

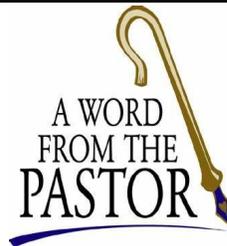


# Friendship Focus

## April 2022

### News for members and friends of Friendship Lutheran Church

April is a transition month in the life of the church. The month begins with the last weeks of Lent with an increasing focus on Jesus' journey to the cross. After rejoicing in "Hosannah's" on Palm Sunday, the mood of Holy Week becomes darker with a last meal in the upper room (Maundy Thursday), arrest, trial and crucifixion. (Good Friday) The darkness gives way to the dawn of Easter morning. Sorrow turns to joy! Despair turns to hope! Emptiness turns to fullness. We are changed into new people with a new future.



Friendship Lutheran is a community in transition. We continue to be in an interim time of pastoral leadership, while the call committee follows the process and the Holy Spirit to make a recommendation for the next pastor at Friendship. We are also in transition (like much of the world) in returning to routines that were interrupted by COVID. Church Council will continue to think and pray about returning to some familiar practices and forming new routines.

We learn many things about God, in the transition of Lent to Easter, that give us strength and hope in our own transitions. First, God is with us every step of the way in the dark times. Even when one wonders if God is paying attention God is at work. We also learn that God uses the transition to birth new life. This is true of our personal pilgrimage as disciples of Christ as well as our journey together as a community of believers. God is with us in this time of transition, working to bring forth new life in our lives and in our congregation!



**Sunday Eve Lent services** continue at 6PM on April 3 (“Blessed are the pure in heart”) and April 10 (“Blessed are the Peacemakers”)

**Holy Week, which begins on Palm Sunday, April 10th, and continues through Easter Day, April 17th, is to be one continuous worship experience as we journey with Jesus from waving palms to watching the cross to going to the tomb on Sunday morning. We hope you find meaning in these offerings:**

**Palm Sunday Worship, April 10, 8AM/10:30AM**

The worship begins by heralding Jesus as “The One Who Comes in the Name of the Lord” waving palms before the foreshadowing of Christ’s passion that will be fulfilled during Holy Week.

**Maundy Thursday Worship - April 14, 7:00PM**

Observe Jesus last meal with his disciples and his arrest and “stripping” by stepping into “the upper room” and observing the stripping of the altar.

**Good Friday Worship - April 15, 7:00PM**

Gather for a service of Tenebrae as we hear the last words of Jesus from the cross and see the light leaving the world.

**Easter Sunday Worship - April 17, Sunrise/10:30AM**

Gather at the cross for the sun to rise, which signals the defeat of death and liberation of all those who have been laid to rest or in the Nave (10:30) to celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord and the gift of salvation that comes from an empty tomb which fills us with love.

## April News

**Fit for Christ** - meet **Saturday, April 2nd, 8 am**. They also meet on **Tuesdays & Thursdays at 6 pm**. Contact Taylor Payne for details.

**Cemetery Team** - will be having a workday to clean up/repair our cemetery on **Sat, April 2nd, 8am - 12noon**. Sign up sheets are available at both services. See Gary Richey for details.

**Secret Sisters** - meet **Saturday, April 2nd, 9 am**.

**WELCA** - will meet **Sunday, April 3rd, 5 pm**, in the **chapel**. All ladies are invited to attend.

**Fellowship Supper** - will **not** meet in April.

**Executive Team** - will meet **Tues, April 5th, 6 pm**.

**Easter Egg Hunt** - All kids are invited to the Easter Egg Hunt on **Sat, April 9th from 10-12**. Bring a friend and your Easter basket to enjoy crafting, an inflatable, hotdogs and of course, an Easter Egg Hunt.



**Red Cross Blood Drive** - **Sunday, April 10th,**

**12:30-5 pm**. Please visit

 **American Red Cross** RedCrossBlood.org and enter Friendship Lutheran Taylorsville or contact Sue Bumgarner @ 828 381-7058 or Donna Icard @ 828 310-4890 to schedule an appointment. Call Jewell Elder for serving food or desk work @ 632-3544.

**Rusha Austin Packets**- Completed scholarship packets must be returned to the church office by **Fri, April 15th**.

**CREW** - The Message of the Cross and the Empty Tomb: Come and join CREW at a dinner theater to view our Easter play. This is a remake of a FLC original that has been performed three times. The kids have worked hard to make this play and we look forward to being able to share it with everyone! Join us on **Saturday, April 16th, at 5:30** for a spaghetti dinner and a time of reflection of the Easter season.



**Newsletter Deadline**- Send items for the **May** issue of **Friendship's Focus** by **Thursday, April 21st**. Call the church office @ 632-4482 or email your items to [friendshipsecretary4@gmail.com](mailto:friendshipsecretary4@gmail.com).

**BBQ Benefit** - CARE Team is hosting a **BBQ benefit fundraiser** on **Saturday, April 30th, 4:30 - 7 pm**. The benefit is for **Katelyn Lambert McKinney**. Katelyn is waiting on an intestinal transplant. She has gastro-persis and is currently at the Cleveland Clinic in Ohio awaiting surgery. She has already had several surgeries that have not been successful. Donations will be accepted. The menu includes: BBQ, baked beans, slaw, roll & a dessert.

**Call Committee Update**- The Call Committee is in the midst of initial interviews with the candidates that were submitted to us by the Synod staff. We have been impressed with the quality of the candidates we received and are excited to learn the ministry stories of these very qualified and competent pastors. This interview process will continue over the coming weeks. We ask for your continued prayers as we discern whom God is calling to be our next senior pastor. As a reminder, the committee consists of Molly Gantt, Hannah Bostian, Sam Birchfield, Chris Jolly, Guy Kerley and Doug Ramsey. Please continue to pray for the committee as they continue their work on your behalf.

**CARE Team** - is collecting items for the Caring Hearts Pregnancy Care Center. You can bring your items to the same location as the food pantry items. There will be a container provided & labeled. The items needed are: Diapers - size small (4,5,6), baby shampoo/wash, Adult shampoo/conditioner.

**Food Pantry** - needs crackers & cereal at this time.

## April Birthdays

Roger Miller	04/01	Lindy Swift	04/17
Megan Nicholas	04/03	Liza Robinette	04/18
Danny Parks	04/04	Tabitha Fox Hall	04/19
Mason Frye	04/07	Garrett Jolly	04/19
Rachel Miller	04/07	Jeff James	04/24
Beckham Gant	04/07	Johnny Smith	04/24
Macyn King	04/08	Sue Bumgarner	04/25
Hannah Bostian	04/09	Wanda Bentley	04/26
Molly Gantt	04/09	Joe Deal	04/26
Reba Bolick	04/10	Lena Barr	04/28
Zane Greathouse	04/10	Chase Bostian	04/28
Alta Sells	04/11	Steven Deal	04/28
Samantha Bowers	04/13	Larry Palmer	04/29
Elizabeth Bowman	04/14	Bryanna Payne	04/29
Martha Fox	04/14	Casey Richey	04/29
Mitchell Price	04/15	Brian Chapman	04/30
Chris Bowman	04/16	Phil Hefner	04/30



## **Friendship Lutheran Church Council**

February 8, 2022, Regular Meeting in Person

Members present John Bostian, Marty Buff, Wade Cline, Eric Frye, Tyler Hall, Mary Ann Icenhour, Sandra Icenhour, Pat Payne, Gary Richey, Steve Shealy, Monica Stafford, Jimmy Watts, Pastor Gary Haddock, and Dana Frye. Absent: None

President Mary Ann Icenhour called the meeting to order, and Pat Payne shared a devotion.

Eric Frye led Council on a trip to the sanctuary to see how much new bulbs in the fixtures could enhance the space. Only 2 fixtures have been updated until a decision is made regarding purchasing new bulbs.

Motion by Wade Cline; seconded by Marty Buff to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on January 11, 2022. Motion carries.

Treasurer's report for the month was distributed.

### **TEAM REPORTS:**

*Administration* – Sandra Icenhour – No report.

*Care* – Wade Cline – The team delivered 250 meals to 4 locations for Emergency Services.

*Learn* – John Bostian – The team will begin planning VBS at their March meeting. The new Sunday School class has started out good with 7-10 people attending and hopefully more will join.

*Worship* -Monica Stafford – The decision was made to purchase Sundays & Seasons online edition to help with service planning for bulletins, music, and all service planning.

*Share* – Jimmy Watts – The team members have been established. Their first goal is to determine how best to advertise our church and draw interest for our ministry. Please forward your ideas to Jimmy.

*Finance* – Steve Shealy – No additional financial report. Steve did share the impact of helping with the Mobile Café. Friendships team of 8 people help the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month and prepares 110 meals each week.

*Rusha Austin Scholarship* – Marty Buff – Applications are available through March 15. Marty was asked to write up a summary of the fund to encourage people to contribute to the fund through offerings.

*Preschool* – Pat Payne – The team has a meeting scheduled for next week. Future ideas for the classroom include removing some of the carpet and installing a tile/laminate type floor for easier cleaning. Asking the church for volunteers to help with the labor on maybe a Saturday or a time when school is out could help with cost. Prices are being checked on the material options for this.

*Building & Grounds (BAG)* – Eric Frye – A quote was shared for carpet replacement in the sanctuary, sacristy, hallway to the fellowship hall and the fellowship hall. Things to think about: the pew pads, tile or all carpet, the choir area, and the need to paint the fellowship hall first. Think and bring questions/ideas back to Council.

*Technology* – Tyler Hall – The team is working on setting up new wireless microphones and will begin working on the new routers soon.

*Cemetery* – Gary Richey – The team feels there is a tremendous amount of work that needs to be done in the cemetery-especially in the old cemetery across the road. Tombstone are broken, bases are broken or were not used at the time, and graves that have settled over time. Gary is gathering ideas on how to begin the procedure to restore the tombstones and make improvements to others. There will need to be a lot of volunteers and hand work to make this happen. It will cost as well to do it right.

*\*(Minutes continued on next page)*



**Meeting  
Minutes**

### **PASTORS REPORT:**

Pastor Gary has enjoyed his time this far at Friendship getting up to speed with weekly duties and offered his thanks for the help with calls, contacts, and things he needs to know. Please let him know of any pastoral cares that you know of. Pastor Gary has requested that his compensation for his time at Friendship be earmarked as housing allowance. This action does require approval by Council, prior to any disbursement and must be documented as a matter of record. It is not required to be reported to the IRS on either party's side. It is up to the pastor to justify his expenses. Motion by Steve Shealy; seconded by Sandra Icenhour to approve this type of disbursement. Motion carries.

Pastor Gary will also meet with Pastor Tim after his return and discuss the possibility of reviewing some of the listening posts to see what, if any, issues can be addressed before moving on with a new pastor.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

The Call Committee has received name/names from the Synod and will be moving forward on this.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

On February 19 the fellowship hall will be rented past 6 pm. Council has no problem with this.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned with prayer.

Our next regular monthly meeting will be at 7 pm on Tuesday, March 8, 2022. Wade Cline is scheduled to share a devotion.

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**Lutheran Disaster Response** is helping our companion churches in Ukraine in their humanitarian responses to the crisis brought by the Russian invasion, providing refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water and hygiene kits. **Right now, every gift to Lutheran Disaster Response's Eastern Europe Crisis will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$50,000, to support people impacted by the war in Ukraine.**

# Thank You

Dear CREW/Friendship Youth,

Thank you so much for the packets you provided for those in need. Your time and kindness is greatly appreciated. The officers will keep in the patrol cars and give out as needs arise. We consider it an honor to serve the citizens of our community. Your continued prayers and support are greatly appreciated.

Sheriff Chris Bowman & Staff  
Chief Douglas Bowman

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for your generous gift. We are blessed and grateful for your partnership in this ministry of Faith Formation in children of all ages. Our Summer Camp Ministry, our heart and soul could not have happened without the support of so many like you. We are not yet where we need to be as we to return to the fullness of ministry offered before the pandemic, but we are on our way! We are on our way because of you. We will return to the fullness of ministry we believe God intends with your continued support. Thank you for your generosity & May God bless you & those whose lives were changed because your gift.

Novus Way Ministries

Dear Friendship Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$3,000.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response. Your Spirit-filled generosity helps families and communities reeling from disasters here in the US & across the globe. No matter the disaster, no matter the need, your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response enable people to rebuild their lives & livelihoods now & far into the future. Jesus was born to reign in us forever. Now you are inviting countless others into his gracious kingdom. Thank You.

## Prayers of the Church

*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything,  
by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God.” ~  
Philippians 4:6-7*

**Please call the church office to add or  
take someone off this list.**

Tony Meadows	(P. Shealy-3/1)
Darlene Handy	(S. Rogers-3/6)
Alan & Judy Hefner	(R. Bolick-3/6)
Charles & Karen Bolivian	(C. Kerley-3/8)
Theresa Setzer	(B. Greathouse-3/8)
Connie Icenhour	(N. Windsor-3/9)
Beverly Jenkins	(T. Annas-3/13)
Brian Weaver	(T. Annas-3/13)
Torie Rhoney	(R. Buff-3/13)
Susan Sharon	(D. Ramsey-3/13)
Tammy Hayman	(D. Ramsey-3/13)
Kelvin Elder	(J. Elder-3/13)
Ginny Elder	(J. Elder-3/13)
Nancy Pearson	(W. Pearson-3/15)
Cheryl Pennell	(W. Pearson-3/15)
Phil Hefner	(L. Hefner-3/16)
Adam Kijesky	(L. Sweet-3/21)
Shirley Dagenhart	(D. Ramsey-3/21)
Lee Oxendine	(J. Watts-3/21)
Alan Andrews	(J. Gant-3/21)
Jaxon Rogers	(D. Jolly-3/22)
Pam Setzer	(W. Cline-3/23)
Gloria Saunders	(B. Greathouse-3/25)

### **Family & friends of:**

Rosa Lee James	(L. James-3/8)
Lala Ruth Miller	(S. Icenhour-3/10)
Leon Barnes	(B. Icenhour-3/13)
Glen Mays	(W. Cline-3/21)
Roxanne Icenhour	(L. Jolly-3/24)

## Our Sharing

### OFFERINGS

	<u>FEBRUARY, 2022</u>	<u>YTD</u>
CURRENT	\$23,597.91	\$48,122.31
BENEVOLENCE	\$1,420.00	\$2,875.00
BLDG/IMPROVEMENT	\$4,595.00	\$10,660.00
PRESCHOOL	\$380.00	\$540.00
WORLD HUNGER	\$75.00	\$905.00
BACKPACK MINISTRY	\$340.00	\$1,184.00
CHRISTIAN CRISIS CTR	\$70.00	\$175.00
FOOD PANTRIES	\$50.00	\$100.00
LUTHERAN DISASTER RELIEF	\$25.00	\$750.00
RUSHA AUSTIN SCHLOR.	\$585.00	\$1,310.00
GILDA FLETCHER FUNDRAISER	\$0.00	\$835.00
SECRET SISTER COOKBOOK	\$12.00	\$912.00
MOBILE CAFÉ	\$480.00	\$480.00

### SPENDING

	<u>FEBRUARY, 2022</u>	<u>YTD</u>
CURRENT	\$26,091.31	\$50,201.98

### HOME BOUND/EXTENDED CARE:

Kay Smith - Home  
 Fate & Ruth Hefner - Home  
 Audrey Arrington - Home  
 Emily & Carrel Icenhour - Catawba Valley Assisted Living  
 @ Rock Barn

**If you know of someone that should be added to or  
taken off this list, please call the church office.**



# ★ Church Council and Staff

## Council (Term ending)

Mary Ann Icenhour - President ('22)  
Wade Cline - VP & CARE ('22)  
Jane Gant - Treasurer ('22)  
Dana Frye - Recording Sec ('22)  
Guy Kerley - Financial Sec ('22)  
John Bostian - LEARN ('23)  
Marty Buff - RA Scholarship ('23)  
Tyler Hall - Tech ('23)  
Gary Richey - Cemetery ('23)  
Steve Shealy - Finance ('23)  
Monica Stafford - Worship ('23)  
Eric Frye - Building ('22)  
Sandra Icenhour - Admin ('22)  
Pat Payne - Preschool ('22)  
Jimmy Watts - SHARE ('22)

## Staff

Denny Teague Sexton  
Penny Stikeleather Parish Secretary  
Silsa Moore Organ/Piano  
Hope Wike Preschool Dir  
Tim Canniff-Kuhn Interim Pastor

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Penny is in the office Mon-Thurs,  
9:30-4:30 (Lunch-12:30-1:30)  
The office is closed on Friday.  
You may reach Pastor Tim on the  
church cell phone: 828-551-4650.

Please do not hesitate to be in  
touch if you have a pastoral concern,  
or if there is something the pastor  
needs to know.

## **FRIENDSHIP LUTHERAN CHURCH**

5300 Church Road  
Taylorsville, NC 28681  
Phone: 828-632-4482  
[www.friendshiptaylorsville.org](http://www.friendshiptaylorsville.org)  
[friendshipsecretary4@gmail.com](mailto:friendshipsecretary4@gmail.com)

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Taylorsville, NC 28681

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