



**ADDRESS:**  
8305 Loyola Drive  
P. O. Box 38  
Stokesdale, NC 27357

**PHONE:**  
336-643-4850

**WEB-SITE**  
www.stokesdaleumc.org

# Stokesdale United Methodist Church

February 2022

*We are reflecting God's love in the heart of the community*

## ED – itorial for February 2022

Rev. Dr. Ed McKinney - Pastor  
Jeff Fink - Music Director  
Beth Kasai - Music Assistant  
Robin Howerton - Handbell Director  
Sarah McKinney - Youth Director  
Linda Curtis - Office Manager

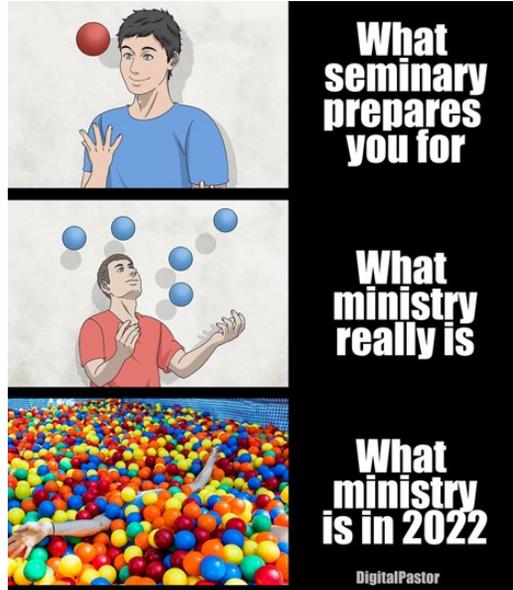
### PARENTS NIGHT OUT GIRL SCOUT FUNDRAISER

**What:**  
Valentine's Day Parents' Night Out  
**When:**  
February 14, 2022 from 6 to 9 pm  
**Where:**  
Stokesdale UMC

Girl Scout Cadettes in Troop 2469 will babysit children 4 to 8 years old for \$20/per child from 6 to 9 pm. The Cadettes are Safe Sitter certified and supervising adults are certified in First Aid/Child CPR. Proceeds (after troop-provided insurance) go towards the Cadettes trip to Washington, DC. Space is limited so please contact GS Troop co-leader Shavonta Kuecker for details at shavonta@hotmail.com

## BUILDING USE

*If you are needing to reserve the building for personal use, please be mindful of the activities going on inside the church building. We will attempt to accommodate all requests to use the building. Please call the church office in advance to check availability and reserve the facility.*



### “I’m Feeling ‘22”

What is a meme? Pronounced “meem.”

I’ve seen images like the one on the left for about 5 years before I knew what they were called. I learned what a “meme” was from a teenager who said that memes are one of his hobbies. So, what is it, exactly?

According to the New Oxford American Dictionary, a meme is:

- 1 an image, video, piece of text, etc., typically humorous in nature, that is copied and spread rapidly by internet users, often with slight variations.
- 2 an element of a culture or system of behavior passed from one individual to another by imitation or other nongenetic means.

Memes exemplify how we communicate and share ideas in 2022. No one has time to read a newsletter article, but if we can put the same idea in a meme, the idea can spread and “go viral,” even if the idea is only half true or not fully developed.

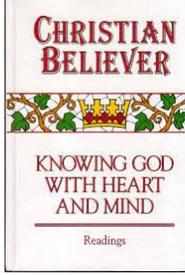
What is ironic about this meme is that my seminary professor posted it on her FB page! The meme critiques seminary education even though she is (or was) a part of the system. She recognizes and pokes fun at an institution that is ill equipped to handle the challenges of ministry in 2022. I do not blame seminary entirely for not preparing clergy for 2022, but even 23 ½ years of ordained ministry could not prepare anyone for the onslaught of challenges WE are facing. I say “we” because the clergy are one component of the church today. It takes many leaders working in tandem to fulfill the mission of the church. I feel blessed to have so many capable leaders to share the responsibility of steering this vessel we call “Stokesdale UMC.”

The capabilities of this church to “reflect God’s love at the heart of the community” even when one or two of us were “down for the count” was evident on Sunday, January 23. The snow, ice, bitter cold, and COVID-19 knocked all of us off kilter. I have two gifts: 1) I’m good with technology and 2) I’m tenacious. I used those two gifts on Saturday afternoon to prepare for Sunday’s worship service, but the rest was up to you. With Elaine leading us, we put together a relatively seamless, quality, and God glorifying worship service.

Sunday was a microcosm of how we will need to function in ministry in 2022. Our limits will be tested. We will be challenged to learn new ideas, skills, and new songs. We will be thrown curveballs and we will have to adapt quickly. How we use our gifts and respond to the challenges we will face will determine how we will continue to thrive as a congregation.

In all four gospels, the Pharisees challenge Jesus’ disciples for not practicing the old tradition of fasting. Jesus responds with this expression, “(No one) puts new wine into old wineskins, or else the wineskins break, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But they put new wine into new wineskins.” (Mark 2:21–22; Matthew 9:16–17; Luke 5:36–39) This is a controversial passage because each gospel writer interprets the proverb differently. In Mark, there is no interpretation at all. Matthew suggests that you keep the old wine and new wine separate so both can be preserved. In Luke, Jesus infers that the “old wine” is better than the “new wine.” Which one is the correct interpretation?

*(continued on page 5)*



The Christian Believer Study is being suspended until further notice. Watch the bulletin for the new start up date.

## THE UPPER ROOM

We have received notification from the Upper Room that due to COVID-19, global supply chain difficulties, and postal service delays the delivery of *The Upper Room* devotional has been negatively impacted. They are asking for our prayers and patience as they navigate these challenging times. They thank us for our continued support.



### **MASKING POLICY EFFECTIVE JANUARY 25, 2022**

The members of the Administrative Council met on Tuesday, January 25, 2022. It was decided that we will continue to wear a mask when in the building.

We will continue to have people sign in when they come into the building. We are not limiting capacity or where people sit, and we are not doing temperature checks or screening.

We will continue to broadcast our worship services on-line at Facebook Live and on our web-site, [www.stokesdaleumc.org](http://www.stokesdaleumc.org). The Admin Council will revisit this policy at the next meeting on February 15, 2022.

# Thank You

*The staff of Stokesdale United Methodist Church would like to thank the congregation for the generous love offering you gave us during Christmas.*

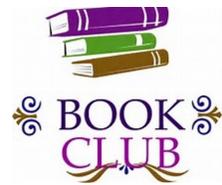
*It takes all of us, united under the banner of Jesus Christ, to continue to reflect God's love at the heart of the community.*

*We feel your love and appreciation for our ministry and we thank you for it.*

*Pastor Ed McKinney, Linda Curtis, Robin Howerton,  
Jeff Fink, Beth Kasai, and Sarah McKinney*



**GOSHEN**



### **Have you heard about the Goshen Book Club?**

#### **Would you like to know more about it?**

The Goshen Book Club began 12 years ago. At our December gathering we discussed our 145th book. . .quite impressive! We read lots of different types of books by many different authors. If you would like an idea of the type of books we read, there is a list on the bulletin board across from the nursery.

Each month we review several books and vote on the book to read next. Each member is responsible for their own book. Some use the public library, some download on Kindles, some buy their books at Mrs. B's (*the used bookstore in Kernersville*), some order used and new books from Amazon. If there is an extra copy it is shared amongst the members.

If you would like to join us, we meet on the third Thursday of the month at 5:30pm at church. Our next meeting is Thursday, February 17th. We will be discussing "*The Stranger in a Lifeboat*" by Mitch Albom.

If you would like more information contact Sally Baxter at 336-972-3003. Happy Reading!

**WE ARE OFFERING FIVE WAY YOU CAN GIVE TO THE CHURCH:**

1. Bring your offering on Sunday morning
2. Go to [www.StokesdaleUMC.org](http://www.StokesdaleUMC.org) and click on the "GIVE" tab
3. Bring your offering to the church office Monday through Thursday from 9AM-2PM
4. Mail your check to Stokesdale UMC, P O Box 38, Stokesdale, NC 27357
5. Set up bill pay through your bank to Stokesdale United Methodist Church

 IN MEMORY OF

*Jordan Huff, Fetzer Friddle, Mr. & Mrs. Clay Lee, Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Friddle, Mr. & Mrs. Max Martin, Mr. & Mrs. J. Van Huff a donation was received from Lucille Friddle*

*Jackson Harte & Joan & Robert Wray a donation was received from Jane & Jack Koontz*

*Joyce Ann Pearman donations were received from:  
Barbara Marshall  
Melisa Hanks*

***In Honor of:***

*Cynthia Huff a donation was received from Lucille Friddle*

*Joe Simmons a donation was received from Patricia Jarrett*



*The Missions Committee invites you to participate in a missions project on Thursday, February 17th at The Mission Response Center.*

*We will meet at church at 7AM.*

*Travel to Mooresville.*

*Work at the Response Center from 9-1.*

*Have lunch.*

*Return home.*

*The Mission Response Center, a part of the Western North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, receives and distributes humanitarian aid items and offers staging for disaster response equipment and materials. It is through the Mission Response Center that our church offers aid to Project Agape in Armenia. On our work day, we will assist with sorting mission materials. If you would like to participate, contact Misti Ridenour at 336-306-2140 or [mlridenour@triad.rr.com](mailto:mlridenour@triad.rr.com) for more information and if you plan to join us.*

*The Missions Committee would like to thank those who made soup and those who purchased soup for our Souper Soup Day on Saturday, February 5th.*

*Proceeds are going to benefit Backpack Ministries.*

*thank you*



**CHILDREN'S LIBRARY**

The Goshen Book Club is updating our Children's Library. If you have any children's books you would like to donate, please drop them off in the blue tub in the narthex.

*Thank you!*



The United Methodist Women have two projects going on this month that they would like you to join them with:

**Hygiene Kits** and **Mrs. Pumpkin's Fundraiser**. If you would like to put together a Hygiene Kit follow the instructions below and have them to the church by February 13th. Information on the Mrs. Pumpkin's Fundraiser is on page 8.



### HYGIENE KITS

We are putting together Hygiene Kits to send to the Response Center. Each kit needs to contain the following materials:

**One hand towel** (15x25—17x27 inches)

No kitchen, cleaning or microfiber towels

**One washcloth**

No kitchen, cleaning or microfiber towels

**One comb**

Must be sturdy with at least 6 inches of teeth

No pocket combs or picks

Rattail and combs without handles are acceptable but must have at least 6 inches of teeth

**One toenail or fingernail clipper**

No emery boards or metal nail files

**Bath-size soap (3oz. Bar or larger)**

No Ivory & Jergens soap

Do not remove from packaging

**One adult toothbrush**

Do not remove from packaging

Personal advertising not acceptable

**10 adhesive bandages (3/4 by 3 inches)**

common household bandages acceptable

**One one-gallon size re-sealable bag**

#### Assembly instructions:

Lay hand towel flat; Lay the washcloth in the center of the hand towel; Place all remaining items on top of the washcloth (except the plastic bag); Fold the sides of the hand towel to cover the items; Grasp the bundle tightly and roll over the remainder of the towel; Place the tightly rolled bundle in the plastic bag, remove air, seal.

**All items must be new.**

**Do not wash any of the items as they will no longer be considered new.**

**Do not include personal notes, money or additional materials in the kits.**

## Free Mobile Food Pantry for Quail Acres Community

Friday February 25th - 3:00 pm until

172 Turfwood Circle  
(at Corner of Price Farm Rd. & Quail Acres Drive)

Sponsored By:

Oak Springs Baptist Church  
Stokesdale United Methodist Church  
Crossroads Community Church  
Belews Landing Neighborhood  
L.O.T. 2540 and Rockingham United



Contact Jane Hartman @ 336-682-5381 for more info

# ED – itorial for February 2022—continued

The answer is “Yes, they are all correct at the same time.” In summary, we must understand that not everything in church is going to be suited to our tastes or preferences. While some of us do not have access to a computer, there are at least 30 of us who only worship with us via the Internet. Two people I know of have NEVER been in our sanctuary, but they worship with us regularly. Dinita James, Daisy’s daughter, worships with us 2000 miles and two time zones away. We must learn to engage these disciples just as intentionally as the faithful who come to 8305 Loyola Drive every week.

Also, for the first time in the church’s history, we have four generations in church who consume music in four different types of media. The oldest generation is familiar with vinyl records which means that you can only listen to a handful of songs while sitting in a room with a record player. Next is the 8-track, cassette tape which freed us from sitting down and made music portable, less expensive to purchase, and broadened our repertoire. Next was CD’s which were less expensive and could hold up to twenty songs at a time. Then iPods can hold thousands of songs. Now, there are streaming services which give us unlimited access to music of all different genres. Same goes with visual technology. We’ve gone from blackboards, to overheads, to filmstrips, to VCRs, to smartboards, to Zoom Calls, all in a span of 50 years. What that means is that our children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren learn, remember, and respond to worship in a multitude of ways. Will all of the ways we worship speak to us as individuals speak to us? No. But, can we give thanks to God that we are reaching new disciples and somebody, somewhere is being touched by our ministry? Absolutely.

Case in point. Early this month, Robin sent me a text message, “What do you want to be put on the sign?” It being a New Year and feeling a little mischievous, I responded. “I’m feeling ‘22.” Robin said, “I love it, and August will, too!” The line is from Taylor Swifts song “22” which she sings about being 22 years old. However, as I preached on January 9, the lyrics can apply to how complex our emotions can be in 2022. Then, on that same morning, January 9 at 10:30 a.m., I had an epiphany! Luke, Chapter 3, verse 22 says, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” Thus “feeling 22” could mean that I feel like I’m a beloved child of God!

Now, a few of us may not know who Taylor Swift is, or know the lyrics to “22,” but Robin Howerton does, August does, and Eve McKinney does!! Ever since January 9, Eve has sung, “I don’t know about you, but I’m feeling 22!” at least once day. Every time she sings it, somewhere in her subconscious she will remember that she is a beloved child of God!

In his poem “The Road Not Taken,” Robert Frost describes a fork in the road and how he has to choose one or the other. Finally he chooses the one less traveled, the one that fewer people have walked on or even the more challenging road. When he has made his choice, he reflects on it and writes...

*Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.*

We, as a church, are taking a less traveled road. When we do take that road, it may be challenging. But, it will transform our lives, and it will make all the difference.



**STOKESDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – FEBRUARY 2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 NOON Word & Table 1P Al-Anon 6:30P Endowment Committee Mtg	2 6P Handbell 7P Choir  <i>Tommy Huff</i>	3  <i>Pam Simpson</i>	4	5 11A-1P Souper Soup Pick-Up  <i>Amber Joyce Paul Hanko</i>
6 10A Sunday School 11A Worship 5-6P Youth to Ultimate Climbing Gym  <i>Melanie Triche</i>	7 6P Girl Scouts	8 10:30A Grief Group NOON Word & Table 1P Al-Anon 1P UMW 7P Trustees  <i>Matt Wray</i>	9 6P Handbell 7P Choir	10 10:30-NOON Senior Resources  <i>Powell Shelton Jr</i>	11	12 Youth Volunteer @ Camp Carefree
13 10A Sunday School 11A Worship  <i>Sharon Holland Luke Beshears Sue Combs Deb Nadel</i>	14 6-9P Girl Scouts Parents Night Out  <i>Robin Howerton</i>	15 NOON Word & Table 1P Al-Anon 6:30P Finance 7P Admin Council  <i>Amanda Richardson</i>	16 6P Handbell 7P Choir	17 7A Trip to Mission Response Center 5:30P Goshen Book Club  <i>Bob Simpson</i>	18  <i>Mike Reid Will Belton Kristin Joyce Misti Ridenour</i>	19  <i>Murry Hanks</i>
20 10A Sunday School 11A Worship Youth-Worship Assistants  <i>Josh Huff</i>	21 OFFICE CLOSED President's Day  6P Girl Scouts  <i>Wyatt Bailey</i>	22 NOON Word & Table 1P Al-Anon	23 6P Handbell 7P Choir  <i>Linda Gourley</i>	24  <i>Marilyn Turner Jane &amp; Al Hartman</i>	25 3P Quail Acres Mobile Market	26 9A Food Pantry (Flat Rock host)
27 10A Sunday School 11A Worship 3-4P Youth- Games @ church  <i>Brenda Southard</i>	28 6P Girl Scouts  <i>Marcia Spivey Josef Huff</i>			<b>MONDAY – FRIDAY 3-6P OPERATION XCEL</b>		

## INFORMATION FROM THE



## ENDOWMENT FUND



Stokesdale United Methodist Church has established two endowment funds: The Cemetery Endowment Fund and The General Endowment Fund.

Contributing to the **Cemetery Endowment Fund** allows us to use the accrued interest to care for the cemetery in perpetuity.

Contributing the **General Endowment Fund** will give us a vehicle to receive gifts that will help with unbudgeted expenses, missions, or building improvements. If you would like to contribute to one of these funds, do so by indicating in the memo line which fund you would like to contribute to.

### The Scholarship Endowment Fund

An anonymous donor created the SUMC Scholarship Fund. If you would like to contribute to this fund, do so by indicating in the memo line on your check or if you would like your donation to remain anonymous, go to the Foundation web-site ([www.umfwnc.org](http://www.umfwnc.org)) and click on "Give" tab.

This fund will give a \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior pursuing any post high school education this year. The applicant must be a member of Stokesdale United Methodist Church. Applications will be taken until June 1st. Contact the church office if you need an application.

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## VOLUNTEERS FOR CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

### MONTH OF FEBRUARY

February 6th - Vickie Thomas

February 13th - Sarah McKinney

February 20th - Misti Ridenour

February 27th - Marcia Spivey

# FUNDRAISER



9" Moravian Chicken Pie	\$14
9" Chicken Pot Pie	\$14
Baked Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce	\$14
Vegetarian Baked Spaghetti	\$14
Cream Cheese Brownies	\$14

OR any 3 for \$39

4 pk - 5" Moravian Individual Moravian Pies	\$16
4 pk - 5" Individual Chicken Pot Pies	\$16

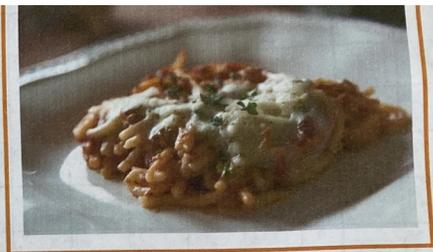
More info to come on February 6th!



**9" Moravian Chicken Pie**  
Hearty and filling, made from scratch, filled with shredded all-white meat chicken, and creamy stock gravy. A Moravian tradition and North Carolina favorite for more than 250 years. 32 oz | 4 servings



**9" Chicken Pot Pie with Vegetables**  
Our delicious Moravian Chicken Pie with the addition of peas, carrots, green beans, and corn. 32 oz | 4 servings



**Baked Spaghetti**  
A classic and comforting casserole filled with ground beef, red sauce and spaghetti pasta. Topped with Mozzarella & Parmesan cheese and mixed herbs. 52 oz | 4 servings



**Vegetarian Baked Spaghetti**  
A delicious and satisfying casserole filled with red sauce, spaghetti and vegetable protein. Topped with Mozzarella & Parmesan cheese and mixed herbs. 52 oz | 4 servings



**4 pack 5" Mini Chicken Pies**  
4 individual portions of our popular chicken pies. A great go-to meal for kids (and people) on the go. Available in Moravian and Chicken Pot Pie. 10 oz each | 4 per pack of one flavor



**Cream Cheese Brownies**  
A customer favorite for over 30 years these tasty, decadent brownies are swirled with cream cheese goodness. They are terrific on their own or a great ending to any one of our meals. 22oz | 1 dozen



Each pie we bake and each entree we make is done with a sincere love for family, fellowship and the closeness created by comforting food.

Our fundraising program began with a need to help our son raise funds for his school band organization. We saw the success they achieved and realized that other organizations could benefit as well. Our fundraising program is created around the idea that good, satisfying food is an easy sale. What better way to support your local team, church, school, or other organization than with the purchase of a homemade meal?

Our fundraiser menu includes our best sellers that are perfect for families' on-the-go, or busy folks who are looking for an easy, wholesome meal to have on hand. Each item is made from scratch at our retail bakery in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. We are a federally inspected meat processing plant.

Mrs. Pumpkins takes pride in being a local, family owned business that supports other local organizations and helps them reach their goals. It is rewarding to be able to help people help themselves.