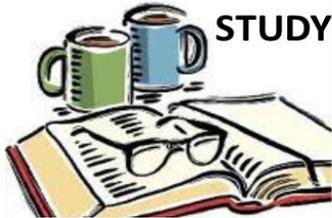




The Messenger

Friendship United Methodist Church, 5222 NC 150 East, Browns Summit, NC 27214 (336-656-7151)
April 2020

PASTOR'S STUDY



From the Pastor's Study . . .

Jesus replied, "Now you believe? Look! A time is coming — and is here! — when each of you will be scattered to your own homes and you will leave me alone. I'm not really alone, for the Father is with me. I've said these things to you so that you will have peace in me. In the world you have distress. But be encouraged! I have conquered the world." John 16:31-33

This verse has greater meaning for me these days. The words *scattered* and *alone* jump off the page at me. Jesus is speaking to the disciples as he is preparing them for his crucifixion and their persecution. The statement, "*You will leave me alone,*" refers to the disciples' denial of Jesus while He is dying on the cross. Times will get hard, but the world and its troubles can be conquered. "*Now you believe?*" Jesus asks. The disciples have just declared that they now fully believe Jesus came from God. Now? You believe *now*? Jesus knows their conviction will be tested. Jesus then gives a warning. There will be times when you feel *scattered* and *alone*. You will experience stressful times, but you will find peace in Jesus because He has overcome the world. If something unseen with the naked eye can stop the world, what can a mustard seed of faith in Christ do? Everything.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, be encouraged. Know that you are not alone. There are things greater than the world; heavenly things, that God the Father has prepared for you. We are all amazed at how quickly life can change. Jesus never will. He has loved you from the beginning and He is with you now and always even when we are all *scattered to our homes*. Stay strong. Stay healthy. Stay faithful and the One who has overcome the world will see you through.

Please know I miss you all. I have tried to stay in touch by calling, emailing, video chatting and texting. If you need to talk, pray, cry, complain and/or tell a joke, please don't hesitate to call me. This is a challenging time for all of us. Even your pastor. I ask for your prayers and I assure you that prayers have been said for you. I thank God for you and your faithfulness to the Kingdom. Please continue to remember the church. The financial needs of the church are of great concern. You may mail a check. You may contact your bank and have an automatic bank draft set up. We are all anxious about financial matters. That is certainly understandable. I humbly ask that if you are in a position to give more than normal the next couple of months, please do. It won't go to waste. If you just can't give at the moment, pray for your church. God is good all the time.

Take time to breathe. Take deep, long breaths. Turn off the television. Sit outside and enjoy the birds. If someone comes to mind, that's the Holy Spirit telling you to call them. Don't hesitate.

Finally, take time to enjoy God's presence. Read your Bible. Listen to a podcast. Read a good book. Sing to the radio. In all things, give God the glory. Find peace in Christ.

We will see each other soon.
Pastor Kevin

April, April, April, April, April, April, April
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April, April, April, April, April, April, April



April, April, April, April, April, April, April
April, April, April, April, April, April
April, April, April, April, April, April, April



**Mark
Your Calendar!**

**IN-PERSON WORSHIP
SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES
CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER
NOTICE**

In the meantime, know that:
"God is our refuge and strength, an
ever-present help in trouble.
Therefore, we will not fear."
(Psalm 46:1-2a)

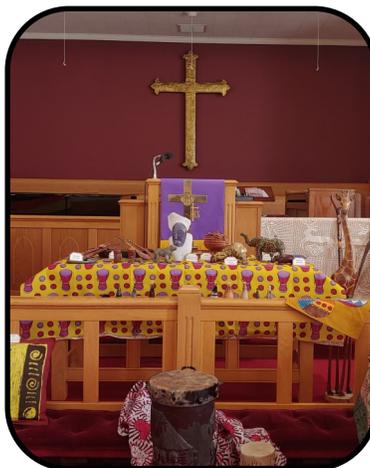
Friendship Hosts World Day of Prayer Service

Each year a different country serves as the writer of the World Day of Prayer worship service, interpreting the Bible in their own context, and lifting up issues of mission, justice and peace that are important to them. This year's service was written by the women of Zimbabwe and the theme was "Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk" Friendship hosted the World Day of Prayer service on Sunday, March 8, and was joined by Brown Summit, Jackson, Fairgrove, and Monticello UCC. Our guest speakers were Dawn Hall from Friendship and Rebecca Wright from Jackson. They both shared their experiences while visiting Zimbabwe and the obstacles the people of Zimbabwe are facing. We learned about Zimbabwe's history and its rich cultural diversity. Items that Dawn and Rebecca had acquired while in Zimbabwe were displayed. We are encouraged to pray for Zimbabwe. We collected \$832 in offerings which will go toward the World Day of Prayer grants. Thank you to all those who were a part of this special service. It was amazing.



**WORLD DAY OF
PRAYER USA**

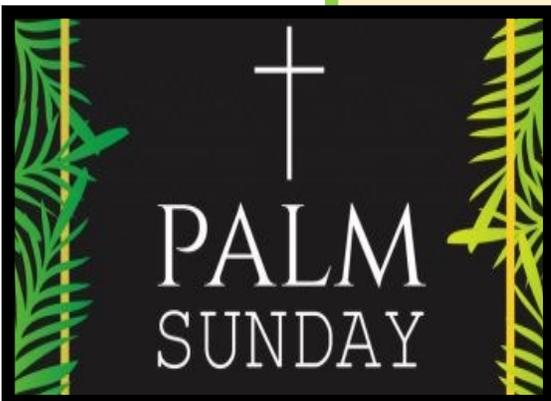
Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action



SUNDAY, APRIL 12

EASTER

Barring a miracle, most U.S. churches (including Friendship and Brown Summit) will be closed for in-person Easter services this year because of the coronavirus crisis. Easter service has long been a springtime celebration that brings together the Christian faithful to rejoice in their belief in the resurrection of Christ, and to mingle in their Easter finery. Suspension of in-person gatherings is not a suspension of worship. While we are social distancing, we don't have to settle for spiritual distancing. We encourage you to watch Pastor Kevin on Sundays during April, especially Palm Sunday (April 5) and Easter Sunday (April 12), as he brings the message to us. Pastor Kevin will also have a Children's Message. Please watch the services on YouTube or Facebook. Christ is still risen, and we can live and rejoice in light of the resurrection, even if we can't be in the same place.



Palm Sunday is the day we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, which begins the series of observances focusing on the events of Holy Week. It also marks one week before Easter Sunday - one week before His resurrection. As Jesus entered the holy city, the people waved palm branches and lauded Him as "Hosanna," the one who saves. He neared the culmination of a long journey toward Golgotha. He had come to save the lost, and now was the time — this was the place — to secure that salvation. Palm Sunday marked the start of what is often called "Passion Week," the final seven days of Jesus' earthly ministry. Palm Sunday was the "beginning of the end" of Jesus' work on earth.

Maundy Thursday, also referred to as Holy Thursday, is the first of the three days of solemn remembrance of the events leading up to and immediately following the crucifixion of Jesus. The English word "Maundy" comes from the Latin *mandatum*, which means "commandment." It refers to Jesus' saying in John 13:34, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." Maundy Thursday represents for us, the final evening Jesus spent with his disciples. At this event — the Last Supper — Jesus shared with the twelve how they are to live and move forward proclaiming the faith when He is no longer with them. He knelt to wash the feet of his friends — the one who would betray him, and the one who would deny him. Then Jesus broke the bread and served the wine as the body and blood of Christ. Maundy Thursday is a day filled with meaning and centered on a table of love, forgiveness, hope, and hospitality.



MAUNDY
Thursday



Good Friday is observed on the Friday before Easter Sunday. Have you ever wondered why this is a “good” day? Although this is the day we remember the suffering and death of Jesus on the cross, we also remember that Jesus’ death was not the end of faith in His way, but only served as the real beginning of Christianity. It is a day that proclaims God’s purpose of loving and redeeming the world through the cross of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

On Easter Sunday, the most important day on the Christian calendar, we will rejoice, marking Jesus’ resurrection, that He is Alive and we shout “He is risen!”



Lean on Him

Sometimes, in all our lives,
We have a cross to bear.
We think we're on our own
And long for someone to care.

We forget that God is watching,
Waiting to guide us through.
He understands how we feel,
Is sharing our sorrows, too.

Only He can see the future,
Knows what plans are in store,
And (with His grace and power)
He opens a brand new door.

Lean on Him to guide you.
For, He is holding the key
Solving all of life's problems,
In order that we can be free.



The Colors of Easter

Color used in worship is especially important during the season of Easter. The changing colors on the cross from the purple of Lent to the black of Good Friday to the white of Easter Sunday provide graphic visual symbols for the Lenten journey. The change of colors for Easter helps communicate the movement of sacred time as well as personal faith journeys. Christian crosses draped with colored cloth is a common sight, but what color a church chooses to drape on the cross, when it's draped and why is as varied as the churches themselves. Purple is the seasonal color for Lent and signifies repentance. On Good Friday, the color of the black drape represents Christ's death on the cross. When Easter Sunday arrives, churches change the cloth to white, representing purity and Christ's resurrection. During this time, we are called to celebrate God's ongoing work in the world through his people, and to acknowledge and reflect upon their purpose, mission, and calling as God's people.





**WADE LYNCH – has joined the United States MARINES.
He is currently in training at Parris island**

Wade Lynch always knew he wanted to be a Marine, having been in the Navy JROTC for four years while a student at Northeast Guilford High School. Following graduation, he was a Fireman with the McLeansville Fire Department for one year and was a lieutenant with FD 28 in Gibsonville

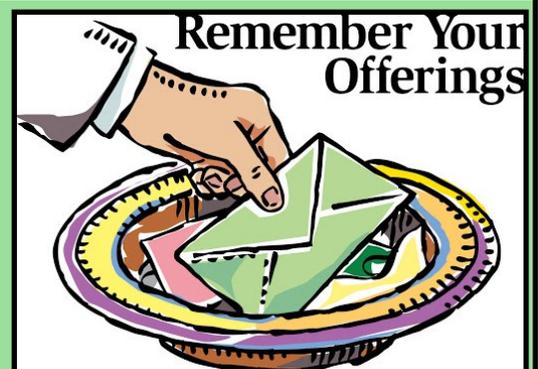


and their resident volunteer for more than two years. On January 2020, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, and on March 16, 2020, he began his 13 weeks of basic training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in Parris Island. He is with the 2nd Recruit Training Battalion – Echo Company. Following graduation, Wade will be reporting to Camp Lejeune for additional combat training. Wade is the son of Pam Lambeth Lough and the grandson of Henry and Sue Lambeth. Friendship United Methodist Church is very proud of Wade and his willingness to serve our country. We, as a church, will honor, support and uphold Wade in our prayers as well as all men and women who serve in our armed services. We encourage you to send a card to Wade. His address: RTC Lynch, Wade, 2nd Rtbn Echo Co Plt 2040, Box 16225, Parris Island, SC 29905-6225.



Due to the coronavirus crisis, we will not be collecting food for Fairgrove's Community Food Pantry for the month of April. At the present time, there is enough food on the shelves to take care of the food distribution on April 15. If you wish to make a monetary donation, please make your check payable to Fairgrove Food Pantry and mail it to: Betty Jones, 321 Van Hook Road, Reidsville, NC 27320. The Food Pantry will use the money to purchase meats and restock the shelves, if necessary. Your generous donations will be greatly appreciated. (Be sure to save your paper grocery bags and egg cartons. I'm sure they can use them when everything returns to normal.)

The coronavirus has caused us to change the way we live our lives and that even includes the way we do church. In addition to cancelling worship, no face-to-face meetings will be held until worship service resumes. We'd like to encourage you to continue to give your tithes and offerings. You may mail your check to Friendship United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 462, Browns Summit, NC 27214; or to our Church Treasurer Nikki McLamb, 273 N.C. Hwy. 150 East, Browns Summit, NC 27214. You may also make a donation online. You can do this by logging into your online bank account and select Bill Pay to set up the church as a payee. There are one-time options as well as automatic options that draft monthly, weekly, or in any interval you choose. The amount will be drafted out of your account and sent to the church in check form. This is free for both you and the church and is a convenient alternative to writing checks. If your bank requires Friendship's routing number and/or account number, please contact Nikki (336-342-7098). Until we see each other again, let us be faithful and kind to one another. Let us remember each other in prayer and know that we can still lift up and comfort each other no matter the distance between us. May God be with you!



Stay connected with family and friends. I called my 72 year old sister in Pennsylvania yesterday, living alone but making the best of it. She is the ultimate grandmother and this is tough not see her grandchildren. One of her daughters (who still has to go to work) came up with a great idea. Her 10-month old needs distracting while Mommy is getting ready for work, so she turns on her iPad and grandma and baby interact on FaceTime. My sister says she is babysitting. Our phone call also made us reminisce about our parents. We now understand the post-depression mentality of saving everything. We found it embarrassing that our Mother washed her ziplock bags, and reused aluminum foil - but guess who is doing it now! We made fun of a great aunt who made us use the same napkin all day when we visited her. I still don't quite understand the multiple bags of rubber bands from the newspaper and twist ties from loaves of bread, but if this goes on much longer I may wish I had saved them. I hope this brought some levity to your day. Call someone you love. and laugh.



Congregational Nurse **Dawn Hall**

Wash your hands, use hand sanitizer when you cannot wash your hands . . . wash your hands, we hear this message multiple times a day. Now your hands are irritated and cracked. It is okay to use cool water when washing your hands. Cool water is less damaging to the skin. Apply lotion at bedtime every night while your hands are getting a rest from the hand washing and chemicals. It is not recommended to wear gloves, but for those of you who have chosen to wear them, they have to be changed every time you would normally wash your hands. Gloves are best used by medical practices who have been trained to use gloves properly and to know when they are contaminated.

I awakened yesterday with a feeling of agitation. My old friend "anxiety" decided to show up despite all of my efforts to keep her at bay. Even the commercials I used to be able to tune out have added the phrases "uncertain times," and "unprecedented," making my heart rate rise. If I sneeze or cough, despite the yellow film of pollen that lines my car and has crept into my house, I seem to have lost the common sense to know it is seasonal allergies and it fuels my anxiety even further. Close to home, I worry about my high risk family still having to go out into public, not to mention all the other people worldwide affected by this disease. Each of us copes differently, and as I began to search for ways to deal with my anxiety, Pastor Kevin sent me a Bible verse. "Because he will shelter me in his own dwelling during troubling times; he will hide me in a secret place in his own tent; he will set me up high, safe on a rock." Psalms 27:5 It was obviously a God sent message. Anxiety is still trying to win and it may be the same for you. If it is, try meditation using a Bible verse that makes you feel safe in God's secret place, (there are guided meditation sites on the internet to get you started - Google "guided meditation"), go for a walk and incorporate prayer, listen to music, lose yourself in a good book, watch a movie - but mute the commercials :,) or turn the TV off and finally clean out that junk drawer, get plenty of sleep (do not check electronic devices an hour before bed), make a plan for your day and week ahead, call a friend. Confide in someone you trust about your feelings - sometimes just saying what is bothering you will decrease your anxiety. Spend time with your pets - they have a wonderful ability to help reduce stress.

Did you go to the store and all the hand sanitizer was gone from the shelves or are you using a hand sanitizer that is past the expiration date? Most hand sanitizers last about two to three years and then the percent of alcohol decreases below the 60% recommended to kill the Coronavirus. Here is a recipe to make your own:

2/3 cup Isopropyl alcohol 91% (rubbing alcohol)

1/3 cup aloe vera gel

Essential oil in your choice of fragrance (optional)

An empty container, such as a 3-ounce container from a travel toiletries kit.

In a mixing bowl, stir Isopropyl alcohol and aloe vera gel together until well blended.

Add 8-10 drops of essential oil and stir (optional)

Pour into empty container and label .





Church Family - Larry & Lovetta Bailey, LaVerne Brande, Wendell Brande, Wayne Brann, Sarah Childress, Dwight Chrismon, Doris Jean Hooper, Ruth Hopkins, Shirley Huffines, Sue Lambeth, Pat McLamb, Buddy Mullis, Bobbie Papoulias, Pastor Nick & Libby Scandale

Other Friends & Family - Wayne Barham, Sandy Black, David Chrismon, Jimmy Sloan

In Sympathy - the family of Oscar (Top) Cloninger, the family of Herbert Hooper

In Our Military - Pvt. Grayson Boyd, RTC Wade Lynch

Pastor Kevin's Office Hours

Friendship

Monday and Tuesday — 9 a.m. — 12 noon

Brown Summit

Wednesday and Thursday — 9 a.m.—12 noon

Friday – Day off

Other hours by appointment
(336-552-8130)

If you have a pastoral need, Pastor Kevin can be reached at his cell phone number: (336) 552-8130.

Pastor Cochran requests that only emergency calls be made between 9 p.m. and 8 a.m.

His email address is:
kcochran@wnccumc.net

During the coronavirus crisis, Pastor Kevin maintains his office at his home

FUMC Contacts

Bulletin Items: Renee Troxler 336-656-9809
renee.troxler@yahoo.com

Prayer Chain Requests: LaVerne Brande 336-656-3212 (lbrande@triad.rr.com) or Frances Cable 336-656-3089
fcable@triad.rr.com

Fellowship Hall Reservations:
Daniese Smith 336-375-3845
sibbyswims@aol.com

Messenger: LaVerne Brande 336-656-3212
lbrande@triad.rr.com or
Frances Cable 336-656-3089
fcable@triad.rr.com



Our **homebound members** can't come to church due to health or other reasons. Please pray for them or take a moment to send a note or card to let them know that they are missed. It will brighten their day!

Alice Hilliard

Whitestone, Apt. 310
908 Scottish Rite Drive
Greensboro, NC 27407

Pauline Holt

Room 408-B, BellaRose Nursing & Rehab
200 BelaRose Lake Way
Garner, NC 27529

Ruth Hopkins

7160 Brown Summit Road
Browns Summit, NC 27214

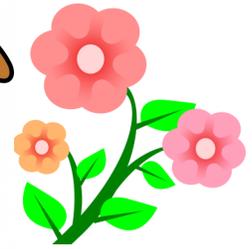
Melvin & Margie Roberson

8015 Benaja Road
Browns Summit, NC 27214

All of us are Homebound during the coronavirus crisis pursuant to a Stay-At-Home Order. Please remember to call, text or email your neighbors and church family.



APRIL 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Happy Birthday! David Chrismon	3 Happy Birthday! Will Wright	4 Happy Birthday! Joe Anne Strader
5 PALM SUNDAY Happy Birthday! Betty Apple	6 Happy Anniversary! Ronald & Dawn Critzer	7 Happy Birthday! Clarence Hilliard	8	9 MAUNDY THURSDAY Happy Birthday! Margaret Brande Bobbie Papoulias	10	11 GOOD FRIDAY
12 EASTER SUNDAY Happy Birthday! Manny McMillan	13 Happy Birthday! Kerry Cable Alice Simpson	14 Happy Birthday! Sarah Childress Happy Anniversary! Joe & Nancy Jones	15 Happy Anniversary! Kevin & Malisa Cochran	16 Happy Birthday! Amy Hutchison	17	18 Happy Birthday! Will Brann
19	20	21	22 Happy Birthday! Dawn Critzer	23 Happy Birthday! Kevin Cochran	24 Happy Birthday! Katie Brande Renee Troxler	25
26	27 Happy Birthday! Steven Jones	28	29 Happy Birthday! Wesley Cable Barry Crews Larry Crews Lyndsey Strader	30		