

THE BEACON

Brookstown United Methodist Church

Rev. James T. (Chip) Webb, Jr.

October 2025

A Message from Pastor Chip

Kodachrome: Grandma's Table

On our dining room floor is a beautiful multi-colored kid's

shoe box, **Step Master SHOES**, size 12 1/2 D. The sides of the box contain iconic images of boys and girls at play, cowboys and indians, climbing trees with cats, kicking a football, chasing puppies, riding a trike. In the 1960's, the box illustrated childhood joy, exemplified by wearing **Step Master** shoes.

In the box are a number of very small orange and red boxes containing reels of **Kodachrome 8 mm Film**, which chronicle the happiest moments of the Webb and Sink families during the 60's. Dad bought a **Kodak Brownie 300** Movie Camera, a Light Bar, and a Movie Projector from Sears in Winston-Salem after my brother Jerry was born in 1958. Still photos simply could not capture the full cuteness of Jim and Jane's boys; the cutting-edge technology and the accompanying payment plan was deemed essential to family survival.

In one box with a processing date of **JUN 15** are images of the **1959 Sink Family Holiday** gathering. Sadie and Bayard Sink had eight children who survived to adulthood, my mother the youngest of their seven daughters and one son. In 1959, there were twenty grandchildren, some of whom were already married with children. My brilliant and loving grandparents, recognizing the impending and continuing conflicts resulting from marriages, moves and automobiles, combined the demands of Thanksgiving and Christmas into one single request- Please come home for our holiday meal; your presence will be your gift to the family. Gracious.

My family, living in my grandparents' yard in a tiny trailer, walked over to the home place that year; Dad carried his **Kodak Brownie 300 Movie Camera**, monstrous **Light Bar** attached, and filmed family members as they entered the front door of the Sink home. Years ago, we would watch the movie and delight in the simple joys of past gatherings. Today, I watch the movie and yearn for a future homecoming, reunion and open table for all who are able to come home. Gracious.

Edith Lambeth, a member of Cid United Methodist Church, and persimmon entrepreneur who developed the knee-high persimmon pulp process (PPP) is even more famous for her Sunday dinners. Edith had five adult children, all married with children, some with grandchildren, spread over a couple of counties. She raised them to attend church and most of them never really found a church as good as the one in which they were raised. So, Edith extended an invitation to them to come home for Sunday dinner after church, every Sunday! And, she surely hoped to see them in church before they came over to the house to eat and enjoy one another. Gracious.

United Methodist Churches practice "open" Communion. Open Communion means that it is up to the individual whether to receive the sacrament. You don't have to be a member of the United Methodist Church to receive Communion nor do you have to make any proclamation of

faith publicly. Communion isn't required, either. As we say in our Invitation to the Table, "Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin, and seek to be at peace with one another." If you can say you do or have done these three things, you are welcome to receive. Gracious.

(continued on next page)

A Message from Pastor Chip (continued)

On Sunday, October 5, 2025, the United Methodist Church celebrates **World Communion Sunday**. Please come home for this Holy Day meal. The Table has been prepared. You are on the invitation list.

Sixty-six years later, when the projector is 'threaded' with the film, turned on, and loudly flashes the silent images upon a bedsheet, I am overjoyed by that one holiday season gathering and the cast of characters, members of the family, who returned to the tiny family home on the hill. Most of my aunts and uncles and cousins are now gone. A few were extraordinarily smart; some were well behaved; most were well and able-bodied; many were nice and caring; some were not well; some never got well; a few were tragically sick in mind and body; a couple of them are famous, a couple are infamous; most did their best; one did his best only after doing his worst. At three years-old, I exulted in the joy of this gathering. Now I wonder how we all got into that house. I wonder how we got along so well. Now I know that everyone did not approve of the invitation list. Grandma made the list. It was her home. Her table.

"Christ our Lord invites to His table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin, and seek to be at peace with one another." Jesus' table. Jesus' list.

Please come home for our Holy Day meal. Your presence will be your gift to the family.

What Is the Beloved Community of God?

It is a community where no one is left out; where the world is indeed our parish; where the deepest hopes and yearnings and cries are heard. It is a community where we rejoice in every sign of God's kingdom: in the upholding of human dignity and community; in every expression of love, justice and reconciliation; and in each act of self-giving on behalf of others, in the abundance of God's gifts entrusted to us, that all may have enough. Glory to God! ~ Author Unknown

World Communion Sunday Special Offering

Sunday, October 5

A Special Offering will be taken during worship which will help fund graduate World Communion Scholarships. At least half of the annual amount donated is reserved for ministries beyond the United States. Donations also provide for undergraduate U.S. Ethnic Scholarship and Ethnic In-Service Training programs.

While sharing Communion with Christians around the world, we can also touch lives worldwide by giving generously.



Brookstown Homecoming Celebration

Sunday, October 12

We will have Homecoming October 12, so be sure to invite anyone you know who would enjoy coming back to see old friends and make new ones! We will continue the fellowship with a potluck meal following the 11:00 service.

Please join your church family on this very special day to celebrate the past, present, and future of Brookstown UMC.



Mission News

Abby Jameson, who grew up in the Brookstown family, lives in Greenville, SC, and is a member of Catch the Fire Non-Denominational Church, as well as being on the staff. She is planning a mission trip the first two weeks of November to Togo, a West African nation on the Gulf of Guinea, to plant a church and minister to the people. She would be very grateful for the support of her home church through prayers for protection, grace for the team to preach the Gospel boldly, and for many people to be saved.

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord!





*“Faith is permitting
ourselves to be seized
by the things we
do not see.”
~ Martin Luther*

Faith and Love

*The two chief things are faith and
love. Faith receives the good; love
gives the good. Faith offers us God
as our own; love gives us to our
neighbor as his own.
~ Martin Luther*

Flowers for Worship Services

October 12
Robin Williams
**All other Sundays
in October are
available.**



Lay Service Award Ceremony

Sunday, October 19 at 2pm
Memorial United Methodist Church

This service will be held at Memorial UMC in Thomasville, NC. Recipients of the Laity Service Award from churches in the Yadkin Valley District will be recognized and presented with a certificate.

The Laity Service Ministry Award is promoted by the WNCC Board of Laity as a means of recognizing deserving lay persons whose work in the local church and community exemplifies lives of Christian stewardship. The intention in recognizing these Laity Service Award recipients is for all lay persons to be honored.

The Brookstown Lay Servant of the Year will also be announced and recognized at our services that morning.

2025 Charge Conference

Program and administrative committees should submit 2026 budget requests to Jimmy Holder, (Finance Committee Chair) by October 19.

If you would like to participate in the governing body of the church in 2026, and/or serve in leadership on a committee or team, please contact Chip.

The Brookstown Charge Conference will be held on Sunday, November 16, at 12:15pm, in the sanctuary. All Charge Conference business matters - budget, officers, etc. - for 2026 will be presented for voting/accepting.

A potluck lunch will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

*“Call it a clan, call it a network, call it a tribe, call it a family.
Whatever you call it, whoever you are, you need one.” ~ Jane Howard*



No Substitute

The Christian community plays an important role in the life of discipleship because this community is nothing less than the body of Christ in the world today. It is among brothers and sisters in faith that we:

- Experience the presence of Jesus Christ, living and incarnate;
- Worship together, confess our sins, hear the gospel, and receive Communion;
- Accept church discipline through the gentle guidance of others;
- Learn through the successes and failures around us, what it means to live a life of discipleship.

There is no substitute for living around other Christians,” write Stanley Hauerwas and William Willimon of Duke Divinity School. We grow in discipleship as we strive with others to hear God’s Word, feed the hungry, welcome strangers, and love one another.

~ From “The Newsletter Newsletter”

Q: Why didn't the skeleton go to the Halloween party?"

The Brookstown Express

A: Because he had no BODY to go with!



Dear Friends,

TRICK OR TREAT!! It's time to collect bags of candy and goodies for Trunk-or-Treat, which will be held on Friday, October 31. Chicken stew and hotdogs will be ready for everyone to enjoy at 5:30pm. If anyone would like to bring desserts, it will be greatly appreciated!

We invite you to decorate the trunk of your car, put on a costume, and come have fun with us. The kids will love it! There will be hayrides, fun activities, great food, and lots of fellowship.

We are collecting donations of candy and prizes; if you would like to donate items, please put them on the table just past Lavonda's office.

See you on the 31st!

~ Marsha Campbell, Children's Ministry Coordinator

~ Jonna Lasley, Youth Ministry Coordinator



If they see God's love lived, they learn to live God's love.

True Heroes

"We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility.

It's easy to say, 'It's not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem.'

Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes."

~ Fred Rogers, Presbyterian Minister and "Hero" of Mr. Rogers's Neighborhood

Q: How can you tell if a vampire has a cold?

A: Because of the coffin!



Q: What do spiders do for fun on Halloween?

A: Surf the web!



Q: What is a ghost's favorite dessert?

A: Boo-berry pie with ice SCREAM!

Q: Know why mummies never reveal their true age?

A: Because they like to keep it under wraps.



Q: Who's in charge of the candy corn?

A: The Kernel.

Q: What did the ghost say when it fell down?

A: I got a BOO - BOO!



Q: What's a mummy's favorite kind of music?

A: Wrap.



Brookstown Thank You's

Pastor Appreciation

Every year, October is observed as Pastor Appreciation Month, and the second Sunday of October (this year October 12) is celebrated as Pastor Appreciation Day.

Were someone to ask a pastor, what might be done to show appreciation to him or her, the answer would likely be, "Pray for me."

Encourage your pastor by assuring him or her of your prayers and love.

~ From "The Newsletter Indians"

*We appreciate and love you, Chip!
You're always in our hearts and prayers.
Thank you for all the wonderful things
you do for us and for the community!
God bless you ~ Your Church Family*

Thanks to All!

Dear Church Family,

As most of you know, Larry, my husband of 47 years, passed away peacefully on September 20. Our daughter, Laura, and I want to thank everyone for your prayers, phone calls, texts, food, visits, and cards. We especially want to thank you for the love we have felt from all of you during his illness and passing. Larry got to meet some of you, and felt very blessed.

Our family will celebrate Larry's life and his love while having a picnic at a special spot along the Chattooga River. We spent many memorable weekend afternoons picnicking there. As we move forward, we are comforted knowing that Larry's angel wings of love will always surround us!

Thank you again very much! We know your love and prayers will carry us through.

Love,
Marsha & Laura

The Need to Worship Together

Sometimes life is hard to affirm. When the blows of circumstances descend upon me, I want to go someplace with other people, and be reminded by the acts of a community that affirmation is a fact larger than my private sorrow or trouble; that it exists in spite of me at the moment; and that if I just hang on, I will go to my church and praise life again!

~ Mary Jane Irion

*On clear, crisp autumn days,
as well as under gloomy,
gray clouds, You carry us
in Your loving arms.
Thank You, Lord Jesus!*

Blood Drive

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Red Cross Blood Drive held September 3 in the Brookstown Fellowship Hall. We had a great day and collected 17 pints of blood. We appreciate the Red Cross, all our volunteers, and especially our donors.

Our next drive will be held November 5, so mark your calendars now!

~ Tim Lasley

St. Paul declares:

*"Now you are the body of Christ,
and each one of you is a part of it."
(1 Corinthians 12:27, NIV)*

*"Many have discovered helping
others to be the most enduring therapy,
for it's the burdens you help another to
bear that make your own seem light."*

~ Albert Schweitzer

A Big Festival Thank You!!

Many thanks to our Brookstown members, vendors, patrons, Scout Troop 919, and everyone else who made our 2025 Community Festival a success on September 20!

The weather was perfect this year! Our vendors offered a variety of items, and had a great day meeting new customers. There was entertaining music from Billy Myers, The Triple Threat Dancers, and Carol Jackson's grandsons' band. The Kids' Tractor Pull was a hit, as always, and we thank Jim Lasley for running it, with the help of Jeff and Skylar Swart.

The food, cooked by our talented church members, was abundant and delicious. Thanks to Charlie Sharpe and his breakfast crew, to Terry and Karen Walters and their lunch crew, and to Troy and Aubrey Apperson for the tasty fried apple pies. And last but not least, it is always a treat having Bethlehem AME Zion's crew selling their wonderful fish and fries!

The Bakery was well stocked and almost everything was sold by the end of the day. Thanks to everyone who donated baked items and casseroles, helped set up on Friday, and worked on Festival day. The chicken pies were a big seller, as usual, and we appreciate those who helped make them ahead of time. Thanks to all the ladies who gathered, priced, organized, and sold the Bakery items.

Thanks to Jonna Lasley and the Brookstown Youth for running the Bouncy House, which was a fun, new attraction for kids this year.

Thanks to everyone who helped with set-up Friday night and Saturday morning, and clean-up Saturday afternoon. Scout Troop 919 leaders and youth helped with all of it, both days, and we always appreciate their help!

We hope to see everyone at next year's Festival on September 12, 2026!

~ Tim & Roberta Lasley, Benita VanWinkle, Jimmy Holder
2025 Festival Committee

*There are two ways
of spreading light:
to be the candle or the
mirror that reflects it.
~ Edith Wharton*

*The nice thing about teamwork
is that you always have
others on your side.
~ Margaret Carty*



*"Hey! This isn't a cookie,
it's a dog biscuit!"*

Crisis Control Ministries Food Day at The Carolina Classic Fair

Wednesday, October 8

Take 5 Non-Perishable Food Items for

1 FREE Admission to the Fair!

Donations support the CCM food pantries.

CCM Gifts of the Month

Canned Meats (Salmon, Tuna, Corned Beef, SPAM, etc.)

Snack Crackers for Kids



United Women in Faith

All women are invited to join us for our monthly potluck meeting on October 15 at 11am in the Fellowship Hall. Following lunch, we will have business and a program on "How Do You Live in Community With Your Sisters?" We will explore how to create and support sisterhoods of grace. Linda Thomson and Nancy LaPrad will be our hostesses.

Saturday, October 25, is our district Ubuntu Day of Service at Bethlehem Center, one of our mission institutions. We will be cleaning and helping with other tasks there. Please let me know if you can attend and help.

We continue to help monthly in the community kitchen at the Second Harvest Foodbank of Northwest NC. On our work day last month, we packed 1,050 frozen meals and about 200 bags of milk with a roll. The number of people served by the Foodbank has doubled in the past 2 years, with 79,000 food insecure individuals receiving assistance this year. We are thankful that we are able to help with this effort to help with the hunger problem in our 18 county area. Ten of us are looking forward to helping the afternoon of October 6.

District Leadership Development Day is November 8 at 9am, at Pine Grove UMC on Jonestown Road. There will be classes for presidents, vice presidents, and treasurers. However, all members are invited to attend, hear the guest speaker, and participate in some fun volunteer projects. Rev. Amber Harris, director of Spark Ministry, will be the guest speaker. Spark Ministry's purpose is to serve people and reflect kindness by ministering to the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of women in difficult life situations. Plus, Ladonna Butts will lead a spiritual exercise session for everyone. Let me know if you plan to attend, as I need to make group reservations.

~ Martha Isenberg, UWF President




Rise Against Hunger Meals You Packaged Are Headed to the Philippines!

On August 16, several volunteers from Brookstown gathered at Lewisville UMC with other UMC churches in our missional network, and participated in the Second Harvest Food Bank meal packaging event. Each participating church donated \$1500 to the cause. 16,000 meals were packaged that day in a couple of hours, and they have been shipped to the Philippines.


The Philippines consists of over 7,000 islands in the Ring of Fire in the Pacific Ocean. As one of the most environmentally disaster-prone countries in the world, it faces near constant threats from earthquakes, typhoons and volcanic eruptions. These disasters cause displacement and major loss of livelihoods and infrastructure. They especially affect poor communities in rural areas, where people rely on agriculture and fishing for their livelihoods.

Rise Against Hunger serves the regions of the Philippines where hunger is most urgent. Thank you for helping provide food for our neighbors across the globe!





*Knock! Knock!
Who's there?
Wanda Witch!
Wanda Witch who?
Wanda Witch you a*



*Q: What do ghosts wear
when their eyesight
gets blurred?
A: Spooktacles!*

*?: Why are ghosts so bad
at telling fibs?
A: Because you can see
right through them!*

*Q: What's a witch's
favorite school subject?
A: Spell-ing!*



Vienna Village Assisted Living

Celebrating 60 Years

*Saturday, October 4, 2-4pm
6601 Yadkinville Road
Pfafftown, NC*

*Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy
a concert celebration focusing on family,
community, and local heritage.*

Bluegrass music by

The Kollards

*Relax, Enjoy Great Music,
& Refreshments*

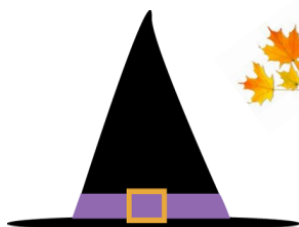
*O Lord, You are my shepherd.
Thank You for fulfilling my needs,
leading me along safe pathways
and restoring my soul. Amen.*

Contact Information

Please be sure to keep your contact information (phone numbers, email addresses, etc.) updated with me in the office so you will receive important church information. We want to keep all our members and friends informed about events and updates.

Also, be sure I have your birthday and anniversary dates so you will be recognized in "The Beacon" newsletter.

~ Thank you! Lavonda



*Q: Know what
Frankenstein's
favorite way to
eat potatoes is?
A: Monster mashed!*



Yadkin Valley District Fun Day

*Saturday, October 18
11am – 3pm, Floating
The Red Barn at Tanglewood Park
625 River Birch Creek
Clemmons, NC*

*Your ticket's on the House!
Tell the guard at the gate that you're there
for the Yadkin Valley District Fun Day.
Come and Enjoy Great Food, Music,
Games for Kids and More!*



*Q: What do you get
when you divide the
circumference of
your jack-o'-lantern
by its diameter?
A: Pumpkin Pi!*



Hello October

BIRTHDAYS

Johnna Warlow 1
Lavonda Glass 1
Gordon Doliber 2
Victoria Bailiff 2
Catherine White 4
Will Shelton 4
Jack Thomas 6
Paul Powers 8
Davey Burton 9
Phillip Norman 10

Scott Williams 10
Bill Swart 11
Ann Nye 11
Joel Cofer 13
Betty Cain 13
Jerry White 15
Jonna Lasley 17
Christina McKenzie 17
Thomas Sprinkle 18

Nancy VanWinkle 19
Tiercy Warlow 20
Lauren Snarski 20
Ashton Douglas 22
Joe Douglas 22
Benita VanWinkle 25
Teresa Apperson 25
Kaitlyn Douglas 28
Dorcas Craft 30
Leon Tysinger 31

*"Autumn is a second
Spring, where every
leaf is a flower."*

~ Albert Camus

ANNIVERSARIES

Ira & Ann Nye 2
Kenzie & Danielle Edwards 23
Cecil & Janette Mock 24

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

~ Lavonda



*"Winter is an etching,
spring a watercolor,
summer an oil painting,
and autumn a mosaic
of them all."*

~ Stanley Horowitz

Church Contact Information

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*"Autumn carries
more gold in
its pocket
than all the
other seasons."*

~ Jim Bishop

*Autumn... the year's last,
loveliest smile.*





The Pumpkin Prayer

This prayer reminds people of all ages what God has done for us.
Use it this fall when your family makes jack-o'-lanterns.

While cutting off the top of the pumpkin, pray:

“Lord, open my mind so I can learn new things about You.”

While removing the seeds and pulp:

“Remove the things in my life that don’t please You.

Forgive the wrong things I do, and help me forgive others.”

Making the eyes:

“Open my eyes to see the beauty You’ve made in the world around me.”

Making the nose:

“I’m sorry for the times I’ve turned up my nose at Your many gifts.”

Making the mouth:

“Let everything I say please You.”

Lighting the candle:

“Lord, help me show Your light to others through the things I do.”

After carving your pumpkins, display them as examples of how
God’s love transforms us into new creations.

(From “The Newsletter Newsletter”)

