

Hello September

Dear Roberta Church Family,

If the traffic jams, longer lines, and yellow buses didn't give it away, school is officially back in session. That means morning routines are shifting, backpacks are getting zipped, and carpool lines are testing our patience again.

But as we inch along in those pickup lines or wait through the red lights near schools, I invite you to shift your perspective: what if every backpack carried not just notebooks, but divine potential? What if every child we see scurrying through the school doors was a sign of how God is stirring up new beginnings?

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." He didn't ask them to wait. He didn't require them to have it all figured out. He welcomed them, loved them, and declared that the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these.

This month, as we settle into the fall rhythm and watch our community's children return to classrooms, let's celebrate the movement of God in their lives. Let's be people who cheer them on, pray for them faithfully, and show Christ's love in the way we drive, speak, and serve.

You may even notice a few extra kids around Roberta—whether in worship, in our children's ministry, or just giggling in the hallway. That's a good thing. It's a sign of life. A sign that God is not done—not with them, and not with us.

So as the new school year unfolds, let's extend grace and patience. Let's stay faithful in prayer for our students, teachers, and families. And let's be a church where children know they are not just welcomed, but deeply loved.

With joy and hope,

Pastor Chad

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." – Matthew 19:14 (NIV)



Corn Soufflé

Submitted by:
Shelly Harwood

- 1 can cream style corn
- 1 can whole kernel corn
- 1 small box corn muffin mix
- 1 cup sour cream
- 3 large eggs, beaten
- 1 stick butter, melted
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1 cup grated cheese

Heat oven to 350

Mix all in bowl, except cheese.

Bake in 350 degree oven for 15-20 minutes. Put cheese on after baking, then put back in the oven for 5-10 minutes for cheese to melt



Recipe Books can be purchased through any Lydia member for \$12.00 each.

MEMORIALS

Gifts were given to the Building Fund

in memory of Mike Burris by:

Scott & Christine Fair, Shari Hanson

Lisa Linker & Shirley Hudson

Eddie & Kathy Taylor, Nelson & Joyce Hardister

Martha Harrison, Bill & Brenda Phillips

Clarence & Judy Williams, William & Ava Jermyn

Patsy B. Love, Jerry & Ann Rogers

Ray Barbee, Ed & Barbara Anderson

Roy & Madeleine Anderson, Kevin & Brenda Saxton

Randy & Ann Wall, Tammy Weddington

Kent & JoAnn Foster, Jim & Corky Robinette

Gaary & Dale Horton, Joseph & Shelia Howell

Jackie Boger, Casey & Jean Crabill

Yates-Creitzberg-Hughes Architects

Gifts were given to the General Fund

in memory of Mike Burris by:

Larry & Bonnie Taylor, Larry & Joyce Norris,

Susan & Kevin Rosinski, Buck & Melissa Little

A Gift was given to the Misson—Community Outreach Fund in memory of Mike Burris by:

Jim & Terri Killian

A Gift was given to the Cemetery Fund in memory of Lawrence Blackley by:

Doris Blackley

A Gift was given to the Building Fund in memory of Juanita Honeycutt by:

Randy & Ann Wall

A Gift was given to the General Fund in memory of Vickie Nixon by:

Buck & Melissa Little

Gifts were given to the Building Fund in memory of Vickie Nixon by:

Nelson & Joyce Hardister, Bill & Brenda Phillips

Gifts were given to the Building Fund in memory of Gene Gaddy by:

Nelson & Joyce Hardister, Doris Burris

A Gift was given to the Building Fund in memory of JoAnn Parr by:

Buck & Melissa Little

Church Fund Balances — July 31, 2025

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| General Fund Operating Budget | |
| Checking Acct. | \$122,227.23 |
| General Fund Checking | \$50.00 |
| General Fund CD | \$102,942.07 |
| Total General Fund | \$225,219.30 |
| Capital Fund / General Fund | \$11,036.28 |
| Capital Fund / Music - Children / Youth | \$2,602.45 |
| Capital Fund / Multi - Media | \$1,210.68 |
| Capital Fund / Adult Choir - Hand bells | \$1,903.26 |
| Capital Fund / Disaffiliation | \$6,587.98 |
| Total Capital Fund | \$23,340.65 |
| Parsonage Fund | \$0 |
| Building Fund Checking Account | \$12,776.32 |
| Building Fund Money Market | \$339,145.12 |
| Building Fund CD | \$0 |
| Total Building Fund | \$351,921.44 |
| Community Missions | \$1,564.85 |
| Feed the Children | \$986.00 |
| Missions Community Outreach Fund | \$2,550.85 |
| Cemetery Fund Checking | \$6,283.42 |
| Cemetery Fund CD— 1 | \$22,231.57 |
| Cemetery Fund CD— 2 | \$32,524.11 |
| Total Cemetery Fund | \$61,039.10 |
| Educational Fund CD | 91,766.20 |
| Year to Date: 1/1/2025 thru 7/31/2025 | |
| General Fund Income: | \$183,949.35 |
| Expenses: | \$179,616.85 |



Please don't forget that we continue to gather coins for our "Can in Each Hand" on the last Sunday of each month. The funds go into the building fund to pay back what we borrowed for the ReFresh Project on our Sanctuary. A total of **\$7,403.00** was collected in **July** for a total of **\$10,959.74** for **2025**. Remember to bring in your cans of food for the needy in Cabarrus County. This goes to CCM to help those who need food. Also, bring food for Esther's Heart, Backpacks for Hope. This helps feed hungry children in our community.

Cemetery Update and Research – Corinne Smith

Please **Save the Date of Oct 4, 2025**, and join us in our **Fall Cemetery Clean-up**. Many headstones can use some general cleaning, removing the moss that builds up. Maybe it is a relative of yours! What a nice way to remember those who have gone before us.

RESEARCH HELP:

ALBERT THOMAS MASON. Born Jul 30, 1923, in Cabarrus Co., NC, to William B. Mason and Annie J. Dulin. He married Mattie Lucille Cochran by 1944, but she was known more as Lucile. Lucille was the daughter of Robert Bruce Cochran and Annie Jane Dulin. Lucille passed away on Jan 7, 1995 and Albert passed away on Oct 29, 2000.

Albert does not have a headstone, only a funeral marker, which still exists from 2000! Albert served during World War II in the US Army and could receive a military headstone if a relative could be located. Please, does anyone know a relative of Albert and Lucille?

If so, please email me, Corinne Smith, csmith7254@gmail.com, or chat with me after church services.



Worship Committee

– Fran Brown

Worship Committee has been working to make our Fellowship Building a more inviting and vibrant place. We've been blessed to see how receptive everyone has been to these changes, and it's

clear the spirit of renewal is alive and well within our congregation as we ReFresh our Sanctuary and Narthex. We hope you have enjoyed our "Refreshments and Fellowship Time" with each other as well. Whether you have been with us for years, months or are new to our church family, we hope you will feel a sense of Warmth, Peace and Connection as we gather to praise God together!

This fall we will be seeing our young one's step into the spotlight and share their talents. Their creativity, energy and Love for God will surely inspire us all. Stay tuned for details!!!

As always, our committee is dedicated to an environment where everyone can experience God's Love and Presence. We encourage you to get involved, invite friends and family and participate in the joyful celebration of worship this Fall.

There are MANY MORE exciting events to come over the next several months so stay in touch!!! We have to give a "Shout Out" to our ReRefresh Team as they continue to work on getting things handled for our church. Thanks to Everyone who has had a part in getting us where we are today and continue to work to get things completed! It has taken a "Village". We continue to pray for each of you and for the work/workers getting things done for us.

Sharon Wooten — Cathy Thompson

LYDIA

Lydia will meet on September 9th at 6:30 PM in 2B. We are planning for a simple, light finger food type meal, so please bring something that would fit in with that. Please access the church by using the door that comes into the hallway right by the elevator (to the left of the regular Welcome Center entrance) Once in the elevator, push the button for 2B and you will get off right into the room where we are meeting. We will continue with our lessons from Right Now media -The Unexpected – Women of Courage. We will hear about the poor widow at our next meeting.

Lydia will hold a bake sale on October 19th following the 10:00 AM service. This will be in the hall way of the fellowship hall. If you know you want a specific item, please let any Lydia member know what you would like and we will do our best to provide that.

Our funds from this fund raiser will go to help us be the hands and feet of Jesus during the Thanksgiving and Christmas season. Thank you for your continued support of us as we try to assist others in times of need.



Music – Sharon Wooten

Our Roberta Musicians and have been on an interesting journey since the Re-

Fresh project started. Unforeseen obstacles, frustrations and challenges have plagued us. As one choir member put it – “We are travelling in the wilderness looking for milk and honey.” Please keep our musicians in your prayers as we continue to provide you with music for our worship services. Special prayer requests include: patience, perseverance, guidance from God on everything we do, that Satan NOT get in our way, that we can arrive back to the sanctuary sooner rather than later. We know our church family is comprised of wonderful prayer warriors and we most definitely need those prayers as we navigate towards the “milk and honey.” Thank you so much!

You may have noticed that we have been having some very special music during the summer from some of our youngest members. We are thankful they are so willing to share the gifts God has given them through music. We are looking forward to hearing Michael Pacious on September 7th. If your child is interested in doing anything during the special music slot in our service, please contact me. I would be happy to work with them.

Also, as a way to keep our tradition of having the bell ring at the beginning of our services, I decided to use a handbell and allow the children to ring it. I felt this was a way to keep the children engaged and involved in worship during the ReFresh project. When we get back to the sanctuary, they will go back to pulling the rope to ring the bell in our bell tower.

Please put our cantata - “This Is Christmas” on your calendars for December 21st at 10 AM. Dress rehearsal is December 20th from 9 – 11 AM.

Roberta Ringers will start back on September 14th at 11:30 in the third - floor bell room. They will perform on October 12th for the 10 AM worship service. Their Christmas music will be performed on December 14th. We welcome two new members: Maddie Hudson and Kalli Hattaway. We now have all the bell positions covered. God is good!

Joyful Noise will start back on September 14th at a new time, from 3:00 - 3:45 in the fellowship hall. We will rehearse again on September 28th and perform on October 5th. The fall programming will be a little different this year and I will be stepping



down from leadership with this group after that date to allow time for the new programming to happen. Thank you for all the support you have given me as I worked with the Joyful Noise since 2019. We look forward to what’s ahead for our children.

| Bell Ringer | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 9/7 | Maddie Pacious |
| 9/14 | Maddie Hudson |
| 9/21 | Gage Simpson |
| 9/28 | Kelsey Kanady |
| Acolyte | |
| 9/7 | Maddie Hudson |
| 9/14 | Kalli Hattaway |
| 9/21 | Aurora Cochran |
| 9/28 | Mitch Kanady |
| Ushers | |
| 9/7 | Larry Pigg & Jewel Williamson |
| 9/14 | Dale Furr & George Brown |
| 9/21 | Mike Canady & Paul Pacious |
| 9/28 | Doug Conner & Ronnie Hinson |
| Greeters | |
| 9/7 | Doris Burris & Brenda Koerner |
| 9/14 | Camie Hooks & Larry Taylor |
| 9/21 | Tammy Weddington & Sharon Straub |
| 9/28 | Wendy Stirewalt & Susan Rosinski |
| Children's Church | |
| 9/7 | Mari Brooks & Lisa Linker |
| 9/14 | Mari Brooks & Doris Burris |
| 9/21 | Mari Brooks & Corinne Smith |
| 9/28 | Mari Brooks & Sharon Straub |
| Nursery | |
| 9/7 | Kari Thompson & Kelly Almond |
| 9/14 | Paul Pacious & Annemarie Irons |
| 9/21 | Kelly Pacious & Shawn Marble |
| 9/28 | Kari Thompson & Kelly Almond |
| Multi-Media | |
| 9/7 | Soundboard: Jim Killian |
| | Computer: Loren Koerner |
| | Camera: Susan Ferguson |
| 9/14 | Soundboard: Rob Sossamon |
| | Computer: Jewel Williamson |
| | Camera: Don Smith |
| 9/21 | Soundboard: Regina Hinson |
| | Computer: Sue Ridenhour |
| | Camera: Alex Hattaway |
| 9/28 | Soundboard: Sue Ridenhour |
| | Computer: Jim Killian |
| | Camera: Loren Koerner |
| Opening/Closing Church - Sept. | |
| Don Smith | |

Missions News: August Update – Camie & Dean Hooks

“Serve one another humbly in love.” – Galatians 5:13 (NIV)



August Mission Focus: Church of God Children’s Home

In August, our mission focus supported the Church of God Children’s Home, helping provide a special beach trip for the children. For many, this was their first time seeing the ocean. What a joy to witness these children experiencing the simple blessings of childhood and creating lasting memories. Thank you for your generous support!



Back-to-School Blessings

A special thank you to Regina for organizing and leading our School Backpack Mission this year—and to everyone who helped pack and distribute the bags! They were gone in record time. What a blessing it is to see Roberta Church give so generously. We could not do this without your support.



Comfort Blessings Ministry

The Comfort Blessings Team has been hard at work making prayer shawls, lap blankets, and tote bags for our shut-ins and for partner ministries. Esther’s Heart will be using these tote bags to share devotionals, gifts for women leaving prison, and blessings for the homeless. Thank you to everyone who is keeping this ministry alive through your time and talents.

September Mission Update

We will not have a single mission focus for September, but there are still many ways to give:

• Harrisburg Food Bank – Bring non-perishable food items • Esther’s Heart – Donate food for weekend backpacks for Children • Church of God Children’s Home – General donations welcome • Wings of Eagles – Support through donations. Donations can be placed on the Mission Wall or in the Donation Barrel located in the Fellowship Hall.

Looking Ahead – October Lifeline Event

Mark your calendars! Our next Lifeline Event will be held at the Kannapolis Cannonballers Stadium on October 5th from 2:00–3:30 pm. More details will be shared soon. This will be our final Lifeline event of the year—let’s finish strong!

Stay Connected & Upcoming Missions

Thank you, Roberta family, for all you do to make our mission work possible! As we move into the busy fall and winter season, take a deep breath, rest, and prepare for exciting opportunities ahead:

• Backpack Event • October Lifeline • Operation Christmas Child • Salvation Army Bell Ringing • Christmas Giving Tree

More details will follow soon. If you would like to join the Missions Team, we are always looking for more hands and hearts to serve. Please come be part of this ministry!

On behalf of the Mission Team,

Blessings and thanks to all!

Dean & Camie Hooks 980-621-2570 (cell/text)
704-784-1139 (home) camiehooks@gmail.com



CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS – Mari Brooks

"Fall for Jesus, He never leaves"

Fall is around the corner and I cannot be more excited to start clubs back! Students continue to bless us with special musical performances and expressing their interest to serve and volunteer. Now that our sanctuary REFRESH is under-way, we'll be taking advantage of mission opportunities and other events off church property. We're so good at finding ways to bring the community to Roberta Church, now we have a chance to switch that up. Throughout the Fall Season, we'll be serving at Esther's Heart, packing meals at Cannon Ballers Stadium for Lifeline's Million Meal Tour, and supporting another local church for a weekend youth retreat that they're hosting. We're overflowing with blessings and fellowship! Remember to share our programs with friends and neighbors and invite them to join us at Roberta Church. I thank you for your dedication and ongoing support for our kids and youth, in all that they do. Check out our Fall Schedule for Children & Youth Programs for more information, or contact me directly with any questions or if you would like to get involved. We're currently seeking new volunteers to help in classrooms, the nursery, and other areas of the church for rotations.

Parents and Guardians: Remember to turn in an Annual Registration Form for your student(s). A 2025-2026 Registration Form is required for all children or youth who plan to participate in ANY Roberta Church Children & Youth Ministry programs and events this school year.

We have a lot of exciting things coming up and lots of opportunities for them to take part in!

What's new for Programs this year?**"Holy Motion"**

Combining performing arts and worship, Holy Motion is designed to help kids and teens understand that their God given body is a vessel for the Spirit. Utilizing many areas of performing arts, students will learn and explore all of the ways that they can serve as a disciple and share Bible stories through movement, sound, and even puppets! This is a fun environment where your child or teen will find (some) of their gifts and talents. Through these gifts, we can express our love for Jesus in only the way that we know how, because we're all uniquely and wonderfully made. Bringing performing arts into our classrooms will help students build confidence and develop skills that will benefit them in other areas of life. Holy Motion will showcase what we've learned through scheduled performances during Worship, Holiday programs and productions, and other performances for our community.





Roberta Fellowship Group Camie Hooks & Barbara Anderson

Our August lunch gathering took us to the Harrisburg Pizza Hut, where we enjoyed delicious food, fellowship, and a hot, fresh meal. As always, our time together was filled with good conversation and plenty of laughter!

Breakfast at the Parkway House in Concord was also a joy. It's always a wonderful time when we gather around the table to share both food and friendship.

Mark your calendars:

Next Lunch – Thurs, September 11th @12:30 PM—Captain Steve's Harrisburg

Next Breakfast – Tues, September 16th at 9:00 AM—Parkway House, Union Street, Concord

Come join us—there's always room at the table!

"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." – Matthew 18:20



- Sharon Wooten

It has been a little over a year since Forward in Faith met because we haven't had a major project for which we needed to help raise funds. We have been dormant during this time. The ReFresh project, has brought us roaring back to life.

We are so fortunate to have the funds available to go into this ReFresh project, but at the same time we need to replenish those funds so we can continue to do work in God's Kingdom.

As many of you know we have had the "Can in Each Hand" fund raiser for many years. It was a very profitable venture for us when we were raising funds for the addition to our church starting somewhere around 2011. That fund raiser more or less has fallen by the wayside because we had no need to raise funds.

This photo shows what a simple thing like tossing loose coins into a jar can add up to. If we all did this, just think of the amount of money we could bring in. Forward in Faith would like to challenge us to all grab our jars and start filling them up, then bring them in on the 4th Sunday of each month. Every little coin helps the total add up. You can pick up a can in the Fellowship Hallway, please contact the church office if you don't have one!!



September 2025 Calendar

| Date | Event | Location | Time |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------|-----------|
| Wed, Sept 3rd | Faith Forward | Facebook Live | 12:00 PM |
| | Choir Practice | Fellowship Hall | 7:00 PM |
| Sat, Sept 6th | Craft Club | 2B | 9:00 AM |
| Sun, Sept 7th | Communion Worship Service | Fellowship Hall | 10:00 AM |
| | Afternoon Clubs Begin | Fellowship Hall | 3-4:30 PM |
| | Great Awakening | Fellowship Hall | 5:00 PM |
| Mon, Sept 8th | Comfort Blessings Meeting | 2B | 3-6:00 PM |
| Tues, Sept 9th | Lydia Meeting | 2B | 6:30 PM |
| Wed, Sept 10th | Faith Forward | Facebook Live | 12:00 PM |
| | Choir Practice | Fellowship Hall | 7:00 PM |
| Thurs, Sept 11th | Roberta Fellowship Lunch | Captain Steve's | 12:30 PM |
| Sat, Sept 13th | Craft Club | 2B | 9:00 AM |
| Sun Sept 14th | Worship Service | Fellowship Hall | 10:00 AM |
| | Meetings: ReFRESH Vote & Church Council | Fellowship Hall | 11:00 AM |
| | Roberta Ringers Practice | Bell Room - 3rd Floor | 11:30 AM |
| | Clubs/Joyful Noise Rehearsal | Fellowship Hall/2B | 3-4:30 PM |
| | Great Awakening | Fellowship Hall | 5:00 PM |

| | | | |
|------------------------|---|-----------------------|-----------|
| Mon, Sept 15th | Mens Meeting | Fellowship Hall | 6:30 PM |
| Tues, Sept 16th | Roberta Fellowship Breakfast | Parkway | 9:00 AM |
| | Forward in Faith Mtg | 1st Floor Conf. Rm | 6:30 PM |
| Wed, Sept 17th | Faith Forward | Facebook Live | 12:00 PM |
| | Choir Practice | Fellowship Hall | 7:00 PM |
| Sat, Sept 20th | Craft Club | 2B | 9:00 AM |
| Sun, Sept 21st | Worship Service | Facebook Live | 10:00 AM |
| | Roberta Ringers Practice | Bell Room - 3rd Floor | 11:00 AM |
| | Clubs/Holy Motion | Fellowship Hall/2B | 3-4:30 PM |
| | Great Awakening | Fellowship Hall | 5:00 PM |
| Tues, Sept 23rd | Kids & Youth Esther's Heart Packing Event | Esther's Heart | 6:00 PM |
| Wed, Sept 24th | Faith Forward | Facebook Live | 12:00 PM |
| | Choir Practice | Fellowship Hall | 7:00 PM |
| Sat, Sept 27th | Craft Club | 2B | 9:00 AM |
| Sun, Sept 28th | Worship Service | Fellowship Hall | 10:00 AM |
| | Roberta Ringers Practice | Bell Room - 3rd Floor | 11:00 AM |
| | Clubs/Joyful Noise Rehearsal | Fellowship Hall/2B | 3-4:30 PM |
| | Great Awakening | Fellowship Hall | 5:00 PM |



| | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-----------------|------|
| Skyler Cromer | 1st | Roy Anderson | 11th |
| Rilynn Shepard | 1st | Barb Maley | 11th |
| Elaine Coutier | 2nd | Fran Brown | 15th |
| Nancy Anderson | 3rd | Dale Furr Sr. | 16th |
| Margaret Rhinehardt | 3rd | Jamie Stirewalt | 19th |
| Dan Williamson II | 3rd | Dylan Pettigrew | 20th |
| John Mains | 4th | Mitch Kanady | 27th |
| Pam Sossamon | 7th | Emma Thompson | 28th |
| Ed Wisecarver | 7th | Ronnie Hinson | 30th |



| | | | |
|------------------------|-----|--------------------------|------|
| Wayne & Debbie Goodman | 3rd | Bruce & MaryAnn Bonifant | 11th |
| Eric & Amy Pettigrew | 6th | Roy & Madeline Anderson | 21st |
| David & Crecia Keller | 8th | Dean & Camie Hooks | 27th |

FAMILY DAY @ MONSTER MINI GOLF

Children & Youth
August 23, 1pm-3pm

KIDS' & YOUTH AFTERNOON CLUBS

START BACK!
September 14, 3pm-4:30pm

ESTHER'S HEART MISSION

Children & Youth
September 23 @ 6pm

YOUTH RETREAT

@ CROSSROADS CHURCH, CONCORD
October 3-4 (youth must register)

JOYFUL NOISE PERFORMANCE

October 5 @ 10am

LIFELINE MISSION & TRUNK-OR-TREAT

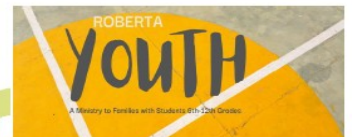
@ CANNON BALLERS STADIUM, KANNAPOLIS
October 25 @ 2pm



SAVE THE DATE

Children & Youth

2025 Fall Program Schedule



SUNDAYS

9AM - 9:45AM

Preschool Sunday School - 1st Floor Classroom

Children's Sunday School - 2B Classroom

Youth Sunday School - 3rd Floor Classroom

10AM - 11AM

Nursery - 1st Floor Classrooms

Children's Church - 1st Floor Classroom or 2B Classroom

(starts in Worship)

3PM - 4:30PM

Kids Afternoon Clubs - Meet in the 2B Classroom

Youth Afternoon Clubs - Meet in the 2B Classroom

(Kids' Club and Youth Club will be combined through December 2025)

