

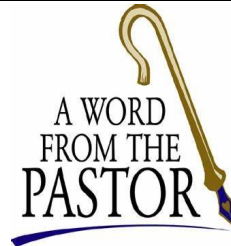


# Friendship Focus

## March 2022

News for members and friends of Friendship Lutheran Church

**Ash Wednesday Worship Services**  
**Wednesday, March 2**  
**11:00AM - Chapel**  
**7:00PM - Nave**



**Special Weekly Lenten Services**  
**Sundays, 6:00PM - Nave**

### **BLESSED ARE YOU.....**

The word *beatitudo* comes from the Latin *beatitudo*, meaning "blessedness." The Beatitudes introduce and set the tone for Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:3-12) by emphasizing the humble state of humans and the righteousness of God. Each beatitude depicts the posture of a citizen of God's kingdom. By living as God intended, we experience abundant blessings.

Throughout Lent, starting with Ash Wednesday and continued each Sunday evening, we will explore the Beatitudes as a posture for our lives of faith, focusing on a different "blessing" each week. We will observe Ash Wednesday with the imposition of ashes and the celebration of Holy Communion and then gather on Sunday evenings for a simple, 30 minute service to help us in our Lenten journey and learn to live in the way of Jesus.

- March 2** - The way of trust
- March 6** - The way of lament
- March 13** - The way of humility
- March 20** - The way of justice
- March 27** - The way of compassion

## March News

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** is  
**Tuesday, March 1st, 5:30 - 6:30 pm.**  
Come enjoy some great pancakes.



**Reformation** will be holding a free dental clinic on  
**Friday, March 4th and Saturday, March 5th** for resi-  
dents of Alexander County who need, but cannot afford,  
dental care.

**Secret Sisters** - meet **Saturday, March 5th, 9 am.**

**WELCA**– will meet **Sunday, March 6th, 5 pm**, in the  
**chapel.** All ladies are invited to attend.

**Friendship Fellowship Supper** - **March 7th, 6 pm** -  
We hope all will show up. Bring food & prepare to have  
fellowship with all who support the program. Contact  
Peggy Jolly for information at 632-6520.

**Fit for Christ** - will meet on **Tuesdays & Thursdays** at  
**6 pm** and on the **1st Saturday of each month at 8 am.**  
Contact Taylor Payne for details.

**Rusha Austin Scholarship Fund** - Please consider  
making donations to this fund through your weekly offer-  
ing, so monetary assistance can continue to be provided  
to Friendship's young adults attending college. Applica-  
tions for the Rusha Austin Scholarship are available **now**  
**through March 15th, 2022** and need to be returned to  
the church office by **April 15th, 2022.** Scholarship ap-  
plications can be picked up during normal hours at the  
church office. Thank you for your continued generosity  
and support of this fund. You may direct any questions to  
Marty Buff. The Rusha Austin Committee.

**Newsletter Deadline**- Send items for the **March** issue of **Friendship's Focus** by **Thursday, Feb. 17th**. Call the church office @ 632-4482 or email your items to friendshipsecretary4@gmail.com.



**Friendship Cook Books** are still available at both services. **The cost is \$12.00**. They are full of delicious recipes and make a wonderful gift. All proceeds go to the Food Pantry of Alex. Cty. Please see Daphne Payne, Donna Icard or Becky Cline.

We would like to say a **HUGE THANK YOU** to everyone who purchased & contributed recipes for our cook-book. We have been able to give **\$500** each to the Christian Crisis Center, Hiddenite Food Pantry and the Stony Point Food Pantry so far. We still have some available if anyone still wants one.

**Friendship Preschool** - is in desperate need of substitute teachers. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact Hope Wike, Pat Payne or Nikki Icard. Thanks!

**Attention Ladies:** Anyone interested in joining the Secret Sisters group, see Daphne Payne for a form to fill out. We will be starting our new year on **Saturday, March 5th @ 9 am**. We will meet & draw for our new sisters for the year. We would love for you to join us! If you have any questions, please see Daphne.

**CARE Team** - will meet **Tuesday, March 15th, 6 pm**.

**Attention Thrivent Members-**Choice dollars **expire March 31, 2022**. You can direct your choice dollars online at Thrivent.com/choice dollars or call 1-800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" at the prompt.

My service as an Interim with you that officially began on January 24th will end on February 28th. It has been my privilege to serve as your pastor in this time. Also, it is great to see the transitions you have made since my work with you in late summer/early fall of 2019 as a Healthy Congregations Consultant. You are a healthy congregation! On both occasions you welcomed me as a friend. Thank you for your hospitality and support! I am glad and give thanks to God that I can call you friends!

Interim Pastor Tim Canuff-Kuhn will return on March 1st to continue his work with you through May or sooner if new pastor(s) are called. My prayers are with you as you move forward into your next chapter of life, service, and mission together.

God's Peace,  
Pastor Gary Haddock

#### **CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE**

By the time you receive this newsletter, the call committee will have conducted interviews with two potential candidates and (hopefully) have three more scheduled. The committee is encouraged by the quality of the candidates received and the enthusiasm the candidates have expressed about interviewing with Friendship. NC Synod staff continue to identify potential candidates and match candidate's gifts with the desired skills and gifts identified in our Ministry Site Profile.

**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 review the Rostered Minister Profiles they have received, conduct interviews, and seek to discern who it may be that God is calling to be the next pastor at Friendship. The committee is meeting regularly, spending hours interviewing, and significant amounts of time reading, watching sermons online, and in prayer doing their best to do the job you asked them to do.

# March Birthdays



Robert Farrens	03/01	Sam Bowman	03/10
Cecil Sigmon	03/02	Oscar Shepherd	03/10
Gail Huffman	03/04	Julia Rhyne	03/14
Audrey Arrington	03/05	Stephen Isenhour	03/15
Don Robinette	03/06	Jason Icard	03/19
Vickie Church	03/07	Mia Snipes	03/20
Pam Bowman	03/08	Roy Bolick	03/21
Phil Mooney	03/09	Gary Richey	03/24
Daphne Payne	03/09	Cohen Bowers	03/28

**IF YOU ARE EXPOSED TO COVID-19**

Quarantine if you have been in close contact (within 6 feet of someone for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone who has COVID-19, unless you have been fully vaccinated. Follow the recommendations of your local public health department if you need to quarantine.

People who are fully vaccinated do NOT need to quarantine after contact with someone who had COVID-19 unless they have symptoms. However, fully vaccinated people should get tested 5-7 days after their exposure, even if they don't have symptoms and wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until their test result is negative.

**Please remember to tell a pastor if someone who tests positive has been in the Friendship building. Thanks for keeping others safe and healthy!**

## **Friendship Lutheran Church Council**

January 11, 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, Pastor Mary Canniff-Kuhn, Pastor Tim Canniff-Kuhn, Rev. Dr Gary Haddock, and Dana Frye. Absent: Jimmy Watts

President Mary Ann Icenhour called the meeting to order shared a devotion. Pastor Tim introduced Rev. Dr Gary Haddock as our “interim” interim pastor. Pastor Gary shared about himself and then was excused from the meeting.

Motion by Sandra Icenhour; seconded by Wade Cline to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on December 14, 2021. Motion carries.

Treasurer’s report for the month was distributed.

### **TEAM REPORTS:**

Administration – Sandra Icenhour – No report.

Care – Wade Cline – Blood drive received 54 units and the drive organization was much better this time around. The team is planning to deliver meals to Emergency Services on January 29.

Learn – John Bostian – The team is planning a meeting in next 2 weeks. John and Hannah will be leading a new Sunday school class for younger (out of high school) people. A blessing to have this new class get started!

Worship -Monica Stafford – Ash Wednesday will be March 2 with 2 services that day at 11 in the Chapel and 7 in the Nave; Lenten services will be held on Sunday evenings at 6 with “The Beatitudes” as the theme; Maundy Thursday will be at 7 pm in the Nave; Good Friday at 7 pm in the Nave and Easter sunrise at the cross and 10:30 in the Nave. Children will be sharing their singing one Sunday a month. They will be practicing during the first part of Sunday school. The new name for the 8 am band is “1833”, which is the year Friendship was formed.

Share – Jimmy Watts – Pastor Tim discussed the results of the Time and Talent forms that have been turned in so far.

Finance – Steve Shealy – No additional report.

Rusha Austin Scholarship – Marty Buff – Team is being organized.

Preschool – Pat Payne – Motion by John Bostian; seconded by Sandra Icenhour to approve the board policies as presented. Motion carries.

Building & Grounds (BAG) – Eric Frye – Items presented for the team to discuss are replacing the carpet-all carpet or some tile in the Nave and fellowship hall; building an area for the 10:30 am choir; lights need to be replaced/upgraded in the Nave and the fellowship hall.

Technology – Tyler Hall – The team hopes to begin setting up the new hardware for better and faster speed and internet services for the church and the preschool in the next week. Donovan Douglas will help set up software and passwords and security issues. Praise band is still using borrowed equipment and will be purchasing new equipment within their 2022 spending plan line item. Lighting on the stage and the back wall color will be items to discuss in the future.

Cemetery – Gary Richey – There are numerous tombstones in the cemetery that need repairs. Clarity is needed on whose responsibility this is.

#### **PASTORS REPORT:**

Busy month for the pastors with Christmas, pastoral care, making sure needs are met, lining things up for Pastor Gary; planning to make the transition easy for everyone. Funeral for Lou Ann Frye, and Kay Smith has been added to the homebound list. There will not be a farewell in January since Pastor Tim (and Pastor Mary on occasion) will be back in March. Save the farewells for June.

*\*(Minutes continued on next page)*



**Meeting  
Minutes**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

The Call Committee is prepared for interviews and are waiting to receive names from the Synod. Rev. C.C. Mills is the coordinator at the Synod.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

We reviewed our Covid policy: What can we control? Space, attendance, and time together. Do we feel good about where we are: Yes! Our current criteria states “let the pastor know if you test positive and have been in the building in the last 5 days”. If we have 5 positive cases, we will close the building and take a week off. We have been very lucky and not had 5 cases during the pandemic. Pastors Tim and Mary will share this with Pastor Gary.

Motion by Wade Cline; seconded by Sandra Icenhour to approve the new interim contract with Pastor Tim. Motion carries.

In review of our current weather policy that says - Plans moving forward, if needed, would be to allow the Pastors and President Mary Ann Icenhour to decide by 7 pm on Saturday evening if inclement weather is in the forecast. If it is safe for some travel, a 10 am service would be held in the fellowship hall and live stream the service. Council feels it is best to continue this policy.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned with prayer.

Our next regular monthly meeting will be at 7 pm on Tuesday, February 8, 2022. Pat Payne is scheduled to share a devotion.





# Thank You

Dear Members of Friendship,

I want to thank each & everyone for being so generous. For allowing my family the use of your church for the benefit. For all the volunteers who came out to help us, the generous donations, and the prayers from you all. You are truly wonderful & loving people. I am truly blessed & I appreciate all that you have done for me.

God bless you,  
Gilda Fletcher

**Thank you** so much for the delicious meal you provided. Your time & kindness is greatly appreciated. We consider it an honor to serve the citizens of such a great community. Your continued prayers & support are much appreciated.

Sheriff Chris Bowman & staff  
Alexander County Sheriff's Office

We want to **thank you** for the wonderful meal prepared for our fire department family. We truly appreciate your generosity and love shown in this community. It's an honor to serve this beautiful community.

Thank You,  
Wittenburg Fire Dept.

The SPVFD & Ladies Auxiliary wish to **"Thank you"** so much for the delicious meal. We all enjoyed it very much. Thank you for the time & preparation that was put into it. We appreciate your church for doing this.

Love,  
Stony Point Volunteer Fire Dept.  
& Ladies Auxiliary

**Thank you** for supporting the food pantry. Your donation will go a long way in feeding our community.

My God bless your church,  
Teresa Riddle  
HCH Treasurer

## 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.**

Alan Andrews	(J. Gant-1/28)
Darlene Handy	(S. Rogers-1/31)
Alan & Judy Hefner	(B. Bowman-1/31)
Don Kelly	(S. Shealy-1/31)
Dinah Lu Purser	(S. Shealy-1/31)
Denise Rudisill	(D. Bowman-1/31)
Melissa Morgan	(N. Icard-2/2)
Orville White	(B. Greathouse-2/2)
Pam Setzet	(W. Cline-2/7)
Earl Bostian	(W. Cline-2/7)
Lee Oxendine	(P. Watts-2/9)
Torie Rhoney	(R. Buff-2/14)
Rosa Lee James	(J. James-2/14)
Conley James	(J. James-2/14)
Raleigh & Nancy Pearson	(W. Pearson-2/14)
Travis Barber	(T. Annas-2/16)
Mickey Annas	(T. Annas-2/16)
Brian Powel	(T. Annas-2/16)
Sherry (no last name listed)	(T. Annas-2/16)
Tammy Foster	(B. Bowman-2/16)
Susan Sharon	(D. Ramsey-2/17)
Tammy Hayman	(D. Ramsey-2/17)

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

Patricia Alexander	(T. Annas-1/24)
David Pace	(J. Watts-1/26)
Harold Jolly	(P. Gary-1/31)
Doris McMillon	(T. Annas-1/31)
Nancy Simmons Goforth	(W. Cline-1/31)
Patrick Teague	(W. Cline-2/16)

## Our Sharing

### OFFERINGS

	<u>JANUARY, 2022</u>	<u>YTD</u>
CURRENT	\$24,524.40	\$24,524.40
BENEVOLENCE	\$1,455.00	\$1,455.00
BLDG/IMPROVEMENT	\$6,065.00	\$6,065.00
PRESCHOOL	\$160.00	\$160.00
WORLD HUNGER	\$830.00	\$830.00
BACKPACK MINISTRY	\$844.00	\$844.00
CHRISTIAN CRISIS CTR	\$105.00	\$105.00
FOOD PANTRIES	\$50.00	\$50.00
LUTHERAN DISASTER RELIEF	\$725.00	\$725.00
RUSHA AUSTIN SCHLOR.	\$725.00	\$725.00
GILDA FLETCHER FUNDRAISER	\$835.00	\$835.00
SECRET SISTER COOKBOOK	\$900.00	\$900.00

### SPENDING

	<u>JANUARY, 2022</u>	<u>YTD</u>
CURRENT	\$24,110.67	\$24,110.67

### 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)

NON-PROFIT  
 POSTAGE PAID  
**PERMIT 106**  
 Taylorsville, NC 28681

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED