



To Our Church Members and Friends Thanks be unto our Lord for the blessings that He has sent us through this past month. What a great Easter Sunday! Our Church surpassed the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions. We have had the opportunity to give and to work at Claudia¢s House. We have given to our Baptist Children¢s Homes Food Roundup. You have ministered to so many families that have needed encouragement and our prayers. Our brotherhood and men of the church continue to prepare for next winter with the fire wood ministry. Our Baptist Women continue to challenge us to be

aware of the various ministry opportunities that are all around us in Union County.

Our fourteenth annual fish fry will be held by the time you are reading this. Thanks to all of you and the Sunday School classes who have given of their time to prepare the meal for us. Our preschool is preparing for the close of another year and is currently enrolling 3 and 4 year olds for next school year. Our youth and children¢s ministry has been to a tremendous youth revival in Jefferson, S.C for the 2^{nd} year and are preparing to go to Crossroads Youth Camp this summer. The youth and children¢s programs are planning a schedule of events for the summer.

A national day of prayer service will be held on Thursday May 2^{nd} at 7:00 pm in our sanctuary ó also on May 2^{nd} from 12:15 to 12:40 Union Baptist Association will hold a prayer service at the old courthouse building downtown Monroe. We have several home group ministries that are in the process of starting. If you are interested in starting one let Rocky or me know and we will help you with materials. These are a few of the opportunities that we have had and continue to have serving our Lord.

During the month of May we will be recognizing our Mothers, our graduates and our veterans. Make your plans to be at each service.

There is a sweetness of our fellowship that continues to grow as we work together serving our Lord and Savior.

Yours in Christ Leon and Cindy

Staff & Phone Numbers

Rev. Leon Whitley, Pastor	
Church Study	.624-3882
Home	753-4768
Rev.Rocky Rushing, Youth Director	698-5787
Church Office	.624-2929
Fellowship Hall & FAX	624-3868
Sunday School Office	.624-2929







SUNDAY

Sunday School			9:45 AM
Worship Service			10:45 AM
Evening Worship			6:00 PM
Youth Bible Studyí	í	í	6:00PM

WEDNESDAY

Gospel P	roj	ec	t N	lig	ht(Ig	ni	te l	Kidz	z & Ignite
Youth)í	í	í	í	í	í	í	í	í	í	6:30M
Prayer N	/lee	etii	ıg.						6:	45 PM
Adult C	ho	ir.							7	:30PM
Adult C	no	1r.	••••	•••••	••••	••••	• • • •	• • • • •	/	:30PM

- 1 Suzette Kimrey
- 1 Kay McBride
- 1 Alyssa Napier
- 2 Matthew Austin Hilton
- 3 Carlos Figueroa
- 3 Mott Simpson
- 5 Dale Frankenberg
- 5 Joe Little
- 9 Hampton Autry
- 10 Amanda Figueroa
- 10 Emily Kelly
- 14 Regina Pasciuta
- 14 Caleb Tuttle
- 15 Kendall Howard
- 16 Shirley Crowe
- 16 Rita Griffin
- 17 Nancy Hilton
- 17 Marty Little
- 19 Ashley Fowler
- 20 Donald Hilton
- 22 Eric Little
- 22 Beddie Tarlton
- 23 Cindy James
- 23 Brad Lacroix
- 23 Larry Smith
- 25 Larry Smith
- 24 Josiah Davis
- 24 Bill Fowler
- 24 Baylee Jordan
- 26 Wade Haigler
- 27 Jalen Long
- 28 Hailey Earp
- 28 Jimmie Seay
- 28 Raymond Smith
- 29 Luke Preslar
- 29 Christa Simpson
- 30 Isaac Davis
- 30 Avery Haigler
- 30 Danielle Lacroix

<u>Autumn</u> Care

Sally Williams(303)

Jesse Helms Ctr Margaret Connell

Louise Helms

31 Eddie Hilton

<u>Anniversaries</u>

14 Mr. & Mrs. Craig Griffin19 Mr. & Mrs. James Burnette22 Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Edwards(Gloria)

Nursing Home Residents





Sarah Traywick & family in the passing of her husband, Tom Traywick.

Curtis & Jane Pittman in the passing of her brother, Richard Peele.



<u>Outreach Ministry Schedule</u> Tues., May 7, 10am – Team 2(Frances Knight) Wed., May 15, 6pm – Team 3(Pat Autry) Wed., May 22, 6pm – Tem 4(Steve/Brenda Walker)



National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 2, 2013

In observance of the National Day of Prayer, we will move our prayer service from Wed., May 1 to Thursday, May 2.

There will also be a prayer service at the old courthouse in downtown Monroe 12:15 . 12:40pm.

Blood Drive at Piedmont Flooring

Tuesday, May 7 2:30 – 7:00pm

Please sign up on the bulletin board if you would like to give blood.

Women's Ministry Meeting

May 16th 7:00pm



More info to come.

"Crossing Jordan"

Led by Donald Griffin

Sunday, May 5

6:00pm

(Nursery will be provided.)



Rehab. & Nursing Ctr

Robert Ansley (360)

"Parable on Motherhood"

by Temple Bailey

The young mother set her foot on the path of life. Is the way long?" she asked. And her guide said, ‰es, and the way is hard. And you will be old before you reach the end of it. But the end will be better than the beginning." But the young mother was happy and she would not believe that anything could be better than these years. So she played with her children and gathered flowers for them along the way and bathed with them in the clear streams; and the sun shone on them and life was good, and the young mother cried, %Nothing will ever be lovelier than this.+

Then night came, and storm, and the path was dark and the children shook with fear and cold, and the mother drew them close and covered them with her mantle and the children said, "0 mother, we are not afraid, for you are near, and no harm can come," and the mother said, ‰his is better than the brightness of day, for I have taught my children courage."

And the morning came, and there was a hill ahead and the children climbed and grew weary, and the mother was weary, but at all times she said to the children, "A little patience and we are there." So the children climbed and when they reached the top, they said, "We could not have done it without you, mother." And the mother, when she lay down that night, looked up at the stars and said, "This is a better day than the last, for my children have learned fortitude in the face of hardness. Yesterday I gave them courage, today I have given them strength."

And the next day came strange clouds which darkened the earth---clouds of war and hate and evil- and the children groped and stumbled and the mother said, ‱ok up. Lift your eyes to the light." And the children looked and saw above the clouds an Everlasting Glory, and it guided them and brought them beyond the darkness. And that night the mother said, 'This is the best day of all, for I have shown my children God."

And the days went on, and the weeks and the months and the years, and the mother grew old, and she was little and bent. But her children were tall and strong and walked with courage. And when the way was rough they lifted her, for she was as light as a feather: and at last they came to a hill, and beyond the hill they could see a shining road and golden gates flung wide.

And the mother said, "I have reached the end of my journey. And now I know, that the end is better than the beginning, for my children can walk alone, and their children after them."

And the children said, "You will always walk with us, Mother, even when you have gone through the gates." And they stood and watched her as she went on alone,. and the gates closed after her. And they said, We cannot see her, but she is with us still. A mother like ours is more than a memory. She is a Living Presence.+



Recently a group of elementary children were asked 'Why did God make mothers?" Out of the mouths of babes...

Why did God make mothers?

1. She's the only one who knows where the tape is kept.

- 2. Mostly to clean the house.
- 3. To help us out when we are getting born.

How did God make mothers?

1. He used dirt, just like the rest of us.

2. God made my mom just the same like he made me. He just used bigger parts.

Why did God give you your mother and not some other mom?

1. We are related.

2. God knew she likes me a lot more than other people's moms like me.

What kind of little girl was your mom?

1. My mom has always been a mom, none of that other stuff.

2. I don't know, I was not there, but I would guess kinda bossy.

3. They say she used to be nice.

What would it take to make your mom perfect?

1. On the inside she is already perfect. Outside I think some kind of plastic surgery.

2. Diet. You know, her hair. I'd diet, maybe blue!

If you could change one thing about your mom, what would it be?

1. She has this weird thing about me keeping my room clean. I would get rid of that.

2. I would make my mom smarter. Then she would know it was my sister who did it and not me.

3. I would like to get rid of those invisible eyes in the back of her head.

Happy Mother's Day!!

Ever-evolving, ever-loved hymn

õEternal Father, Strong to Save,ö often known simply as õThe Navy Hymn,ö dates back to 1860, when William Whiting wrote it for a student of his about to travel by ship from England to America.

Original verses testified to the protection of God the Father, Christ, the Holy Spirit and the Trinity. In 1940, the U.S. Episcopal Church rewrote the hymn to include travel on land and in the air. Many verses have been written since: for Navy SEALs, submariners, astronauts, military families, ship dedications and more.

The following verse, intended for Memorial Day, may be used with the credit line below:



We thank you, God, for loved ones dear Who clung to faith beyond their fear, Who served and paid the highest price For freedom bought with sacrifice. May they remind us of your Son Whose death our final freedom won. ô Heidi L. Mann, 2012

Because you have played such an important part in their lives please join us for a wedding anniversary celebration in honor of our parents

Morris and Gerrie Williams

SUNDAY, MAY 19TH TWO O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON AUSTIN GROVE CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL 5919 AUSTIN GROVE CHURCH ROAD MARSHVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA HOSTED BY THEIR CHILDREN RSVP BY MAY 6TH TO KIM AT 704-289-5634 NO GIFTS PLEASE

Please see sign up sheet on bulletin board by May 5th if you plan to attend

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION 2013-2014

eltos that time! Now enrolling for our 2013-2014



school year. We offer half day classes (9am-12pm) for three year olds and (9am-1pm) for four year olds. For more information please contact the Preschool Director, Kelly Preslar at 704-624-2929 or kpreslar@windstream.net



Graduate Sunday



June 23 – 26

Mark your calendars and make plans to join us!!!

Vacation Bible School ...

Crossroads Worldwide Summer Camp

July 22 – 26, 2013

Total cost is \$150 per person. Please see Rocky for more information.





If you would like to attend this event, please see sign up sheet on bulletin board or contact the church office **before** May 3^{rd} .

Sunday, June 2

We will be recognizing our high school and college graduates during the morning worship service.