



KIMBALL COMMUNICATOR

Kimball Memorial Lutheran Church

101 Vance St. Kannapolis, NC 28081

Online at: www.kimballchurch.org

Phone 704-933-4101



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FROM THE PASTOR

From Lament to Hope



As I write this meditation, we are just now getting over an attempted shooting at a major Washington, DC event which included numerous government figures in attendance. In these first four months of 2026, we have an on-going conflict involving the USA, Iran, and Israel; there have been mass shootings in Louisiana, Texas, Idaho...and just an hour up the road in Winston-Salem. And fluctuations in oil prices and the stock market have many Americans shaking their heads at the uncertainties that are all around us. It has been a difficult year for our nation and our world.

The prophets of old were well versed in the pain and suffering that can mark life. Particularly the weeping Prophet – Jeremiah – speaks of the destruction of the Holy City of Jerusalem with these somber words:

*She weeps bitterly in the night, her tears on her cheek.
None of her lovers comfort her.
All her friends lied to her;
they have become her enemies. (Lamentations 1:2)*

We believe we are more sophisticated than our “primitive” forebears in the faith. Yet they may have been much more honest than us about the hard realities that face us as members of the human race. It is not an easy life that we live, as we face the realities of difficult family issues, sicknesses, a weak economy, unemployment and underemployment, and – always – the threat of hate and violence in our world. But the people of Biblical days were honest enough to let their grief and sadness and fear be heard because they had the profound trust that there is a God, who – in the midst of grief and suffering – yet remains an eternal source of comfort and hope.

Perhaps it’s not that we moderns cannot voice our grief. Perhaps it’s that we no longer trust in a personal God who desires to wipe away our tears and give us a new beginning!

With the simple trust of a child, the Prophet was able to express faith in a God who never stops loving us:

*Certainly the faithful love of the Lord hasn’t ended;
certainly God’s compassion isn’t through!
They are renewed every morning.
Great is your faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:22-23)*

Here is the great promise of a loving God who knows and understands our tears and promises us great compassion. From Lament to HOPE. How thankful we are for God’s great love and strength – this day and every day! AMEN..... Pastor John



**8:30 am
Contemporary**

**11:00 am
Traditional**

Online On YouTube

STAFF

Rev. John Futterer
Senior Pastor

Deacon Liz Fisher,
Youth & Family

Keith Sutton
Parish Administrator

Brian Sevison
Music Director

Tim Patterson
Treasurer

Howard Bentley
Financial Administrator

Rev. Dr. David R. Keck,
Pastor Emeritus

ADULT *Sunday* SCHOOL

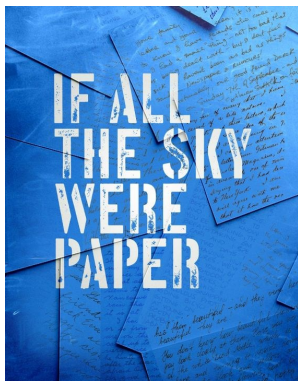


THE TABLE CLASS

You are invited to the Table Sunday School class as we explore our faith in a relaxed atmosphere. We meet in the far left corner upstairs in the education wing at 10:00 am.

THE JOE GRIBBLE CLASS

The Joe Gribble Sunday School class meets every Sunday in the Joe Gribble Classroom in the educational wing at 10:00 am.



JOY GROUP OUTING MAY 14 AT 5:00 PM

Join the Joy Group for an evening of fellowship and meaningful storytelling on Thursday, May 14! We will meet at the church at 5:00 pm, head out for dinner together, and then enjoy the powerful production of *"If All the Sky Were Paper"* at the Old Courthouse Theatre.

This moving performance is based on real wartime letters collected by author Andrew Carroll, capturing stories of love, courage, sacrifice, and hope from across generations and around the world.


To read more about the play, [Read More](#)

Sign-ups are available in the Narthex—don't miss this meaningful night together!

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

Children's Faith Formation meets weekly, please join us in the Youth Room for the opening at 10:00 am each Sunday morning, we will have an opening, snacks, our bible story and a craft. We hope you can join us.




 HS/MS

Youth Cookout / End-of-Year Party – May 17

All middle and high school youth are invited to celebrate the end of the program year on Sunday, May 17 at 2:30 pm at Liz's house! We'll fire up the grill for hot dogs and hamburgers and enjoy a fun-filled afternoon of games, laughter, and faith.

Come ready to relax, connect, and celebrate all that God has done this year!


Please Note *if there is bad weather our rain plan would be to go out to Lunch, we will notify everyone as we get closer to the date.*

 Kingdom Kids & 3–5 Alive

Mini Golf – May 31

Our Kingdom Kids and 3rd–5th grade group will head out for an afternoon of fun on Sunday, May 31 from 2:00–3:30 pm at Jacko's Mini Golf!

Cost is \$10 per child. We'll meet at Jacko's, enjoy a round of mini golf, and cool off with snow cones afterward. It's a great way to wrap up the program year together!

 Graduation

Recognition Sunday – May 31

Join us on Sunday, May 31 at our 10:00 AM worship service as we celebrate our graduating seniors: **Kendra Nichols, Nathan Carpenter, Jack Smith, and Owen Whitcomb.**

Following worship, PJ, Deacon Liz and our Graduates will all gather for lunch to honor their accomplishments and bless them as they begin their next chapter.

YOUTH SUMMER DATES

- Lutheridge / Campfirmation.....Jun 21-26
- Kimball KampJun 8-12
Jun 15-19
Jun 29-Jul 3
- HS Mission TripJul 19-24

NEW MEMBERS

TERESA CARTAFALSA

joined us via Transfer. Teresa was born in New York City but spent much of her growing up years in New Jersey. She worked for Citigroup as an Administrative Assistant, spending many of those years in Long Island. She has five children, 11 grandchildren, and two great grandchildren, including some who live here in Kannapolis. Teresa enjoys quilting, reading, and gardening...and she has already involved herself in Worship and Sunday School, JOY Fellowship, and our Wednesday Morning Bible Study. Sponsored by Rob and Kathy Roginski.

Address: 410 West 10th Street, Kannapolis.

Phone: 203-505-9012

Email: TeresaMcarta@gmail.com

WILLIAM AND CAROL CROTSLEY

joined us also by Transfer. William spent time in the US Army, and now is a truck driver for CleanEarth, a company which handles the disposal of Hazardous Waste. He enjoys football (especially the Miami Dolphins) and family...including their white American Bulldog with beautiful blue eyes – Titus. Carol is in Human Resources at Gerdau Industries in Charlotte. She enjoys yard work, gardening, music, her family, and golf. The family has two married children and a granddaughter. They were sponsored by Keith and Fran Garver.

Address: 1584 Matthew Allen Circle, Kannapolis.

Phone: 980-435-7527

Email: wcrotsley@gmail.com

JAMES THOMAS CARROLL

joined us via Holy Baptism. He is the son of Elizabeth Whitley Carroll (the daughter of our late Whit Whitley) and Arthur Carroll. We were pleased to welcome many members of James Thomas' family – maternal grandmother Cathy Whitley, paternal grandparents Arturo and Marsha Carroll from Maryland, and Kimball Memorial Members Karan Whitley, Greg and Lori Whitcomb and their children, Owen and Aubrey.

NEW MEMBERS

LOGAN, DANIELLE AND AIDEN WALKER

joined us, all by Holy Baptism. Logan is a graduate of Rowan County's Early College Program, and then attended UNC Charlotte for undergraduate school and Western Governors' University for his Master's Degree. He is a Pharmacy Tech with Novant Rowan Medical Center. He enjoys travel, history, and cooking. Danielle is also a native of Salisbury and a graduate of the Early College in Rowan County. Her degree is from Meredith College, and she works as an Accounting Technician at the Rowan County Department of Social Services. She enjoys travel, baking, and taking care of Aiden. Aiden Ridge was born on November 2nd, 2023 and attends Partners in Learning in Salisbury. He loves Scooby Doo, Monster Trucks, and Dinosaurs. The family was sponsored by Alice Lloyd (a good friend of Aiden's great grandmother, Betty Walker.)

Address: 225 Ted Lane in Salisbury

Phone: 704-797-6124

Email: walkerlogan12@yahoo.com

Other new members will be received this Summer. We look forward to those new members with great joy!

MILITARY

- Rajeem Baptist (Washington)
- Robert Busteed, Jr. (Virginia)
- Christopher Bame (Georgia)
- Sinatra Dreisbach (Nevada)
- Mason Hott (Georgia)
- Ben Kirchner (Georgia)
- Chris Kirchner (Missouri)
- Preston Mays (Maryland)
- Chris Overcash (North Carolina)
- Andrew Smith (Arizona)

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

CAREMOOR Aileen Tiece

AVANTE OF CONCORD Dianne Marlin

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

DATE	COUPLE	YRS
5-May	Mickey & Paula BRANDLE	53
12-May	Barry & Briton CHRISTENSON	19
	Randy & Amy PRICE	42
14-May	John & Anne FUTTERER	43
	Phil & Lynda WISE	54
	Rick & Doris TEUMER	41
19-May	Robert & Kathy MEACHAM	53
20-May	Jerry & Pat BEAM	64
21-May	Bo & Tiffany Winn PHONGSA	8
	Steven & Ali POOLE	27
25-May	Steve & Peggy LYNCH	46
	Sally & Mark PETERSON	41
	Tyler & Jennifer RAMSEY	24
26-May	Howard & Diana BENTLEY	42
	Eric & Jenny JONES	24
27-May	Brian & Kim VOELKER	31
28-May	Eric & Kaylee HELFRICH	10
29-May	Joe & Beth GRIBBLE	44
31-May	Ron & Michele NICHOLS	23

PRAYER REQUESTS

KIMBALL MEMBERS

Bonnie and Lonny Adair, Sylvia Anderson, Susan Bame, Jerry and Pat Beam, Sherri Bennett, Howard and Diana Bentley, Silvia Binnon, Robin Ballard, Pat and Jerry Beam, Sydney Bradford, Allen Brantley, Brad Brothers, Sharon and Doug Brothers, Florence Calandra, Bretta Dodson, Lisa and Eddie Dunlow, Betsy Ellington-Boynton, Teresa Erwin, Shelly and Ava Farris, Liz Fisher, Sudie Foil, Pastor John and Anne Futterer, Fran and Keith Garver, John Glass, Todd Haley, Ryan Hardister, Susan and Jim Harris, Prebble Henrickson, Kathy and Mike Hunter, Tim and Huyla Jackson, Sherry Johnson, Eric and Jenny Jones, David and Diana Keck, Wilma Keller, Sarah and Skylar Kempf, Steve and Peggy Lynch, Ed MacTaggart, Grace Marcus, Dianne Marlin, Margaret McCombs, Andrea, Wayne, Colby, Gus Miller, Heather and Charlie Miller, Pat Moser, Murph Family, Betty Ritchie, Lisa Robinson, Kip Russell, Juanene Savage, Kathy Scott, Roger Sizemore, David Sloan and Family, Mary Jo Snipes and Family, Jean Tatarka, David and Donna Taylor, Debbie Troutman, Betty Walker, Gary Yount

M A Y B I R T H D A Y S

DATE	NAME
2-May	Eric HELFRICH
	Eric SCHRIVER
3-May	Adriana MAZARRO
	Maryn MYRICK
5-May	Laura PENNELL
7-May	Cathy ALTMANN
	Karen MCCALL
8-May	Pat BEAM
	Lois O'MILLIAN
	Asa RUSSELL
9-May	Ed MACTAGGART
10-May	Jessica DUNLOW
	Alexander ROBINSON
11-May	Palmer RUSSELL
	Marlaine WHEATLEY
12-May	Tony LIPPARD
	Roger SIZEMORE
13-May	Connor KEITH
15-May	Richard HARTMAN
	Robert TATARKA
16-May	Joe GRIBBLE
	Sarah HARMON
17-May	Delaney LITTLE
	Milton MATHENY
17-May	Owen WHITCOMB
22-May	Jennifer RIDGELL
	Betsy SMITH
25-May	Sharon BROTHERS
	Bretta DODSON
	Genevieve SCHRIVER
28-May	R.J. BAPTIST JR.
	John CAUTHEN
	Jane FALLS
	Paige GUY
29-May	Monroe RITCHIE JR
30-May	Shana BLACK
	Kemrie CAUTHEN
	Kendra NICHOLS
	Travis PRICE
31-May	Caleb FALLS
	Zackary HILL
	Tyler NICHOLS
	Zoey NICHOLS

MAY 2026 SUNDAY MINISTERS

8:30	LECTOR	WORSHIP ASSISTANT	ACOLYTE	COMMUNION HELPER	SOUND	PROJECTION
3-May	David Sloan	Donna Taylor	TJ Black	Charlie Miller	Rick Teumer	Nathan Carpenter
10-May	Sarah Harmon	Tim Patterson	Lucy Miller	Delaney Little	Jack Smith	Liz Fisher
17-May	Emily Clamser	Ava Ramsey	Charlie Miller	Lucy Miller	Andy Robinson	Delaney Little
24-May	Sharon Brothers	Sarah Kempf	Palmer Russell	Asa Russell	Patrick Little	Paul Smith

11:00	LECTOR	WORSHIP ASSISTANT	ACOLYTE	COMMUNION HELPER	SOUND	PROJECTION
3-May	Sally Peterson	Kathy Hunter	Aubrey Gregory	Harmony Gegory	Gavin Joyce	Gavin Carpenter
10-May	Jerrold Smith	Lindsay Daugherty	Anniston Wheatley	Blaine Wheatley	Colby Miller	Gus Miller
17-May	Hannah Wiethorn	Michele Nichols	Liam Hesley	Lucas Hesley	Gavin Carpenter	Leam Neely
24-May	Anne Futterer	Owen Whitcomb	Amara Selsay	Rory Hesley	Bo Phongsa	Tiffany Winn

10:00	LECTOR	WORSHIP ASSISTANT	ACOLYTE	COMMUNION HELPER	SOUND	PROJECTION
31-May	Diana Bentley	Liz Fisher	Skylar Kempf	Aubrey Gregory	Gavin Carpenter	Leam Neely

Wednesday Bible Study	6-May	13-May	20-May	27-May
	Pastor John	Deacon Liz	Rob Roginski	Pastor Joe

FLOWER CALENDAR	
3-May	Hesley
10-May	Futterer
17-May	Natalie Keith
24-May	Milton & Sherr Matheny
31-May	Ron & Michele Nichols

	8:30	11:00
Greeters	Melissa, Sarah & Skylar Kempf	Hannah Wiethorn/ Tom Ramseur
Council Assistants	Emily Clamser/ Rob Roginski	Sally Peterson/ Sydney Bradford
Healing Prayer	Debbie Troutman	Anne Futterer
Communion Prep	Melissa, Sarah & Skylar Kempf	Kathy Hunter/ Tony Lippard
Tellers	Shirley Miller / Kathy Hunter	
Slide Prep	Mary Lee Blackwelder-May 3 / Kara Hardister-rest of May	



CONGRATULATIONS HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES!

It's with great joy that we congratulate the following good folks who will be graduating in May. We are so pleased that all four of our graduates have been most involved in the Life and Ministry of our congregation!



Nathan Carpenter will graduate from Northwest Cabarrus High School and will be entering the United States Marine Corps in August of this year. Nathan has been very active at Kimball Memorial Lutheran Church since he was in elementary school, particularly involving himself in our Youth Group – where he's attended Campfirmation and all our Mission Trips...and in our on-line services, where he has been indispensable. At Northwest High School, Nathan has been very active in Junior ROTC, including involving the group in activities here at Kimball.



Kendra Nichols will graduate from Jay M. Robinson High School and will attend Bluefield State University in Bluefield, West Virginia on a softball scholarship this fall. Kendra joined our church with her family right before the pandemic and, with her family, has been most active in Youth and worship at Kimball Memorial, including attending Campfirmation and all our Mission Trips. At Robinson High School, Kendra played on both the Women's Tennis and Softball Teams, excelling in both sports.



Jack Smith will graduate from Jesse C. Carson High School and will attend North Carolina State University in Raleigh this fall. Jack has been a member at Kimball Memorial all his life. Jack has involved himself in our Children's Ministries and in Youth Group – he's attended Campfirmation and made every Mission Trip with our group, is active with the on-line ministry of our church, and is a Worship Assistant at the 8:30 Service. At Carson High School, Jack has been a member of both the Cross Country and Swim Teams, excelling and enjoying both.



Owen Whitcomb will graduate from Northwest Cabarrus High School and will attend North Carolina State University in Raleigh this fall. Owen has also been most active in our church his whole life, being involved in our Children's and Youth Ministries, attending Campfirmation and attending all our Mission Trips, working around a job to be involved in church, and serving as a Worship Assistant at the 11:00 Worship Service. At Northwest High School, Owen was active with the Cross Country Team, enjoying and excelling in both.

We are so pleased to recognize these graduates, and to celebrate with their families and friends all of their accomplishments. They will be recognized at the one 10:00 Worship Service at Kimball Memorial on May 31st.



IMPORTANT PAYMENT REMINDERS



HS Mission Trip

Payment #2 (\$100) is due by May 14.

Kimball Kamp

Payment Schedule:

- Week 1: Due Sunday, May 24
- Week 2: Due Sunday, May 31
- Week 3: Due Sunday, June 14 If your child is attending all three weeks, please ensure at least your deposit and \$200 has been paid toward Week 1.

Lutheridge Camp

Payments and Paperwork:

Payments and paperwork must be submitted to camp by **May 21**. Please copy Deacon Liz (youth@kimballchurch.org) on all forms so we have a copy for the trip. Camp cost is approximately \$300–\$350 depending on the program.



LUTHERIDGE DATES FOR 2026

A chartered bus will be leaving for Lutheridge on Sunday afternoon, June 21st. Our group will return to Kimball Memorial the afternoon of June 26th. All children/youth of the congregation are invited to spend the week at Camp that week – Deacon Liz, Jodie Hott, Laura Pennell, and Pastor John will be at Lutheridge that week, with our young people. If you have questions about this week of camp, please contact the Church Office or Deacon Liz directly for more information. Scholarships are available to help defray the cost of camp, and Kimball Memorial also helps with the cost of Camp.

A Faith-based Summer Day Camp



SAVE THE DATES AND JOIN US!

KIMBALL KAMP

Kimball Kamp Day Camp is open for Registration. We will hold a Day Camp at Kimball for 3 weeks this Summer and hope that our families can join us. This camp is for Preschool students through 5th grade. The cost of Kamp is \$250.00 for the first week, \$375 for 2 weeks and \$475 for all three weeks. Please let Deacon Liz know if you have any questions and we look forward to having a fun filled Summer Experience together.

If you have a high school student that would like to work at Kimball Kamp we have plenty of opportunities. We will employ both our high school and middle school youth to help around camp. This will be on a first come first serve basis and we will have an application process that will start at the beginning of April. We hope your young person can come and help us this summer!

You can register for Kamp by going to <https://tinyurl.com/5aaa259t>

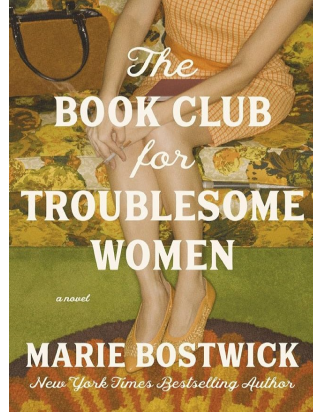




KIMBALL MEMORIAL BOOK CLUBS

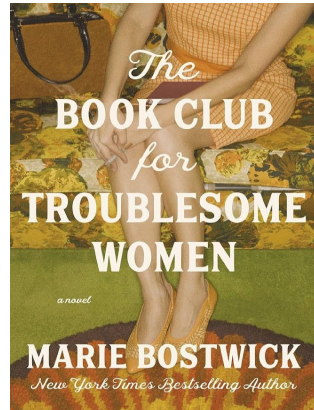
Tuesday Morning Book Club

Date: May 12 10:00 am
Location: Church Parlor
Book: *The Book Club for Troublesome Women*
Author: Marie Bostwick



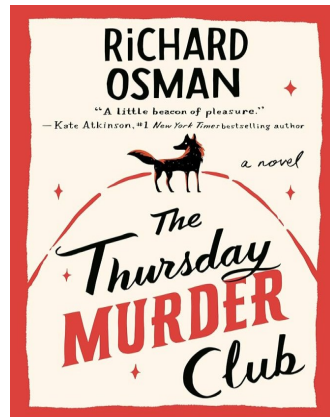
Tuesday Evening Book Club

Date: May 5 6:30 pm
Host: Fran Garver
Refreshments: Laura Abernathy
Book: *The Book Club for Troublesome Women*
Author: Marie Bostwick



Friday Evening Book Club

Date: May 15 6:30 pm
Host: Patterson
Refreshments: Thacker/Patterson
Book: *The Thursday Murder Club*
Author: Richard Osman



CHURCH COUNCIL



GREETINGS FROM YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL,

- To help offset the cost of the camp for Kimball Youth and Carver youth to attend one week of summer camp at Lutheridge, we need your support. Kimball will be sponsoring nine youth from Carver Elementary to attend. The Fellowship Committee and Table Sunday School Class will be hosting dinner and entertainment on Sunday, May 3rd at 6:00 pm. All proceeds will go to this great experience for the youth. There is a sign-up sheet in the bulletin
- Registration for Kimball Kamp's 3 weeks of fun is still available. Information to register is located in the Bulletin. If you need more information regarding the Kamp, please see Deacon Liz.
- We received a Thank You letter from the NC Synod of the ELCA for our Mission Support offering of \$25,300. Mission Support helps sustain a wide range of shared ministries such as: leadership development, new and renewing congregations, global missions, disaster response and campus and youth ministries.
- Thank you to Sara and Scott Harmon for representing Kimball at the NC Synod Gathering at Lenoir-Rhyne University. They will be attending, along with the Pastor John, May 28th - 30th.
- And lastly, our year to date income is \$125,186 against our budget of \$130,875.

April Schedule

- May 21 3:00 pm—6:00 pm
- May 22 12:00 pm—5:00 pm
- May 23 10:00 am—2:00 pm



MAY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
Easter 5 7:15a Men's Breakfast 8:30a Contemporary Worship 10:00a Faith Formation 10:00a Adult/ HS/MS Sun School 11:00a Traditional Worship 6:00p Summer Camp Fundraiser	4	5 6:30p Book Club at Garvers	6 10:00a Bible Study-John 6:30p Early Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	7 5:00p Samaritan's Table-Peterson	8 11:00a Mother's Day Tea- Preschool	9
Easter 6 8:30a Contemporary Worship 10:00a Faith Formation 10:00a Adult/ HS/MS Sun School 11:00a Traditional Worship	11	12 10:00a Book Club-Parlor	13 10:00a Bible Study-Liz 6:30p Early Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	14 5:00p Samaritan's Table-Futterer 5:00p JOY Group-Dinner & Play	15 6:30p Book Club at Pattersons	16
Easter 7 8:30a Contemporary Worship 10:00a Faith Formation 10:00a Adult/ HS/MS Sun School 11:00a Traditional Worship 12:15p Confirmation-1 st Alb 2:30p Youth Cookout 4:00p Preschool Graduation	18	19 10:00a Coltrane Life Center-Bingo	20 10:00a Bible Study-Rob 6:30p Early Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	21 3:00p-6:00p Vet Clinic (Cats Only) 5:00p Samaritan's Table-Boynnton 7:00p Church Council	22 12:00p - 5:00p Vet Clinic	23 10:00a - 2:00p Vet Clinic
Pentecost 8:30a Contemporary Worship 10:00a Faith Formation 10:00a Adult/ HS/MS Sun School 11:00a Traditional Worship 2:00p Graduation Party- Commons reserved	Memorial Day 25 10:30-11:30a Senior Food Program Distribution <i>Office Closed</i>	26	27 10:00a Bible Study-Pr. Joe 6:30p Early Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	28 5:00p Samaritan's Table-Tallent	29	30
Holy Trinity 10:00a One Service-Grad Sunday 2:00p Kingdom Kids/3-5 Alive Mini Golf						



**BLESSING BOX
URGENT NEEDS
MAY 2026**

- Canned pinto, kidney, chili, black beans, etc
- Canned carrots and peas
- Canned spaghetti sauce
- Capri Suns or juice boxes
- Bottled Water (4oz or 8oz)
- Bar Soap and deodorant
- Pasta noodles

Please ensure all food items are sealed and within expiration date.

DROP-OFF LOCATION:

Top of ramp in designated bin or on the table in the Blessing Box room.

**FOR QUESTIONS
CALL, EMAIL OR TEXT:**

- Kara Hardister
980-622-8125
Karahardister82@gmail.com
- Church office



The Piedmont Choral Society

presents

Voices, Verse, and Song

AN AMERICAN CHORAL LANDSCAPE

WITH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

MAY 1ST -7:00PM

MAY 3RD -3:00PM

FREE ADMISSION



Joseph Judge, Director

Featuring music rooted in the American choral tradition; hymns and spirituals, Broadway and film classics, and poetry by Robert Frost, Sara Teasdale, and James Agee.

First Baptist Church
200 Branchview Dr. SE
Concord, NC 28025



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