker Sarah Lee

## Scouts

The boy and girl scouts meet on Mondays at 6:30pm.

## 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.

## AA Group

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



You Are an Important Piece of our Church!  
Come be a part that helps build the Kingdom of God!



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# FAITH & FITNESS

**IT IS MORE THAN JUST EXERCISE, IT IS A TIME TO CONNECT WITH OTHER LADIES AND SHARE STORIES, PRAYER, AND SCRIPTURE. THERE IS AN EMOTIONAL AND SPIRITUAL NEED THAT IS MET WHEN WE COME TOGETHER.**

**FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE GATHER IN MY NAME, I AM WITH THEM.  
MATTHEW 18:20**

**TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS AT 9AM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.**

**JORDAN MEMORIAL UMC  
1511 MAIN STREET  
RAMSEUR, NC 27316**

**ALL FREE AND EQUIPMENT IS PROVIDED**

BUILDING  
CREATING SERVING

## JORDAN'S Closet

FREE CLOTHING FOR OUR COMMUNITY  
*Everyone is welcome!*

All sizes.  
All ages.  
All are loved.

*"And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."  
- Colossians 3:14*

**HOURS:**  
FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
THIRD TUESDAY'S 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Sharing God's love through  
BUILDING, CREATING, AND SERVING OUR COMMUNITY!  
JORDAN MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Our next visit is Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> 10:00 AM

## Care Team

Sharing Christ's love through visits, fellowship, and caring connections.

We CARE because He cares for us.

Going out to remind others...  
You are not alone.

Visiting • Encouraging • Praying • Connecting  
*"Encourage one another and build each other up." - 1 Thessalonians 5:11*



Join us for **Back To School Bash** on August 8<sup>th</sup> 10 AM- 1 PM. We are asking that volunteers be there by 8:30 AM to help get everything set up. We hope you will join us for this special day in Ramseur!

August 5<sup>th</sup>- 6:00 PM meet in Fellowship Hall to count/ organize supplies

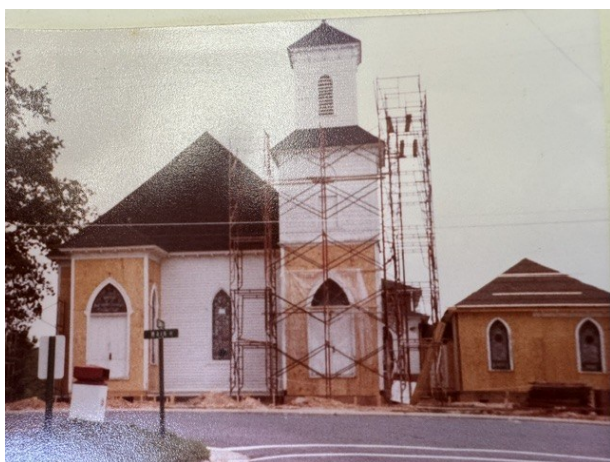
August 7<sup>th</sup>- 10:00 AM meet in Fellowship Hall to stuff bags

August 8<sup>th</sup>—Day of the Event, volunteers arrive 8:30 AM, sponsors arrive by 9AM, close the streets at 9am and the event is from 10AM-1 PM



## Homecoming/Memorial Day

Jordan Memorial members and friends will celebrate the church's 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary when we observe our Annual Homecoming/Memorial Day on Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. Please note this date on your calendar and plan to attend. More information to follow in the September Link issue.



Church construction during the summer of 1984.

**140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

# HOMECOMING

**SEPTEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>**

*Join us as we celebrate 140 years of faith, fellowship, and God's faithfulness!*

**COVER DISH LUNCH TO FOLLOW**  
Bring your favorite dish and enjoy a time of fellowship together.

**OPENING THE 1982 TIME CAPSULE**  
A special moment as we look back and celebrate God's work through the decades.

*Honoring our past. Celebrating our present. Trusting our future.*

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME - BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!**

## Prayer for Back to School

Gracious God,

As a new school year begins, we lift before You all who are returning to places of learning. Bless preschoolers taking their first steps into school, children and youth returning to their classrooms, high school students preparing for the future, and college, university, trade school, and graduate students as they pursue knowledge, vocation, and purpose.

Surround teachers, professors, administrators, counselors, coaches, staff, bus drivers, custodians, and all who serve in our schools and campuses with wisdom, patience, strength, and joy. Bless parents, grandparents, guardians, and all who encourage and support students throughout the year.

Grant every learner a spirit of curiosity, courage in the face of challenges, and hearts that seek truth with humility and compassion. Keep our schools and campuses safe, foster communities of respect and kindness, and help each person grow not only in knowledge but also in character and love.

As Your Church, make us faithful in praying for those who teach, learn, lead, and serve. May this new school year be filled with opportunities to discover the gifts You have given, to bless others through them, and to walk each day in the light of Your presence.

We ask all this through Jesus Christ, our Teacher and Lord. **Amen.**

# August 2026

| Sun                  | Mon                                                        | Tue                                                             | Wed                                      | Thu                                                           | Fri                                   | Sat                       |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
|                      |                                                            |                                                                 |                                          |                                                               |                                       | 1                         |
| 2                    | 3 AA Mtg 6:30pm<br>Boy Scout 6:30pm<br>Girl Scouts 6:30pm  | 4 Faith & Fitness 9am<br>Senior Bingo 10am<br>Civilians Mtg 6pm | 5 Line Dancing 10am<br>Organize bags 6pm | 6 9am Faith & Fitness<br>AA Mtg 6:30pm<br>Line Dancing 7-8pm  | 7 Stuff bags 10am<br>Line Dancing 1pm | 8 School Bash 10M<br>-1PM |
| 9                    | 10 AA Mtg 6:30pm<br>Boy Scout 6:30pm<br>Girl Scouts 6:30pm | 11 Faith & Fitness 9am<br>Lions Club 6pm                        | 12 Line Dancing 10am                     | 13 9am Faith & Fitness<br>AA Mtg 6:30pm<br>Line Dancing 7-8pm | 14 Line Dancing 1pm                   | 15                        |
| 16                   | 17 AA Mtg 6:30pm<br>Boy Scout 6:30pm<br>Girl Scouts 6:30pm | 18 Faith & Fitness 9am<br>Civilians Mtg 6pm                     | 19 Line Dancing 10am                     | 20 9am Faith & Fitness<br>AA Mtg 6:30pm<br>Line Dancing 7-8pm | 21 Line Dancing 1pm                   | 22                        |
| 23 UWF mtg<br>2:30pm | 24 AA Mtg 6:30pm<br>Boy Scout 6:30pm<br>Girl Scouts 6:30pm | 25 Faith & Fitness 9am                                          | 26 Line Dancing 10am                     | 27 9am Faith & Fitness<br>AA Mtg 6:30pm<br>Line Dancing 7-8pm | 28 Line Dancing 1pm                   | 29                        |
| 30                   | 31 AA Mtg 6:30pm<br>Boy Scout 6:30pm<br>Girl Scouts 6:30pm |                                                                 |                                          |                                                               |                                       |                           |

**Ramseur Food Pantry:** Canned Meats (Chicken breast, tuna, beef stew, ham)

## August Birthdays

02-Hayden Lindquist  
02-Aidan Armfield  
04-Nancy Gant  
10-Larry L. Ellison  
12-Hilda W. Leonard  
16-Erin Lankford  
16-Larry Kreiser  
17-John Armfield  
17-Jordan Miller  
18-Mary Luck Cooper  
18-Pastor Charles Lindquist  
18-Corrine Benbow  
19-Rebecca Benbow Smith

19-Gary Williams  
19-William S. Dorsett  
20-Mia Leonard  
21-Robert Craven York  
22-Ashley (Shackelford) Garbarz  
24-Debbie Cox  
24-Joyce Kirkman  
25-David Cox  
25-LouEllen P. Stout  
27-Jacob Lynn Stout

## 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)



### Worship times

Sunday School 9:30am

Worship Service 10:30am



**JORDAN**  
MEMORIAL UMC

*You're Invited to*  
**WORSHIP WITH US!**

♥  
We're glad you're here.

**STREAMING LIVE**  
Sundays at 10:30 AM

**FACEBOOK**  
Jordan Memorial UMC Ramseur

**YOUTUBE**  
Jordan Memorial UMC

**OUR WEBSITE**  
[jordanmemorial.org](http://jordanmemorial.org)

*Loving others through  
building, creating  
and serving*