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# VOICE OF FRIENDSHIP

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## New Friendship Baptist Church

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### From the Pastor's ...

Only as I sat down to put these monthly notes together did I realize how full the month of **May** is on the calendar. It's going to be busy. There are family celebrations: Mother's Day, weddings and graduations. There's a national patriotic holiday. We have a missions partner joining us for a Sunday and a day to focus on prayer. There will also be a concert on the 5th Sunday Night.

I picked up some kind of bug or possibly some food poisoning on Friday. I'm not sure what it is or how to proceed. Mornings I've felt okay, but not so much in the evenings. I am praying today will be the end of it. For someone who stays very active, there's always things to move on the schedule when you take a day just to *rest, reset and refresh*. It won't be a complete day off, but hopefully get the newsletter together and do some deep study in Leviticus. Our reading schedule will have us in this book for just about three weeks and then it's packing up from Sinai and thirty-nine years of "*wandering*."

I'm enjoying Dr. Charles Stevens' 1971 book, "*The Wilderness Journey*", and pointing out several impactful comparisons between ancient Israel and the modern church.

Thank you so much for the prayers, encouragement and advice as I have battled this illness. God is faithful and we must learn to trust Him more. May this month be filled with personal blessings beyond your imagination. ***Remember to give Him praise!***

Love,  
Pastor Chris

### HONORING OUR GRADUATES

It's commencement season! While we don't have a large class this year, we do want to extend recognition to those reaching these milestones:

Kane Kearns, West Forsyth High School

Fayth Hauser, BS Speech Pathology, East Carolina University

Laurie Roberts, Masters in School Administration, UNC Greensboro

Matthew Whitehurst, Masters in Information Technology, Virginia Tech

Let us know if we've missed any and they will be added to the June newsletter and featured in a weekly bulletin.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER **MAY** MENUS:

**6th** - Lasagna, Salad, Bread

**13th** - Picnic: Hotdogs, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, **SPECIAL DESSERT**

**May 13th** will be the last Wednesday night meal until September. The committee would like to thank the congregation for allowing us to serve Christ through serving you.

***(We are still in need of desserts!)***

### PRAY FOR THE BRIDE OF CHRIST

The church is referenced as the Bride of Christ twice in the Book of Revelation. The Deacons are inviting you to join them on the first Sunday of the month for a focused time of prayer for our church. Our next meeting is Sunday, **May 3rd**.

## PASTOR BRANDON'S YOUTH CORNER:

### YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT

On Wednesday, **May 20th** at 6PM, the Youth will go bowling. See Pastor Brandon for more information.

### YOUTH TO CAMP CASWELL

June 29th - July 3rd

### TEENWEEK

July 26th - 30th



### National Day of Prayer

**May 7th** is the National Day of Prayer. **II Chronicles 7:14**, *“If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”* [www.NationalDayOfPrayer.org](http://www.NationalDayOfPrayer.org) is a very helpful website with information about local gatherings and national events highlighting our dependence on God that will be celebrated on the National Day of Prayer.

### CELEBRATION MOTHER'S DAY

Sunday, **May 10th**, is Mother's Day which is always a special event on the national and church calendar. Godly mothers are a gift from heaven. **Bring mom to church.** All ladies present will receive a gift and we will enjoy worshiping the Lord together.

### WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION

WMU will meet on Monday, **May 11th** at 10:30AM. The “After Hours” WMU group will meet at 6PM. Our guest speakers will be David and Kathy Parsons, local NAMB Missionaries. They will present their ministry, **Mission Center**, and discuss how we can partner with them during ServeNC week. Everyone is welcome to join us for this informative conversation.

### GIDEONS INTERNATIONAL DAY

Gideons International Day is Sunday, **May 17th**. Gideons International and their Women's Auxiliary is a great *non-denominational* ministry, 100% committed to distributing the pure Word of God. They give Bibles to students, place them in jails, hospitals and motels. The stories of changed lives are amazing, simply because a Bible was available. Please help us support this ministry with a special offering on that Sunday. *There will be a special insert in the bulletin.*

### MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Memorial Day is Monday, **May 25th**. This holiday is often the last weekend of May, but this year May has *five Sundays* so it seems a little early. I use this quote as a reminder: **“Armed Forces Day is to honor those currently serving. Veterans Day is to honor those who previously served. And Memorial Day is to honor those who died in service.”** Many places in the world do not enjoy our religious freedom. The unofficial **“Kick Off to Summer”** is more importantly a time to remember those who have given their lives in service to our nation. PM services will be cancelled on Sunday, **MAY 24TH**.

### 4 IN CHRIST IN CONCERT

Join us Sunday, **May 31st** at 6PM for a night of music and fellowship. **4 in Christ** will be leading our worship on Sunday Night. Invite a guest and join us. Please plan to give a love offering to support the group in ministry.

**SUMMER SUNDAY NIGHTS**

Once again, we will suspend our Sunday Night Service in **June, July & August** to allow many of our volunteers to be refreshed and families to spend outdoor time together. We will resume after Labor Day on Sunday, **September 9th** at 6PM.

**CENTRIKID CAMP 2026**

**CentriKid Camp** will be Monday, **June 15th** to Friday, **June 19th** at Eagle Eyrie Baptist Conference Center in Lynchburg, VA for current 3rd-6th graders. Cost per participant is \$220. A deposit of \$110 was due in March and the balance of \$110 is due Wednesday, **May 20th**. Please see Joanna Lookabill for additional questions.

**COATS 4 THE CITY**

In December, dozens of churches from NC and SC distributed thousands of winter coats with local churches in New York City. As temperatures warm and we transition our closets to warmer weather, feel free to drop off any coats you don't plan to use again at the church building. We are already collecting for next time.

**KENYA MISSION TEAM**

We are currently collecting Smarties Candies to give to the children at the schools we will be visiting. (Approximately 18 schools). We are also collecting soccer balls and pumps so that we can leave at least 2 balls with each school. The balls need to be a size 4 or 5. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway outside the church office if you would like to sponsor a ball or two.

<u>April Numbers</u>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2025</b>
Sunday School Average:	125	127
Avg AM Worship Attendance:	167	191
General Offering:	\$49,264	\$49,130

**Christmas with a "Capital C" is self-supporting. You can contribute any time using an offering envelope. All donations are appreciated.**

If you need to reserve the building or the bus for any reason, please call the church office at 336-788-3112 or email us at [newfriendship@icloud.com](mailto:newfriendship@icloud.com) as soon as you know about your event so that we can keep the calendar organized. If you have information that needs to be put in the bulletin, please have that to the church office by **10AM on Thursday mornings**. If you have information that needs to be put in the monthly newsletter, please have this information to the church office by the **20th of each month**.

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**

**Monday - Friday (8AM to 1PM)**

