



*"Let Your Light Shine Before Others" Matthew 5:16*

March 2023 – Volume 27 Issue 3

A publication of New Salem United Methodist Church ♦ Randleman, North Carolina

## There is a Season

*"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven"*

Ecclesiastes 3:1

The author of Ecclesiastes follows this statement with twenty-eight items that are, for the most part, contrasts — to be born and to die, to break down and build up... These words reflect the fact that God determines life events for each of us, ones that, at times, are hard to understand. Lent is a season that we can, as individuals and a church, reflect on our relationship with God, God's creation, and others.

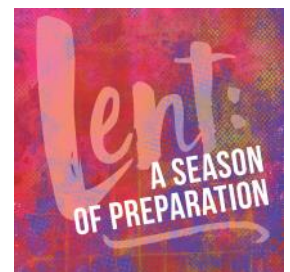
Over time, these relationships have a tendency to become strained, stretched or even broken. Lent has traditionally been a time in the life of the church for reconciliation and repentance. These are crucial activities as we move closer to restoration through the resurrection of Christ and the conquering of death.

All too often, we want to go directly to the empty tomb and the colorful spring flowers and joyful feelings of Easter morning. Yet, Ecclesiastes shows us the importance of contrasting seasons. It is only through the respect (re-spect), or "re-seeing" of the hard times that we are able to understand the easier ones. It is only through the passion of Christ that we are able to understand and appreciate the resurrection and salvation.

I hope and pray that we take the opportunity this Lent season to reflect on those relationships in our lives and church that need restoration. I pray that we have the courage to allow the Holy Spirit to guide and navigate us, to "re-see" those places that need rest, healing, and forgiveness. By respecting the season of Lent, we can then appreciate the gift of Easter morning.

Peace,

Rev. Steve





EVENTS THIS MONTH

Thursdays, March 2nd—30th, 11:30 a.m. **LENTEN LUNCH REFLECTION STUDY**  
"Transforming Repentance" in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday, March 12th - Don't forget to Spring Forward!



Tuesday, March 14th, 7:00 pm — **United Methodist Women Meeting**  
in the Fellowship Hall


Saturday, March 18th, 7:00 am—10:00 am **Country Breakfast** at Old Union  
UMC, Adults \$9, Children 4-10 \$5, 3 and under free. New Salem Men  
will meet there as well.

Tuesday, March 21st, 7:00 pm — **Administrative Council Meeting** in  
the Fellowship Hall

ANNIVERSARIES: 18th C. O. & Sue Hayes

BIRTHDAYS:

- 1st — Sue Hayes
- 5th — David Campbell
- 11th — Gracie Dodd
- 16th — Anne Cruthis
- 19th — Kelly Barker
- 21st — Justin Routh
- 28th — Carol Wood Rich



## "Fill the Wagons" School Backpack Pals Program

Bring your food items the first Sunday of each month. If you wish to donate money, make your check payable to "CIS Randolph County" with "Randleman Schools" on the memo line. Foods needed are:

Capri Sun Juice Pouches or Similar

Single Serve or Small Boxes of Mac & Cheese or Similar

Granola Bars or Cereal Boxes, Oatmeal or Similar

Ramen Noodles or Similar

Cans of Ravioli, Vienna Sausages



In February, we collected 226 food items and \$335 in donations. Thank you for supporting this program.

## DO YOU REMEMBER?



NEW SALEM ANGEL CHOIR directed by Shirley Day ((mid '80's)

Front Row: Karen McDonald, Kimberly Stevenson

Middle Row: Missy Stevenson, Meredith McDonald, Beth Allred, Terri King

Back Row: Angela King, Michelle Inman, Lia Routh, Dustin Allred, David Hinshaw



## ***Please be in prayer for:***

Tommy & Angie Garner, Jim South, Betty Barker, Mary Ann Trogdon, Paul Morris (friend of Randy Russell), Norma Bergkamp (Pastor Steve's mother), Colin Pugh, Rev. Lee and Evelyn Ellis, Joe King, people affected by continuing senseless violence, people affected by the earthquake in Turkey and Syria, people involved in the Ukraine/Russian war.

### **Do you have a prayer request for the Neil Goslen Phone-tree?**

Contact the office at (336) 498-3936. Please leave a message.

### ***Looking Ahead -***

Holy Week Services at First UMC at 12:00 noon with a light lunch to follow. Services are:

Wednesday, April 5th hosted by First and Bethany UMC

Thursday, April 6th hosted by Mt. Lebanon and Level Cross UMC

Friday, April 7th hosted by Old Union and New Salem UMC

Annual BBQ Meal: April 21st starting at 11:00 am—\$10 per person.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday mornings at 10:45 AM in the E. L.. Hayes classroom.

### **9:30 A.M.**

Our Worship Services are live each Sunday Morning in our sanctuary and on our YouTube Channel. You are also invited to view the recorded service at a later time at the link found below.

### **GIVING & CONTACT INFORMATION**

#### **New Salem UMC**

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#### **NEW SALEM YouTube CHANNEL**

#### **LINK:**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHWYgOsR5oLamk6gMUWW5yQ>

**Deadline for information for the April 2023 edition of "The Lamplighter" is Wednesday, March 26th.**

