



## Brookstown United Methodist Church

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**Lord Jesus, I lay my worries and distractions before You.  
Help me open my heart to You this week in unburdened  
praise and worship. Amen.**

### **Scripture Readings for this Week**

1 Samuel 16:1-13 ~ Psalm 23 ~ Ephesians 5:8-14 ~ John 9:1-41

### **Making the Lenten Connection**

*A Message from Pastor Chip*

Lent 2020 stands to be one of the most significant in human history, certainly in our lifetime! Our opportunity is one of deeply significant and meaningful self-reflection, in the wilderness of social distancing and the confident assurance of God's presence, guidance and grace.

A column in the Winston-Salem Journal on Thursday, March 19, written by Alessandra Von Burg, associate professor of Communication at Wake Forest included a revelation- another dot to be connected in this extraordinary time of discernment. Von Burg, a native of Sondrio, in Lombardy, Italy, the current epicenter of the pandemic, shares linguistic insights from her native language. She connects our experience of self-isolation and social distancing with the Italian origin of our word "quarantine". In fact, quarantine derives from the Italian, *quadranta*, meaning FORTY- the days traditionally associated with the self- or state-imposed (Spirit-led) isolation.

So here we are, in the midst of a pandemic, distancing ourselves from one another as an act of love, in the days commemorating the Spirit-led isolation of Christ in the wilderness. Above all, let us trust in the abiding presence of the Spirit bringing to our minds and hearts the guidance which comes from above.

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.  
For Thou art with me, Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.*

### **Making the Personal Connection**

WebX and Facebook Live are making it possible for Brookstown folk to reach out and connect through prayer - praise, petitions, and supplication, Scripture, Christian conferencing, encouragement, and service opportunities. Catch the Virtual Prayer Room on Thursday evenings (see the information on the following page to join).

Join our online worship services through the Brookstown Facebook Page. Adapting a neighbor's slogan: Brookstown..."High Tech with Country Charm" (Wilson Garage's slogan...It's just for fun...don't infringe on their copyright!)

A weekly email News Bulletin will be published for the duration of the pandemic and Phone Tree messages will alert our congregation members to opportunities and community concerns.

## “Let’s Pray” - A Virtual Prayer Room

We use WebEx software to connect our computers, iPhones, iPads, or laptops to a chat room that provides video and audio connection. You can join from your living room, and others joining from their living rooms will be able to see and hear each other. This is a half-hour to come together to lift up the church, our community, and families in prayer.

To participate, send your email address to [gsaylor0406@gmail.com](mailto:gsaylor0406@gmail.com). You will receive an invitation to the next Let’s Pray session.

The **first time you connect**, you will be asked to download the WebEx app. This is the only time you need to install the app. You can do this any day at any time before the meeting starts.

1) To download the app, click the “Join meeting” button in the invitation. You will be asked to download the app. You may see Run or Save. Choose Run. The Webex will install an icon on your device. Close the Webex page.

2) We will open the Webex room by 5:55 for our 6pm meeting on Thursdays. Click the “Join Meeting” button in the invitation link at that time and you will join us in the Prayer Room! We will be happy to work with you to sort out any technical difficulties.

3) Please email any concerns to: [gsaylor0406@gmail.com](mailto:gsaylor0406@gmail.com)

See you there!  
Georgia Saylor

### Thought for the Week

**Just as God instructed Samuel to anoint David as Israel’s king,  
God has anointed each of us for special work. Through worship  
and prayer, may we be strengthened for service!**

### Calendar

<b>Today</b>	<b>UMCOR Sunday ~ Special Offering</b>	
	8:30 & 11:00am Worship Services	
	Streaming live on Brookstown’s Facebook Page	
<b>Every Thursday</b>	6:00pm	Virtual Prayer Room
<b>Easter Sunday, April 12</b>	7:00am	Easter Sunrise Service

**EASTER LILY SALE: They are \$10; deadline to order is Palm Sunday, April 5.** Order forms are in the March newsletter, an attachment on this email, and on the church webpage: [brookstown.umchurches.org](http://brookstown.umchurches.org)

**FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE:** Brookstown is blessed with faithful stewards, and your dedication to the on-going mission of the church is appreciated! In these uncertain times, when we can’t gather for services in the traditional manner, you can continue to give offerings by mailing them to the church, or dropping them by the church office. Whatever you can give is helpful and appreciated!

**CRISIS CONTROL GIFT OF THE MONTH: INSTANT GRITS**

**UMCOR SPECIAL OFFERING:** The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is a sign of hope throughout the world. This Sunday, United Methodist Churches across the world are called to celebrate UMCOR Sunday. In the midst of a pandemic and other disasters, UMCOR continues to offer healing and hope. Today’s special offering is a tangible action that allows people to respond to an unprecedented crisis.

**BROOKSTOWN SCHOOL CARE:** Many day care centers are closed due to the health situation, leaving parents in need of child care. BSSC is open from 7am-6pm for anyone who needs care for elementary-aged children. If a child isn’t already registered, parents can come by to register their child(ren), and they can begin immediately.

**BROOKSTOWN SUMMER CARE: Registration is open.** Call 336-945-2547. First come, first served!

**DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TRAINING CONFERENCE: Scheduled for Today, March 22 at Maple Springs UMC, has been cancelled.** Options are being explored for sharing information via video and/or rescheduling some of the sessions for in-person meetings at a later date. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MEETINGS:** Finance Committee met briefly this past Friday; Church Council meeting is postponed until a later date, TBA.

**VIENNA CIVIC CLUB FUNDRAISER: Saturday, March 28 from 11am-6pm at West Central Community Center.** For \$10 you will get a delicious BBQ chicken dinner with all the trimmings. Everything is take-out – you don’t even have to get out of your car; your meal will be brought to your car window. Take this opportunity to get out of the house a few minutes, have some good food brought safely to your car, and help support the projects of our community Vienna Civic Club!

### Stewardship for March 15, 2020

#### Financial

Tithes & Offerings: \$2,285      Other Gifts: \$125      Total: \$2,410

#### Attendance

SonRise Service:			
In Attendance	19	Sunday School	13
Viewed via Facebook	13	Traditional Service	37
Total	32		

#### Volunteers

Counters: Team 3      Sign Volunteer: Wayne Burton

#### Staff

Minister:	James (Chip) T. Webb, Jr.	Choir Director:	Shannon Craft
	Cell: 336-971-4968	Organist:	Dorcas Craft
	Home: 336-923-2511	Children & Nursery:	Darlene Davis
	Email: <a href="mailto:cher33563@aol.com">cher33563@aol.com</a>	BSSC Director:	Margarita Burton
Admin. Assist:	Lavonda Glass	Church Office:	Mon.- Fri., 11am-6pm; 336-945-3029