

# The Main Stream

March 17, 2026 – Volume 2026, Issue 3



**“When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight.”—Luke 24:30-31 (NRSV)**

Where do you see signs of the Resurrection/New Life? Cleopas and another disciple are still in shock from the breakneck swing of events in the past three days. They witnessed the brutal execution of their Lord and Savior on the cross. Three days later, the two Marys went to the tomb and encountered angels proclaiming that Jesus was risen, just as he said. So, what do they do? They take off on a seven mile walk to Emmaus. I mean what else do you do with these kinds of confusing events?

While they’re walking, they met a stranger along the way. They do not recognize that it is Jesus. Was Jesus’ resurrected body that different? They invite this stranger in for the evening, showing good southern (Judean) hospitality. And suddenly, Jesus is recognized in Taking, Blessing, Breaking, and Sharing the Bread, a clear reference to his initiation of the Lord’s Supper on Maundy Thursday.

Jesus is recognizable in the gathering of God’s people around the table. This is why Holy Communion, The Lord’s Supper, is so central for us. It is the ultimate sign and symbol of Christ’s presence with us. We also can see signs of resurrection all around us, if we are looking. Those spring flowers and trees, blooming, the joy of children playing, laughter between friends or strangers, a small but kind of act of holding the door for someone. The only question is are our eyes, minds, and hearts open to these signs? It takes this, because, as the Scripture states, sometimes, Jesus seems to vanish from our sight. We have to keep looking to see him. What signs of the Resurrection/New Life can you spot this week?

*Pastor Lenny*

## Main Street UMC's Holy Week Worship Schedule

### Palm Sunday

March 29 at 10:30am

Worship in the Sanctuary at one combined service to experience the Lenten Cantata "It Is Finished" at our Palm Sunday Worship Service.

### Maundy Thursday

April 2 at 7:00pm

Join us for a reflective service as we remember the night Jesus shared a final meal with his disciples. We'll gather for Scripture, prayer, and communion as we reflect on Christ's call to serve one another with a message by Rev. Lanny Lancaster.

### Good Friday

April 3 at 7:00pm

Through Scripture, music, and prayer, we'll remember the depth of Christ's sacrifice on the cross with a presentation of the Seven Last Words of Christ. This solemn service offers a powerful space to prepare your heart for the joy of Easter Sunday.

### Easter Sunday

April 5 at 6:30, 8:30, 8:45, and 10:55am

Start Easter morning with a beautiful time of worship as the sun rises. We'll gather in the Sanctuary at 6:30am and then proceed out to the Cemetery to celebrate the empty tomb with a message by Rev. Wayne Purdy. The service will be followed by a light breakfast in the Fellowship Hall (*donations accepted for breakfast*).

Easter calls us to celebrate with joy and gratitude. Christ's resurrection reminds us that darkness does not win and hope is always rising. Let's rejoice together at our Easter Worship Services with Holy Communion and a message by Rev. Lanny Lancaster. There will be joyous praise music at the 8:45am Jubilee service and triumphant music at the 8:30 and 10:55 services from the Combined Choirs with a brass ensemble.



**Nursery** is provided for the 8:30/8:45/10:30/10:55 services on March 29 and April 5.

#### **The following services will be livestreamed:**

Palm Sunday Cantata at 10:30am on March 29,  
Maundy Thursday at 7pm on April 2, Good Friday at 7pm on April 3,  
and the 8:45 and 10:55 Easter services on April 5.

## Music Ministry at Main Street for Holy Week



On Palm Sunday, March 29th, we will unite in one service at 10:30am as we relive the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and the tragic events of Holy Week in a deeply moving Lenten Cantata by Mary McDonald entitled "It Is Finished". All the forces of Traditional Musical Arts at Main Street UMC will come together in this riveting presentation -- our Adult Choir, our Carol Choir, our Main Street Ringers alongside a 10-piece orchestra under the direction of Jill Gardner.



On Good Friday, cellist Brian Carter will join forces with the Adult Chancel Choir as we relive the Seven Last Words of Christ in a candlelight service complete with narration and choral responses as we ponder the final hours of Jesus' life, poignantly portrayed through solo cello.



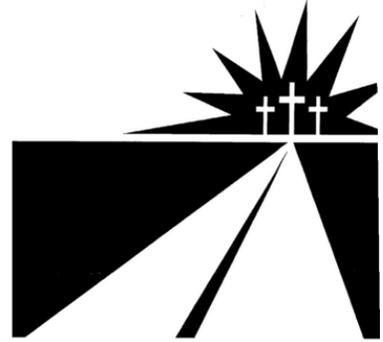
For Easter Sunday, April 5th, we welcome Brass 5 from Roanoke, VA as this brass sextet accompanies our traditional worship services at 8:30am and 10:55 am to hail the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! This exceptional brass ensemble, consisting of 2 trumpets, french horn, trombone, tuba and percussion, will accompany the Adult Choir and highlight our hymns and service music, including the traditional rendering of Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" as our Benediction of Praise! This ensemble's debut at Main Street is not to be missed!

Main Street UMC Children's Ministry is...

**EGGCITED**  
**FOR**  
**EASTER**

Join us in the Fellowship Hall Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> during Sunday School Hour (9:45 am) for our Easter Celebration! We will sing, worship, play games, hear the Easter Story, and share a yummy snack. Hope to see you there!

**Kernersville Cross Walk**  
*a silent pilgrimage about God's love*  
**Good Friday, April 3, 2026**



The Kernersville Cross Walk will be on Good Friday, April 3. At 11:30am, we will gather in the parking lot at 617 North Main Street. By Noon, we will have issued instructions, shared scripture, joined in prayer and started the walk escorted by our local police.

Along with the large cross which we will share carrying, there will be a limited supply (100) of smaller, handheld wooden crosses for participants to carry. As we proceed, we will walk in silence through the downtown area and finish at Mt. Gur Cemetery with a few minutes of reflection. The 1.5 mile walk usually takes about 45 minutes to complete. The walk will occur rain or shine, so please dress accordingly. To avoid liability issues, please refrain from bringing your animals to the walk. This will be a powerful experience as we remember the crucifixion of Christ and we hope you will choose to participate!

This event is open to everyone and is sponsored by the Kernersville Christian Ministers Fellowship.

*Sharing in Joy:*

- Congratulations to Henry & Jule Connolly on the birth of their twin grandsons, Henry James and Thomas Hunter Scarborough. Parents are John and Jen Scarborough.

**GriefShare®**

Grief Support Group

*Help and encouragement  
after the death of a loved one*

A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. In this 13-week group, you'll receive valuable guidance and tips, leading you to relief, comfort, and peace of mind.

**We are pleased to offer a GriefShare group at Main Street**, facilitated by Main Street member, Vickie Whitley, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker.

**When:** Thursdays, 6:00pm-7:30pm      April 9-July 2

**Contact:** Vickie Whitley at [vwhitley518@gmail.com](mailto:vwhitley518@gmail.com)

**Register:** [griefshare.org/findagroup](http://griefshare.org/findagroup)

**Cost:** \$20 for workbook (*scholarships available*)



- Everyone is invited to join us on **March 27** at 5:30 for Pizza Dinner and Movie Night in the MSUMC fellowship hall for pizza, salad and dessert. We will watch the movie "Soul on Fire" after dinner. Cost will be \$5 per person to cover the cost of food. Reservations are required by March 24, contact Debbie Smith at 336-671-1215.
- Join us on **April 7** for a Covered dish luncheon with River Landing Band performance at 12:30.

### Church Finance Update

Thank you for your understanding as we cancelled services on two Sundays in order to keep everyone safe during the winter storms. We are glad to welcome you back! As you are aware, service cancellations do offer challenges of their own as we did fall behind \$18,000 in needed giving in February. Your faithful giving continues to support the ministry and mission of our church. Even when the weather keeps us home, the work of the church continues. Thank you for all that you have already given and the many ways you support Main Street!



We're again cranking up Main Street's Adult Mission trip for 2026! Methodist Men have arranged the week of **May 17 – 22** for our trip to Spruce Pines where we will be lodging at facilities set up by Baptist On Mission. Meals and lodging are estimated to be about \$150 per person for the week. Scholarships are available. Able bodied men, women and teens (15 years plus) are encouraged to join in this rebuilding effort for victims of the Helene disaster recovery. Twenty-five reservation slots are available and the deadline to sign up is March 31.

- An informational meeting will be held on **April 7** at 7pm in room 310 of the Commons.
- Please signup online at [mainstreetumc.org](http://mainstreetumc.org) and click "signups" on the red stripe.
- Additional suggestions and questions, text (leave your name) to: Curt Brown (228) 234-3317 or Bob Oglesby (336) 577-2902



## Saturday March 21

# Cemetery Clean-Up Day

In preparation for the Easter Sunrise Service, there will be a cemetery spring clean on Saturday, March 21 starting at 9:00am. (Rain date will be the next Saturday, the 28<sup>th</sup>). Please join us with taking out all the old flower arrangements and cleaning the markers that need cleaning. The landscaping company will handle all the mowing and trimming, we just need to spruce up the other things. Families wishing to re-use Christmas and other decorations currently there should remove them prior to that Saturday. Also please do not place Easter or spring arrangements out until after the clean-up.

### *We extend our sympathies to:*

- Sharyn Turner upon the death of her brother, Jeffrey Stout.
- Ruby Malit upon the death of her mother, Ruby Enriquez.
- Jason Poston upon the death of his uncle, Benny Poston.
- Ron Johnson upon the death of his wife, Joan Johnson.
- Chuck Dagenhart upon the death of his mother, Gerry Dagenhart.



## Youth Chili Cook-Off

March 22, 2026 at 5:30pm  
in the Fellowship Hall

There will be Chili (all types) and prizes! Don't miss the fun--join us at the Chili Cook-Off! Admission is free, but donations will be accepted. This is a fundraiser for Youth Missions. Contact Wayne Purdy in the church office for more details about entering your chili in the cook-off.

The 2026 Main Street UMC Kairos team thanks you for your continued, amazing support. We are humbled by your generous giving in spite of contributing to countless other ministries. Like so many members, we echo again and again, "This church is amazing!" To witness a life changed by God and the Holy Spirit right before your eyes is a blessing beyond words. And there are those in Central Prison who may be the definition of "the least, the last, the lost".

Again, thank you, from Jacob Hanks, Bob Langlais, Steve Reid, and Mike Tozer.



## COLLECTION BOXES

are in the Main Entrance to the Commons for:

- **BOOKSAPALOOZA** – donate new or used books
- **HOPE CENTER** – donate empty egg cartons, clothing, groceries
- **CRISIS CONTROL** – donate non-perishable food, each month has an item to focus on, January's item is beef stew.
- **GOT SNEAKERS** – donate used sneakers to be repurposed.

A collection box for **RECYCLE BEYOND THE BAG** plastic film recycling is located at the Member Pickup Station in the Commons, Fellowship Hall, and Preschool.

Circle #2 Fundraiser

# Shred Event

April 25

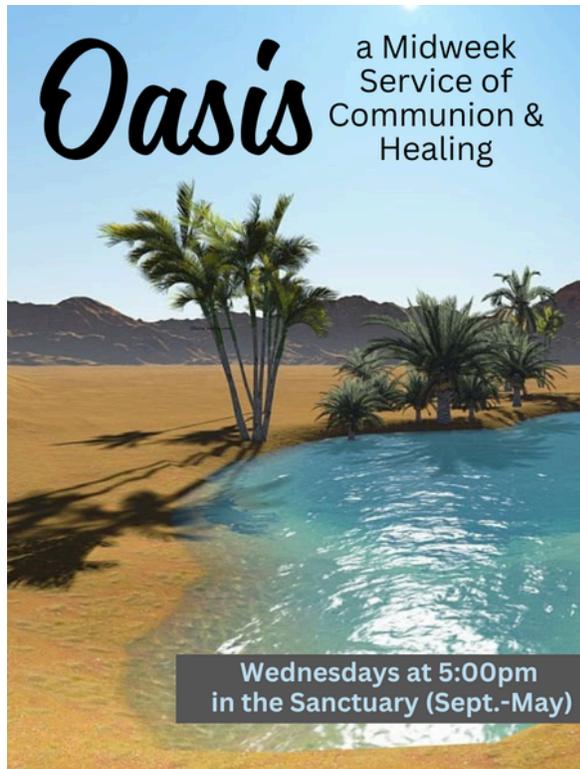
9:00am until NOON

MSUMC parking lot

All monies collected go to assist local ministries in our Kernersville area. Due to your participation in the past, we have been able to generously contribute to these local ministries.



Suggested Donation  
is \$5 per box



## QR Code for your Bulletin

1. **Open your phone to camera mode and scan the QR Code.**
2. **You will now be shown a path to the Main St. website.**
3. **Once on the website, you will be shown the page that allows you to choose the service you want.**
4. **You now have your bulletin for your chosen service.**



**SCAN HERE**

March is the official start of SPRING! Here are some ways we can “spring” into action and show love for God’s creation.

S - SAVE energy by turning off the lights when we leave a room.

P - PROPERLY dispose of household hazardous waste like paint and other chemicals at a designated facility such as 3RC EnviroStation in Winston Salem.

R - REPURPOSE used sneakers and plastic bags by bringing them to the collection bins in the Main Entrance in the Commons.

I - INSPIRE others by setting a good example for those around you.

N - NEVER throw old batteries in the trash. Bring them to the church office for recycling.

G - GRAB a reusable tote bag to eliminate using plastic bags when shopping.

THANK YOU for your support of the Beans & Blessings lunch this month. Your donations will be used for educational opportunities related to Creation Care.

--submitted by Tracy Roberson





**Don't cook on Wednesdays, come have dinner with us from 5:30-6:30pm! Dining together is a great opportunity for fellowship, but if you need to get your meal "to-go", then we can do that, too! We have disposable takeout containers but we encourage you to bring your own re-usable containers for "to-go" meals.**

**Mar. 25--Baked Potato Bar**

with Seafarers SS class serving

**April 1--No Meal** due to Holy Week

**April 8--Pork Tenderloin**

with Great Expectations class serving

**April 15--Taco Bar**

with New Horizons SS class serving

**April 22--Chicken Marsala**

with Seafarers SS class serving

*The suggested donation is \$6.00 per adult and \$3.00 per child (10 and under). We accept cash, check, or card. A gluten-free option is available upon request.*

*Reservations for dining in-person or "to-go" must be made by NOON on Monday: use the Wednesday Dinner reservation form on our website under the red "signups" stripe or contact Kathryn in the church office at 336-993-3411 or email [kathryn.jenkins@mainstreetumc.org](mailto:kathryn.jenkins@mainstreetumc.org)*

Main Street UMC



**Preschool Open House**

Wednesday, March 25 5:00–6:00 PM

Join us for a glowing evening at our Preschool Open House! Come tour our classrooms, meet our wonderful teachers, and speak with our Director about enrolling your child for the 2026–2027 school year. Be sure to stop by our Library/STEAM Room to shop our Book Fair, which will be open during the event. It's going to be a totally **GLOWING** good time — we can't wait to see you there!

Please share this with anyone you know who might be interested in learning more about our wonderful preschool program.

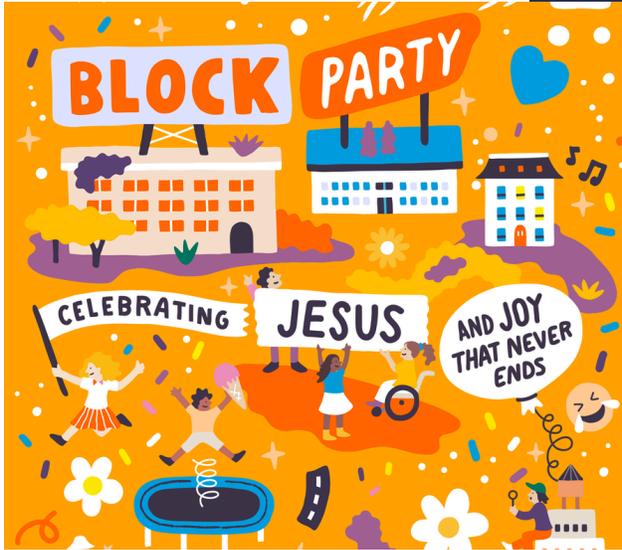
**UPCOMING EVENTS**



- March 26--Church Council meeting at 7pm
- April 1--No Oasis or Wednesday Dinner due to Holy Week
- April 6--Church Office closed for Easter Monday
- May 2--Spring Folly Parking Lot fundraiser
- May 17--High School Grad Sunday at 10:55 service
- June 7-13--Appalachia Service Project/High School
- June 18-21--Western NC Annual Conference at Lake Junaluska
- June 28-July 4--Appalachia Service Project/Middle & High School
- July 20-23--Vacation Bible School
- August 2--Churchwide picnic at Triad Park

# KIDS CONNECT

April 2026



## ELEMENTARY

### God View

The connection between truth and God's image, as shown through God's Big Story

### Insight: Restoration Through Participation in God's Story

I am designed to participate in God's story to restore a broken and hurting world.

### Application

**Joy:** Choosing to celebrate what God is doing.

## WHAT'S NEW?

If your child didn't receive a God Sightings Bingo Card be sure and grab one from Mrs. Victoria!



*Kids Connect*



## PRESCHOOL

### Key Question

Who wants to be your friend forever?

### Bottom Line

Jesus wants to be my friend forever!!

### Basic Truth

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

## A Record of our Faithfulness

OUR PRESENCE:	2-22-2026	3-1-2026	3-8-2026	3-15-2026
Sunday School	132	102	96	99
8:30am In-Person Worship	81	76	67	71
8:45 Jubilee In-Person Worship	87	63	42	63
10:55am In-Person Worship	157	131	108	91
<b>In-Person Worship Totals</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>225</b>
8:45am Jubilee Live Stream Worship ( <i>unique views</i> )	16	30	25	13
10:55am LiveStream Worship ( <i>unique views</i> )	51	65	42	41
Total Live Stream Unique Views	67	95	67	54
Live Streaming Totals ( <i>unique views x 1.8</i> )	121	171	121	97
<b>Attendance Totals</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>322</b>
OUR GIFTS as of:	2-22-2026	3-1-2026	3-8-2026	3-15-2026
Building Fund Weekly Contributions	4655	1705	3025	1125
Weekly Contributions to Budget	34,216	9,425	22,887	11,576
Budget Contributions YTD	154,182	163,607	186,495	198,072

### **Main Street Ministries as of Feb. 28**

Regular Giving \$ 153,653  
 Expenses \$ 174,698  
 Over/(Under) \$ (21,045)  
 Budget \$ 186,524

### **Building Fund as of Feb. 28**

Building Fund Giving \$ 26,206  
 Building Loan Payments \$ 24,000  
 Over/(Under) \$ 2,206  
 Loan Balance \$ 1,468,450

### **PUBLICATION DEADLINE**

Newsletter articles are due by noon on the FIRST FRIDAY of every month for publication in the mid-month newsletter.

**Main Street  
United Methodist Church**  
336-993-3411  
306 South Main Street  
Kernersville, NC 27284

## *Let's Worship Together*

Come and Worship with us at one of all of our services:

- Less-Formal Traditional Worship Service\*: Sundays at 8:30am in the Sanctuary
- Jubilee Contemporary Worship Service\*: Sundays at 8:45am in the Chapel
- Traditional Worship Service\*: Sundays at 10:55am in the Sanctuary
- Oasis Mid-Week Service of Meditation: Wednesdays at 5:00pm (September -May)

*\* childcare is provided at these services*

### *Main Street UMC Staff*

Lanny Lancaster, Senior Pastor  
Sarah McIntosh, Associate Pastor  
Al Ward, Minister of Visitation  
Wayne Purdy, Pastor of Youth Ministries  
Victoria Smathers, Dir. of Children's Ministries  
Jill Gardner, Director of Music Ministries  
Clay Howard, Jubilee Music Director

Tina Crew, Business Manager  
Betsy Tang, Administrative Assistant  
Kathryn Jenkins, Administrative Assistant  
Kellie Vinay, Preschool Director  
Jenny Lail, Alpha & Omega Youth Choir Dir.  
Cynthia Barron, Kitchen Hostess  
Anthony Simmonds, Custodian