

## May 2025 News

Welcome to you who are visiting our website. We invite you to worship with us at 2952 Bethany Church Road, Claremont, NC, on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m.

- Sunday, May 4** Adult Discussion, 9:30 a.m.  
Holy Communion during Worship, 10:30 a.m..
- Tuesday, May 13** Morning volunteering at Ashure Ministry, 10:00a.m.–12:00 p.m.
- Sunday, May 11** Adult Discussion, 9:30 a.m.  
Worship, 10:30 a.m.
- Sunday, May 18** Adult Discussion, 9:30 a.m.  
Worship, 10:30 a.m.
- Sunday, May 25** Adult Discussion, 9:30 a.m.  
Worship, 10:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, May 27** Afternoon volunteering at Ashure Ministry, 1:00–3:00 p.m.

**One Great Hour of Sharing** OGHS is one of four special mission offerings of the UCC. This Lenten offering supports disaster, refugees and development efforts around the globe. OGHS ensures immediate response and ongoing recovery. Our church received \$240 for this special offering.

**Ashure Ministry** The March Madness food drive was the most successful yet! And our Team Duke was a close second to NC State in collections. Almost \$20,000 was collected overall, as well as 12,986 pounds of food. Thanks to everyone who donated to this worthy cause.

**Welcome May Supplies** This month we welcome three supplies to lead worship during May. They include two staff members from Abernethy Laurels -- Rev. Dr. Thad Austin and Mr. Patrick Gorman, M. Div. Also supplying will be Ms. Deborah Johnson, ELCA Deacon. They will be returning for additional Sundays in June and July as well. Our member pastors are scheduled to lead worship during May, June and July also. We truly are fortunate to have so many dedicated people to be with us to lead in worship.

**Guest Organist** While Jane is away during May, Linda Faulk will be our guest organist. We look forward to having Linda and her husband, Paul, worship with us.

**AED Volunteers** We have a four-person team of volunteers who will receive training in the use of our church's AED (Automated External Defibrillator). The volunteers are Jose DeJesus, Eric Ervin, and Steve and Judy Kirby. Larry Sink will provide the training. Thank you to this team for your willingness to volunteer.

**Where Is Bethany?** Two new roadside directional signs will be ordered and installed to replace the signs lost during the widening of Highway 16. The Church Council felt the directional signs, in a time of GPS, continue to serve two purposes. In addition to location, the signs advertise our church in the community. Also, a playground sign will be placed on our church property showing the location of our playground near the back of the church. This is an invitation to let the community know they are welcome to use the playground.

**Sponsorship for Golf Tournament** The Council approved a donation of \$100 to sponsor two golf carts at \$50 each that will be used in this year's 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Ashure Ministry Golf Tournament at Rock Barn Golf Club on Thursday, May 8. Our church name will appear on the two golf carts during the tournament. This tournament serves as a large fundraiser for Ashure Ministry.

**Expert Repairs** Thank you to Aris DeJesus for using her sewing talent to repair our green altar paraments. Taking care of years of stains and spots, Aris removed the white altar cloth and replaced it with new fabric. Looks brand new! She is keeping our sanctuary banners repaired by gluing loose lettering and designs on them. Also, thank you to Jose DeJesus for repairing the Book of Worship that is on the altar. When Jose was a college student, he worked in the college library. He was able to use his skills to attach the back cover. Good as new!

**Memorial Day Weekend** The Cemetery Committee will place American flags on the graves of veterans in honor of Memorial Day, May 25, 2025. Pay your respects and show thanks by visiting the cemetery to see the names of former church members who were veterans. There will be no outdoor remembrance in the cemetery after worship for Memorial Day this year.

**Ashure Ministry** The May food item being requested is Pet Food for National Pet Month. Also remember grocery bags, large gift bags and styrofoam or plastic egg cartons. Monetary donations are always accepted, too.

**May Birthdays**  
19 – Jose DeJesus