

# BELL'S MESSENGER

The Newsletter of  
Old Union Church  
& Surrounding Community



Website: [www.oldunionchurch.org](http://www.oldunionchurch.org)

Email: [oldunionchurch@northstate.net](mailto:oldunionchurch@northstate.net)

April 2024

Issue 4, Volume 5

## Bell's Messenger Submissions

If anyone has anything they would like included in the monthly Bell's Messenger, please get it to Jeffrey by the last Sunday of each month.

---Jeffrey Smith

## Second Country Breakfast of the Year

First Country Breakfast of the Year will be Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 7 am until 10 am in the Fellowship Hall

Price is Adults: \$9, Ages 4 -10: \$5, Ages 3 and under: Free

## Youth Ministry Trip to the NC Zoo

The Youth Ministry is going to the NC Zoo on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. They will meet at the NC Zoo at 9 am. They will eat at Pizza Inn at Asheboro after the trip to the zoo.

## Baby Shower for Zach and Lexie Stinnett:

Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2 pm until 4 pm in the Fellowship Hall. They are registered at Walmart under Alexis and Zach's baby registry and on Amazon under Alexis Stinnett. It is a Girl!!

**Country Breakfast**  
**Saturday, May 18, 2024**  
7 am until 10 am

**Old Union Church**  
**Fellowship Hall**  
5077 Walker Mill Rd  
Sophia, NC

Menu: HAM, BACON, SAUSAGE, EGGS, GRITS, GRAVY,  
BISCUITS, ORANGE JUICE, MILK, COFFEE & TEA  
Take Out Available (Drinks Not Available with Take Outs)  
Price: Adults: \$9, Ages 4 to 10: \$5, Ages 3 & Under: Free



**From Pastor Robert**

***WHEN THE SUN GOES DARK***

Most people are aware that on April 8th we will be having a solar eclipse .When the moon passes between the earth and sun. Normally only happens about every 100 years. There will be people travel and make many plans to see this earthly event. Some will take vacation days and pay high hotel prices just so they can say they were apart of this history. This is fascinating in its on way and unusual in its on way as well. Yet most people are not aware that there is coning a day not only will the sun go dark, but the moon and also the stars as well .In the KJV BIBLE Matthew chapter 24 verses 29 thru 30 says .Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened and the moon shall not give her light and the stars shall fall from heaven and the powers of heavens shall be shaken.30 And then shall appear the sign of the SON of man in heaven. Thank GOD I made plans 39 years ago before this day ever came to earth. Some are excited about the eclipse IM excited about the coming of my SAVIOUR. I encourage you to make plans now before this day catches you UNAWARE. In Romans chapter 10 verse 13 says .For whosoever shall call upon the name of the LORD shall be saved .If for some reason you fail to see the eclipse you really have not missed no great thing. But if you fail to make plans for heaven then you have missed it all for eternity

LOVE&PRAYERS PASTOR ROBERT.

**A Praise Report and a Thank You to God, Our Church Family and Our Own Family from Claude and Loretta Smith**

When we were at church the last Sunday in November, we could have never imagined how our life would have changed before the next Sunday. As most of you are aware, Claude became seriously ill on Friday evening, December 1. That night we had taken his temperature a few times and knew it was running a little high and knew he was a little

confused; however it got worse and we felt like he needed to go to the hospital. I checked his temperature another time and what I understood the talking thermometer to say was 106 degrees so I immediately called 911. Within about 5 minutes both the fire department and EMS were there. They immediately took him to Moses Cone, as we requested. Jeffrey and Seth both followed. Jeffrey was allowed to go on back with Claude even before he got a room and Seth got to go shortly as soon as they got a room. Thanks to modern technology (aka cellphones) Jeffrey called me with an update 21 times during the night. The next day Claude was admitted to ICU where he stayed for 5 days and then was moved to a Step-down unit where he stayed for 6 more days before going to rehab for 23 days where he made another trip back to the ED and tested positive for Covid.

Now back to the praises and thank yous, first of all, I want to thank God for making me hear what I needed to hear the first night, which was the wrong temperature. When I looked back at the memory on the thermometer the next day it was really 100.6; however, I didn't hear the point so I thought it was 106 which made me go ahead and call an ambulance. That was exactly what I needed to do because not only did he have double strep pneumonia with septic shock, his blood pressure was very low because of it. We also felt God leading us by showing us signs that guided us in our decisions for Claude's care. We are thankful for safety on those trips back and forth to the hospital and rehab and the strength God gave all of us to make all those trips and amazing that I (Loretta) was able, with the help of my walker, to walk around in the hospital all but a couple days that he was there.

We are thankful to our church family for all the prayers, calls and food. It was felt and very much appreciated.

We are thankful for our immediate family which all the locals took turns staying with him the first few days and also took turns visiting him for the 35 days he was away from home so

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that he never had a day that he didn't see some of us. They also helped take care of him after he came home. Our son that lives out of state checked on him multiple times each day. The two smallest grandchildren did their part by FaceTiming him, with a little help, to give him hope for the future.

Last, but not least, we are thankful we were able to be at church on Easter Sunday. Claude has come a long way, but he has a long way to go and we have no idea what the future holds for us. Some days are better than others so our prayers are for continued improvement within God's will and grace to accept what isn't.

## **Old Union Youth Ministry**

The Old Union Youth Ministry met Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall. We had 13 people at the meeting. We had a program for the older kids and Adults by Terri Lane Frazier and Susan Brown did a lesson with the little kids. We bagged up 96 bags for the Asheboro Cancer Center. Below you will see pictures from our meeting.

We are now selling T-shirts and Sweatshirts with the Church Name on it. Order Form and Samples are on a table under the Bulletin Board. We also have Hats for sale for \$15

We have decided some trips and activities for later in the year, they are:

**Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>:** Trip to the NC Zoo

**Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>:** Day Trip to Lake Junaluska

**Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Hot Dog Meal Fund Raiser for the Youth Ministry immediately after Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall:

**Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Adults vs. Children Kick Ball immediately after Hot Dog Meal

**Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>:** High Point Rockers Baseball Game at 4:05 pm. We do have a few extra tickets if anyone else in the church would like to go with us.

**Friday, July 5<sup>th</sup>:** Lock in the Fellowship Hall and Church Grounds starting at 7 pm.

Old Union Youth Ministry meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month in the Fellowship Hall from 5:30 pm until 7:30 pm.

This is open for not only the children of the church but also ones in the community.





**Old Union Men's Club**  
The Old Union Men's Club would like to thank everyone that helped in any way or come and supported the First Country Breakfast of the year. We raised \$1,350.80.



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## **High School Senior Sunday**

We will honor our High School Senior, Aime Perez, on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. We will honor her during Worship Service and then there will be a Covered Dish Meal in the Fellowship Hall after Worship Service.

## **Young Adult Class**

The Young Adult Class has decided the End of Summer Party will be on Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. More details will be coming later.

### **Kingdom Chronicles Vacation Bible School**

Kingdom Chronicles Vacation Bible School for Ages 2 through 18 will be Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm until 8 pm with Supper served at 5:30 pm.

Closing Program will be Thursday, July 18<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

Registration is now open online at <https://vbspro.events/p/events/oldunionchurch>

The next Vacation Bible School meeting will be Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> after Covered Dish Meal.



### **238<sup>th</sup> Homecoming**

In the January Board Meeting it was decided to have a 3 day weekend celebration of Homecoming this year. The dates are Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.

A Homecoming Committee has been formed the committee has decided the following so far:

- Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup>: 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm will be History Night and will be under the Shelter and in the Fellowship Hall. A night to share stories, pictures, old bulletins, etc. from the past. There will be congregational singing out of the Green Broadman Hymnal. Subs and Finger foods will be served.

- Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>: 10 am until 4 pm will be under the Shelter, Fellowship Hall and Church Grounds. We will have singing from different groups, individuals and churches. (There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for anyone wanting to sing on Saturday). There will be a service at 12 noon by a visiting pastor. There will be an inflatable or inflatables for the children. We will be serving Hamburger and Hot Dogs from 10:30 am until 3 pm.
- Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>: The day will be like a normal Homecoming with Sunday School and Worship Service. The S & D Singers of Old Union will sing during the Worship Service. There will be a Covered Dish meal in the Fellowship Hall after the benediction in the Cemetery.

The Homecoming Committee will meet again after the Church Council (Board) Meeting in April.

### **Food Collection for Christian's United Outreach Center (CUOC) in Asheboro**

The Items to be collected for the next 9 months are:

- April: Instant Potatoes & Dried Beans
- May: Cornbread or Biscuit Mix & Pork N Beans
- June: Pop Tarts & Ramen Noodles
- July: Cereal & Pasta Salad
- August: Peanut Butter & Jelly
- September: Spaghetti Noodles & Sauce (In Cans not Jars)
- October: Rice & Canned Beef Stew
- November: Canned Vegetables & Fruit
- December: Sloppy Joe Mix & Gits/Oatmeal

There is a container in the hall to put donations in for CUOC. They will take anything each month does not have to be the items listed for that month.

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## **Church Cleaning Schedule**

April: Debbie Coggins

May:



## **Psalm Reader**

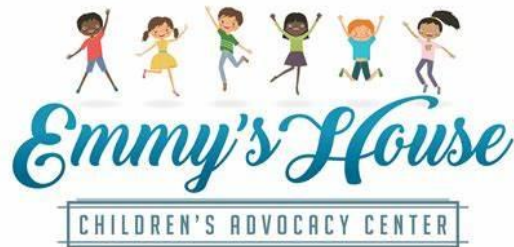
If there is anyone that wants to be added or deleted as a Psalm Reader for Worship Service let Jeffrey Smith know.

## **Guidelines for Anyone from the Community Requesting Assistance**

At the July 22, 2018 Board Meeting it was voted that if anyone comes to the church wanting money, food, etc. that they be sent to CUOC to get help. There are information sheets about CUOC to hand out to anyone requesting assistance. They are on the desk in the hall in the folder titled CUOC Assistance.

## **Old Union Women**

Old Union Women's mission for 2nd quarter: Emmy's House in Asheboro this quarter. At this time they can use Water bottles, Juice Boxes and Cleaning Supplies. There is a box to put them in the hall





**OLD UNION CHURCH  
UPCOMING EVENTS  
(as of Saturday, April 6, 2024)**

- **Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>:** Regularly Scheduled Church Council (Board) Meeting immediately after Worship Service in the Sanctuary
- **Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>:** Youth Ministry trip to the NC Zoo
- **Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>:** Baby Shower for Zach and Lexie Stinnett, 2 pm until 4 pm in the Fellowship Hall. They are registered at Walmart under Alexis and Zach's baby registry and on Amazon under Alexis Stinnett. It is a Girl!!
- **Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>:** Country Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall, 7 am until 10 am
- **Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>:** Senior Sunday we will honor our High School Graduate this year Aime Perez during Worship Service. Covered Dish Meal in Fellowship Hall after Worship Service
- **Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>:** Youth Ministry trip to Lake Junaluska
- **Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Hot Dog Meal Fund Raiser for the Youth Ministry immediately after Worship Service.
- **Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Adults vs Kids Kick Ball immediately after Youth Ministry Hot Dog Meal
- **Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>:** Youth Ministry trip to High Point Rockers Baseball Game at 4:05 pm. We have a few extra tickets if anyone in the church would like to go.
- **Friday, July 5<sup>th</sup>:** Youth Ministry Lock in in the Fellowship Hall starting at 7 pm
- **Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday, July 17<sup>th</sup>:** Vacation Bible School, 6 pm until 8 pm with Supper at 5:30 pm
- **Thursday, July 18<sup>th</sup>:** Vacation Bible School Closing Program at 6 pm
- **Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup>:** End of Summer Party, more details to come
- **Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup> - Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>:** 238<sup>th</sup> Homecoming more details are in the Newsletter.
- **Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>:** Country Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall, 7 am until 10 am
- **Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>:** Old Union Women Annual Vendor Event. More Details will come later.