

The Messenger

Friendship United Methodist Church, 5222 Hwy. 150 East, Browns Summit, NC 27214 336-656-7151
April 2026



From the Pastor's Desk

**"Let my whole being bless the Lord!
Let everything inside me bless his holy name!
Let my whole being bless the Lord
and never forget all his good deeds:
how God forgives all your sins,
heals all your sickness,
saves your life from the pit,
crowns you with faithful love and compassion,
and satisfies you with plenty of good things
so that your youth is made fresh like an eagle's."
Psalm 103, CEB**

The older I get, the more I rely on notes. Sticky notes, scrapes of paper, a quick blurb in the corner of the Sunday bulletin, anything to help me remember something later. I jokingly say I use sticky notes because it won't stick in my brain. It works great . . . if I don't lose the note. I have lost my reading glasses . . . while they were on top of my head. I have looked earnestly for my phone . . . while holding it in my hand. You laugh, but you know what I'm talking about all too well! So, I have developed a "note to self" to remind my future self about something important. It means I need to remember this later, or let me not forget this important date.

Psalm 103 was a note to self, written by King David. He wasn't just a king though. He was a shepherd, warrior, poet, musician, and a man after God's own heart. David writes this psalm as if he is preaching to himself. Some psalms speak *to* God. Psalm 103 speaks to our own *souls*. David is

preaching to his heart, stirring up gratitude, and refusing to forget the goodness of God. It's as if he grabs his own shoulders and says, "*Wake up. Look around. Remember who God is.*"

David knows how forgetful the human heart can be, so he names each gift like a parent reminding a child of all the ways they are loved: God forgives, God heals, God redeems, God crowns, God satisfies. The Psalm ends with a cosmic crescendo. Angels, heavenly hosts, all God's works everywhere - David calls them all to praise: "*You divine messengers . . . who are mighty in power and keep his word . . . All you heavenly forces . . . All you who serve him and do his will. . . All God's creatures, bless the Lord!*" (vs. 20-22) Everyone, everywhere, throughout God's kingdom, bless the Lord. And then he circles back to where he started: "*Bless the Lord, O my soul.*"

It begins with me. I must focus on the blessings I have and appreciate the blessings God has given me before I can convince others of the love God has for all of us. I must preach to myself of the wonderful benefits of serving in God's Kingdom, following Christ, and reflecting his love.

Psalm 103 is a personal act of worship. A deliberate act of praise. A "note to self" of who I am in light of Jesus' sacrificial love. Every day writes its own noise across your mind - tasks, worries, interruptions, expectations. And in the middle of all that clutter, your soul can quietly forget the most important things.

That's why Scripture gives us moments like Psalm 103, where David essentially writes a holy "note to self," a gentle command to remember God has forgiven you more than you realize, carried you farther than you can see, been kinder to you than you often acknowledge, and has not forgotten you, even when you forget Him.

When life feels heavy, the soul doesn't need a lecture—it needs a reminder. Let me make a note to "*let my whole being bless the Lord!*" (vs. 22) I urge you to do the same.

See you Sunday!
Pastor Kevin

A NEW MONTH

PUSH YOURSELF

REJUVENATE

INSPIRE OTHERS

LAUGH LOTS



April Events

Thursday, April 2

Joint Maundy Thursday Service

Soup/sandwiches—6:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m.—Brown Summit UMC

Sunday, April 5

Joint Easter Sunrise Service

7:00 a.m.— Friendship UMC

Sunday, April 5

Easter Sunday

9:30 a.m. worship service
Friendship UMC

Tuesday, April 7

Administrative Board Meeting—7:00 p.m.
Friendship UMC

Tuesday, April 14

UMM Meeting
Sanitary Café—6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 14

Ladies Planning Meeting
Friendship UMC—6:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 18

Spring Food Drive—Food Lion (Hicone Road)
8:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.



It was a good day at the food pantry in March! We gave out 26 boxes of food to feed 75 people. This month, we had 5 families of 5 or more, and we had 2 new families. Thankfully, the weather was nice! No high winds or rain! Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out and to all who donated food. It takes a lot of food to feed 75 people! The April Community Food Pantry is Wednesday, April 15. For the month of April, we will need the following items: saltine crackers, broth (boxes), peanut butter, Instant Mashed Potatoes, dried pinto beans, rice, muffin mixes, cookies, canned fruit, canned green peas, canned corn, canned green beans, Jiffy cornbread mix, mac & cheese, and canned pasta (Spaghettios, Ravioli, etc.). We appreciate any monetary donations. We will also take any egg cartons. If you wish to write a check, please make it payable to Fairgrove UMC and write "Food Pantry" on the memo line. You can mail your check to Janice Henley, P.O. Box 462, Browns Summit, NC 27214. Thanks, everyone!





Let Your Light Shine Easter Egg Hunt Celebration held at Friendship UMC

Friendship United Methodist Church welcomed families from across the community on Friday evening, March 27, for a lively and joy-filled Easter Egg Hunt that brought smiles to everyone. The kids had an absolute blast collecting eggs, meeting the Easter Bunny, enjoying fun craft activities, and spending time laughing and connecting with one another. It was such a joy to see so many smiling faces and new friendships forming! A very special thank you

to our Children & Youth Ministries Committee for planning and organizing such a meaningful and fun event. We are also so grateful to all the volunteers who gave their time and energy to make the evening such a success. Moments like these remind us of what a blessing it is to be part of Friendship's church family.



Friendship United Methodist Church observed Palm Sunday on Sunday, March 29, and we all waved our palm branches. Palm Sunday is traditionally celebrated by the blessing and distribution of palm branches representing the palm branches the crowd laid in front of Christ as he rode into Jerusalem. At the end of the Bible, people from every nation raise palm branches to honor Jesus (Revelation 7:9). Friendship's choir, under the direction of Kathy Brande, presented our annual Easter cantata. We know all who attended the service were blessed. Thank you, Kathy, for playing the piano so beautifully; thank you, choir, for your dedication and hard work; and a special thank you to Stephen Durham for the narration and scripture reading during the cantata.




It is a tradition to have lilies adorn the sanctuary on Easter. They not only add beauty to the sanctuary but also symbolize New Life and the purity of Christ. The trumpet shape of the Easter lily represents the image of a trumpet sounding the message that Jesus has risen. Lilies were placed in Friendship's sanctuary in honor or in memory of a loved one.



THURSDAY

MAUNDY SERVICE



Maundy Thursday is an alternate name for Holy Thursday and commemorates the Last Supper when Jesus shared the Passover meal with his disciples on the night before he was crucified. The English word "Maundy" comes from the Latin mandatum, which means "commandment." As recorded in John's gospel, on his last night before his betrayal and arrest, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and then gave them a new commandment to love one another as he had loved them (John 13:34). It is a day filled with meaning and centered on a table of love, forgiveness, hope and hospitality. In contrast to the joy of Easter morning when we worship our risen Savior, the Maundy Thursday service is solemn, marked by the shadow of Jesus' betrayal. We hope that you will join us at **Brown Summit UMC on Thursday, April 2, at 7:00 p.m.** for a combined worship service of quiet reflection and observance of the sacrament of Holy Communion. Brown Summit also invites you to join them before the Service in the fellowship hall to enjoy a time of **soup and sandwiches at 6 p.m.**

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

FRIENDSHIP UMC



On Easter Sunday morning, many Christians will rise before the sun to attend a sunrise worship service. We'll gather early in the morning to worship our resurrected Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As we gather to face the east to watch the sun rise and realize this is the beginning of a new day, we are reminded of new life. Coming to worship on Easter Sunday at an hour and place different than we normally do, offers a sense that something unexpected has happened. Where there appeared to be no hope, there is now hope. Everyone is welcome to join us at **Friendship UMC** for a joint Easter Sunrise Service on **Sunday morning, April 5, at 7:00 a.m.** You're welcome to join us for breakfast immediately following the Sunrise Service in the Fellowship Hall.

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE FRIENDSHIP UMC SUNDAY, April 5—9:30 A.M.

On Easter Sunday, the most important day on the Christian calendar, we will rejoice, marking Jesus' resurrection as we shout, "He is risen!" Please join us for our Easter Sunday worship service at **9:30 a.m. on April 5, at Friendship UMC** as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord.



**COMMUNITY WIDE • SEMI-ANNUAL
FOOD DRIVE**

Two times a year our community has an opportunity to support the Greensboro Urban Ministry Food Pantry and help fight hunger locally. We will join other grocery stores in Guilford County to team up with the Greensboro Urban Ministry (GUM) to help fight hunger. With your assistance, we will help to stock the shelves of the GUM Food Pantry, which distributes groceries to hundreds of local households each month. The spring drive is a critical resource in Greensboro for households lacking adequate food, for building their supply of food before summer, which is their busiest season for food assistance. The Greensboro Urban Ministry could not continue to deliver this needed service without your support! Friendship UMC will participate in the **Spring Food Drive on Saturday, April 18, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Food Lion at Hicone Shopping Center.** Please contact John McLamb (336-215-9873) if you would like to help out that day. The need for food is tremendous and you can help the Greensboro Urban Ministry meet that need by being a volunteer or by donating food items during the Food Drive.

Volunteers needed!





Church Family — Wanda Ball, Wayne Brann, Norma Gordon, Henry & Sue Lambeth, Pastor Rick & Dianna LeBaube, Giles & Jewel Lewis, Mike & Karen Linnane, Allyson McLamb Ramos, Pastor Nick & Libby Scandale, Steve & Sharon Troxler

Other Friends & Family — Darryl Altizer, Tim Altizer, Hal Augustine, Roger Baldwin, Taft Cable, Henry & Linda Chapman, Melvin Chrismon, George Cunningham, Jimmy Dixon, Stephen Durham, Joe Edwards, George & Ruth Gilchrist, Michael Gordon, Doris Hall, Jane & John Hall, Clarence Hilliard, Mitzie Isenhour, Dot Lambeth, Mary Luking, Beth Mosca, Michael Payne, Veronica Percell, Vickie Roberson, Bobby Joe & Faye Roberts, Mary Schmidt, Kristin Shores, Sabrina Soyars, Alex Williamson

In Sympathy — the families of Rita Cundiff, Bussy Warren, Betty Toler, Chandler Clayton, Rosalie Craine, Angela Michelle Hedrick Kincer

In Our Military—Staff Sgt. Will Brann

Pastor Kevin's Office Hours

Friday/Saturday—Days off

Other hours by appointment
(336-552-7912)

If you have a pastoral need, Pastor Kevin can be reached at his cellphone number (336-552-7912)

Pastor Kevin requests that only emergency calls be made between 9 p.m. and 8 a.m.

His email address is:
kcochran@wnccumc.net

FUMC Contacts

Bulletin Items:

Frances Cable (336-908-1543)
(fcable@triad.rr.com)

Prayer Chain Requests:

Frances Cable (336-908-1543)
(fcable@triad.rr.com)

Fellowship Hall Requests:

Laura Rumley (802-236-4614)
(fumcfellowshiphallsvp@gmail.com)

Messenger:

Frances Cable (336-908-1543)
(fcable@triad.rr.com)

HOMEBOUND

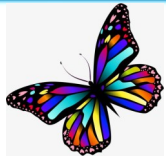
Our **homebound members** can't come to church due to health or other reasons. Please pray for them or take a moment to send a note or card to let them know that they are missed. It will brighten their day!

Henry & Sue Lambeth
8020 Old Reidsville Road
Browns Summit, NC 27214
336-656-3178



Staff Sgt. Will Brann
2790 Magnum Drive
Sumter, SC 29150





April



2026



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

			1	2 Joint Maundy Thursday Service (Brown Summit)	3	4 Happy Birthday! Joe Anne Strader
5 Joint Easter Sunrise Service (Friendship) Easter Sunday Service (Friendship)	6 Happy Anniversary! Elliott & Amanda Thompson	7 Administrative Board Meeting Happy Birthday! Clarence Hilliard	8	9 Happy Birthday! Margaret Brande	10	11
12 Happy Birthday! Manny McMillan	13 Happy Birthday! Kerry Cable Alice Simpson	14 UMM Meeting Ladies Group Planning Meeting	15 Community Food Pantry Happy Anniversary! Kevin & Malisa Cochran	16	17	18 Spring Food Drive Happy Anniversary! Zion & Jessica LaTour Happy Birthday! Will Brann
19	20	21	22 Earth Day	23 Happy Birthday! Kevin Cochran	24 Happy Birthday! Katie Hazelwood Renee Troxler	25
26	27	28	29 Happy Birthday! Wesley Cable	30 Happy Birthday! Ken Ball Megan Brann		






SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026

10AM-2PM

**191 HIGH ROCK RD,
GIBSONVILLE, NC**

FREE CAR, TRUCK & BIKE ENTRY

VENDORS WANTED:

 **Email: thonea2539@gmail.com**

Food | Raffle Prizes | Family Fun



NORTHEAST GUILFORD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

RAFFLE & DINNER

\$50 TICKETS

50/50 RAFFLE | DOOR PRIZES

LAST NUMBER WINS \$5000 CASH!


JOIN US FOR A REVERSE RAFFLE AND DINNER TO RAISE FUNDS FOR YOUR LOCAL NORTHEAST VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.

SATURDAY, MAY 2

DINNER | 5:00 PM

RAFFLE | 6:00 PM

 (336) 656-7292
CHIEF JEFF CHRISMON

 NORTHEAST GUILFORD FIRE STATION 32
7806 JACKSON SCHOOL RD
BROWN SUMMIT, NC 27214

*ALL tickets can be purchased by visiting Station 32 or purchasing through a Northeast Guilford Firefighter.