



April Newsletter

Dear Roberta Church Family,

Holy Week is sacred ground. It invites us to walk closely with Jesus not just toward the **empty tomb**, but through the **painful path that leads to it**. And yet, if we're honest, many of us want to jump straight to Sunday morning. We love the sound of victory. We long for the hallelujahs. But we mustn't rush past the silence of Saturday or the suffering of Friday.

Jesus didn't bypass the cross to get to the resurrection and neither should we. The betrayal in the garden, the trial before Pilate, the weeping at the foot of the cross, **all of it matters**. Every moment reveals the depth of Christ's love and the weight of the salvation He offers us.

This Holy Week, I invite you to feel the whole story. Let yourself sit with the discomfort of grief and the ache of waiting. Don't be numb to it or skip it. **Feel it**. Because in those moments of pain and sorrow, God meets us with a love that holds nothing back.

Easter is coming but let it come on its own time. First, we remember. First, we weep. And in doing so, we better understand the **glory that breaks through the grave**.

God loves you more than words can say and that love is written in every page of the Passion story.

With love and grace,



"He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief... Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows."

— Isaiah 53:3-4



Tar Heel Pie

Submitted by:

Carol Rebbert & Linda Lowder

1 cup semisweet chocolate chips
1/2 cup butter, melted
1 cup pecans
1/2 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup brown sugar
2 eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla
Pinch of salt

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
Prepare 9 in. pie crust. Put chips in bowl, pour melted butter over them. & stir until chips are mostly melted. Add remaining ingredients, stirring well. Pour into pie crust. Bake for 30-40 min. until filling forms a smooth brown crust and begins to pull away from crust. Filling will be wet in center but will form up as it cools. Wait one hour before slicing.

Recipe Books can be purchased through any Lydia member for \$12.00 each.

NEWS FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

CONTRIBUTIONS

You can designate a gift for a special purpose. Please mark it on your check or envelope. Also, if you would like to place funds in honor or memory of anyone please put the name and designation on your envelope and it will be listed in the monthly Reporter.

General Fund – Daily work of the church, payroll and upkeep
Building Fund/Forward in Faith - Church building projects

Cemetery Fund – Upkeep of cemetery grounds
Community Outreach Mission – Assist anyone within the church/community with a financial need
Capital Fund – please designate which cause you want your funds applied:

- **Multi-Media**
- **Music for Children/Youth**
- **Music-Choir, Hand bells**

Church Fund Balances — February 28, 2025

General Fund Operating Budget Checking Acct.	\$115,151.34
General Fund CD	\$101,330.09
Total General Fund	\$216,481.43
Capital Fund / General Fund	\$11,028.61
Capital Fund / Music - Children / Youth	\$2,662.26
Capital Fund / Multi - Media	\$860.68
Capital Fund / Adult Choir - Hand bells	\$1,081.97
Capital Fund / Disaffiliation	\$6,587.98
Total Capital Fund	\$22,221.50
Parsonage Fund	\$280,915.29
Building Fund Checking Account	\$5,193.60
Building Fund Money Market	\$73,043.89
Building Fund CD	\$81,064.07
Total Building Fund	\$159,301.56
Missions Community Outreach Fund	\$13,330.35
Cemetery Fund Checking	\$11,843.42
Cemetery Fund CD– 1	\$22,180.46
Cemetery Fund CD– 2	\$31,268.66
Total Cemetery Fund	\$65,292.54
Educational Fund CD	90,000.00
Year to Date:	
January 1, 2025 thru February 28, 2025	
General Fund Income:	\$48,299.35
Expenses:	\$47,637.15

MEMORIALS

A Gift was given to the Building Fund in Memory of Lawton Henry Hatley Jr. by:

Mike & Doris Burris

A Gift was given to the Building Fund in Memory of Judy White by:

Mike & Doris Burris

Nelson & Joyce Hardister

Gene and Helen Gaddy

A Gift was given to the Cemetery Fund in memory of Judy White by:

Buck & Melissa Little

Gifts were given to the Building Fund in memory of Larry Jones by:

Shari Hanson

Melba Dorton & Jessie Jones

A Gift was given to the Building Fund in memory of Judy White by:

Shari Hanson

A Gift was given to the Captial - Multi Media Fund in memory of Judy White by:

Jim and Terri Killian



“We Can Do It Campaign” / “A Can in Each Hand”

We continue to gather coins for our “Can in Each Hand” and the funds go into our building fund for future projects. A total of **\$856.55** was collected in February for a total of **\$1,494.75** for 2025. Thank you for your contribution.

Remember to bring in your cans of food for the needy in Cabarrus County. These go to Cooperative Christian Ministry to help those who need food. Also, bring food for Esther’s Heart, Backpacks for Hope. This helps feed hungry children in our community.





Roberta ReFRESH Team

- Barbara Anderson
- Jayda Brooks
- Katie Dahl
- Susan Ferguson
- Joyce Hardister
- Eric Howie
- Lisa Linker
- Melissa Little
- Sharon Straub
- Rob Sossamon
- Emma Thompson
- Savannah Thompson
- Kari Thompson

Out of Scope

- Stain Glass Windows
- Piano/Organ
- Media Booth
- Choir Loft Configuration

Note: Refresh includes the Narthex.

ReFRESH Update – Sanctuary & Narthex

We're excited to share a quick update on the ReFRESH activities for our Sanctuary and Narthex. We are currently awaiting design proposals from Church Interiors, which will give us the opportunity to review their ideas and provide thoughtful feedback before anything is finalized.

In addition, the team is exploring potential modifications to the platform area that supports the altar table, pulpit, and choir with the goal of enhancing both function and appearance.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support as we move forward in faith together!



ARE YOU A VETERAN?

We would like to update our records regarding members of our church who have served in the military. Here is what we have below. If you are a veteran and do not see your name listed, please contact Corinne Smith, at 704-652-2593 or csmith7254@gmail.com

Roy Anderson
Mike Burris
Chub Dorton
Gene Gaddy
Riley Honeycutt
Jim Killian
Reid Moore
Joe Ridenhour
Donald Smith

Ray Barbee
Vernon Burris
D.V. Furr Jr
Wayne Goodman
Joe Hudson
Fletchel Little
York Osborne
Charlie Ritch, Sr
Eric Stirewalt

Bob Braswell
Budge Cochran
John Furr
Ken Harrison
Jack Humberger
Vernon Little
Rob Penninger
Melvin Shue
James Sutton

George Brown
Dan Cochran
Rod Furr
Ronnie Hinson
Larry Jones
Charles Moore
Bill Phillips
Corinne Smith
Eddie Taylor

ARE YOU, OR HAVE YOU BEEN, A POLICE OFFICER OR EMERGENCY RESPONDER?

We would like to also update our records regarding members of our church who are, or have been, a police officer or emergency responder. If you do not see your name listed, please contact Corinne Smith.

Chris Linker

Lisa Linker

Dale Wooten

Doug Conner



MINISTRY NEWS

Cemetery Update and Research – Corinne Smith

SPRING CEMETERY CLEAN-UP

April 26, 2025, 9:30 AM - 11 AM

Join us in general weeding, sprucing up appearance, and cleaning some headstones.

We will be removing faded, old flowers from the headstones, so if you do not want us to remove one, please contact Corinne Smith, csmith7254@gmail.com

Cemetery Research Help!

According to our church cemetery records, the following are buried in our cemetery: Charlie Fink (1886-1957), son of Ephriam Fink and Mahala Herrin, who married Augusta "Gussie" Blackwelder (1889-1963) daughter of Allen Blackwelder and Martha Furr. However, no headstones have been located. Does anyone have any information, either location of their burial or know someone related to Charlie and Gussie Fink? If so, please contact Corinne Smith, 704-652-2593.



– Fran Brown

Happy Easter Everyone!!!

All around us are signs of God's faithfulness - there are blooming flowers and warm longer days. In the same way our church is alive with opportunities to grow and celebrate together. We invite you to be part of the many "Special Easter Activities and Gatherings" we have planned. There IS something for Everyone!!!

Roberta Church hosted the GMC Lenten Service on March 23rd. Our own, Pastor Chad delivered a wonderful message! We had 111 in attendance and enjoyed visiting with each other after the service in the Welcome Center with refreshments. To Everyone who helped with the refreshments, Thank You So Very Much!!!

Our Refresh Team is meeting every other Sunday evening. Be sure and check out their update in this newsletter.

Wishing you a Joyful and Blessed Easter!!!

Sharon Wooten — Cathy Thompson

Lydia wishes to thank all of you for your support of our Bake Sale in March. We hope you enjoyed all the special sweets and treats made by our great Roberta cooks.

We will continue with our Right Now media presentation "The Unexpected," a study of courageous women of the Bible and how they put faith over fear to do the task God placed in their lives. In April, we will listen to the story about Hannah. We will meet next on **Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 6:30 PM**. Please join us for a light meal and listen to our presentation. All ladies in our church are always welcome.

Looking ahead – Our Roberta Choir will have a patriotic focus in celebration of our country's birthday. We will have our patriotic music on June 29th (a 5th Sunday of the month).

Following that service, Lydia and the Men's group invite you to a summertime cookout. The men will grill and Lydia will get the fellowship hall prepared. We just ask that you help us out by bringing the side dishes for this fun time of fellowship. More to come . . .



MINISTRY NEWS



Music – Sharon Wooten

Roberta Adult Choir continues to stay busy with all the different music for the seasons of the church year. We are working on Palm Sunday, Easter Sunday, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Pentecost, Father's Day and our patriotic piece for the end of June. If you want to be a part of the action come join us on Wednesday nights at 7:00. We would love to have you! *(Note: There will be NO Choir practice on April 23rd for Easter Break)*

Roberta Ringers will play again on May 18, 2025 to close out their choir year. They have learned so much this choir year and have mastered some amazing new techniques. We hope you have enjoyed our ringers.

Joyful Noise will be singing for you on Mother's Day, May 11th. This will close out their choir year. Please look out for the date for a fun outing for us to celebrate another great Joyful Noise year.

"Is It I?" will be presented by the men of our church on April 17th at 6:30 PM. If you have never seen this presentation of the Last Supper, you will not want to miss this. It is a very moving presentation of the events of that night when Jesus met with His disciples in the Upper Room. For those in this production – Rehearsals are at 2:30 PM in the sanctuary. We have two more rehearsals left on the following dates: **April 6th & April 13th**

Thanks to everyone who has agreed to help with this production. Not only does it take the men portraying the disciples and Jesus, it takes media folks, lighting folks and a large number of stage hands to set-up and break-down. We cannot do things like this without ALL of you!

EVANGELISM

– Rob Sossamon

We're excited about the events we've already confirmed and are looking forward to bringing them to our church and surrounding communities.

Be sure to mark your calendars for :

Spring Fling - Block Party: Join us on Saturday, June 7th, from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm for an afternoon of fun! We'll have a car show, food trucks, corn hole games, a live DJ, and more!

In addition to this major event, we'll be supporting Mari with the children's and youth Easter event and egg hunt, as well as the "Trunk or Treat" in the fall. The committee is also planning ice cream treat events for our local neighborhoods in June and July.

Mark your calendars for these events and volunteer to help make them a success! We are in need of more committee members, if you feel God calling you to volunteer, we'd love to have you join us. As Always, your prayers are appreciated.

Acolytes

4/6	Mitch Kanady
4/13	Gage Simpson
4/20	Amelia & Maddie Pacious
4/27	Maddie Hudson

Ushers

4/6	Mike Kanady & Paul Pacious
4/13	Doug Conner & Ronnie Hinson
4/20	Darrell Ridenhour & Josh Brooks
4/27	Eric Howie & Wayne Goodman

Greeters

4/6	Tammy Weddington & Sharon Straub
4/13	Wendy Stirewalt & Susan Rosinski
4/20	Ed Anderson & Kari Thompson
4/27	Carolyn Pigg & Vicky Furr

Children's Moment

4/6	Easter Production
4/13	Cobly Cochran
4/20	Mari Brooks
4/27	Regina Hinson

Children's Church

4/6	Easter Production
4/13	Lisa Linker & Doris Burris
4/20	Easter Sunday
4/27	Mari Brooks & Corinne Smith

Nursery

4/6	Kelly Pacious & Connie Moss
4/13	Kari Thompson & Kelly Almond
4/20	Annemarie Irons & Shawn Marble
4/27	Paul Pacious & Kelly Almond

Multi-Media

4/6	Soundboard: Don Smith
	Computer: Jim Killian
	Camera: Larry Taylor
4/13	Soundboard: Jim Killian
	Computer: Regina Hinson
	Camera: Loren Koerner
4/20	Soundboard: Rob Sossamon
	Computer: Loren Koerner
	Camera: Don Smith
4/27	Soundboard: Jim Killian
	Computer: Jewel Williamson
	Camera: Susan Ferguson

Opening/Closing Church - April

Ed Anderson



Missions News: February Update – Camie & Dean Hooks



It's time to register for our next meal packing event, which will be held on **Saturday, April 12th at 10:00AM**.

We had a great turnout in 2024 where we packed 24 boxes containing 5,184 bags of rice and vegetables in record time. Thank you to all who serve this amazing mission, looking to grow our number of volunteers and break another packing record. Invite your friends and family to enjoy fellowship, singing, and dancing while packing another 5k bags.

Lifeline's facility is located in Gibson Mill at 325 McGill Avenue NW, Suite 175, in Concord.

To register to help with this event, please contact Kari Thompson or the Roberta Church office as soon as possible. kltopms@gmail.com or 980-521-7205

March Recap: Esther's Heart Backpack Ministry

Last month, Roberta Church made a big impact through Esther's Heart Backpack Ministry! Thanks to your generosity, we delivered a carload of Ramen noodles and Chef Boyardee cans—so much that it overfilled one of Andrea's wagons! She was thrilled, and we're confident that by the end of the month, we'll have filled another wagon (or maybe even two!).

Your donations ensured that children in our local schools had meals to take home on weekends. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ!

Although March's mission focus has ended, we still have an opportunity to serve in person. **Join us for a Backpacking Event on Tuesday, April 8th at 5:30 PM**. This is a great chance to meet Andrea, learn more about this ministry, and see firsthand how it serves both children and the homeless in our community.



April Mission Focus: Harrisburg Community Food Bank

We are excited to announce a shift in our monthly food donations! This month, instead of donating to Cooperative Christian Ministry (CCM) directly, we will be supporting the Harrisburg Community Food Bank - a partner of CCM, which serves families right here in our local area.

For April, we are collecting Peanut Butter and Jelly—a staple for so many families. Let's bless the food bank with an overwhelming supply! Donations will be delivered to Rocky River Presbyterian Church, where the food bank is located. Follow them on Facebook to see your generosity in action!

Thank You for Your Giving Hearts!

Your continued support of our mission efforts is a testament to the love and generosity of our Roberta Church family. Together, we are making a real difference in the lives of those in need.



CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS – Mari Brooks

Check out all the amazing things happening at Roberta Church! There is so much coming up that families can be a part of, and we hope you will join us! Each Sunday, students are getting more involved in activities and expressing themselves within our classroom setting, and during clubs. We are learning so much and growing our relationship with Jesus, and with each other. In March, we saw a Magic Show at the Old Courthouse Theatre, it was a blast! I'll continue to provide as many opportunities for families to participate in throughout the year so keep an eye out for any communication and updates about our calendar and schedule. Thank you for allowing me to share my time with your kids and grow with them. The times we have together to learn and play mean so much to me!

Upcoming Events

<p>Easter Program Children & Youth Production Roberta Church Sunday, April 6th @10:00 AM</p>	<p>Easter Egg Hunt & Community Meal Roberta Church Saturday, April 12th from 5:00-6:00 PM</p>
<p>Student-Led Worship & Graduation Sunday Roberta Church Sunday, May 18th at 10:00 AM</p>	<p>Family Cookout & Fundraiser (hosted by Children & Youth) Roberta Church Sunday, May 18th from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM</p>
<p>Vacation Bible School Grades Pre-K thru 5th VBS Registration & Kickoff Event: June 1st @ 4 PM VBS for Students: June 2nd - 5th from 6 - 8 PM</p>	<p><i>Stay tuned for more exciting events....</i></p>

Roberta Senior Group — Camie Hooks & Barbara Anderson



What happened!?!?!?

March 13th the seniors met for lunch at Pier 51, there were only 5 people! Needless to say, it was disappointing after having 21 people for lunch the month before. Pier 51 may be off our list for lunches. Once again we do hope going to different restaurants is enjoyable to everyone. Of course, we look forward to any input you have! Let us know if you have a restaurant you would like us to try, or even if you would like to try a new breakfast location.

Our breakfast crowd had 10 people. June Furr was able to join us for breakfast, and Dean made it back to breakfast! Jim Robinette said a prayer for us, Barbara went over some business, Camie gave the treasury report. It was suggested and passed to help Maddie Pacious with her Norway trip. The Roberta Senior Group wishes her luck, and we all are excited for her!

April's lunch will be at Senor' Agave on Union Street the 10th at 12:30 PM
April's breakfast will be at Parkway House on Union Street the 15th at 9 AM

Come join us this month! We have a lot of fun!



April 2025 Calendar

Wednesday, April 2nd

Wednesday in the Word - Facebook Live.....12:00 PM
 Bible Study - Lent - (Fellowship Hall).....6:00 PM
 Choir Practice.....7:00 PM

Saturday, April 5th

Easter Program Dress Rehearsal.....10:00 AM

Sunday, April 6th

Sunday Connections / Sunday School.....9:00 AM
 Worship Service & Easter Play.....10:00 AM
 Roberta Ringers Practice.....11:00 AM
 Alpaca Farm Trip.....11:30 PM
 "Is It I?" Practice (Sanctuary).....2:30 PM
 Bible Study - Book of Ephesians - (Conf. Rm.).....3:30 PM
 ReFRESH Team Meeting (FH).....4:00 PM
 NO Children/Youth Clubs
 Praise Worship (Fellowship Hall).....5:00 PM

Tuesday, April 8th

Lydia Meeting - (Fellowship Hall).....6:30 PM

Wednesday, April 9th

Wednesday in the Word - Facebook Live.....12:00 PM
 Choir Practice.....7:00 PM

Thursday, April 10th

Seniors Lunch - Senor' Agave.....12:30 PM

Saturday, April 12th

Community Meal & Easter Egg Hunt.....5:00 PM

Sunday, April 13th

Sunday Connections / Sunday School.....9:00 AM
 Palm Sunday Service.....10:00 AM
 Roberta Ringers Practice.....11:00 AM
 Dress Rehearsal - "Is It I?" (Sanctuary).....2:30 PM
 Book of Ephesians - Bible Study - (Conf. Rm.)3:30 PM
 Joyful Noise/Children's' Club.....4:00 PM
 Youth Club.....5:00 PM
 Praise Worship (Fellowship Hall).....5:00 PM

Tuesday, April 15th

Seniors Breakfast (Parkway on Union).....9:00AM

Wednesday, April 16th

Life Line Screening Event.....8:30 AM—5:30 PM
 Wednesday in the Word - Facebook Live.....12:00 PM
 Choir Practice.....7:00 PM

Thursday, April 17th

Maundy Thursday, "Is It I?" & Communion.....6:30 PM

Saturday, April 19th

Celebration of Life for Judy White.....11:00 AM

Sunday, April 20th

Easter Sunrise Service.....TBD
 Easter Breakfast.....TBD
 Sunday Connections / Sunday School.....9:00 AM
 Worship Service.....10:00 AM
 NO Children/Youth Clubs
 Praise Worship (Fellowship Hall).....5:00 PM

Monday, April 21st

Men's Meeting - Fellowship Hall.....6:30 PM

Wednesday, April 23rd

Wednesday in the Word - Facebook Live.....12:00 PM
 NO Choir Practice - Easter Break

Saturday, April 26th

Spring Cemetery Cleanup Event.....9:30 AM

Sunday, April 27th

Sunday Connections / Sunday School.....9:00 AM
 Worship Service.....10:00 AM
 Roberta Ringers Practice.....11:00 AM
 Joyful Noise/Children's' Club.....4:00 PM
 Youth Club.....5:00 PM
 Praise Worship (Fellowship Hall).....5:00 PM

Wednesday, April 30th

Wednesday in the Word - Facebook Live.....12:00 PM
 Choir Practice.....7:00 PM



Chris Rebbert	1	Cade Shepard	14
Darla Walker Natole	2	Eric Howie	16
Diane Ezzell	2	Debbie Goodman	19
Terry Furr	5	Phil Davis	20
Marylou Kohut	8	James Ezzell	21
Tammy Weddington	9	Sherry Strickland	26
Amelia Pacious	10	Hunter Alley	26
Jim Boykin	10	Ethan Darnell	27
Robin Kanady	11		



4/3.....	Larry & Bonnie Taylor
4/12.....	James & Diane Ezzell
4/18.....	Doug & Julie Conner
4/28.....	Don & Corinne Smith

