



# THE BEACON

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

**May 2024**

## **A Message from Pastor Chip**

### **An Epistle from an Apostle! *To you, from me.***

The Apostle Paul wrote of some seriously deep theological matters, and when we read his epistles, we are inclined to skip through the 'greetings & salutations' in order to get to the good stuff. Rewind. Start over. Take it slowly.

Those ancient epistles, biblical and otherwise, usually began with the identity of the sender, and some characterization of the relationship; i.e., **Chip, sent (apostelmenos) and appointed [like a bush or a worm (Jonah)] to Brookstown Church.**

Next, comes the identity or identities of the recipients, and perhaps some characterization; i.e.: **To all God's beloved in Vienna, northern Lewisville and greater Pfafftown, called to be Saints:**

Then, there is this Pauline salutation, wonderfully consistent across his written correspondence, consisting of both a Greek (Xapis-Grace) and Hebrew (Shalom-Peace) concept, not being merely his good wishes but a blessing of God given through Christ Jesus: ***Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.***

Usually, but not always, follows the thanksgiving, as in Romans: ***"First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you"....*** One of my favorite 'thanksgivings' occurs in Philippians: ***I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now.*** (1: 3-5)

Today, I am claiming to be an apostle- one sent for a particular purpose. I claim it for me and for you! You might think me arrogant, but remember that God even 'appoints' worms! Surely then, we can be forgiven our confidence that God has set us apart (saints) for service. Here goes...

**Chip, sent (apostelmenos) and appointed (like a bush or a worm [Jonah]) to Brookstown Church. To all God's beloved in Vienna, northern Lewisville and greater Pfafftown, and Winston-Salem, called to be Saints: *Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.***

***First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you who join as co-laborers in this work:***

***who faithfully occupy your places of deployment;***

***who are Facebook friends, overseas and out-of-state and nearby;***

***who contribute technical skills;***

***who provide musical inspiration;***

***who nourish each other in body and soul;***

***and who send offerings out of your abundance and in spite of your need that we might press on.***

***I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now.***



# Pastoral Appointment

We are pleased to announce that we have received a letter from the district advising that Chip Webb has been appointed as Pastor to Brookstown UMC for the year beginning July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. This will be Chip's 17<sup>th</sup> year at Brookstown. Please take a moment to congratulate Chip on this appointment as we welcome him back for another year in the continued work and growth here at Brookstown .

~ Charlie Sharpe  
Chairman, SPRC

*"Practice makes preachers. Love makes pastors."*

~ Clyde R. Webber Jr.

## Ascension of the Lord



Forty days after each Easter, this year on May 9, many Christians around the world celebrate the Ascension. It's the day when the resurrected Jesus was raised up from the earth into heaven. The Ascension is the prelude to Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came upon a gathering of people, including the apostles, in Jerusalem.

The Ascension is more important than many Christians realize. In His human body, Christ could be in only one place at a time. The risen Christ, however, can be spiritually present in any place at any time. The Sunday after the Day of Ascension is Ascension Sunday, which falls on May 12.

## Trinity Sunday

On Trinity Sunday, May 26 this year, we praise our Triune God for meeting all our needs. Christians believe in one God who is manifested in three forms: God the Creator, the Incarnate God (Jesus), and God's (Holy) Spirit.

Theologian Henry Van Dusen thought of the Trinity in these terms: In God the Father, our Creator, we see the ultimacy of God. In God the Son, Jesus, who came to earth as our Savior, we see the character of God. In God the Holy Spirit, who is eternally present with us, we sense the intimacy of God.

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!*

~ Reginald Heber, 1826

## Day of Pentecost

Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would come upon those who believed in His resurrection. Ten days after His ascension, the disciples were gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate the Jewish festival of Pentecost, when "from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind" (Acts 2:2, NRSV). Tongues of fire descended on everyone in the crowd (Acts 2:3, NRSV).

The disciples were able to share the good news of Jesus in the native tongues of all the pilgrims assembled there. That day of Pentecost, some 3,000 people came to believe in Christ. That's why today Christians remember this powerful event as the birthday of the church.

Pentecost occurs on May 19 this year. To symbolize the "tongues, as of fire" that came upon the people, churches display the color red in their worship services on Pentecost Sunday. Many people attending worship wear red.

Even today, the power of the Holy Spirit fuels the "flame" that ignites Christians' outreach efforts. Only by the Spirit's power can we know Christ and make him known throughout the world.

*"Before Pentecost, the disciples found  
it hard to do easy things;  
after Pentecost they found  
it easy to do hard things."*

~ A.J. Gordon

# Ordinary People, Extraordinary Results

Through the teaching, support, sacrifice, worship, and commitment of the church, utterly ordinary people are enabled to do some rather extraordinary, even heroic acts, not on the basis of their own gifts and abilities, but rather by having a community capable of sustaining Christian virtue. The church enables us to be better people than we could have been if left to our own devices.

~ Stanley Hauerwas and William Willimon,  
"Resident Aliens: Life in the Christian Colony"

## United Women in Faith Meeting

Wednesday, May 15, 11am  
BUMC Fellowship Hall

At our organizational meeting in April we voted to have future monthly meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 11am. All women are invited to join us for our meeting, which will include a pot luck salad luncheon with all types of salads that we will enjoy together.

We will have a pledge service and have Polly Caudle, who is District Membership, Nurture and Outreach chair, to share with us and install officers that were elected in April.

The officers are: president, Martha Isenberg; vice-president, Georgia Saylor; secretary, Ann Haynes; treasurer, Betty Cain; and chair of nominations, Cheryl Morris.

All women are invited to come and join us!

~ Martha Isenberg, UMF Chair

## Special Offering

Sunday, May 26

"Gifts on Peace with Justice Sunday fund programs that advocate for peace and justice in the United States and around the world. These programs empower United Methodists to speak out for removing structures and systems that harm God's children globally. When you give, you encourage people to live – not just preach – a gospel of peace."

Visit [www.umcgiving.org](http://www.umcgiving.org) for more information.

## Crisis Control Gift of the Month

**Spices: Cinnamon, Cumin, Salt, Pepper,  
Vanilla Extract, Basil, etc.**

Thanks to everyone who gives generously to  
Crisis Control Ministry each month!

## On Loving and Giving

*A clue to how much a person loves is  
how much he or she gives in terms of time,  
talent, friendship, service, encouragement,  
and prayers on behalf of others.*

## Blood Drive

Wednesday, May 8, 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 at:

[redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)

Use Sponsor Code: Brookstown

*"Live simply, love generously, care deeply,  
speak kindly, leave the rest to God."*

~ *Attributed to Ronald Reagan*

## CCM Hope du Jour 2024

***Eat Out. Take Out. Help Out!***

Tuesday, May 7

Join us on May 7 for the 33<sup>rd</sup> annual Hope du Jour, where participating restaurants donate a percentage of their proceeds to Crisis Control Ministry, Forsyth County's largest non-profit provider of emergency assistance. Food and beverage establishments come together for breakfast, lunch, dinner and more, in a day of feel-good eating to make a difference in our community.

Visit <http://hopedujour.org/> to find a list of participating restaurants.

Can't eat out May 7, but want to help? Visit [crisiscontrol.org](http://crisiscontrol.org) to donate online.

~ *Crisis Control Ministry*

# Women's Bible Study

Mondays at 7pm in the Ola Apperson Room & on Zoom

- May 6, 13, 20 with the 27 off
- June 3, 10, 17, with the 24 off
- July 1, 8, 22, 29 with the 15 off

Please join us for Bible study of Beth Moore's 10 week study of Esther.  
We have scheduled breaks in this study for catchup or rest!

## Video Sessions:

1. **Introduction (62:00)** - In this session the author introduces the study and the historical background and the uniqueness of the Book of Esther.
2. **Session 1: A Royal Mess (61:00)** – Character sketches of Mordecai and Esther. The Book of Esther contains treasures to aid us in our hurried, harried, and pressured lives.
3. **Session 2: A Contest for a Queen (57:00)** – Introduces Haman and explains his hatred toward Mordecai and all Jews.
4. **Session 3: A Raging Passion for Honor (57:29)** – Discusses God-appointed destinies and the dilemma of destiny from a human perspective.
5. **Session 4: If You Remain Silent (63:00)** – The changes Esther goes through that move her from self-preservation to brave determination.
6. **Session 5: A Table Set for Providence (64:00)** – All about timing; there is time to be silent, and a time to speak, and it is God-timed.
7. **Session 6: What Goes Around (63:00)** – The Reversal of Destiny (also called the Reversal of Fortune) and the unexpected turn of events that occurs at banquets.
8. **Session 7: Where Is the Man? (64:00)** – The impact of all of the events on all four major characters.
9. **Session 8: The Right to Be Ready (64:00)** – How God brings about the reversal of destiny and turns the curse into a blessing.
10. **Session 9: The Tables Turned (53:00)** – How the Jewish race was preserved by an unlikely partnership through improbable circumstances, thus accomplishing God's promise to His people.

I will have books to preview soon; e-books will be available through [lifeway.com](http://lifeway.com) video if you have to miss a session. Please join us if you can!  
~ Georgia Saylor

*“Adopt the pace of nature: Her secret is patience.” ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson*

## Garden Wish List

Brookstown Summer Care has a wish list for their vegetable garden, which includes bags of rich dirt, mushroom compost, peat moss, and cow manure. They can also use vegetable plants if you'd like to donate some. There are sign-up lists outside the church office and on the BSSC podium in the Fellowship Hall.

The children and staff thank you very much for helping make their garden grow! ☺

*“He who sows courtesy reaps friendship,  
and he who plants kindness gathers love.”*

*~ St. Basil*

## Plant Sale!

Speaking of gardening and helping the BSSC program with their project, the NC Cooperative Extension is sponsoring a plant sale:

**Arboretum Volunteers and Educators at Tanglewood (AVET) will hold its annual spring plant sale at the Arboretum at Tanglewood Park Friday, May 3 and Saturday, May 4 8 am - 2 pm**

**Beautiful plants at fantastic prices!**

For more information:

<https://forsyth.ces.ncsu.edu/2024/04/spring-2024-arboretum-plant-sale/>

## National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 2

The National Day of Prayer is observed annually on the first Thursday in May. This day of observance, designated by the United States Congress, asks people "to turn to God in prayer and meditation".

Since the first call to prayer in 1775, when the Continental Congress asked the colonies to pray for wisdom in forming a nation, the call to prayer has continued through our history, including President Lincoln's proclamation of a day of "humiliation, fasting, and prayer" in 1863.

In 1952, a joint resolution by Congress, signed by President Truman, declared an annual national day of prayer. In 1988, the law was amended and signed by President Reagan, permanently setting the day as the first Thursday of every May.

Each year, the president signs a proclamation, encouraging all Americans to pray on this day. Last year, all 50 state governors signed; the governors of several U.S. territories also signed similar proclamations.




*"Where flowers bloom,  
so does hope."*

*~ Lady Bird Johnson*

### Graduate List

During May we will compile a list of 2024 Brookstown Graduates. If you or someone in your family is graduating, please let Chip or Lavonda know **by May 31**.

We need the graduate's name, school, program from which he/she is graduating, and future plans, if you would like to include that.



*"The mere whisper of the Holy Spirit  
can drown out the thundering noise  
of an entire world."*

*~ David Jeremiah*



*"To pray is to grasp heaven in one's arms, to embrace the Deity within one's soul, and to feel one's body made a temple of the Holy Spirit." ~ Charles H. Spurgeon*

### Applications for the William Shelton Scholarship



Those students who will be attending college for the year 2024-2025, and would like to be considered for the William Shelton Memorial Scholarship, should submit your letter of application by **June 30, 2024**.



Your letter should include the following:

*Current address ~ College you plan to attend ~ Status: full time or part time student*

*Please include brief summary as to why you feel this scholarship would benefit you, and any other information about yourself that you would like to share with the Scholarship Committee.*

Applications may be submitted by a third party. Only one application will be considered for the same applicant per year (July 1 through June 30).

You may send your application to the church office or directly to:



Susan Jameson  
2105 Pendragon Court  
Pfafftown, NC 27040

May God bless each of you as you continue your education.

~ Susan Jameson, Scholarship Committee Chairperson



### Teacher Appreciation Week: May 6-10

*This is an opportunity for students, parents, and communities  
to show their appreciation for teachers' hard work,  
and the long hours they dedicate to our children.*

*From the bottom of our hearts,  
"Thank You, Teachers!"*



# The Brookstown Express Vacation Bible School!

Monday, June 24 - Wednesday, June 26

Supper for Families: 6-6:30pm

VBS for Children: 6:30-8:30pm

We plan to offer an Adult VBS as well

Hello friends,

A very busy, buzzing Miss Bee Attitude here, buzzing by to tell you about Your Attitudes. I heard a great Teacher 2000 years ago, teaching about having the right attitude. I figured He was talking to me, because I have always buzzed around annoying people.

This Teacher was teaching on a hillside, telling folks about changing their attitudes so they can act more like Him. He told me that God wants us to live by these attitudes and teachings.

So, you'll want to come to "Buzzing Bee-Attitudes" VBS! You'll learn who this Teacher was, and what He was teaching in The Sermon on the Mount. You'll also learn how I got my name "Bee Attitude". You'll learn how to adjust your attitude, throughout your life, to please God.

Last year, we found treasures in God's Word. We will continue our Treasure Hunt, searching for great treasures in the Bible. We'll learn how to have the heart of Jesus, with new attitudes! In addition to learning all this cool stuff, we will do lots of other fun things:

- Share a MEAL together, with "bee-licious" food!
- Make Music & Sing PRAISES to God!
- Make a T-shirt!
- Learn from Pastor Chip, "The Bee Keeper"

I know all the buzz and am very excited! I hope you will register now to join in the fun! Bring a friend!

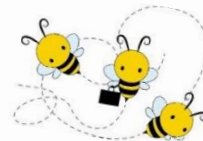
Buzzingly yours,  
Miss Bee Attitude



You'll make Miss Bee very happy if you come to Vacation Bible School! Registration forms are available from me, Lavonda, and at church on Sundays. Please return them to me as soon as possible.

We have a wish list of volunteers:

- ❖ Teachers
- ❖ Check children in & out
- ❖ Food assistants
- ❖ Music assistants
- ❖ Clean-up



We'll publish a wish list of supplies soon. Thanks to everyone for your help!!

Marsha Campbell

VBS Director

BUMC Children's Ministry Coordinator



# Annual Community Festival 2024

Brookstown Community Festival has been set for September 14. If anyone is interested in helping or wants to provide some input, please speak with Jimmy Holder, Tim Lasley or Roberta Lasley.

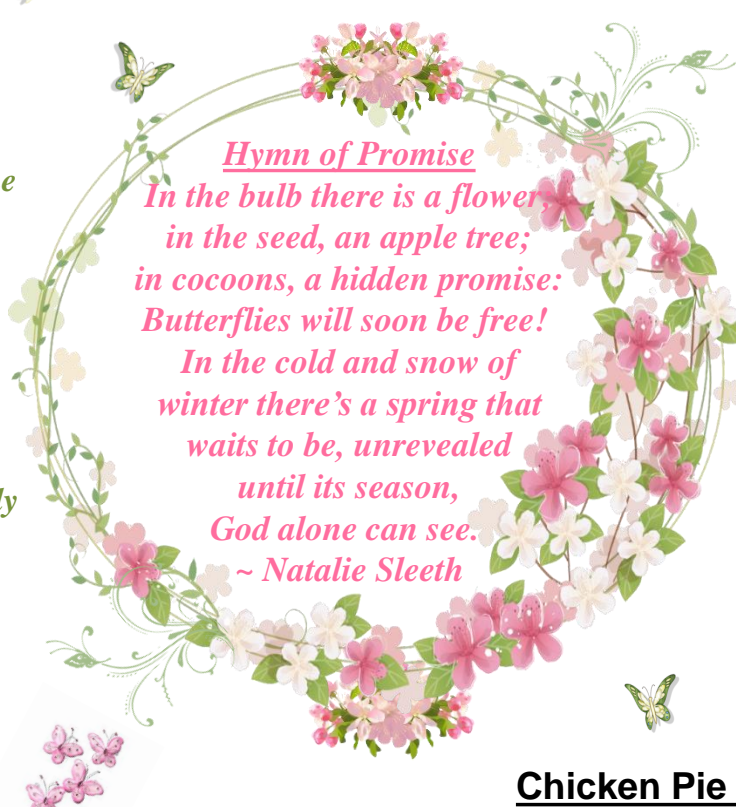
If you or someone you know would like to be a vendor, please contact Roberta or Lavonda for a vendor form. All inside spaces are taken, but we have plenty outside. We're excited to have Bethlehem AME Zion Church returning this year with their fish fry! If you know anyone interested in providing entertainment, please let someone on the Festival Committee know.

This is a fun event and we look forward to sharing it with the community! ~ Festival Committee  
Tim & Roberta Lasley, Jimmy Holder

*Dear Brookstown  
Congregation,*

*We would like to  
express our sincere  
appreciation for all the  
prayers and support  
of the Brookstown  
Congregation for  
Dorothy McCollum,  
and for our family.  
A special thank you  
for the meal you  
provided for our family  
as well as the cards,  
calls, and other  
expressions of  
sympathy.*

*Lou Ann Dennison,  
David McCollum  
& Family*



*Thank you, God,  
that Your divine  
resurrection is  
revealed here  
on earth.  
Newness is  
springing to life  
all around us!*

*Faith is the gateway  
of communion  
with God;  
love is the gateway  
of ministry  
to people.*

## Brookstown Summer Care

BSSC will have an Open House and Spaghetti Dinner on May 17 at 6pm, for all the parents, families and children signed up for our Summer Care Program. This dinner meeting is mandatory for parents and children so they can be familiar with the upcoming Summer schedule, and hear about the rules and regulations of the program.

~ Brookstown School Care Board

## Chicken Pie Workshops

Friday, May 3, 4-8pm

Saturday, May 4, 8am-12pm

Mark your calendars to come help whenever you can at our chicken pie workshops. We need dishwashers, weighers, pressers, assembly personnel, broth cuppers, freezer specialists, baggers, and crimpers. No previous experience is needed! Thanks everyone and help spread the word.

~ Roberta Lasley  
336-817-3051

## Volunteer Perks

*Volunteering not only helps the people we serve, it also has surprising benefits for the volunteer. Serving others builds social and relational skills, increases self-confidence and boosts physical health. Studies show that volunteering can even ease chronic pain and heart disease. So do yourself and others some good by following Jesus' example of serving.*

# Thank God for Mothers

*"To the world you are a mother, but to your family you are the world."*

~ Dr. Seuss

## A Taste of God's Love

Author John Killinger describes a mother's love and how it offers a tiny foretaste of God's love:

"It is stronger than steel, softer than down, and more resilient than a green sapling on the hillside. It closes wounds, melts disappointments, and enables the weakest child to stand tall and straight in the fields of adversity. I believe that this love, even at its best, is only a shadow of the love of God, a reflection of all that we can expect of Him, both in this life and the next."

~ "Lost in Wonder, Love and Praise"



"Mom, you deserve a raise for raising me."

*"A mother never quite leaves her children at home, even when she doesn't take them along."*

~ Margaret Culkin Banning

*A Mother holds her children's hands for awhile . . .*



*. . . but she holds their hearts forever.*

*"Nothing is so strong as gentleness, and nothing is so gentle as true strength."*

~ St. Francis de Sales

## A Sign of Honor

Even He who died for us upon the cross, in the last hour, in the unutterable agony of death, was mindful of His mother, as if to teach us that this holy love should be our last worldly thought — the last point of earth from which the soul should take its flight to heaven. ~ Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

## My Mother Kept A Garden

*My Mother kept a garden,  
a garden of the heart,  
She planted all the good things  
that gave my life its start.  
She turned me to the sunshine  
and encouraged me to dream,  
Fostering and nurturing  
the seeds of self-esteem.  
And when the winds and rain came,  
she protected me enough,  
But not too much, because she knew  
I'd need to stand strong and tough.  
Her constant good example  
always taught me right from wrong-  
Markers for my pathway  
that will last a lifetime long.  
I am my Mother's garden.  
I am her legacy-  
And I hope today she feels the love  
reflected back from me.  
~ Author Unknown*



HAPPY  
Mother's  
DAY





# May

## ANNIVERSARIES

Bobby & Judy Macemore	4
Seth & Amy Lowrance	5
Tyler & Hannah Steppe	14
Jim & Marcia Downey	19
Kevin & Karen Procter	20
Andy & Vonda Brown	20
Trey & Faith Greenwood	21

## **Crisis Control Gift of the Month: Toilet Tissue**

## **Flowers for Worship Services**

All Sundays in May are open for someone to place flowers in the services. You may sign up on the Flower Chart in the narthex, or call Lavonda to select a Sunday.

## BIRTHDAYS

Jimmy Holder	3
Aubrey Apperson	5
Dakota Dzula	5
Seth Lowrance	5
Carey Mock	11
Rebecca Allen	14
Garland Apperson	14
Jackson Lea	15
Whitney Sharpe	16
Opal Lewis	17
Nancy LaPrad	17
Jennifer Carr	18
Kathryn Webb	24
Stefen Quiros	31

If your birthday or anniversary needs to be added, please let me know.  
Lavonda

*A Memorial Day Prayer*  
*Gracious God, on this Memorial Day, we pray for those who courageously laid down their lives for the cause of freedom. May the examples of their sacrifice inspire in us the selfless love of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Bless the families of our fallen troops, and fill their homes and their lives with Your strength and peace. In union with people of goodwill in every nation, embolden us to answer the call to work for peace and justice, and thus seek an end to violence and conflict around the globe. We ask this in Your Holy Name. Amen.*

*~ Author Unknown*

## **Memorial Day**

*Monday, May 27*

Come out to the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Military Appreciation Memorial Day Concert in Lewisville Square on May 27 from 6-8pm. Music will be provided by The Embers, featuring Craig Woodlard. There will be a special Memorial Day Tribute by American Legion Post 522. There will be lots of delicious food for purchase! Vienna Civic Club will serve hamburgers and hotdogs; come and support this group that does so much good in our community. Come early and bring your chair to get a good seat!

## **Church Contact Information**

**6274 Yadkinville Road  
Pfafftown, NC 27040  
336-945-3029**

**brookstown@triad.twcbc.com  
brookstown.umcchurches.com**

**Like us on Facebook**

*"We are only fully alive  
when we're helping others."*

*~ Rick Warren*

*"Kindness is like a  
garden of blessings."*

*~ Sirach 40:17*



### *Whatever the Weather*

*No matter what the forecast is,  
weather can remind us of God's presence:*

- *When it's sunny, remember that Jesus is the light of the world (John 8:12).*
- *When it's cloudy, remember that God often spoke to and guided His people from a cloud (Exodus 13:21-22).*
- *During a thunderstorm, remember the thunder and lightning when God beckoned Moses to Mount Sinai (Exodus 19:16).*
- *When it rains or snows, remember that God's Word serves His purpose just as precipitation does (Isaiah 55:10-11).*

*When it's windy, remember that "a wind from God" came at Creation (Genesis 1:2), and God's Holy Spirit arrived at Pentecost like a mighty wind (Acts 2:2).*

*~ From "The Newsletter Newsletter"*

