



THE BEACON

Brookstown

United Methodist Church

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

November 2025

A Message from Pastor Chip

Fall Back!

Thanks to all of the great folk who put together and provided for our annual **Trunk-or-Treat** and **Chicken Stew!** People really like to spend time outside, dress up in crazy costumes, gather buckets of candy, go on hay rides, and eat chicken stew, hotdogs and desserts! It takes a whole lot of people to make it all happen. It was a great night of fun, fellowship and food – a welcoming and hospitable embrace of our community, and lots of people thanked us for providing this safe opportunity to gather and celebrate. So, once again, thanks to all of you who work very hard, days and hours ahead of time, to prepare for and carry out this wonderful, loving, community event. You know who you are. And, if you are uncertain, you are the giants of our church upon whom we confidently and essentially, again and again, **FALL BACK.**

Years ago, my good friend Dr. Bob Scofield, directed me to **Project Adventure** – an organization providing training in Adventure Programming. Bob and Dauna attend the 11:00 a.m. service. At the time, Bob was the foremost authority and practitioner of adventure programming at **The Children's Home**. So, I signed up for a **Basic Adventure Program Course** which was held at the PA Campus in Covington, GA. It was there that I learned the concept of "**Challenge by Choice**"- meaning that everyone has the privilege of declining the challenge if it scares the daylight out of you! I like that! I use challenge-by-choice every Sunday when I say, "you can if you want to, but you don't have to if you don't want to." It is a highly technical and precise invitation, and there are times when Challenge Course participants opt out and choose to watch rather than participate.

The most memorable and highly used "equipment" on a challenge course is usually a tree stump or a very short telephone pole or a slightly elevated platform from which a person stands up straight, crosses her arms, (utters a brief prayer), and stiffly **FALLS BACK** into the waiting arms of her friends! Sound easy? It is not! **Falling Back** requires a great deal of trust in others whom you cannot see. Scary! Faith...in your friends; hope...that everyone will ACT out of a commitment to the Golden Rule (Do unto others) and the second of the Great Commandments (love your neighbor as yourself). Trust becomes greater than fear. Biblical love is NOT a mushy feeling, but a commitment to ACT in a loving way. Falling Back requires faith and hope that your friends will ACT! If your friends do not like you, that's okay, **IF**, in spite of their feelings, they will lovingly catch you before you hit the ground! Active love, not mush.

One of my favorite holidays of the season is **FALL BACK!** Well, it is not really a holiday, or a holy day, but it does always happen on a Sunday. And, it is one of my favorite Sundays of the year! On **FALL BACK**, we get to sleep an hour later. Usually happening near Halloween, **FALL BACK** often plays a trick on those not paying close attention. **FALL BACK** is an opportunity for those who are sleep-deprived to catch up a little bit. **FALL BACK** graciously allots sleepy-heads, procrastinators and parents of small children an additional hour to prepare for the day. Some people want to get rid of **FALL BACK**. Some of us want to make it a weekly observance!

(continued on next page)

A Message from Pastor Chip (continued)

FALL BACK 2025 will be observed at 2am on Sunday, November 2. There are increasing reasons for optimism as we move forward as a faith community. Here at Brookstown, we encourage participation on **FACEBOOK** at two of our services, for those who can't be here. There are lots of great sermons on the radio and TV, too. But, it's not the same as being present with others in worship.

In that spirit, allow me to extend a Challenge-By-Choice invitation. Brookstown Church is not the same when we are not together; so, you are invited to **FALL BACK** into the trusting arms of church and **BRING A FRIEND!** At church, we aim to practice agape – unconditional love – like God!

We promise to have your back. We will link hands and hearts, and try our very best not to let anyone hit the ground!

The Beloved Community

A Minnesota pastor often called the congregation he served “the beloved community.” This is a good description for all followers of Christ. We should strive to make the church a community where love flows easily and joyfully between members. Church father Tertullian (A.D. 160-220) reported that the Romans said of the first Christians, “See how they love one another!” Any faithful, dedicated group of believers can and should be a beloved community.

Homecoming 2025

On October 12, Brookstown celebrated Homecoming Sunday. It was a time to honor Brookstown's past, give thanks for the present, and look to the future, seeking ways to grow and serve God together.

Rev. Ron Doub came “home” and delivered the morning message at the 11:00 worship service. We were also blessed by the attendance of the Styron family, who were visiting from Washington state. Chris and Michelle Styron attended Brookstown with their parents, Ernest and Mary, in the 1960's and 70's. Chris spoke to the congregation with a moving tribute to his parents and his memories of Brookstown.

Chip presented the UMC Laity Servant Award to the 2025 recipients (see the following page for details). Then, a delicious potluck lunch was enjoyed, where friends old and new shared stories and fellowship around the table.

It was a blessed day in the House of the Lord!

Pastor Appreciation

October was Pastor Appreciation month, and Pastor Chip Webb was recognized on October 26 at all three morning services. He was presented with cards and notes, and a Love Offering from his devoted congregation and friends. And it was a surprise!

Thanks to everyone who wrote notes and cards, called, donated, and kept it all secret!

Thank you, Chip, for all you do for your church, the community, and the world, in the precious name of Jesus.

“Practice makes preachers.

Love makes pastors.”

~ Clyde R. Webber, Jr.

Remember to “Fall Back”

Daylight Savings Time Ends at 2am Sunday, November 2. Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour before you go to bed Saturday night. Enjoy that extra hour of sleep!!



Laity Servant Award

On Homecoming Sunday, October 12, we celebrated the ladies of the Congregational Care Team by presenting each of them with a 2025 Lay Servant Certificate. These are the ladies who quietly, regularly, and with great dedication, take care of our most vulnerable members on behalf of the Brookstown congregation. Members are:

Susan Harrell & Sherrill Sharpe, Co-Chairs

Judy Macemore

Linda Thomson

Elsie Yates

Pam Steppe

Karan Greenwood

Margie Feimster

Janette Mock

Karen Walters

Recipients of the Lay Servant Award exemplify commitment to the Christian way of life. The recipients' contributions to the life of the church and community reflect a devotion to the service of others.

Every other week, meals are delivered to those who might have a difficult time providing for themselves, or who simply benefit from a visit with dear friends, bringing them a nice meal. These ladies deliver sunshine, and remind people that they are remembered and loved.

They also provide meals for bereaved families in their times of need. Thanks to our Congregational Care Team, grieving families experience the warm embrace of our community, and the gracious hospitality of gathering around tables and enjoying a good meal.

The work of the Congregational Care Team is one of Brookstown's most significant ministries. We are deeply grateful for these ladies. They are, indeed, the hands and feet of Jesus.

~ Susan Jameson, Lay Leader

For Your countless blessings, God, we thank You.

May we always use them to bless others.

~ Anonymous

All Saints Day

All Saints Day is recognized each year on November 1, and All Saints Sunday is the following Sunday, November 2 this year.

This is a day to remember Saints and loved ones from our congregation, families, and friends, who have passed through the gate in the last year. In some congregations, a bell is tolled and/or a candle is lit as each person's name is called.

While those who have passed on are solemnly remembered during worship on All Saints Sunday, the tradition is ultimately a celebration of Christ's victory over death.

***For all the saints who have
lived and died in Christian faith
and set us an example to follow,
we give You thanks, O God.***

United Methodist Student Day

Sunday, November 30

A Special Offering will be taken during worship to support deserving United Methodist students as they prepare for a life that unites faith and knowledge.

These gifts help students continue their education and their faith journeys, as they strive to make a difference in the world and discern what God has called them to do.

Your generous gifts connect students to their faith and enrich their ministries.

Prayers of Thanks

***To give thanks in solitude is enough.
Thanksgiving has wings and
goes where it must go.***

~ Victor Hugo



Give Thanks to the Lord

Community Thanksgiving Service & 11th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting

Sunday, November 23, 7pm

Brookstown will host the annual Community Thanksgiving Service this year with Olivet Moravian and Bethlehem A.M.E. Zion Churches attending. We will have refreshments afterwards in the Fellowship Hall. Make plans to attend this special service of thankfulness and gratitude to God for His many blessings.

Following the Thanksgiving Service and refreshments, we will move outside for our 11th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, in preparation for the beautiful season of Advent. The Brookstown Christmas Tree, on the corner of Lewisville Vienna Road near the marquis, was given in memory of Pete and Jo Thomas by their family (Becky Payne, Billie Boardwine, Will Douglas and his children, Joe Douglas and his children), as a reminder of their love and support of their church. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us for this celebration, as we look forward to the Advent Season, in anticipation of the birth of our Savior.

Thank You, Lord

*As families, friends, and even strangers gather this Thanksgiving,
may it be a holy day of gratitude to God for life and salvation.*

Community Thanksgiving Meal

Wednesday, November 12 at 6pm

The Brookstown Congregational Care Team will prepare and host the Thanksgiving Fellowship Meal. You have plenty of time to invite friends and family for an evening of delicious food and great fellowship. This is a community favorite and we look forward to sharing a meal and giving thanks to God!

2025 UMAR Triad Fundraising Luncheon

Maple Springs UMC, 2569 Reynolda Rd.

Tuesday, November 4

11am - 12pm: Art Sale & Silent Auction

(You may attend the sale even if you aren't staying for the luncheon.)

12 - 1pm: Fundraising Luncheon

If you have questions, please email

Event Manager Thesha Woodley at

Thesha.woodley@MonarchNC.org

Methodist Blessing

***Be present at our table Lord,
be here and everywhere adored.
Thy creatures bless, and grant that we
May feast in paradise with Thee.
Amen.***

The Meaning of Life

***"The greatest thing is to give
thanks for everything.
He who has learned this
knows what it means to live.
He has penetrated the
whole mystery of life:
giving thanks
for everything."
~ Albert Schweitzer***

for He is Good...

United Women in Faith

Our monthly meeting will be Wednesday, November 19 at 11am, in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a covered dish lunch, so bring a favorite dish to share and enjoy together. November is World Thank Offering Month and the program will be "World Thank Offering – Giving as an Expression of Our Faith." We will collect the thank offerings you have made during the year in the little World Thank Offering boxes we made at last November's meeting. All women are invited to join our group, as we always welcome new members.

On November 3, ten of us will be working in the community kitchen at the Second Harvest Foodbank of Northwest NC, packing meals for food insecure folks in our 18-county district. There are an increasing number of people in need of food, and we look forward to helping feed them. Plus, the afternoon is always a time of good fellowship, where we get to know each other better.

November 8 is the District Leadership Development Day that all UWFaith members can attend to learn more and help with a hands-on mission project. It will be at Pine Grove UMC on Jonestown Road, beginning with a breakfast at 9am and finishing at 1:30pm. Please let me know if you want to attend.

*"Thanksgiving, after all,
is a word of action."
~ W.J. Cameron*

Children & Youth Ministry News

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

Dear friends,

I'd like to begin by saying thank you from the bottom of my heart for the kindness and love shown to me and my family during my husband's illness and recent passing. It will never be forgotten!

Thanks also to everyone who donated candy and treats for our Trunk-or-Treat Chicken Stew on October 31. There was a good turn-out, good food and fellowship, and the children had lots of fun!

As we approach the holiday season, we look forward to sharing special events with our children, as they grow in their faith and understanding of Jesus's life and teachings.

~ Marsha Campbell, Children's Ministry Coordinator

*You are a Child of GOD, you are Wonderfully Made,
Dearly Loved, and Precious in His sight.
~ Psalm 139*

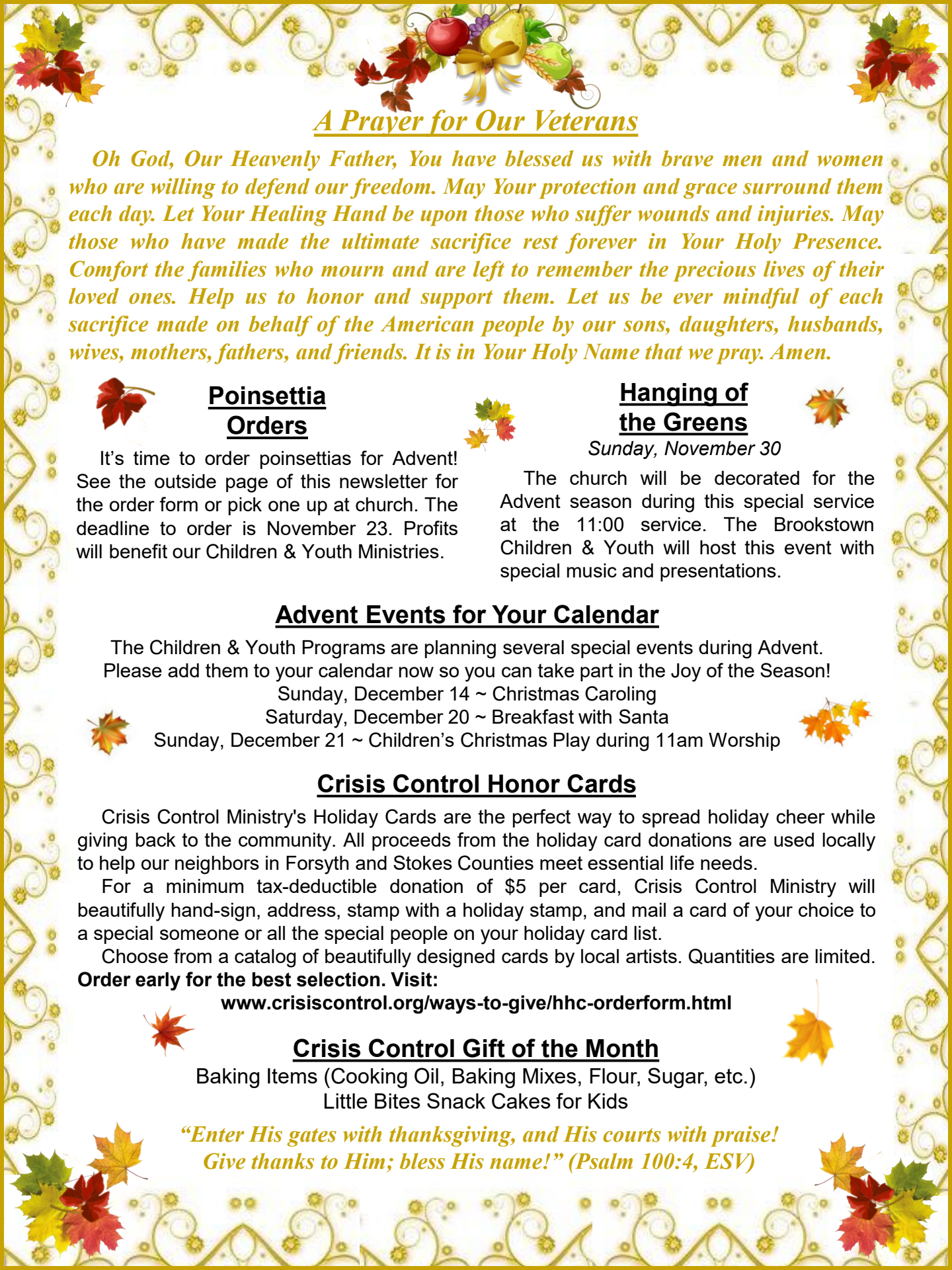
October was Fire Prevention Month, and our Youth have been hard at work on their *Fire and Faith Academy*! They've spent time learning how faith and the fire service go hand in hand, while learning about important fire safety practices – like checking smoke detector batteries and safely charging lithium ion batteries. The Children and Youth have also welcomed their newest (and furriest) team member – a Dalmatian mascot belonging to our Youth Ministry coordinator, Jonna Lasley, who has quickly become a beloved part of our church family! We invite you to walk through our Children and Youth hallway upstairs to see their hard work.

Looking ahead, we're excited to share that on November 9, Maci Lasley-Mize will bless us with a special song during worship, celebrating her remarkable opportunity to perform with her high school at Carnegie Hall in New York City!

As we approach Thanksgiving, we give heartfelt thanks for our Youth, our Children, our church family, and our wider community. This season reminds us to pause and appreciate the many blessings in our lives – the friendships that sustain us, the faith that grounds us, and the love that connects us all through Christ. And as we look toward Advent, we're preparing for an early start with *Hanging of the Greens* on November 30. Join us as we decorate the church, celebrate the coming season, and ready our hearts for the joyful anticipation of Christ's birth.

~ Jonna Daniel, Youth Ministry Coordinator

Please see the following page for more information about the Advent season.



A Prayer for Our Veterans

Oh God, Our Heavenly Father, You have blessed us with brave men and women who are willing to defend our freedom. May Your protection and grace surround them each day. Let Your Healing Hand be upon those who suffer wounds and injuries. May those who have made the ultimate sacrifice rest forever in Your Holy Presence. Comfort the families who mourn and are left to remember the precious lives of their loved ones. Help us to honor and support them. Let us be ever mindful of each sacrifice made on behalf of the American people by our sons, daughters, husbands, wives, mothers, fathers, and friends. It is in Your Holy Name that we pray. Amen.



Poinsettia Orders

It's time to order poinsettias for Advent! See the outside page of this newsletter for the order form or pick one up at church. The deadline to order is November 23. Profits will benefit our Children & Youth Ministries.



Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, November 30

The church will be decorated for the Advent season during this special service at the 11:00 service. The Brookstown Children & Youth will host this event with special music and presentations.

Advent Events for Your Calendar

The Children & Youth Programs are planning several special events during Advent. Please add them to your calendar now so you can take part in the Joy of the Season!

Sunday, December 14 ~ Christmas Caroling

Saturday, December 20 ~ Breakfast with Santa

Sunday, December 21 ~ Children's Christmas Play during 11am Worship



Crisis Control Honor Cards

Crisis Control Ministry's Holiday Cards are the perfect way to spread holiday cheer while giving back to the community. All proceeds from the holiday card donations are used locally to help our neighbors in Forsyth and Stokes Counties meet essential life needs.

For a minimum tax-deductible donation of \$5 per card, Crisis Control Ministry will beautifully hand-sign, address, stamp with a holiday stamp, and mail a card of your choice to a special someone or all the special people on your holiday card list.

Choose from a catalog of beautifully designed cards by local artists. Quantities are limited. **Order early for the best selection. Visit:**

www.crisiscontrol.org/ways-to-give/hhc-orderform.html

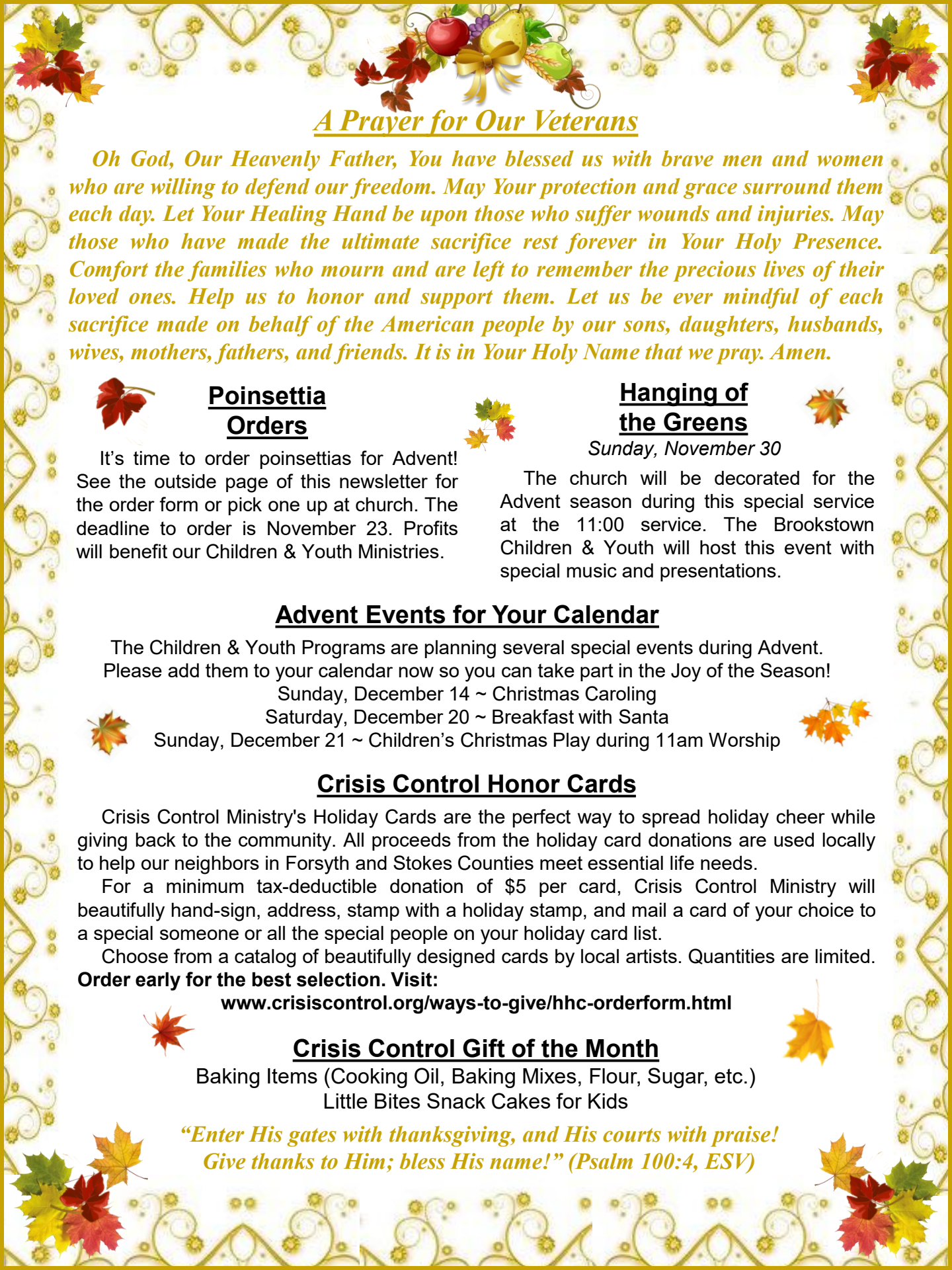


Crisis Control Gift of the Month

Baking Items (Cooking Oil, Baking Mixes, Flour, Sugar, etc.)

Little Bites Snack Cakes for Kids

***"Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!
Give thanks to Him; bless His name!" (Psalm 100:4, ESV)***



Blood Drive

Wednesday, November 5, 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 they will take good care of you.

You can make an appointment by calling Tim Lasley at 336-817-4593, or sign up online at:

www.redcrossblood.org

Use Sponsor Code: Brookstown

Chicken Pie Workshops

Thursday Nov. 13 & Friday Nov. 14, 4-8pm

Please join us and help in whatever way you can; we need lots of volunteers. We need deboners, choppers, pie assembly helpers, dough makers, dough pressers, broth cuppers and people to put the pies in the freezer. And, of course, our dishwashers are always a big help. Let Teresa Apperson, Roberta Lasley, or Lavonda know if you can help.

Come and help out – we have lots of fun too! We appreciate everyone's hard work for this important fundraiser for our church!

Vienna Civic Club Fundraiser

Saturday, November 8, 11am - Until Sold Out
West Central Community Center

Come out to the community center and get a delicious meal. For \$15 per plate, you'll get half a barbecued chicken with all the trimmings.

Don't wait too late; they usually sell out by 3-4:00pm!

"When I give, I give myself."

~ Walt Whitman

Charge Conference

Sunday, November 16 at 12:15pm

Our annual local church Charge Conference will be held immediately after the 11am Worship Service November 16. This will be a brief meeting to approve the 2026 budget and clergy compensation, as well as adopt the 2026 slate of church officers.

We will gather afterwards in the Fellowship Hall for a potluck lunch for everyone!

***Thanksgiving,
to be truly Thanksgiving,
is first "Thanks" and then "Giving".***



RISE AGAINST HUNGER

Meal Journey

EXPERIENCE



The meals from Brookstown's Rise Against Hunger Experience on 8/16/2025 at Lewisville UMC were sent 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 like 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 again for volunteering your time. Because of you, malnourished people have been given a chance to thrive. Please consider taking your impact to the next level by donating. Every dollar counts toward making the world food-secure. Thank you for helping provide food for our neighbors across the globe!

Gratefully ~ Rise Against Hunger

***Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy,
and change ordinary opportunities into blessings. ~ William Arthur Ward***

November

Anniversaries

Larry & Michelle Snider	6
Jerry & Nancy LaPrad	13
Ralph & Beverly Collins	21
Jay & Darlene Burton	24
Bob & Susan Harrell	26

Birthdays

Maci Mize	1	Sandra Snarski	15
Lynda Jackson	5	Jeffrey Swart	16
Pat Lowrance	5	John Stepto	16
Leah Greenwood	5	Jerry Hopping	16
John Burton	6	Bill Mock	16
Megan Colf	6	Christine Huntsman	24
Karolee Hutchins	7	Ralph Collins	24
Vonda Brown	8	Aaron Hopping	28
Karen Powers	11	James Plummer	30
Larry Conrad	15		

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

Church Contact Information

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336-945-3029

brookstown@triad.twcbc.com
brookstown.umcchurches.com
Like us on Facebook

The Power of Gratitude

Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life.

It turns what we have into enough, and more.

It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity.

It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend.

*Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today,
and creates a vision for tomorrow.*

~ Melody Beattie

Flowers for Worship Services

November 2
Shannon Craft

November 30
Poinsettias

Other weeks are open.

*Happy
Thanksgiving*

Cornucopia

Cornucopia, a Greek word meaning "horn of plenty," has origins in Greek mythology. But the cornucopia became a religious symbol and was even stamped on Jewish coins. Overflowing horns, now common as Thanksgiving centerpieces, came to symbolize abundance and blessings.

Brookstown United Methodist Church
6274 Yadkinville Road
Pfafftown, NC 27040



Time to Order Poinsettias!

It's time to order poinsettias for our services during Advent. All the poinsettias will be red, and the cost is \$15 per container (wrapped, no bow). You may have them placed in memory or in honor of someone. Please include payment with your order and mail it to the church office or give it with your offering on Sunday. Checks should be made payable to Brookstown UMC; please note on your check that it is for poinsettias. The deadline to order is Sunday, November 23. This is a fundraiser for our Children & Youth Missions Fund. Thank you for your support!

Your Name: _____

Number of Poinsettias: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

