Union Evangelical Lutheran Church’s Mission is the Great Commission:

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:18-20

Union Evangelical Lutheran Church’s Vision: One Relationship at a Time

March 2021

Worship Services Opportunities during the month of March

Sanctuary Worship at 9:00 a.m. with Holy Communion celebrated. This worship service is structured specifically for those who have high risk health and other concerns. Worship will include a brief spoken liturgy, no singing or music, masks are required, Holy Communion will be celebrated with a sealed individual communion unit, and social distancing strictly practiced.

Sanctuary Worship at 10:30 a.m. We gather weekly on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. to celebrate God’s Word and the Sacrament of Holy Communion, and to hear and experience God’s creative and redeeming love for the world. Children are welcome and are invited to attend worship and come forward for the Children’s Message. (CDC guidelines followed)

During COVID-19 we are offering the following if you do not feel comfortable worshipping in person you can: 1. Worship online by visiting our webpage (https://ulcsalisbury.org/worship/) 2. Connect with us on Facebook Live (https://facebook.com/ulcsalisbury) 3. Request a worship DVD

Building Healthy Relationships.

Sunday, March 7 Topic: To Commit or Not to Commit

Sunday, March 14 Topic: Playing the Blame Game

Sunday, March 21 Topic: Fool me once, shame on you; Fool me twice, shame on me.

The Good Timers were asked during their February Meeting to begin saving “J” dollars. These are dollar bills with the letter “J” printed to the left of George Washington’s picture. We invite anyone to participate in this event. The House of Hope (due to COVID and many problems) fell behind on their last payments, so more money is needed for the next payment. “Jesus” dollars will be collected in June so that they may be sent for the July payments. Thank you for your support.
A “Do-It-Jesus” project!

While engaging in yet another DIY project at home, my husband decided to convert an old armoire that had belong to his grandfather into a sowing cabinet for me. It was one of the few furniture pieces that we actually brought with us from South Africa when we accepted God’s call to serve in America about 21 years ago. This armoire claimed its spot in various spaces in our home through the years. It had been converted into a linen Cabinet at first, then into a TV cabinet and finally found its resting place in our bedroom as a “catch-all” cabinet.

Perhaps you know where I am going with this? While I thoroughly love the idea of finally having a space where I can simply open two doors, pull out a table and be ready to sow…it also brings with it a little anxiety because I now get to sort out all these things that have been stashed, tucked and hidden in the armoire. Do I really want to do that? Isn’t it just easier to leave the stuff in there? Probably, but it does inhibit the opportunity then for me to sow more frequently.

In some strange way, I think that the season of Lent is a time when Jesus engages in converting our old selves into being more functional and purposeful. Perhaps we could say that it’s a “Do It Jesus” project. Over the years we, just like the armoire, may have found ourselves in different places and spaces of this world and our spiritual lives until finally we find our resting place somewhere, filled with “catch-it-all stuff”. While we may all thoroughly love the idea of finally fully living into God’s call and leading lives filled with purpose and joy, we are also feeling a little anxious about it. Do we really want to sort through all the stuff that has been stashed, tucked and hidden in our hearts, souls and lives?

1 Peter 5 says, “Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, so that in due time He may exalt you. Cast all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.” How beautiful is that? God is in the business of converting us! Just like the armoire can’t covert itself and needs my husband’s skills, hands and vision, we need Jesus.

May the rest of this Lenten journey bring you to a joyous Easter celebration, with all the “stuff” unpacked and your lives fully renovated.

Joyful Greetings from your Pastor, Heidi Punt
Mid-Week Lenten Series  

**PLACES of the PASSION**

(Lenten Services loose offering received will go towards the Franz Merrell Community Crisis Fund.

**Two ways to be able to participate:**

3:30 pm – Prayer Service (masks required)
6:30 pm – Worship (CDC guidelines followed)

Mid-Week Lenten Suppers of soup and sandwich beginning on **Wednesdays, February 24-March 24**, at **5:45 p.m.** in the Dutch Meeting Hall. If you wish to assist, please contact Tara Davis or Mike Cauble.

March 3 - Mount of Olives  
Led by Pastor Heidi Punt

Join us for the Places of the Passion special service for Week 2 of Lent, as we follow in the footsteps of our Savior, contemplating the places where Jesus stood on his path to salvation. In this service, we go to the Mount of Olives, where Jesus went with his disciples to pray. We are called to find places to pray this Lent and seek the will of the Lord in our lives.

**Matthew 26:30-35**

**Topic:** The Disciples sing a hymn with Jesus before they head out to this place of prayer.

March 10 - The Garden of Gethsemane  
Led by Pastor Dieter Punt

Join us for the Places of the Passion special service for Week 3 of Lent, as we follow in the footsteps of our Savior, contemplating the places where Jesus stood on his path to salvation. In this service, we head toward Gethsemane, where Jesus is betrayed and arrested in this garden under cover of darkness. We witness Jesus being taken away by soldiers, but we know that his journey toward the cross will take away our sins.

**Matthew 26:47-56**

**Topic:** Jesus is betrayed and arrested in this garden under cover of darkness.

March 17 - The Courtyard  
Led by Pastor Heidi Punt

Join us for the Places of the Passion special service for Week 4 of Lent, as we follow in the footsteps of our Savior, contemplating the places where Jesus stood on his path to salvation. In this service, we go to the Courtyard, outside of where Jesus is put on trial before the high priest and where Peter denies Jesus. We are called to confess that we often tend to distance ourselves from Christ, when we should be drawing closer to him.

**Scripture Reading: Matthew 26:57-69**

**Topic:** While Jesus is put on trial before the high priest, Peter denies Jesus in this place.

March 24 - Pilate’s Judgment Hall  
Led by Pastor Heidi Punt

Join us for the Places of the Passion special service for Week 5 of Lent, as we follow in the footsteps of our Savior, contemplating the places where Jesus stood on his path to salvation. In this service, we go to Pilate’s Judgment Hall, where Pilate is positioned here to set Jesus free, but turns him over to be crucified instead. We are called to remember that the judgment that should have been placed on us was placed on him that we might be free.

**Scripture Reading: Matthew 27:11-23**

**Topic:** Pilate is positioned here to set Jesus free, but turns him over to be crucified instead.
Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School is a wonderful time to be with your friends and to make new ones in a smaller setting where you can connect the Word of God to your daily life, learn of God's love and forgiveness through Jesus Christ, and grow in faith together. Sunday School meets at 9:30 AM, and there are age appropriate classes for children, teens, and adults alike.

During COVID-19 the Sunday School Teachers will take turns teaching classrooms for all ages. Please remember to practice social distancing.

If you wish to participate but are at health risk, please contact Pastor Heidi to stay connected via Zoom.

Friday Game Nights will continue in March on Fridays, March 5 & 19, at 5:30 p.m. Depending on numbers the group will meet in either the Old Pine Center or Dutch Meeting Hall to practice social distancing.

Children, Youth, and Education Discernment

Tuesday, March 9, at 7:30 p.m.

Due to circumstances our children and youth educational ministries are floundering! We know you care. We know it's important to you. Will you join Pastor Heidi for a Children, Youth, and Education Discernment Pow Wow on Tuesday, March 9, at 7:30 p.m. in the Dutch Meeting Hall to discern where God might be leading us in these ministries?

To succeed can only be made possible with people like you!

Bible Course 101 will continue to meet during the month of March on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.

Good Timers

Thursday, March 11, at 10:00 a.m.

Good Timers will meet on Thursday, March 11, at 10:00 a.m. Pastor Heidi will present a program on her recent Mission Trip to Haiti.

Lunch will be provided – Haitian and Southern food will be on the menu. Therefore, we need everyone attending to please call Dawn Merrell NO LATER than Sunday, March 7, so that we will have a count and have plentiful food.

Circle the date and make plans to attend.
During this period of COVID-19, it is important to keep up with spiritual disciplines like Bible reading, prayer, and giving. Tithes and offerings may be given Online (A service fee is charged for using Online giving.) (https://ulcsalisbury.org/give-online/).

You may also drop off, place in Sundays’ offering basket, or mail checks payable to Union Evangelical Lutheran Church to 4770 Bringle Ferry Road, Salisbury, NC 28146.

Thank you for your faithfulness in all these areas!

**Narthex Expansion Project Update**

The Narthex Expansion Project is now complete and it is time to work toward repaying the funds borrowed from our General Fund. The money is to be paid back without interest over a maximum of ten (10) years. The calculated payment is $1,006.00/month. Let’s praise God for our beautiful new addition and work to get this paid back as soon as possible.

Lenten Services loose offering received will go towards the Franz Merrell Community Crisis Fund.

**March Altar Flowers**

March 7 Branches
March 14 Branches
March 21 Branches
March 28 Palm Sunday Branches
PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 28

As Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday we are drawn into the dramatic turn of events of the last days of Jesus’ life. On Sunday he is welcomed into Jerusalem with shouts of joy and roaring “hosannas.” By the end of the week he will be betrayed, arrested, and abandoned by Passover pilgrims and his closest friends. Things turn quickly from a parade to a death sentence which is carried out on a cross between two thieves.

Journey with us through Holy Week at Union Lutheran Church. We will begin with having palms available to place at the cross outside on Palm Sunday.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

This year beginning on Monday afternoon, March 29, we will have the opportunity to drive to each Station of the Cross for meditation and prayer. Every station resembles the journey Christ took from Gethsemane to Golgatha. This can be a moving experience for individuals and families. Please plan to prayerfully participate in this very personal walk with Jesus. A booklet will be available before the first station to guide you.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 1
3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday recalls Jesus’ last supper with his disciples where he institutes what the church knows as the Sacrament of Holy Communion. As a sign of his servant-love, Jesus washed his disciples’ feet and gave them a new commandment, that they should love one another as he has loved them. We see ourselves in the disciples, who will abandon their Lord in various ways as Jesus makes his way to the cross.

We are excited to announce that we will again be offering the Stations of the Cross this year during Holy Week, however we need YOUR help! 12 crosses are needed. If you are able to assist in building crosses, please contact Phil Cauble (704) 213-0646 or Elbert Kluttz (704) 633-3484.
The Worship & Music Committee invites you to help us bring spring in the Sanctuary this Easter Sunday, April 4. As we make our way through Lent to the glory of Easter morning we look forward to members bringing in their own beautiful spring potted flowers. Examples are tulips, hydrangeas, geraniums, peace lily, gerbera daises, etc.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2
3:30 P.M. & 6:30 P.M.

This holy day recalls the last hours of Jesus' life as the suffering servant is nailed to the cross, fulfilling his mission as the sacrificial Lamb of God. The sinless One takes on humanity's sin as he is betrayed by his closest companions, arrested and sentenced to a shameful death, even as Pontius Pilate finds no fault in him. We see ourselves in the angry crowd and lament our own denial of our Lord.

Mark your calendars now...You may also want to know that after the Good Friday Service, April 2, a Prayer Vigil will be held. If you plan on participating, please sign up on the sheet provided in the Narthex or contact Pastor Heidi.

Also, on Good Friday, our youth will have a Lock-in. We invite the Congregation to sponsor a youth member (funds will go towards Youth Retreats/Trips).

If you would like to participate by sponsoring the youth or can assist with the Lock-in, please sign up on the sheet provided in the Narthex or contact Pastor Heidi. Thank you!

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4
10:30 A.M.

(More information on Easter will be coming soon.)

The resurrection of our Lord ushers in a new reality for those who believe: a new life in Christ. God, who shows no partiality, offers salvation and forgiveness to all who believe. Our confession of faith in the resurrection of Christ is a commitment to a deeper walk with God: one characterized by worship, prayer, and an intentional living out of Jesus' kingdom principles. This Good News is something we have no choice but to respond to.

Did you know that the Mission Team will mail out cards (get well, thinking of you, birthday, etc.) to members of the church? All you have to do is place your card and addressed envelope in the blue basket in the Narthex. The Mission Team will provide the postage and mail the card out for you.
The Long Range Planning Committee is pleased to announce a Spring Yard Sale, Bake Sale, and Car Wash to be held on Saturday, April 24, 2021 from 8am to 1pm. If you are interested in donating items for the yard sale, please contact Brad Huffman (704-798-2528) or Phil Cauble (704-213-0646). Those who would like to make baked goods should be in touch with Kay Morgan (704-633-5773). Proceeds from the Yard Sale and Bake Sale will go toward the Narthex Expansion Project. Proceeds from the Car Wash will benefit the Youth Mission Fund.
PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER…

**Nursing Home Residents** - Brenda Mahaley, Pat & Wayne Miller, Ruth Monroe, and Jane Peeler, (Autumn Care), Jean Ray (Brookdale), and Betty Denker (Trinity Oaks, Apt. 123B)

**Homebound Members** - Rachel Earnhardt, Jean Kluttz, Grace Morgan, Frances Norris, Zarah Plyler, Billy Waller, and Michael Walton


**Continual Prayer** - Nancy Ballew (mother of Kat Clifton), Evonne Batten (mother of Lisa Morgan), Yvette Bates (coworker of Karen Barringer), Vanna Calloway (friend of Kat Clifton), Arnold Cauble, Ophelia Curlee (sister-in-law of Grace Morgan), Karen DeMunbrun (niece of Grace Morgan), June Fraley, James, Amy Lowder Harrison, and Jesse Morgan, Jr., Teresa Kesler, Glenn and Betty Sue Lowder, David Mitchell (friend of Pete Nguyen), Della Morgan (mother of Pam Vellines), Dusty Morgan Family (Dusty, Sr., Lisa, Felisaty, and Dusty, Jr.), Hong Nguyen (mother of Pete Nguyen), John Oddie, Jr. (brother of Ruby Leazer and Ruth Myers), Steven and Malynda Peeler, Steve Pless (friend of Pete Nguyen), Meredith Kesler Trail (daughter of Howell and Teresa Kesler), Jamie Troutman (nephew of Lynn Coughenour), and Union Fire Department #76

**Bible Course 101 Participants:** Judy Boyd, Phil and Linda Cauble, Lynn Coughenour, Scott and Jennifer Curlee, Don and Tara Davis, Brad and Jan Huffman, Steve and Mary Hutchens, Deena Lanning, Janie Lesley, Gladys Morgan, Karen Morgan, Thad and Sonya Mulkey, Pete, Nikki, and Micah Nguyen, Cathy Painther, Doris Shepherd (Out of State: Katrina Koons and Teresa Johnson)

*Remember in Prayer List Note: We strive to list the prayer requests and names correctly. Please let us know if a correction is needed or you would like a name added/or returned to the list. If there is a name that can be removed, please contact the church office with that information as well. In an effort to keep the list current, we will update/remove prayer requests on a monthly basis, with the exception of known prolonged/ongoing issues. Thank you!*
Honorariums and Memorials Gifts Given to the Glory of God during February

During the month of February the loose offering was given to the Social Ministry Fund, Gerald Bame Scholarship Fund, Building and Repair Fund, Lutheridge Scholarship Fund, and Mission Church/ Special Fund.

A gift was received for the Narthex Expansion Fund in honor of Mike and Brenda Cauble from:
Jennifer Painther Curlee

A gift was received for the Narthex Expansion Fund in honor of Tara Davis from:
Jennifer Painther Curlee

A gift was received for the Cemetery Fund in memory of Vonnie Agner from:
Ruth Goodman

Gifts were received for the Cemetery Fund in memory of Mary Brady from:
Catherine Mahaley Sunday School Class
Ruth Goodman

Gifts were received for the Narthex Fund in memory of Mary Brady from:
Franklin and Dawn Merrell
Janet Overcash

A gift was received for the Cemetery Fund in memory of Sylvia Fraley from:
Ruth Goodman

Gifts were received for the Music Fund in memory of Sylvia Fraley from:
William and Karen Jennings
Wilbert and Carolyn Lyerly

A gift was received for the Narthex Expansion Fund in loving memory of my mother, Sylva Fraley, from:
Lucinda Fraley

Gifts were received for the Narthex Expansion Fund in memory of Sylvia Fraley from:
Eric and Lana Brown
Glenda Dean and Family
Emily Jones and Family
Tommy and Joan Kerns
Franklin and Dawn Merrell
Janet Overcash
Jimmy Plyler and Family
Zarah Plyler
Jean Ray
Deborah T. Rinehart
Effie Vellines

A gift was received for the Narthex Expansion Fund in memory of Billy Hutchens from:
Jennifer and Scott Curlee

A gift was received for the Narthex Expansion Fund in memory of Gladys Roseman Lewis from:
Janet Overcash

A gift was received for the Cemetery Fund in memory of the Lyerly Family Members who have passed away from:
Luther and Lauren Lyerly

Gifts were received for the Cemetery Fund in memory of Larry Paul Shepherd from:
Ruth Goodman
Sylvia Peeler

A gift was received for the Cemetery Fund in memory of Nancy Shue from:
Ruth Goodman

A gift was received for the Cemetery Fund in memory of Joan Troutman from:
Ruth Goodman

A gift was received for the Music Fund in memory of Joan Troutman from:
Effie Vellines
Gifts were received for the Narthex Expansion Fund in memory of Larry Paul Shepherd from:
Sarah Bame
Charles and Nelda Howard Bennett
Mike and Brenda Cauble
Sandra Eslick
Thad and Sonya Mulkey
Janet Overcash
William and Doris Page
Vivian Sprinkle
Ronald and Janie Vellines
James and Linda Wilkins

A gift was received for the Cemetery Fund in memory of Bob Wilhelm from:
Ruth Goodman

A gift was received for the Narthex Expansion Fund in memory of Bob Wilhelm from:
Effie Vellines

**NOTES OF THANKS...**

Dear Union Evangelical Lutheran Church,

Thank you for all your prayers and support in 2020—It’s been a difficult year, however we continue to respond to disasters all over the US. I am looking forward to 2021-helping to rebuild homes on Oak Island from Hurricane Isaias and also Pensacola from Hurricane Sally. Thank you again for all that you do!

Mary Bates

To my Union Lutheran Church family

Thank you for all the prayers, calls, cards, food, essentials and love shown to me and my family. Thank you to Pastor Heidi for the visits, prayers, giving Larry communion and all the support. We felt all the love. You are a true blessing.

Yours truly, Doris, Tonya, Tony and Family

**RightNow Media**

RightNow Media is a non-profit organization that firmly believe the mission of the church matters. Everything is rooted in the belief that the church (people not buildings) can have a powerful impact on this world.


If you haven’t signed up, please contact the church office (704) 636-5092 and we will send you an invitation.
Union Ev. Lutheran Church
4770 Bringle Ferry Road
Salisbury, NC 28146
Phone (704) 636-5092
Fax (704) 636-1022
Website: https://ulcsalisbury.org/
Office Hours: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Monday-Friday
Weekly Worship Opportunities:
9:00 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion
(Please remember to practice social distancing.)
Rev. Heidi Punt, Pastor
pastor@ulcsalisbury.org
(815) 883-4883
Pastor T. C. Plexico
Pastor Emeritus
Organist: Tina Brown
organist@ulcsalisbury.org
Staff Support: Genevieve Baker
office@ulcsalisbury.org
genevieve.union@gmail.com
Facilities Manager: Phil Cauble
(704) 213-0646
sexton@ulcsalisbury.org
Lay Ministers:
Judy Boyd (704) 279-5378
Tara Davis (704) 637-9334
John Kesler (704) 633-5702
Elbert Kluttz (704) 633-3484
Deena Lanning (704) 637-0810
Janie Lesley (704) 310-1932
Gladys Morgan (704) 636-1977
Ann Tucker (704) 633-0271

Those Serving in March
Acolytes: Felisaty and Dusty Morgan
Altar Guild: Cathy Painther and Jennifer Curlee
Communion Assistants: Tara Davis, Vicki Hunter and Franklin Merrell
Lay Readers: Dusty Morgan Jr. Family
Ushers: Mike Cauble, Phil Cauble (HU), Elbert Kluttz, and Ronald Vellines

Due to a broken part on the church’s copier, the Financial Reports for November and December have a smudge streak. After we get the part fixed, if you wish to have a clean copy, please contact the church office to have one mailed out.
Thank you to Salem Lutheran Church for printing most of the inserts and March Newsletter!

A charter member of the North American Lutheran Church:
REPORTS, MINUTES, AND OBITUARY

2021 HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES AT UNION

The following activities represent some of the special highlights and events of the year, but they do not cover many daily, weekly, and monthly ministries and activities of Union Evangelical Lutheran Church that takes place in our endeavor to serve our Lord Jesus Christ and proclaim His gospel.

FEBRUARY

- During the month of February, worship and Holy Communion was celebrated in the Sanctuary.
- Also, during the month of February, a love offering was held to assist the Lowder Family on expenses following the death of their granddaughter. As of February 25, we have received $2,995.00.
- On Sunday, February 7, during the 10:30 a.m. worship service the NALC Disaster Response Flood Buckets were blessed.
- Our youth provided and served a pancake supper on Tuesday, February 16, in the Dutch Meeting Hall. Thank you to the volunteers, youth, and everyone who made this event a success!
- Lent began with Ash Wednesday on Wednesday, February 17. Two services were held at 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. The mid-week Lenten series is focusing on the Places of the Passion.
- This year the Lenten Series was led by both Pastor Heidi and Pastor Dieter Punt as they rotated Wednesdays between Union Evangelical Lutheran Church and Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Troutman.
- Sunday sermons during the Lenten Season, the theme is building Healthy Relationships.
- Beginning on Wednesday, February 24, - Wednesday, March 24, soup and sandwich was offered prior to the 6:30 p.m. Lenten Service at 5:45 p.m. in the Dutch Meeting Hall. Thank you to Tara Davis and Mike Cauble for coordinating the Lenten meals.
The Good Timers met for their monthly meeting on Thursday, February 11, 2021. Fourteen members were in attendance. Frank Merrell had the devotions. Glenn Eagle won the door prize. Glenn Eagle and Phil Cauble were welcomed as new members.

Sick Report: Larry Shepherd (critical) and Gladys Morgan (still having knee issues).

January Birthdays: Vivian Sprinkle (2) and LA Earnhardt (25)

February Birthdays: Dawn Merrell (17), Tommy Kerns (23), and Sylvia Peeler (26)

January Wedding Anniversaries: LA and Jimmie Earnhardt (5) and Norman and Sarah Holshouser (27)

February Wedding Anniversaries: Tommy and Joan Kerns (17) and Bill and Joy Earnhardt (22)

The program in March will be given by Pastor Heidi Punt on her mission trip to Haiti. The date is Thursday, March 11, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.

The program today was “Show & Tell” about antiques. Among the antiques shown were old curling irons, a saw blade tooth setter, wire popcorn popper, handmade knives, krawl cutter, darning eggs, a shoe shop lip knife, old kitchen accessories, an old face powder container sheep shearer. There were many more items that kept those attending guessing. Fun was had by all.

The Good Timers were asked to begin saving “J” dollars. These are dollar bills with the letter “J” printed to the left of George Washington’s picture. We invite anyone to participate in this event. The House of Hope (due to COVID and many problems) fell behind on their last payments, so more money is needed for the next payment. “Jesus” dollars will be collected in June so that they may be sent for the July payments. Thank you for your support.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Ruby Leazer, Secretary
The Long Range Planning Committee met on Thursday, February 18, 2021 from 6:30 pm until 8:10 pm.

A Spring Yard Sale, Bake Sale, and Car Wash is to be held on Saturday, April 24, 2021 from 8am to 1pm. Proceeds from the Yard Sale and Bake Sale will go toward the Narthex Expansion Project. Proceeds from the Car Wash will benefit the Youth Fund.

Additional items on the horizon include:
- Evening meals for beginning and ending session of The Bible in 90 Days to be held this summer during the months of June, July, and August.
- Pork butt sale in late October (checking on October 22/23 - with pickup the morning of October 23, 2021)

Brad Huffman will continue as chair. Eddie Morgan is vice-chair. Kathryn Clifton is secretary. And Lucinda Fraley will be the committee treasurer.

The next meeting is planned for Thursday, March 18th, at 6:30pm.
The Council met for its regular monthly meeting on Sunday, January 10th at 3:00 p.m. in the Dutch Meeting Hall. Members present were: Lynn Coughenour, Sonya Mulkey, Brad Huffman, Jennifer Painther Curlee, Ron Vellines, Larry Barringer, and Matt Miller along with Pastor Heidi Punt. Lucinda Fraley, Gladys Morgan, Mary Elizabeth Earnhardt, Don Davis, and Steve Hutchens were absent.

Jennifer Curlee opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.

ADOPT AGENDA
Pastor Heidi requested “Great Commission Team” be pulled off of “Old Business” since it’s in their report.

A motion was made by Jennifer Curlee and seconded by Larry Barringer to adopt the amended agenda. The motion was unanimously approved.

COUNCIL MINUTES: Sonya Mulkey
The Council Minutes from the December 6th Council meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Brad Huffman and seconded by Jennifer Curlee to approve the minutes as written. The motion was unanimously approved.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Lucinda Fraley
No Report

SOCIAL MINISTRY FUND
Balance - $3,348.12

CEMETERY FUND: Don Davis
Balance – $1,324.95

PASTOR’S REPORT: Pastor Heidi Punt shared her report with the Council.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT: Lynn Coughenour
- Lynn will attend Carolinas Mission Region Executive Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 26th, at Bethel Lutheran Church, Lincolnton, NC.
- Lucinda Fraley will provide devotions at the February Council Retreat.
- Gladys Morgan is scheduled to count offerings for February but may need to switch months.
- Lynn will be out of town on the following dates: Thursday, January 14 – Friday, January 22
Thursday, February 4 – Sunday, February 7 (tentative)
Friday, February 12 – Friday, February 19 (tentative)
Jennifer Curlee will be in charge of council-related items.

**VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** Jennifer Painther Curlee
Music Director Update – Will move forward with conversations with the applicants and the Committee.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**CEMETERY:** Don Davis
No Report

**SOCIAL MINISTRY:**
No Report

**EVANGELISM/MISSION:** Don Davis
Will meet January 12th at 7:30 p.m.
$995.00 has been collected so far for the flood buckets/disaster relief project.

**YOUTH and FAMILY MINISTRIES:**
No Report

**STEWARDSHIP/LONG RANGE PLANNING:** Brad Huffman
Brad is meeting with Pastor Heidi today at 5:00 p.m. to work on meeting schedule.

**PROPERTY:**
Patrick and Matt Miller and some of their employees have reset the fountain in the front yard of the church.

There was a request for a new air compressor at a cost of $250.00 (was stolen out of the building).

A motion was made by Larry Barringer and seconded by Jennifer Curlee to approve the request to purchase the air compressor. The motion was unanimously approved.

Next Property meeting is scheduled for February 9th at 6:00 p.m.

**WORSHIP & MUSIC:** Jennifer Painther Curlee
Next meeting is March 2nd at 5:30 p.m.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**
The next meeting will be January 13th at 7:00 p.m.
NEW BUSINESS:
• Parking Lot services will be held through January with no communion.
• Pastor Heidi will be in Haiti January 16th-23rd.
• January 17th – It was suggested that Pete Nguyen lead Worship and read the sermon. A motion was made by Jennifer Curlee and seconded by Brad Huffman to approve Pete Nguyen to lead Worship on January 17th. The motion was unanimously approved.
• January 24th – Melanie Corn, CMR Youth Coordinator and candidate for Word and Service will lead parking lot worship with no communion. She will need reimbursement for mileage, accommodations, and service. Pastor Heidi will ask her to provide an invoice. A motion was made by Jennifer Curlee and seconded by Ron Vellines to provide mileage, accommodation, and service to Melanie Corn for January 24th. The motion was unanimously approved.
• Financial Ministry: Counters, Income, Expense, Oversight – Amanda Cauble and Mary Hutchens have volunteered to assist with the Financial duties. A motion was made by Brad Huffman and seconded by Jennifer Curlee to schedule a training by Kathy Hefner for the Financial Process. The motion was unanimously approved.
• A motion was made by Larry Barringer and seconded by Ron Vellines to remove Kay Morgan as a signer at SunTrust Bank and to add Lynn Coughenour and Jennifer Curlee as signers. The motion was unanimously approved.
• A gift of $2,500.00 was received from a couple that follows Pastor Heidi in her ministries. A motion was made by Jennifer Curlee and seconded by Brad Huffman to designate $250.00 to Rowan Helping Ministries, $750.00 to the Summer Youth Mission Trip, $750.00 to the Narthex Fund, and $750.00 to the General Fund. The motion was unanimously approved.
• Youth Minister – A motion was made by Brad Huffman and seconded by Larry Barringer to discontinue paying Lisa Davis for Youth Ministry since it’s not viable at this time. The motion was unanimously approved. She will be paid through the end of February.
• Appointment of Committee Representatives/Liaisons for 2021:

Cemetery – Don Davis
Social Ministry – Ron Vellines
Evangelism/Great Commission Team – Mary Elizabeth Earnhardt
Youth and Family Ministries – Matt Miller
Stewardship/Long Range – Brad Huffman
Property – Larry Barringer
Worship and Music – Steve Hutchens

OLD BUSINESS:
The Executive Committee will meet Thursday, February 11th at 5:30 p.m. in the Old Pine Center.
The next Council Meeting will be the Council Retreat on Saturday, February 20th, from 9:00-3:00 in Mike Cauble’s Shed/Garage. Meals will be provided by Mike and his team. Please offer to donate or help.

The Congregational Council Meeting adjourned with The Lord’s Prayer at 5:10 p.m.

These Minutes were approved at the February 20th Council Retreat.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sonya Mulkey, Secretary
Larry Paul Shepherd, 73, of Salisbury went home to be with the Lord on Friday, February 12, 2021 at the W.G. Bill Hefner VA Medical Center in Salisbury. Born in Rowan County on December 18, 1947, he was the son of the late Pearl Eva Mae Cress and George Frank Shepherd.

Larry was a 1966 graduate of East Rowan High School and a veteran of the US Army. He worked as an automobile mechanic for Carter-Mays Pontiac Cadillac in Salisbury. He was a member of Union Lutheran Church and volunteered for the Union Volunteer Fire Department.

Larry loved his granddaughters and the mountains. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Bill Shepherd. Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Doris Goodwin Shepherd, whom he married on August 6, 1967; son, Anthony “Tony” Paul Shepherd (Pam) of Summerville, SC; daughter, Tonya Shepherd Darling (Scott) of Concord, NC; brother, A.W. Shepherd (Debbie) of Salisbury; sister, Linda Shepherd Wilkins (Jim) of Benson, NC; grandchildren, Taryn and Marissa Moyer.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at Union Lutheran Church, 4770 Bringle Ferry Rd, Salisbury, NC 28146, with Pastor Heidi Punt officiating. A visitation will follow the memorial service. Lyerly Funeral Home is serving the Shepherd family. Online condolences may be made at www.lyerlyfuneralhome.com.

To Plant Memorial Trees in memory, please visit our Sympathy Store.
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<td>25 Mark Cauble</td>
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<td>28 Palm Sunday Called Congregation Meeting following 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</td>
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**March Anniversaries:**
- March 6 Randy and Ouida Davis
- March 20 Joel and Tonya Burgess
- March 27 Paul and Lynn Coughenour
- March 28 Steve and Mary Hutchens
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**March – dates/times subject to change**

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2021 Church Yearbooks will be available to pick up.