

Preschool Sunday — March 17, 2024

First Methodist Church Washington, Inc

304 West Second Street

PO Box 715

Washington NC 27889 Phone: 252-946-3311

Email: admin@fmcwashington.com WebPage: www.fmcwashington.com

Return Services Requested

Non-Profit Organization US Postage Paid Washington, North Carolina 27889 Permit #95

Lamplighter April 2024 · Volume XVII · Issue IV

Make a Joyful Noise!

"Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into God's presence with singing!" Psalm 100:1-2 NRSV

One of the blessings we enjoy here at First Church is that of the wonderful music we enjoy in our worship services. Our Praise Team and our Traditional Music Team and Choir are hard-working and dedicated and their ministry in music does much to uplift us and glorify God. As members of the congregation, we have the added benefit of joining these groups in lifting our voices in song right along with them.

One of the reasons I like these verses from Psalm 100 is that they speak to an attitude of worship and not necessarily to our aptitude or ability. That is a good thing. Several years ago, I was in a class at Methodist College. I was sitting at my desk, singing some popular song of the day, when a fraternity brother of mine looked at me and with a serious expression and asked me "What did you do with that money?" Thinking he was speaking about some fraternity business, I asked, "What money?" He then broke out in a big grin and declared, "That money your mama gave you for singing lessons!" Well, Mark might not have appreciated my vocalizations, but he could not fault my enthusiasm. Perhaps this is why the Psalmist urges us to make a joyful NOISE. We might not have professionally trained voices, but all of us can lift our voices in praise to the God who made us and claims us as His own.

I came across something my Dad shared with his congregation several years ago, and I thought I might share it with you. It is called <u>THE TEN</u> COMMANDMENTS FOR CONGREGATIONAL'SINGING

- 1. Thou shalt sing.
- 2. Thou shalt sing with all thy heart, all of thy soul, and all of
- 3. Thou shalt sing fearlessly, ignoring the possible wandering glances of your neighbors. They would like to sing with you if they had the nerve, and they will possibly join in if you continue singing.
- 4. Thou shalt sing joyfully, in the spirit of the prophet Isaiah: "Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains" (Isaiah 49:13).
- 5. Thou shalt sing reverently, for music is a form of prayer to
- 6. Thou shalt not be afraid to sing, for though an individual may pray in prose or even in silence, a congregation must sing.
- 7. Thou shalt not resist new melodies, for it is written in the Psalms: "O sing unto the Lord a new song" (Psalm 96:1).
- 8. Thou shalt not mumble the melody, but shall sing it out loud, even if you make occasional mistakes.
- 9. Thou shalt not hesitate to sing with the trained voices of the choir. All of us together can lift a worthy song of praise to God.
- 10. Thou shalt not forget the words of the psalmist: "I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live" (Psalm 104:33).

Praise God for the gift of music! May we dedicate ourselves to making a joyful noise to Him at every opportunity! See you in church Sunday.

Ken



"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" 2 Corinthians 5:17

Inside This Issue...

Senior Pastor's Article	1
Associate Pastor's Article	2
Christian Sympathy	2
Birthdays	3
Family Ministries	4
Child Care	4
Preschool	5
Youth News	5
Children's Ministry	6
Wednesday Night Menus	
Methodist Women News	7
Library News	7
Family Cookout	9
Missions	9
Vacation Bible School	9
Matthew 25	9
Online Church Directory	9
Letters	10
Calendar	11
Preschool Sunday	BACK

First Methodist Church Washington (established 1784)

Page 2 Lamplighter

From Your Associate Pastor of Missional Discipleship

Donkey, Blankets, and Palms

Only God could come up with a story that weaves together such items as a donkey, common blankets, and palm branches. These are quite ordinary items used to tell the story of the Savior of the entire world. A donkey, of course, was predicted as the mode of transportation for the long-awaited messiah (see Zachariah 9:9). Common blankets, or the clothes off the backs of the crowds, were laid down to provide a "red carpet" highway for Him (Matthew 21:8). Palm leaves were cut from the trees and laid down as well, waved as a sign of victory in those days.

God has a way of doing quite remarkable things using very simplistic materials of His creation. The budding trees remind us of spring. And a cut-down tree, arranged in a specific way, reminds us of the sacrifice of Christ. I wonder what objects you notice near you right now? What do they say to you? What do they say about you? Perhaps they remind you of a story in your past?

If you look hard enough, we tend to surround ourselves with objects that tell our story. Some of this story is self-written, described by items that we choose for ourselves. Some of our story is unintentionally written, described by items that find their way into our lives by nature or consequence. Jesus chose the donkey (Matthew 21:2). The blankets and palm branches chose Him (Matthew 21:8). He chose a sign of hard labor and humility. The crowds chose the signs of honor and victory.

Jesus' Easter story is described with a donkey, blankets, palm branches, bread, wine, a cross, and an empty tomb. All of these and many more found their ways into Jesus' life that help tell His story. April is the month where many of these items are remembered to tell His story again. May we remember His story well, and in so doing remember our place in the midst of it. We might serve Christ well if we are mindful of the common, everyday objects that God is using today to help us share the story God is writing about our lives.

Thanks for all you do, In Christ,

Pastor Stephen

Christian sympathy is expressed to the families of:

Erwina Silver Joan Tanner

Yard 8:00 57:00 PM "Get the Girls Out" dinner Preschool Spring Break 7:00 AM Men at the Table 5:30 PM BSA Pack 99 4 Sale Prep 7 AM Men at the e P PM Yahoos 7 PM BSA Pack 99 1 Child Care eeting 1 BSA Pack 99 e PM Child Care f Meeting PM BSA Pack 99 25 Yard 7:00 7:00 6:00 6:30 4 5000 cc 300000 32123300 Calendar **16** 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:00 AM Staff Meetings 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM Pack Committee Meeting 5:00 PM Trustees Meeting 7:00 PM Vicacon Chapter Order of Arrow Meeting ard Sale Prep 0:00 AM Staff Meeting :00 PM Church Council Neeting :00 PM Troop 99 2 MW Circle Meetings Preschool Spring Break 10:00 AM Staff Meeting **30** 10:00 AM Staff Meeting Church Activities 8 Newsletter Deadline Newsletter Deadline Meeting 7:00 PM Troop 99 Meeting 22 Yard Sale Prep 1:00 PM Matthew 25 Board Meeting 7:00 PM Troop 99 Meeting 29 1:00 PM Matthew _. Meeting 7:00 PM Troop 99 Meeting o PM Child Care Board ting PM Preschool Board ting PM Troop 99 Meeting Methodist Matthew 25 Board Ø 15 5:30 Meeti 6:30 7:00 Meetings M Blended Worship and is Church MM Sunday School IM Traditional Worship 1 MYF First 3:00 AM Methodist Men's Sreakfast 9:00 AM Blended Worship a Children's Church 10:15 AM Sunday School 11:15 AM Traditional Worsl Blended Worship Church Blended Worship Church

Page 10 Lamplighter

Letters

Dear friends of ODWS,

Thank you for your support of Open Door Women's Shelter. With the help of your gift, we continue to provide a safe place for women and their children to live together while gaining skills and accessing resources necessary to transition into a stable, long-term home.

Open Door Women's Shelter welcomed our first residents in January 2019 and has since served 106 women and 50 children. We recently served a veteran and her 6-year-old daughter who found themselves unable to afford their home due to increased rent. Mom was connected with Veterans Services and housing has been acquired! We also admitted a mom and her 9-year-old daughter on Christmas weekend. They fled a toxic situation and would have been living in their car if not for the kindness of a teacher and guidance counselor who provided a hotel room until our shelter could open a family room for them.

We could not assist any of our clients without the support of community members like you!

The Saturday Night Jamboree would like to thank you support of community members like you!

Thank you, Laurie Stewart Executive Director

Dear First Methodist Church Washington, Inc.,

On behalf of The Salvation Army of Washington, please accept my thanks for your generous contribution. We greatly appreciate your donation which enables us to continue our mission of preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ and meeting human needs in His name.

May God continue to bless and keep you!

In Him, Major Vic Tidman Corps Officer

Eagle's Wings "Christian Love in Action"

Acknowledges with appreciation your donation to our ministry.

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
They will run and not grow weary,
They will walk and not be faint.
Isaiah 40:30-31

Your contribution has enabled us to provide our families with Christmas gifts and we are extremely thankful.

Your support is greatly appreciated, and we can only

On behalf of the department, we would like to extend

our deepest gratitude for your generous sponsorship.

Your support is greatly appreciated, and we can only hope that you continue to be part of our journey and we look forward to partnering with you next year.

With sincere gratitude and appreciation,

RayLonda Nobles Children Services Social Worker

Karen Chrisman Children Services Supervisor

Beaufort County Department of Social Services

Dear Church Family,

for the support that you have provided. As you know, this organization provides a monthly social gathering for mentally and physically challenged individuals who do not have an opportunity to participate in the normal functions of the community. The Jamboree traces its beginning from March of 1973 and is now celebrating 50 years of service to our community. This concept was started so those who are mentally and physically challenged could have an opportunity to enjoy themselves in an environment where they would not be subjected to ridicule. The success of the Jamboree can only be attributed to the commitment of the volunteers and support of churches or other organizations in our community who have kept this going for so many years. We really do not know what we would do without the love and selfless work of our volunteers and of those in our community that support us through words of encouragement and good deeds every month. You have looked into your heart to provide a gift of love to make the Jamboree available for many individuals in our community that need our support and for that we are very thankful! God truly has blessed and provided for The Saturday Night Jamboree.

Thank you for your support and God bless you.

Ernestine (Tine) Woolard SMJ Secretary/Treasurer

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for submissions to the May Lamplighter is April 8, 2024, the **second** Monday of the month.

Volume XVII, Issue IV Page 3

Celebrating the gift of life during the month of April.

1st	Bill Zeising, Brittany Lane
2nd	Jimmy Buck, Matt Miller, Anna Reid Moore
3rd	Neva Cashion
7th	Ann Warner
8th	Amanda Barnes, Davis Beeman, Ward Howdy, Hudson Capehart
10th	Tina Miller, Buffy Lich
11th	Ava-Haiyes Cox
12th	Walt Gerard
13th	John Singleton, Tate Singleton, Katie Baxter
14th	Lilly Davis
15th	Lyn Sanders
16th	Nathan Worsley
17th	Derek Gifford
18th	Kathryn Bowes
19th	John Marshall Howard, Hannah Sandy
20th	Morgan Elks
21st	Pat Zeising
22nd	Mark Moore, Wes Moore, Luke Ross
23rd	Jane Weaver, David Gossett, Tom Willey
24th	Doddie Singleton, Tilly Little, Wayne Oestreich, Robin Turner
28th	Buddy Anderson, Valerie Whitehead, Janice Williamson
29th	Mike Freeman
30th	Catherine Glover

Page 4 Lamplighter

Family Ministries

It's that time of year when the days are getting longer, animals are having babies, and plants are starting new growth, so there is a refreshed look to the landscape. With it, comes the dreaded yellow pollen. That yellow pollen—oh, I could write for days about how horrible it makes many of us feel that suffer from allergies. I was sharing with a friend my woes of how the pollen had covered my car and was causing my eyes to water and nose to run when my friend not so gently reminded me that the pollen ushers in springtime and that sense of new life to which we all look forward.

She reminded me of one of my favorite hymns, "Hymn of Promise," and how much we are promised with the changing of time and seasons. Most of you know the lyrics, I'm sure. but the first two verses go as follows:

In the bulb, there is a flower In the seed, an apple tree In cocoons, a hidden promise Butterflies will soon be free

In the cold and snow of winter There's a spring that waits to be Unrevealed until its season Something God alone can see

There is just something about that reassurance that God is in control and that he has a plan for everything in its own season that makes me smile no matter where I hear this hymn. I can see how God uses things that are seemingly very small and indiscreet to bring honor and glory to Him. This goes deeper than just the outside, but the inside, too. God is constantly working on us, sending people and opportunities to open our eyes, even just a bit, to be looking for God in every situation.

There are several new opportunities here at First Methodist for us to come together as a church family and explore ways for us to serve the Lord. I encourage each of you to be praying about the season that you are in, that our church is in, and the wonderful things that God is planning for our church.

Blessings,

Sarah Beth

Director of Family Ministries 252-946-3311 Ext. 204 dfm@fmcwashington.com

Child Care

What a joy to be able to connect little hearts with Jesus through the gift of Spring! The weeks before Easter gave us precious time to dive into God's love for us in giving us His son so we can have new life. This is obviously not an easy concept for toddlers and preschool age children. Spring unfolding is a gift that displays in brilliant colors what new life looks like. How marvelous to share in simple ways and through nature that the eternal life Jesus gives us is like a Spring that never ends, like flowers that never stop blooming and opportunities to share His love every day. As a church, you all shower us with that love through your prayers and so many acts of service. Thank you all for helping us share Jesus with our Child Care children every day.

Diane Van Staalduinen

Child Care Director
Director's Cell: 252-947-2836

Matthew 25

Volume XVII, Issue IV

Rain is referred to as a blessing after a drought, a symbol of God's love and teachings to spread over the world, and even as a flood to wash away the sins of a corrupt world!

On Saturday, March 9, this expression was relevant to the participants and the volunteers. It was a very rainy Saturday.

Dick Bump and Donna Neuhaus headed up the cook team of Cathy Oestriech, Lee Matveia, and Shirley Stone. A delicious meal of ham, potato casseroles, mixed vegetables, fruit cups and dinner rolls along with the finishing touch of desserts provided by the Church of the Good Shepherd. These were wrapped by Gale Champion, Cathy Oestreich and Lee Matveia. Helping to serve the 60 guests were Bruce and Ann Mears, Tim Copeland, and Will Jefferson.

Twenty-five homebound meals were served with a special treat for Saint Patrick's Day prepared by Ann Cherry and delivered by Diana Tew, Barbara Smith, Jane Weaver, and Renee Douglas.

Each guest was given a small wooden cross which was made from wood from the Holy Land that would fit in your hand and a scripture bookmark made and given by Kay Smithwick.

Kim Copeland prepared a story/activity area for children which is a new program offering by Matthew 25 and will be provided monthly. There were no participants, however, this month.

There were prayer requests made at the prayer table manned by John Gunnels.

Other volunteers assisting in the Fellowship Hall were Susan Zachary, Bob and Kay Smithwick, Joseph Sopher, Pam Deese, Krickett Sutton, Beth Litchfield, Janice O'Kane, Durbin Ramirez, Hazy Murphy, Evelyn Mequeda, Yamilet DeLa Cruz, Brisayda Juarez, and Lorre Bowen.

Excess food was donated to Zion Shelter.

"There will be a shelter to give shade from the heat by day and refuge and protection from the storm and the rain." Isaiah 4:6

Submitted by

Jane Weaver

Online Church Directory

To access the online directory, scan the QR code, or go to members.instantChurchDirectory.com. You will need to use an email address that is listed in our directory to sign up for access. The Online Church Directory is secure and may only be accessed by Church members who are listed in the directory. Your email address must also be validated by receiving and clicking on a validation link before you can access the directory for the first time. Accessing the directory is free of charge - you only need to provide your email address and set up a password.

If you are a member of the Church, you are automatically listed in the directory. If you would like to be removed from the directory, please contact Rachel Cessna at pksoccer516@hotmail.com or call the Church Office by June 1.

Once you log into the directory, you will be able to see contact information for the members of our Church. You can also update your family's information and upload your own photo to the directory. To update your information, click on "Edit My Family" at the top right of the screen. On the edit screen, you can update your family's address, phone numbers, and email addresses. To update contact information for a specific family member, click on the edit button next to their name. To upload a family photo, click on "Choose File" in the photo section and select a file to upload. Once you have made your edits and/or uploaded your photo, click "Submit Edits" at the bottom of the screen to save your changes. Please take a moment to log into the directory and make sure your information is up-to-date. Need help or have questions? Contact Rachel Cessna at pksoccer516@hotmail.com.

Thanks! Rachel



Page 9

Page 8 Lamplighter

FAMILY COOKOUT

Please join us for a family cookout! We will enjoy food, fellowship, a devotion, and games for the kids on the Washington Park waterfront on April 14 at 4:30 p.m. Use the QR code below or sign up at the Welcome Center or outside the Sanctuary to let us know if you can make it and if you would like to help provide a dessert, side, or drink. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided. We are excited and look forward to this time of getting to know one another better!

Washington Park Waterfront at 212 Riverside Dr.



Missions

Save the date... FMCW Annual Yard Sale

We are so excited to announce the annual Yard Sale will be Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27 for 2024. What a great event for both the church and the community. The money we raise goes directly to the Missions budget to help support local ministries in our own community.

We will be providing enclosed trailers again this year to store your donated items beginning April 1, and we also have the use of a storage unit in Chocowinity for furniture and larger items. We will set up weekly drop-off times as we get closer, and items can be brought in early the week of the sale.

We're excited just thinking about all the Priceless Pieces and Fabulous Treasures that will be donated. As you continue your spring cleaning, you can contact Debbie or Bonnie (below) to arrange drop-off at the church or storage unit, and we can hold your items until the sale.

We will need your donated items (with the exception of clothes and shoes) boxed and labeled, but more importantly, we need your help as we prepare, organize and put this all together. There will be a job for everyone that can donate time either the week before or during the event. The church needs your talents and gifts to enhance the overall success of this sale, and it will be a fun week of fellowship getting ready.

Stay tuned, and for more information contact:

Debbie Branch 828-719-8804 Ron Branch 828-719-8803 Bonnie Isovitsch 724-822-1529 George Isovitsch 724-822-4749

Vacation Bible School

Join us on our Great Jungle Journey Vacation Bible School as we set out to explore biblical answers to questions on an epic adventure from Genesis to Revelation. VBS is for children that are starting Kindergarten to 5th grade and will be from 9 am to 12 noon from June 17 to June 20. We encourage our kids to sign up and have a friend join in the fun! Use the QR code or the link below to sign up: https://forms.gle/havyFXTW8c2j1bsD9



Volume XVII, Issue IV Page 5

Preschool

He is RISEN! He is RISEN INDEED! March was filled with all things Easter for our Preschool students. Children heard of the life, death, and resurrection of our Savior Jesus during our chapel times. The children participated in Easter parties and egg hunts as well. They even had a special visit from our very own Easter Bunny! (Thank you, Marsha Bowes.) We also had the privilege of sharing updates from the preschool with our church congregation. The children enjoyed singing a few songs they had been learning in chapel, and it was wonderful to see their families with us in worship.

There are many things that would not be possible in the preschool without the help of this church family. We are grateful for the efforts from the Circle of Mary and Martha in fundraising to beautify our preschool hallway. Please consider purchasing a church apron or tote bag to help in their efforts to obtain new photo frames that will display preschool pictures! See Cherri Howdy or Janie Hauser by April 15 to make an order.

We would also like to thank Betty Harbor for her generous donation to our scholarship fund and for the continuing generosity of many circles in their giving towards needs that are unexpected. I am always amazed at how God uses others to provide and equip us with what is needed, even before we are aware of the need.

Preschool Registration for the 2024-25 school year is still going on. To check availability of spots, please contact Amanda Bazan at 252-532-7604 or through email at fmcwpreschool@gmail.com. An online Registration Form can be found on our church website, fmcwashington.com under the Children and Youth tab. Just click on Preschool and scroll down!

Finally, the Preschool will be on Spring Break during the first week in April right after Easter. After that, we will be very busy with many events leading up to our last day in May. It will feel like a whirlwind, so continue to pray for our strength, energy, and patience in the coming months.

Amanda Bazan

Preschool Director Cell: 252-532-7604 fmcwpreschool@gmail.com

Youth News

Youth had a great month of March and had so many things going on. Youth had opportunities to continue their growth in Christ in Sunday School, on Sunday evenings at youth group and a new opportunity on Wednesday evenings with High School Bible Study. This was a new event, but the youth enjoyed learning from the Right Now Media series How to Read and Study the Bible for yourself. This was a great intro for many of our youth and helped teach some great tools such as how to do personal devotions, how to read the Bible, and how to do deeper studies based on certain events, or places or on certain people in the Bible. It was a wonderful learning opportunity for the youth and leaders.

The youth were a great help at the Easter Egg Hunt for our children's ministry. They came early and helped hide the eggs and several hung around and helped families with multiple children hunt for the eggs. The youth also helped on Easter Sunday during the Sunday School hour with the children's classes who did a modified walk to the cross in the Fellowship Hall. I am so very thankful for our youth who are always willing to help and serve others.

It is getting to be graduation season and I need to hear from the parents of our graduates. If your youth is graduating from high school or from college, please contact Sarah Beth at dfm@fmcwashington.com with your graduate's name (as you would like it in the newsletter and in the bulletin), the school from which they are graduating, and their plans for the future. It is important to **get this information in by April 17** so we have it in time for printing.

In Christ's service.

Sarah Beth Wood

Page 6 Volume XVII, Issue IV Page 7

Children's Ministry

He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation." - Mark 16:15

As Christ followers, we are "Easter People." This commission to go into all the world and proclaim the name of Jesus is something we are trying to instill in our young people. Giving them the confidence in KNOWING personally who Jesus is, GROWING them in their faith through biblical lessons, and encouraging them to SHARE the Good News with the people they come in contact with. Many times I find myself learning from them how to share my faith boldly because they answer this call with childlike faith and are proud to be followers of Jesus.

March proved a busy month for our Children's Ministry. We are so thankful to Amanda Barnes and Summer Howdy who carried the Wednesday night lessons for the children during the month of March. They made each lesson fun, engaging, and meaningful as they explored Jesus' last days on Earth and celebrated with the children the Risen Savior. It was also a joy to see many smiling faces during our Sunday School time. We had an average of 12-15 children pre-k- 5th grade attending each Sunday. We are thankful that parents are making Sundays a priority for their children, and that our kids are excited to come and learn about our Lord. Glory to God for moving our hearts in the direction of building this community with our church family so that our children see the importance of growing together as the Body of Christ.

As we look forward into our spring season, the Children's Ministry will continue with weekly Wednesday Night programming from April 10 through May 15. (We will take a week off for Spring Break and NOT have a program on April 3rd.) Sunday School and Children's Church will continue each Sunday. Following are opportunities to serve our children:

- 1. Children's Church Continue to sign-up to help with this time during our 9 a.m. service!
- 2. Sunday School We can now use one or two more individuals to help teach our pre-k group. Please reach out to me if you are interested.
- 3. VBS Be on the lookout for donation opportunities for this event starting in mid-April. VBS will be held June 17-20. Donations will be due by Sunday, June 2.
- 4. Wednesday Night Program Consider helping us on Wednesday nights with the children. We will need one to two extra adults each week to help make the time run smoothly.

Contact Information: Amanda Bazan, cmc@fmcwashington.com, 252-532-7604

Upcoming Events:

April 10, 17, and 24 - Wednesday Night Program-6:15-7:15 p.m.

April 11 - VBS Volunteer Meeting- 6 p.m. - Wesley Hall

April 14: Family Cookout- 4:30 p.m. - Washington Park Riverfront (All families are invited!!)

Amanda Bazan

Children's Ministry Coordinator Cell: 252-532-7604 Email: cmc@fmcwashington.com

Wednesday Night Supper Menus

4/3/24 NO MEAL THIS WEEK — EASTER BREAK

4/10/24 BBQ Pork, Ramen Slaw, Potatoes, Bread,

and Dessert

4/17/24 Chicken Pastry, Cooked Cabbage, Baked

Yams, Rolls, and Dessert

4/24/24 NO MEAL THIS WEEK — YARD SALE

Please sign up each week or call the church office by noon on Monday.

Methodist Women Circle News

Monday, April 1, 2024
MW Executive Board Meeting
9:30 AM, Asbury Conference Room

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

Circle Meetings:

Agape Circle
9:00 AM, Fellowship Hall—Backpack Pals
and Child Care Snacks

Circle of Mary and Martha
9:00 AM, Fellowship Hall—Backpack Pals
10:00 AM, Asbury Conference Room—Meeting

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

Agape Circle 7:00 PM, Parlor—Meeting

Circle of Joy 1:00 PM, Fellowship Hall

Circle of Kind Blessings 12:00 PM, Wesley Hall

SONshine Circle TBD

Library News

Thank you to the following people and groups for their donations to the children's collection:

Mary and Steve Toler donated money to purchase two books in honor of ther new granddaughter, Mary Whit Rawls, whose parents are Meredith and Brad Rawls. I selected "Twas the Morning of Easter" by Glenys Nellist. It is an excellent explanation of the Easter story for children written with the same rhyme scheme as "Twas the Night Before Christmas." The second book selected is "Moments with God for Kids" by Our Daily Bread Ministries. This book answers questions such as, "What's the point of praying if God already has a plan? Why did God create pests like mosquitoes and ticks? Does the Bible talk about dinosaurs and cavemen?" Adults will enjoy the answers also!

Beth Litchfield and Matthew 25 donated "The Jesus Storybook Bible." The collector's edition is filled with beautiful illustrations and tells the Bible in stories and includes animated DVDs and audio CDs. They also donated "The Beginner's Bible." It is in large print, has bold illustrations, and a Bible dictionary. Copies are being sold by Matthew 25. Contact Beth Litchfield to purchase a copy. It's an **excellent** first Bible for children!

Candy and Skip Sherrill donated a beautiful mirror.

Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body - Steele and Addison

Read EVERY Day!!

Delane Juquay
Church Librarian