

THE BEACON

Brookstown
United Methodist Church
Rev. James T. (Chip) Webb, Jr.

**September
2026**



A Message from Pastor Chip: "A Place of Prayer"

We remained in the city some days; and on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. Acts 16: 12b-13

The first time I visited Vienna, I did not *know* that I had visited Vienna. Mr. Tatum operated a paddling shop where Snake City Tattoo shop is now, across from Brookstown. In those days, I was fascinated by the river. One of my best memories of my time at The Children's Home was a river run with all of "my boys" down the Yadkin River, from Yadkin College to Boone's Cave. Most of the boys were from the city, and were delighted and anxious to get on the river. We said an earnest prayer before departure, and there were many shouts of praise and joy as we made our way.

***O brothers let's go down; Let's go down, come on down.
Come on brothers, let's go down, Down in the river to pray.***

Rivers are focal points for many of our divine encounters:

The children of Israel crossed the Jordan River into the promised land. The waters were "coming down from above stood and rose up in a heap far off".

"And while all Israel were passing over on dry ground, the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan, until all the nation finished passing over the Jordan."

After witnessing Elijah going up into heaven by a whirlwind, Elisha took up Elijah's mantle, and "went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. Then he took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water...the water was parted on the one side and to the other; and Elijah went over."

"In those days, Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon him like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, 'Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased.'"

***As I went down in the river to pray, Studying about that good ol' way;
And who shall wear the starry crown? Good Lord show me the way!***

My childhood place of prayer was under a majestic oak tree in the front yard, beyond the fence, through the gate. Sometimes a place of prayer is just outside our normal routines - the mountaintop, the seashore, the woods, the trail, the riverside...

May God lead us that we might find that place "apart" so that we may experience God's abiding presence and power.



Celebration of Life Cookout
In Memory of Sarah Hendrix

Saturday, September 19, 2026

4:00 to 7:00pm

at Jerome & Sarah's home in Advance

***"We will be grilling Sarah's favorite,
burgers and hotdogs, with chips
and desserts."***

Jerome Hendrix

336-309-5276

1447 Fork Bixby Rd.

Advance, NC 27006

***Carry each other's burdens, and in this
way you will fulfill the law of Christ.***
~ Galatians 6:2

A Note of Thanks

Bobby and I are very grateful for all of your prayers, visits, food, and cards during my recent heart surgery and during his stay at Vienna Village. I am improving and we are so thankful for such a loving church family.

~ Judy Macemore



Blood Drive

Wednesday, September 2, 1:30-5:30pm

Make plans to come out to Brookstown and give the gift of life by donating much-needed blood! The Red Cross will set up in the Fellowship Hall, and will take good care of you.

You can make an appointment by calling Tim Lasley at 336-817-4593, or sign up online:

www.redcrossblood.org

Use Sponsor Code: Brookstown

If you would like to volunteer to help that day, let Tim Lasley know.

GIVE BLOOD. HELP SAVE LIVES.

The American National Red Cross

Our God, Our Help,
Past, Present And Future

This month, America marks the 25th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, which ended almost 3,000 lives and changed life forever for millions more. The nation was shaken to its very roots, with violence jolting out of us any assumption that "it can't happen here". September 11 banished any lingering notion that being on the side of "liberty and justice for all" served as insulation against mass tragedy. We now had more to fear than fear itself.

Psalms 46 reminds us that "though the earth should change" (v. 2) – as it did on 9/11 – God remains "our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" (v. 1). We are never alone or without hope, even on life-altering days.
~ From "The Newsletter Newsletter"



Crisis Control Ministries

Gifts of the Month

Instant Grits & Oatmeal

For Kids: Juice Boxes

*There are containers at the church entrances
for donations. Thank you for helping fill
them for those who are in need.*

CCM food pantries are often low on the following items: cooking oil, spaghetti sauce, beef stew, canned meats, canned fruit, toothpaste, toothbrushes, potato flakes, box dinners, and baking items. They also distribute personal hygiene products, laundry aids, cleaning supplies, and paper products in addition to food.

For more information on ways to give visit

www.crisiscontrol.org

CCM Impact in 2025

People Helped: 21,680

Volunteers: 2,576

Value of Services Provided: \$5,928,238

Pounds of Food Distributed: 371,201

***We build up the body with nutrition and exercise, but how do we build up the body
of Christ? Through fellowship, training, and service in love. ~ A. Aronis***



The Brookstown Express

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



Hello Friends,

Our children are excited about the new school year, and are very blessed to have a loving support system here at Brookstown. Our "Blessing of the Bookbags" during worship on August 16 was a special way to let our students know they are loved, and that God is with them every day. We also ask God's blessings for teachers, staff, and parents in their school journeys.

In Sunday school, we talk about ways we can all be Jesus' disciples, and be like Him in our daily lives. We discuss showing respect to others, being a trusted friend, staying focused on learning, and being responsible for our behavior. The children are always eager to share ways they put these qualities into practice during the past week. It's my sincere hope and prayer that they always understand "what a friend we have in Jesus!"

May God richly bless our children and their loving church family!

~ Marsha Campbell, Children's Ministry Coordinator



Prayer for the Safety of Everyone Returning to School

Father, we come to You with our concerns about sending our children and our educators back to school. Please help us as we strive to make all of the right decisions. We need Your love and power to help us overcome any difficulties, as well as our fears and anxieties. Please watch over everyone as times and routines change. We know that we can do anything through You, so please help us ensure health and safety in our schools, and everywhere, in the coming months.

We give our hearts to You, now and forever. Amen. ~ Anonymous



Youth News

Our youth group is continuing to read the Bible and ask important questions. We have deep discussions and lean heavily on the truths in the Word, the United Methodist official stances, and on our individual family values. We treasure our Sunday mornings, but we also discuss carrying these lessons forward into every day of the week. We encourage all our youth to invite a friend from school or extracurriculars to join them in Sunday school!

Speaking of friends, I am honored to share that the Fish Pillow Project that our VBS kiddos completed this summer for Vienna Village Assisted Living was so well received it has created intergenerational friendships and opportunities to discuss faith. Each fish was accompanied by a card signed by the child who made it, and some of the residents wrote notes back to them. One resident in particular penned her new Fish-Making Pal to say that every day she was going to say a special prayer for that youth, and that she got great comfort from praying while holding her fish. We know the power of prayer here at Brookstown!

The weather may be hanging on to the heat, but we are also starting to look ahead and think cooling thoughts....great visions of the Community Festival, fried apple pies, tractor pulls, pumpkins, chicken stews, hayrides, and trunk or treats are just over the horizon. It's coming....are you ready for FALL?!

~ Jonna Lasley, Youth Ministries Coordinator

A busy new school and church year is upon us.

**Bless all who teach and learn, Lord,
today and every day. Amen**





United Women in Faith

Our monthly meeting will be held Wednesday, September 16, at 11am in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is asked to bring a favorite potluck dish to share for lunch. Hostesses are Betty Cain and Gail Hogan. The program this month is "Re-Orienting Ourselves", and we will be encouraged to make the effort to see things from new perspectives. We'll also learn about the UWFaith Reading Program.

Today the national office of United Women in Faith is connected with nearly 90 national mission institutions across the US, and almost 100 others throughout the world, which we support with our pledges. These institutions serve diverse communities that adapt to local needs. Leah Wandera, a deaconess and home missionary at the WEMA Health Foundation in Nairobi, Kenya, states that "The mission journey is not for us to walk alone, but to find the way together in a mutual, humble, and gracious way."

We invite all women to visit at our September meeting and join our Brookstown group on our mission journey.
~ Martha Isenberg, UWF President

Thank You for the Chores

Lord, thank You for this sink of dirty dishes; we have plenty of good food to eat. Thank You for this big pile of dirty clothes; we have them to wear. Thank You for these unmade beds; they were all comfortable last night.

Thank You for this finger-smudged refrigerator that desperately needs defrosting; it has served us faithfully for a long time. Our family is grateful for the tall grass that needs mowing; we all enjoy our private yard. Thank You for that slamming door; the children are healthy and able to run and play.

Lord, the presence of all the chores awaiting me says that You have richly blessed this family. I shall do them all gratefully.



*The task ahead of us
is never as great
as the Power behind us.*



*This is the miracle that
happens every time to those
who really love:
the more they give,
the more they possess.
~ Rainer Maria Rilke*



*Always give yourselves fully to the
work of the Lord. You know that your
work in the Lord is not a waste of time.
~ 1 Corinthians 15:58*

Honoring Work and Rest

Labor Day gives us an opportunity to honor the work of our hands and the many ways people serve their families, churches and communities. As we pause from our usual routines, may we give thanks for meaningful work, remember those seeking employment, and receive God's gift of renewing rest.

*Do a little more each day than
you think you possibly can.
~ Lowell Thomas*



*Circles of Love
If you've shared in the love of
a parent, a child, your family,
spouse or your friends,
you're abundantly wealthy,
and blessed beyond measure;
for God, who is Love,
lives in circles of love,
and adds joys
for you to treasure
for all eternity!*



Community Festival

Saturday, September 12, 9am – 2pm

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

Join us for a fun-filled day at Brookstown's Community Festival on September 12. Breakfast will be ready at 7:30am, with all the usual favorites. Lunch will begin at 11am, with fish and chips, and hotdogs with all the fixings. Our vendors will offer a great variety of goods and services. Aunt Bea's Bakery will feature baked goods, frozen casseroles, and frozen chicken pies. We also have a beautiful handmade quilt that will be raffled off.

There will be fun events for all ages! Live entertainment will feature gospel singer Billy Myers with his inspirational music, as well as our friends, The Triple Smooth Dancers, for some toe-tapping fun. There will also be a Bounce House and Kids' Tractor Pull for the children.

We're still accepting vendors; please contact our Vendor Coordinator, Roberta Lasley, if you have questions, need a vendor form, or know of possible vendors.

You don't want to miss this fun community event! Come out and bring your friends!



***“Coming together is a beginning;
keeping together is progress; working together is success.”***
~ Henry Ford



Aunt Bea's Bakery

All you good cooks and bakers, please share your yummy cakes and pies (all shapes and sizes), breads (small and large loaves, rolls, quick breads, etc.), and cookies for Aunt Bea's Bakery. We also need frozen casseroles; an instruction sheet for these can be found in the basket on the church office door.

Please don't forget the children! They like to purchase small items: cookies, bars, coated pretzels, etc.

You can bring your goodies to the church on Friday, September 11, from 6-8pm. If you need to bring frozen casseroles before that, let Roberta know.

We also need volunteers to help in the bakery on Festival day. Let a committee member know if you can help.



We appreciate everyone's help!
~ The Festival Committee
Tim & Roberta Lasley, Jimmy Holder

Volunteer Opportunities

There are lots of ways to volunteer before, during, and after this very busy day. Please contact one of us if you would like to help in any way. There's a lot to do, and it takes everyone to make it all come together.

If you'd like to help advertise, flyers are available all around the church, so pick up some and help spread the word. Thanks to everyone!

A Thought for Labor Day

***Come work for the Lord. The work
is hard, the hours are long, and the pay
is low, but the retirement benefits
are out of this world.***



Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord. . .
Colossians 3:23, NIV





Community Festival

Brookstown United Methodist Church

6274 Yadkinville Road, Pfafftown, NC 27040

September 12, 2026

9:00am - 2:00pm

Breakfast 7:30am - 10:30am

Lunch 11:00am - 1:30pm

Hotdogs & Fixings, Fish & Chips

Vendors

Local Merchandise, Services, Crafts

Handmade Quilt Drawing

Shopping

Country Store, Chicken Pies, Frozen Casseroles,
Baked Goods & More

Live Entertainment

Kids' Tractor Pull & Bounce House





Anniversaries

Tim & Roberta Lasley	3
Mackie & Lynda Jackson	3
Jerry & Melisse Hopping	8
Rick & Betty Cain	12
John & Irene Stepto	13
Scott & Robin Williams	17
Jeff & Ellen Thomas	23
Paul & Karen Powers	26
Howard & Karan Greenwood	27

If your birthday or anniversary
needs to be added, please
call or email Lavonda.

Flowers for Worship

Services

September 13
John & Irene Stepto
(Sept. 6, 20 & 27
are open.)



*Summer is over.
It's time to officially
remember what day
of the week it is!*



A Student's Prayer

*Hold my hand God, lead the way.
Help me do my best each day.
Show me what is wrong and right,
Keep me safe in Your guiding light.
Let me know what You have planned.
Lead the way God, hold my hand.
Amen.*

Have a Safe & Happy Labor Day!

Church Contact Information

336-945-3029

6274 Yadkinville Road

Pfafftown, NC 27040

Email: Brookstown@triad.twcbc.com

Webpage: BrookstownUMC.com

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To Start Your Day

*May God give you a burst of energy to tackle the tasks that you need to get done.
May He inspire you to turn up the radio and dance in your kitchen.
May He fill you with such joy that you suddenly realize just how rich you really are.
May He connect you with an old friend and bless you with a new friend.
And may He use you in surprising ways to be a blessing to everyone you meet today.
Have a bursting-with-joy day!*

~ Susie Larson



Birthdays

Beverly Collins	3
Marsha Campbell	3
Derrick Sheek	3
Charlie Sharpe	4
Susan Jameson	5
Margie Feimster	6
Stan Crews	9
Phillip Daniel	9
Susan Samuel	14
Evan Lowrance	19
Shana Jarrett	21
Rene' Galyean	22
Bryan Cleary	22
Tanya Apperson	27
Will Collins	27
Becky Payne	27
Adam Cofer	27



*The one who kneels
before God can stand
before anyone.
~ Anonymous*





Labor Day – September 7, 2026

It's Labor Day weekend — a time to rest from our labors. But this is also an opportunity to reflect on our daily work and discern whether our effort is thankless and uninteresting or something that gives us deep and lasting satisfaction. God intends for our work to be much more than a job, much more than a daily grind. It should be, instead, a vocation — which means, quite literally, a “calling.”

In Romans 12:2, Paul challenges us with the words: “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God — what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

The apostle's advice, then, is to be transformed by the renewing of your minds. Paul says be transformed by discovering what the Lord God is calling you to do.

~ From “The Newsletter Newsletter”

