

February Newsletter

Dear Church Family,

February tends to put a big spotlight on love. Hearts, cards, chocolates, and all the reminders that say love is something to be celebrated. And that's a good thing. Love is worth celebrating. But for some folks, this time of year can also stir up quiet feelings of loneliness, loss, or the sense that they've been overlooked.

That's why I'm so grateful that the Bible reminds us that love didn't start with Valentine's Day, it started with God.

Jesus says, *"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you."* Let that sink in for a moment. The same deep, faithful, never-giving-up love that flows from the Father to the Son is the love Jesus offers to us. Not based on our relationship status. Not based on our best week or our worst one. Just because we belong to Him.

God's love is steady. It doesn't show up only when life is good. It doesn't back away when things get messy. It stays. It holds. It keeps choosing us again and again.

And here's the beautiful part: that kind of love doesn't stop with us. It moves through us.

When we truly live in God's love, it changes how we see people. It nudges us to notice the neighbor who could use a kind word. It softens our hearts toward the person who's hard to love. It reminds us that simple acts of care; a call, a note, an invitation, a helping hand, can be powerful expressions of God's love in someone else's life.

You don't have to do something big to make a difference. Most of the time, love shows up in small, faithful ways.

So, this month, as we celebrate love in all its forms, I hope you'll take a moment to rest in this truth: you are deeply, fully, and forever loved by God. Nothing can take that away. And as you live in that love, may it overflow into the lives of those around you right where you are. Church family, never forget this: God's love for you is real, it is constant, and it is stronger than anything you will ever face. And you are never outside of His care.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Chad

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love"
- John 15:9 (NIV)



Parmesan Oven Fried Chicken

Submitted by:
Terri Killian

1/2 cup, fine dry bread crumbs
3/4 cup grated Parmesan Cheese
1 tsp oregano
1 tsp garlic powder
1/4 tsp black pepper
6 chicken breast halves
1/2 cup Italian salad dressing

Marinate Chicken breasts in salad dressing, 1/2 hour in refrigerator. Combine remaining ingredients. Remove breasts from marinade and dip in crumb mixture. Spray 13x9 dish with nonstick spray. Place chicken in pan and bake uncovered, approximately 45 min at 350 degrees. Test with fork for doneness. If needed bake a few minutes longer

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



NEWS FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

A gift was given to the General Fund
in memory of **Mike Burris**
By: Sabrina Daniel

A gift was given to the Building Fund
in memory of **Larry Jones**
By: Melba Dorton

A gift was given to the Building Fund
in honor of **Colby Cochran**
By: John McLeod

SAVE THE DATE
SUNDAY, February 8th

SPEND THE DAY WITH US!

10:00 AM

Dedication Worship Service

11:00 AM

Soup-er Bowl Lunch
in the Fellowship Hall

3:00 PM

Sacred Harmony Concert
in the Sanctuary



Church Fund Balances — December 31, 2025

General Fund Operating Budget	
Checking Acct.	\$122,935.62
General Fund Checking	\$50.00
General Fund CD	\$104,647.62
Total General Fund	\$227,633.24
Capital Fund / General Fund	\$11,041.24
Capital Fund / Music - Children / Youth	\$2,602.45
Capital Fund / Multi - Media	\$1,210.68
Capital Fund / Adult Choir - Hand bells	\$1,689.26
Capital Fund / Disaffiliation	\$6,387.98
Total Capital Fund	\$22,931.61
Building Fund Checking Account	\$12,136.40
Building Fund Money Market	\$9,281.11
Total Building Fund	\$21,417.51
Community Missions	\$2,014.85
Missions Community Outreach Fund	\$2,014.85
Cemetery Fund Checking	\$955.44
Cemetery Fund CD- 1	\$22,231.57
Cemetery Fund CD- 2	\$32,537.20
Total Cemetery Fund	\$55,724.21
Educational Fund CD	83,276.57
Year to Date: 1/1/2025 thru 12/31/2025	
General Fund Income:	\$313,665.82
Expenses:	\$324,189.71
Budget Shortfall:	(\$10,523.89)



CAN IN EACH HAND
Fourth Sunday

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 **\$547.07** was collected in **December** for a total of **\$15,328.78** 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.





– Fran Brown

February is often thought of as the **“Month of Love.”** As we enter this season, let us take time to reflect on the love of our Lord, the love we share with our families—both personal and church—and just how truly blessed we are.

Please make plans to attend our **Sanctuary Dedication Service on Sunday, February 8, 2026.** During the **10:00 a.m. worship service**, we will dedicate our beautifully refreshed Sanctuary and Narthex. Following worship, everyone is invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall for lunch, lovingly prepared by our **Lydia Ladies** and fittingly called the **“Soup-er Bowl Lunch.”** At **3:00 p.m.**, we will conclude this special day with a concert by the **Scarlet Harmony Group.** It will truly be a joyful day of celebration—one you won’t want to miss!

We extend a **huge thank you** to everyone who served on the **ReFresh Team.** Each of you invested countless hours, dedication, and care into this project, and your hard work is clearly reflected in our cherished Roberta Church building.

On **Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.**, we will begin the **Season of Lent**, an important time in the Christian calendar. May we enter this season with anticipation and open hearts, ready for the spiritual growth that Lent and Easter bring to our lives. Throughout March and April, there will be several opportunities for worship, service, and reflection, so be sure to watch upcoming bulletins and newsletters for details. These opportunities will help prepare our hearts and minds for the spirit of Lent.

All **Worship Team members** are asked to attend our next meeting on **Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.** in the conference room. We look forward to seeing you there.



–Music – Sharon Wooten

I am excited to share that the Roberta adults will be diving into some brand-new music this spring. We are looking forward to learning these pieces and sharing them with you during worship. Each selection carries a powerful message, and our prayer is that you will feel the presence of God as you listen and worship alongside.

This past fall, we welcomed two new members into the Roberta Ringers, and we are excited to add another new member for the spring season. With some recent turnover in our group, we ask that you please keep our newest members in prayer as they grow and learn. We are so grateful that God continues to provide individuals who are willing to step out in faith and try something new.

I would also like to thank everyone who has agreed to help with or participate in *Stations of the Cross*. This meaningful experience is scheduled for Good Friday, April 3, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. This outdoor event will guide participants along the path Jesus walked on His way to the cross. Twelve stations will be set up around the Roberta campus, each depicting moments from Jesus’ final hours, with biblical characters accompanying Him along the journey. This promises to be a powerful and moving service, and we humbly ask for your prayers as we prepare.

Looking ahead, we are also excited to host a concert by **Sacred Harmony**, a Tennessee-based trio, on February 8, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. Please plan to attend and enjoy their beautiful blend of voices as they share their gospel-style music with our Roberta family.





The Director's Chair

Dear Parents,

I want to take a moment to reflect on the blessings of our community and the power of coming together in worship. At a time when our world can feel divided and uncertain, it is more important than ever to remember the hope and peace that can be found in our faith. God wants us to be a community that is rooted in love, care, and powerful relationships that help us overcome evil. I encourage you to make the most of these opportunities to connect with one another and with our Lord. Whether you are a longtime member of our church or new to the community, I believe that you will find something here that speaks to your heart and nourishes your soul.

“For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed,” says the Lord, who has compassion on you.”
(Isaiah 54:10)

We are so excited to have so many students learning about Jesus each week and digging more into God's word together! In February, the children and youth will continue reading through the book of Genesis, along with additional Bible stories. In these fun-loving classes, students engage in spiritual growth and education about the Bible and everyone in it. We learn we have a lot to offer to God and to others. Our focus is to always encourage each other and have a servant's heart for God.

In Christ's love,
Mari Brooks

Join Our Team!

LOOKING FOR WAYS TO SERVE THIS MINISTRY?

- Teach and lead in the classrooms
- Assist and help in the classrooms
- Deliver 'Children's Moment' messages
- Chaperone retreats and volunteer at events
- Preschool and Nursery caregiver

There is a strong need for adults and families to serve in these areas. This ministry is designed to help nurture and lead the children and youth into discipleship and building their relationship with Jesus.

Contact me to get connected and join our team!

Upcoming Dates:

2/1 Afternoon Clubs & Holy Motion
(3:30pm – 5:00pm)

2/15 Afternoon Clubs & Holy Motion
(3:30pm – 5:00pm)



This program is designed for students of all ages to explore creative ways to worship and share the Word of God through the many gifts that He's blessed us with.

Save the Date!

3/22 Easter Cantata & Student-Led Worship
(led by ALL students)

3/28 Spring Fling & Easter Egg Hunt
(Community Event)

CONTACT US

Mari Brooks
Director of Children & Youth
Mbrooks5825@gmail.com
Cell: (301) 399-7274





– Colby Cochran

A new year brings new opportunities to do God's work through Roberta Church's Missions and Outreach Ministry. This ministry seeks to help those in need by partnering with and financially supporting established non-profit organizations whose purpose and goals align with those of our church. Our gifts of money, donated items, and volunteer time to these organizations allows us to indirectly reach

more individuals and positively affect their lives than we could ever do alone as one, small rural church. Supporting Missions and Outreach is an immensely fulfilling and rewarding experience. Increasing needs means we need more willing hands!

The Missions / Outreach Team has identified ten service opportunities for 2026. A list and specific things you can do as Missions team member will be distributed later this month. Other opportunities to serve may be added later. If you know an organization that we should consider, please bring it to Colby's attention.

There are Team Leader vacancies for two of our missions: Operation Christmas Child (the shoebox project) and the Church of God Children's Home. A team leader is just waiting to be found, and Colby is actively on the hunt to find you! Looking away won't dissuade him so save him a lot of time and just step forward ASAP! You will be supported and you'll wonder why you didn't say a lot sooner, "I will do it".

We are always in need of non-perishable food donations for various missions. There are bins in the first-floor elevator foyer to deposit food items.

Consider making it a habit of supporting Missions/Outreach and Forward in Faith's joint project, A Can in Each Hand (a can of change and a can of food), on the last Sunday of each month – a little goes a LONG way!



– Susan Ferguson

The Evangelism Team is excited to launch a new invitation ministry — and we're inviting the congregation to take part in a simple but powerful commitment.

Pastor is asking for **25 families** to join a year-long outreach effort. Each participating family will commit to handing out just one invitation card per week for 52 weeks. Rather than distributing everything at once, this will be a steady "drip campaign," allowing us to consistently place invitations into our community throughout the entire year.

The goal is intentional, personal connection. One card each week can be shared with a neighbor, coworker, cashier, friend, or someone God places in your path. Small, faithful acts done consistently can open doors for conversation, encouragement, and ultimately life change. When we spread invitations over time, we create ongoing opportunities instead of a single moment. As we focus on meeting people where they are, we're also looking for additional volunteers to help with smaller, one-time outreach projects throughout the year. You don't have to commit to a long-term role — just a willing heart and a little time can make a big impact.

If your family feels called to be one of the 25 participating households, or if you're interested in getting involved with the Evangelism Team, join us for our next meeting on **Monday, February 9 at 6:30 PM** in the 1st floor conference room. We'd love to share more about the vision and answer any questions.

Let's step out in faith together and trust God to work through every invitation.





Roberta Fellowship Group Camie Hooks & Barbara Anderson

The Roberta Fellowship Group would like to wish everyone a very Happy Valentine's Day! What better way to celebrate than by sharing good food and meaningful fellowship? We invite everyone to join us for lunch and/or breakfast this month. We had a wonderful time together in January. Our lunch at Captain Steve's was filled with laughter and great conversation, and we tried a new breakfast spot—Parkway Family House on Highway 29—which everyone enjoyed so much that we voted to make it our regular location. We also shared ideas for future trips and activities we hope to enjoy together later this year. If you're looking for a relaxed group of Roberta Church friends who enjoy good food and great fellowship, we would love for you to join us. Come as you are—you'll feel right at home! We hope to see you there!

Upcoming Gatherings:

Lunch: Thursday, February 12, at 12:30 pm

Pizza Hut, Harrisburg (Highway 49)

Breakfast: Tuesday, February 17, at 9:00 am

Parkway Family House (Highway 29)



– Cathy Thompson & Sharon Wooten

Lydia is always looking to grow our numbers, and we would love for you to join us! If you are not currently active in Lydia, we warmly invite you to visit, spend some time with us, and see what we're all about. We are a mission-minded group that works

diligently to raise funds in support of organizations and families in need. As shared in the January newsletter, your generosity allowed us to make a powerful impact on two families in our local schools this past Christmas. None of this would be possible without your continued support.

Our next event is our annual **Soup-er Bowl Lunch**, to be held on Sunday, February 8, 2026, immediately following the worship service. The ladies will be serving homemade soups, chili, salad, and more. Please plan to join us for lunch that day—donations will be accepted, and as always, all proceeds will go toward another mission opportunity. You can help by preparing a crockpot of soup or chili, bringing a dessert, or contributing salad fixings. If cooking isn't an option, we would greatly appreciate help with setting up the fellowship hall or cleaning up after the meal. If you are willing to help in any way, please contact **Cathy Thompson** at **980-331-0531** to let her know how you can assist. As the saying goes, "many hands make light work"—and you'll also enjoy the fun and fellowship of serving alongside a sister in Christ.

Cemetery Update and Research – Corinne Smith

As we continue researching our church cemetery, maybe you can help....according to our church records and death certificates, the following individual is reportedly buried at our church cemetery with no marker, according to our church records.

Charles (or Charlie) McDowell Barbee, born July 26, 1891, he was the son of Henry Mack Barbee and Rena Whitley. His siblings are Nealie Elizabeth Barbee who married George Washington Smith, Lonnie Sylvester Barbee who married Martha Shumate, Carrie Mae Barbee who married Albert Wright, Bettie Lou Barbee who married Vance Bradshaw, and Maude Barbee who married 1) William Reynolds and 2) Grover Cook. Charles died Sept 8, 1955. Since our church records reflect he is buried at Roberta Cemetery with no marker, could he be buried in the same plot as his brother, Lonnie Barbee? If you have any information regarding this Barbee family, please talk to Corinne Smith, 704-652-2593, or csmith7254@gmail.com





– Dale & Sharon Wooten

As you know, the Roberta Church Council voted to invest **\$450,000** in the **ReFresh Project** to update and renew our sanctuary. The **Forward in Faith Team** has been tasked with organizing fundraising efforts to replenish these funds. Below is an update on our progress to date:

Funds Raised

- *Can-In-Each-Hand* (through December 31, 2026): **\$15,328.79**
- *October Giving Tree Fundraiser*: **\$14,880.00**
- *December Bake Sale*: **\$1,575.00**
- *Donations to the Building Fund* (July 28 – December 28): **\$19,271.17**

Total Raised to Date: \$51,054.96

Total Approved by Council: \$450,000.00

Remaining Amount to Be Raised: \$398,945.04

The Forward in Faith Team met on January 13 to plan upcoming fundraising opportunities. Several events are scheduled for Spring 2026, many of which offer wonderful opportunities for fun, fellowship, and participation by all ages. Please mark your calendars and consider how you might be involved:

- **Can-In-Each-Hand** – This ongoing fundraiser continues to collect loose change. If you need a can, please see **Sharon or Dale Wooten**.
- **Nativity Scene Fundraiser** – Debbie Cochran is creating nativity scenes from scrap wood left over from the sanctuary demolition. This is a meaningful way to own a small piece of Roberta's history. These will be available for a **minimum \$15 donation** and will continue until the scrap wood runs out.

Checks should be made payable to Roberta Church with "Nativity Scene Fundraiser" in the memo line.

To request one, contact **Sharon Wooten at 704-202-2535**.

- **Hot Dog Sale (April)** – Date to be announced. Volunteers will be needed to help purchase supplies, cook and serve hot dogs, and prepare homemade desserts. More details coming soon.
- **Combined Bake Sale & Walk-A-Thon – Saturday, May 16**

Bake Sale: Ladies are asked to bring baked goods to the fellowship hall by **9:45 a.m.**

Walk-A-Thon: **"Walking Forward in Faith"** begins at **10:00 a.m.** Six laps around the blacktop parking lot equal one mile; nine laps equal 1.5 miles. Participants may gather sponsors who donate to Roberta Church (*memo: Walk-A-Thon*). This event is open to everyone—children, youth, and adults alike. You can walk, sponsor a walker, bake, or purchase baked goods.

Checks for baked goods should be made payable to Roberta Church with "Bake Sale" in the memo line.

Any baked goods not sold on Saturday will be available for purchase in the Welcome Center following worship on **Sunday, May 17**.

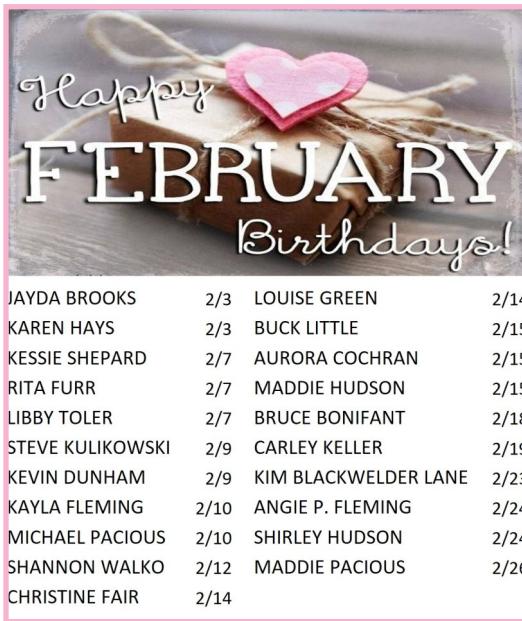
We are excited about what lies ahead and grateful for your continued support as we move **Forward in Faith** together.



MINISTRY NEWS

February Calendar

Date	Event	Location	Time
Sun, February 1st	Connections: Sunday School Worship & Communion Service Church Council Meeting Roberta Ringers Practice Holy Motion/Clubs Stations of the Cross Meeting Great Awakening	Various Sanctuary Sanctuary Bells Room 2B Fellowship Hall Fellowship Hall	9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM 11:00 AM 3:30 PM 3:00 PM 5:00 PM
Tue, February 3rd	The Living Word Circle - Grp 1 Esther's Heart Packing Event	1st FL Conf Rm/Online Esther's Heart	11:00 AM 6:00 PM
Wed, February 4th	Faith Forward Choir Practice	Facebook Live Choir Room	12:00 PM 7:00 PM
Sun, February 8th	Connections: Sunday School Sanctuary Dedication Service Soup-er Bowl Lunch Sacred Heart Concert	Various Sanctuary Fellowship Hall Sanctuary	9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM 3:00 PM
Monday, February 9th	Comfort Blessings Meeting Evangelism Meeting	1st Floor Conf. Room 1st Floor Conf. Room	3:00 PM 6:30 PM
Tue, February 10th	The Living Word Circle - Grp 1 Lydia Meeting	1st FL Conf Rm/Online Fellowship Hall	11:00 AM 6:30 PM
Wed, February 11th	Faith Forward Choir Practice	Facebook Live Choir Room	12:00 PM 7:00 PM
Thurs, February 12th	Fellowship Group Lunch	Pizza Hut - Harrisburg	12:30 PM
Sun, February 15th	Connections: Sunday School Worship Service Roberta Ringers Practice Stations of the Cross Meeting Holy Motion/Clubs Great Awakening	Various Sanctuary Bells Room Fellowship Hall 2B Fellowship Hall	9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM 3:00 PM 3:30 PM 5:00 PM
Mon, February 16th	Men's Meeting	Fellowship Hall	6:30 PM
Tues, February 17th	Fellowship Group Breakfast The Living Word Circle - Grp 1	Parkway on Hwy 29 1st FL Conf Rm/Online	9:00 AM 11:00 AM
Wed, February 18th	SPRC Meeting	2B	6:00 PM
Sunday, February 22nd	Faith Forward Ash Wednesday Service Connections: Sunday School Worship Service Roberta Ringers Practice Stations of the Cross Meeting Great Awakening	Facebook Live Sanctuary Various Sanctuary Bells Room Fellowship Hall 2B	12:00 PM 6:30 PM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM 3:00 PM 3:30 PM
Tues, February 24th	The Living Word Circle - Grp 1 Worship Meeting	1st Floor Conf. Room	11:00 AM
Wed, February 25th	Faith Forward Choir Practice	Facebook Live Choir Room	6:30 PM 7:00 PM
Sat, February 28	Private Event	Fellowship Hall	All Day



Acolyte	
2/1	Taylor Darnell
2/8	Maddie Pacious
2/15	Caius Moor
2/22	Kalli Hattaway
Ushers	
2/1	Doug Conner & Ronnie Hinson
2/8	Darrell Ridenhour & Josh Brooks
2/15	Eric Howie & Ed Anderson
2/22	Larry Pigg & Jewel Williamson
Greeters	
2/1	Tammy Weddington & Kevin Dunham
2/8	Ed Anderson & Susan Rosinski
2/15	Wendy Stirewalt & Kari Thompson
2/22	Carolyn Pigg & Vicky Furr
Children's Moment	
2/1	Travis Eudy
2/8	Pastor Chad
2/15	Regina Hinson
2/22	Doug Conner
Children's Church	
2/1	Mary Brooks & Doris Burris
2/8	No Children's Church
2/15	Mari Brooks & Kelly Almond
2/22	Mari Brooks & Doris Burris
Nursery	
2/1	Kari Thompson & Shawn Marble
2/8	Paul Pacious & Annemarie Irons
2/15	Kelly Pacious & Kelly Almond
2/22	Shawn Marble & Kari Thompson
Multi-Media	
2/1	Soundboard: Regina Hinson Computer: Loren Koerner Camera: Alex Hattaway
2/8	Soundboard: Michael Kanady Computer: Sue Ridenhour Camera: Susan Ferguson
2/15	Soundboard: Michael Kanady Computer: Regina Hinson Camera: Don Smith
2/22	Soundboard: Sue Ridenhour Computer: Jewel Williamson Camera: Loren Koerner
Opening/Closing Church -February	
	Carson Keller

