

The Messenger

Spindale United Methodist Church

PO Box 241 - 185 Mill Street Spindale, NC 28160

April 2026

Eric's Ethereal Cereal

"... He steadfastly and determinedly set His face to go to Jerusalem." Luke 9:51 AMPC

During Holy Week, we remember how Luke framed the story of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection in a three-act-play:

Act 1 – Jesus in Galilee.

Act 2 – Jesus on His Way to Jerusalem (Chapters 9:51-19:44).

Act 3 – The Final Days ...

The hinge verse connecting Act 1 to Act 2 includes the words, *"he set his face towards Jerusalem."* The interesting thing, according to Luke, is that Jesus didn't do this (set his face toward Jerusalem) in Galilee. He did so in Samaria. It goes without saying that Luke (the physician) is the only one of the four gospel writers who isn't Jewish. This Gentile convert reminds us that Jesus had no intention of his mission being limited only to the Jews. This caused E. Stanley Jones to declare that *"a gospel that is not for ALL people is not for any people."*

This pivotal verse in Luke's Gospel points toward Jesus' passion like a neon sign. Modern translators of this passage phrase the pivot in similar ways:

"he resolved to go to Jerusalem." J. B. Phillips

"... he gathered up his courage and steeled himself for the journey to Jerusalem." Luke 9:51 Eugene Peterson

Further, these words from Claudia Hernaman's hymn illuminate a similar stream of consciousness:

*And through these days of penitence,
and through thy passion-tide,
Yea, evermore in life and death,
Jesus, with us abide...*

Luke reminds us that LIFE IN CHRIST is a journey into which we are still being called. We are called to continue with fellow pilgrims and invite others (all) to join us as we journey with Jesus. Following Jesus will mean squarely setting our faces – with Jesus – towards our mission. Only through the power of the Spirit can we do so. IN that POWER, we continue... steadfastly and determinedly.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Philippians 2:5-8 NRSV

Still Traveling in ONE Peace ...

Pastor Eric

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Eric Marshburn
Office Manager	Jennifer Ruppe
Financial Secretary	Janet Atkins
Director of Music	Jeane Watson

Church Office Hours

Tuesday through Friday, 9am - 12noon

Worship Assistants

Liturgist	Sherry Owens
Greeter	Walter and Lucille Dalton

Small Groups

Bible Study is held on Sunday mornings at 10am.

Book club meets on Thursdays at 7pm. They are reading "Separation of Church and Hate" by John Fugelsang.

CHURCH NEWS



Easter Sunday will be on April 5. Our Sunday will begin at 7am with a Sunrise service, followed by breakfast. There will be no Bible study, but we will have regular worship at 11am.



The Cross of Flowers will return this year. Carolyn Young is asking people to please bring blooms as early as 7am on Easter Sunday.



Frankful Fridays

The Frankful Friday Crew will be sharing a free hotdog meal on the second and fourth Fridays of each month (April 10 and 24). We will be set up at 12 noon.



Boots and Beatitudes Hiking ministry will resume Saturday, April 11. Time and location to be determined. Check your weekly e-news for the latest information.



Community Meal

Come join our volunteers as we are hosting a Drive Thru Meal on Wednesday, April 15 at 5pm. Prep begins at 2:30pm. Contact Bill McDaniel if you would like to help.

The United Women in Faith Prayer Breakfast will be on Saturday, April 18 at 9:30am at Oak Grove UMC.



Saturday Night aLive will be on Saturday, April 18 at 6:30pm. Mark your calendars to come and join us for a night of food, trivia, and fun. Start spreading the word!



Agape Family Night will be Saturday, April 25 at 5:30pm. Our church family is invited to attend.

The Third Quarter Contribution Statements are available for you to pick-up at the back of the sanctuary. Help us save postage by picking yours up today!

Upper Room Devotionals

If you would like an Upper Room Devotional mailed to you, please email or call the church office.

HOMEBOUND MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Tommie White
125 S Mitchell St
Rutherfordton, NC 28139

COMMUNITY NEEDS

Yokefellow – Pasta

Grace of God – individual cans of Vienna sausage, beanie weenies, potted meat, packs of peanut butter crackers, gallons of canned vegetables.

MINISTRY OF THE MONTH



mosaic hope
RUTHERFORD COUNTY, NC

Spring & Summer
RESTOCK!

SIGN UP TO HELP RESTOCK!

- Choose a Gender & Size to Shop For!
- Brand New Clothes with Tags Only!
- Make a Difference Today!



SIGN UP NOW TO SUPPORT KIDS IN NEED!

We are collecting new (with tags) spring and summer outfits for girls' size 6/7. We need to collect a total of 10-15 outfits.

Thank you for helping us stock our CARE closet! You will be collecting items to support multiple children.

We only accept brand NEW clothing with tags. Please do not include holiday specific clothing. (Easter, 4th of July, etc.)



Prayer Requests

Mara Hamrick
Clayton Hamrick – Travel Mercies
Christy Collins - Friend of PJ Roehling
Nancy Womack
The Family of Stephanie Lattimore - Friend of Jennifer Ruppe
Travis - Son in law of visitor, Sandy.
Steven Swink
Patti Deviney
Andy Francis – Friend of John Higgins
Doug Pryor
Wayne Henson
Daniel Dover
David Solomon
Jack Bridges
Tim McBrayer
Bill Metcalf
Jimmy Johnson
Johnny Hopkins
Charles Clute
Tommie White
Lynne Potter
Wade Ogle Jr - Friend of the Bridges
Kenny Cole - Brother of Stephanie Higgins
Lisa Moore - Sister of Jeri Shuck
David Wiseman - Cousin of Jeane
Gina Gold - Friend of Brooke Watson
Bobby Stone – Brother of Tommie White
Thadd Hodge - Nephew of Jeanette and Lucille
Michelle Gillis - Friend of John and Stephanie Higgins

April Birthdays

3	<i>Will Hamrick</i>
3	<i>Myra Johnson</i>
5	<i>Amy Atchley</i>
6	<i>Dustin Atchley</i>
13	<i>Tyler Morgan</i>
14	<i>Ginger Meador</i>
17	<i>Kathy McDonald</i>
20	<i>Nelson Long</i>
23	<i>Oliver Lyles</i>
25	<i>Lucille Dalton</i>
26	<i>Sue Jenkins</i>
28	<i>Paige Kahill Papesh</i>
29	<i>Susan Shoenfelt Bell</i>

April Anniversaries

4	<i>Steve and Sherry Owens</i>
7	<i>Seth and Danielle Jones</i>
10	<i>Bill and Marcie McDaniel</i>

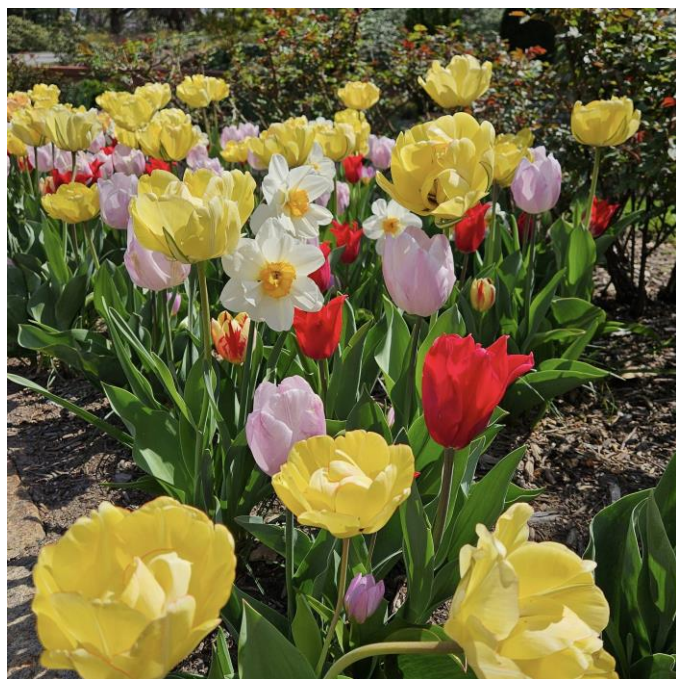


Photo courtesy of Blue Ridge District

LAST MONTH

March 1

In Person Attendance	50
Online Reach	280
Budget Offering	\$ 5,691.00
YTD Giving to Budget	\$ 25,995.00
YTD Needed to meet budget	\$ 39,420.00

March 8

In Person Attendance	48
Online Reach	201
Budget Offering	\$ 3,170.00
YTD Giving to Budget	\$ 29,140.00
YTD Needed to meet budget	\$ 43,800.00

March 15

In Person Attendance	55
Online Reach	277
Budget Offering	\$ 7,605.00
YTD Giving to Budget	\$ 31,945.00
YTD Needed to meet budget	\$ 48,180.00

March 22

In Person Attendance	47
Online Reach	235
Budget Offering	\$ 1,917.58
YTD Giving to Budget	\$ 33,759.58
YTD Needed to meet budget	\$ 52,560.00

March 29

In Person Attendance	TBA
Online Reach	TBA
Budget Offering	\$ TBA
YTD Giving to Budget	\$ TBA
YTD Needed to meet budget	\$ TBA



Easter Sunrise 2022