

Groce UMC's

# The Messenger

Volume 38; Issue 5  
May 1, 2025



## God's Preemptive Strike

A Testimonial to the Foresight of God's Plan

### Inside

May 2025

Cover Story  
Page 2

Birthdays/Anniversaries  
Page 3

Upcoming Events  
Page 4-7

Calendar  
Page

### Cover Photo

By D.B.



# God's Preemptive Strike

## A Testimonial to the Foresight of God's Plan

STORY & PHOTO BY D.B.

I own property in Biltmore. It has been in my family for over 60 years. It had never flooded before hurricane Helene hit Asheville and western North Carolina on 27th of September, 2024.

Biltmore regularly floods. The local news station always sets up on the corner of my building to film the devastation in Biltmore Village. Every few years I would price out flood insurance. In fact, my tenant had just priced out flood insurance 2 months before the hurricane. It was \$30,000. I could never afford that. So each time, before major flooding was forecasted and WLOS TV camped out on my property, I prayed and asked God to put his hand over my building and protect my little island.

14 months before hurricane Helene, I received a letter from my insurance company; thanking me for being such a great customer the last 30 years and asking if I wanted to consider any additional insurance products. Of course, on the top of the list was flood insurance. I laid that letter down on my counter and

just laughed. I told God that just for giggles I would call and let them run another estimate.

My agent called back the next day, and said I have something that I think might work for you. It is a \$436,211 catastrophic flood policy for your building for a cost of \$1,743. I immediately thought "OK \$1,743 a month. I might could swing that let me pray about it." To which my agent replied, "My dear, that's for the year!"

So what do you think? Is it possible that God knew that hurricane Helene would devastate us? And why me? What have I ever done to deserve His provision and incredible mercy?

Yet, I am confident that He is the One that provided. Like so many, I am striving to rebuild from the wreckage while I share that the Provider is the Faithful One; my Hope and Protector.

God Speed.



# Mothers Day Hydrangeas

Our tradition of honoring and memorializing those who have mothered us in many different ways will continue this Mother's day! The names of those remembered will be placed in the bulletin on that Sunday. Please complete and turn in this form and your money **by Wednesday, May 7. Those left at church will be planted on the front walk. Each Plant is \$12**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor/Memory (**please designate**) of: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Hydrangeas Ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

## Have You Seen Our New Sign?!

ENTRY & PHOTO BY WILL TROXELL



Have you seen our new Event Sign? Bob Briggs has graciously provided the effort and materials to provide us with this long overdue replacement. Some of you may know that the old sign was the nemesis of those that populated it. The letters would often fall off and always required tape to hold them on. Most important, the new sign presents a professional appearance for our church.

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

05/01 Sharon Haberfield  
Maro Slaughter

05/04 Tim Kilmer  
Kelley Woehl

05/05 Bob Briggs

05/06 Ryan Moore

05/07 Christy Goforth  
Liz Ream

05/08 Mary Catherine  
Pisano  
Sara Werling

05/09 Pam Butler

05/12 Caroline Morris

05/13 Ari Moore

05/17 Brittany Luckadoo

05/19 Neysa Hurt  
Tibbie Vest

05/23 Chance Towery

05/25 Annette Coleman

05/28 Sarah Taylor

05/29 JoAnn McGough  
Nancy Saxman

05/30 Natalie Taylor

05/31 Andie Jackson

05/27 Tom & Margaret Kuhn (47)

05/31 Max & Ruth Phillips (66)



# CONCERT SERIES

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Sunday, March 9 ~ Biltmore Brass  
Sunday, April 6 ~ 4-hand Piano  
Sunday, May 4 ~ Brass, Piano & More

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All Concerts begin at 3pm  
Free | Donations Welcome  
954 Tunnel Rd, Asheville

(828)298-7647 | [www.groceumc.org](http://www.groceumc.org)



Adults                \$13 per plate  
                              (in advance)  
                              \$15 at the door  
Kids Under 10    \$7 per plate  
Family Rate       \$35

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Seating at 6 & 6:15  
Take Outs at 6:30  
Talent Show at 6:45

Please Call the  
Church Office for  
Reservations:  
(828)298-7647

GROCE UMC'S

# *Italian Dinner*

Organized by the United Methodist Men with  
proceeds to benefit missional outreach.



## *Saturday, May 10*

Includes:

Spaghetti, Marinara, Meatballs or Roasted Vegetables, Salad,  
Brownie with Ice Cream, French or Italian Bread, Coffee & Tea

\*There is a vegetarian option available.

Groce United Methodist Church  
954 Tunnel Rd, Asheville, 28805

*Smokey Mountain Brass Band Presents*

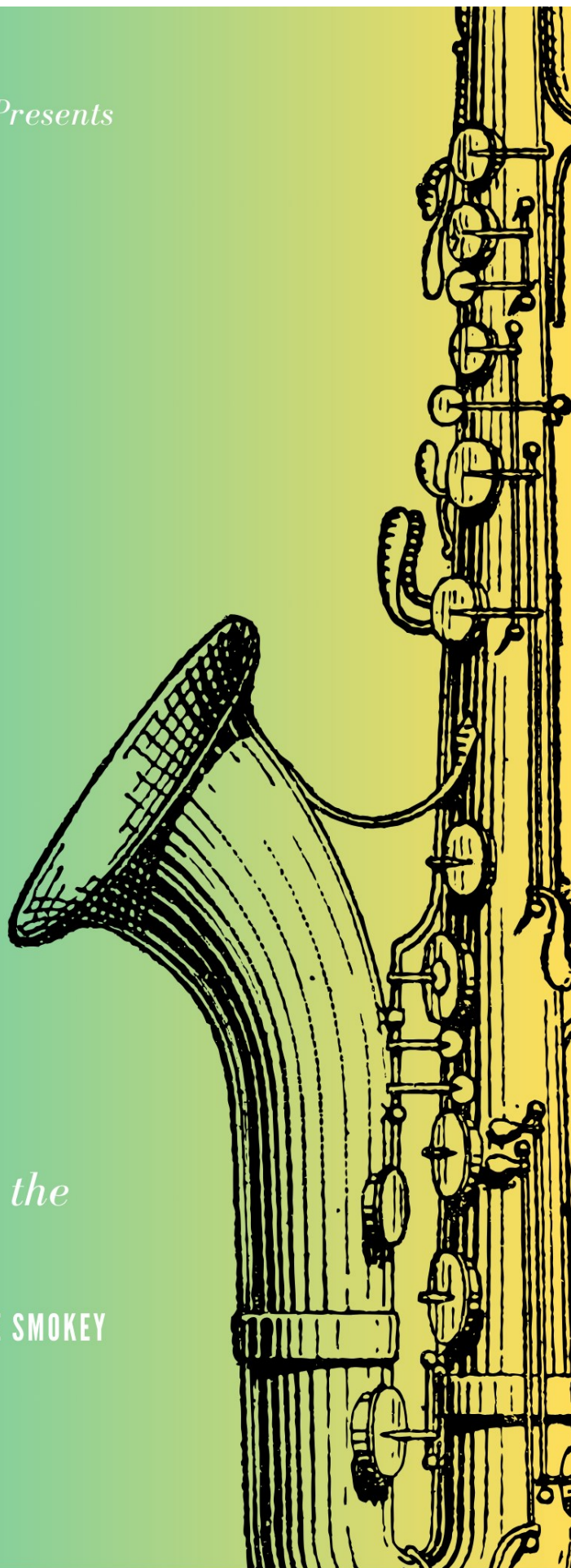
# ANNUAL SPRING CONCERT

*May 20, 2025  
7pm to 8:30pm*

*Listen, relax, and enjoy the  
sounds of the season!*

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY BILL ROSS AND THE SMOKEY  
MOUNTAIN BRASS BAND.**

Admission is free. Donations accepted.  
954 Tunnel Rd. Asheville | 828.298.7647



# Join Us FUN FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Free for everyone! Join us for a  
fun game night with family,  
friends, and neighbors.

## Activities Include

CARD & BOARD GAMES,  
PUZZLES, BEANBAG TOSS,  
SNACKS

**MAY 30, 2025**  
7:00pm - 9:00pm

Groce UMC | 954 Tunnel Road, Asheville, NC, 28805  
For more information Call us at 828.298.7647

828.298.7647

[www.groceumc.org](http://www.groceumc.org)





# May



Take time each day to pray for members of your church family.

| Sunday                                                                             | Monday                                                                      | Tuesday                                                                                    | Wednesday                                                                | Thursday                                                      | Friday                                        | Saturday                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Happy Mother's Day                                                                 |                                                                             |                                                                                            |                                                                          |                                                               |                                               |                                                         |
| 4<br>AGAPE—9am<br>Worship—10:30am<br>Fam. Meet.—11:30a<br>Concert—3pm<br>Youth—5pm | 5<br>PrayerGroup—11am<br>Handbells—3pm<br>Beekkeepers—7pm                   | 6<br>Parkin.Group—10am<br>Knitters—10:30am<br>Tai Chi—1:30pm<br>SMBB—7pm                   | 7<br>Nurture—5pm<br>Choir—6pm<br>Pickleball—6pm<br>AA Meeting—6pm        | 1<br>Tai Chi—1:30pm<br>WelcomeTable—5pm<br>UMMen—6:30pm       | 2<br>Tailgate Market—3—6pm                    | 3<br>HawCreek Yard Sale—7am—2pm<br>Bricks4Kidz—10am—2pm |
| 11<br>Mother's Day<br>AGAPE—9am<br>Worship—10:30am                                 | 12<br>PrayerGroup—11am<br>Handbells—3pm<br>GuitarLeague—6pm<br>Brownies—6pm | 13<br>Knitters—10:30am<br>Tai Chi—1:30pm<br>Bev.Hills—7pm<br>SMBB—7pm                      | 14<br>UMM@VRQ—4pm<br>Choir—6pm<br>Pickleball—6pm<br>AA Meeting—6pm       | 15<br>IsaacGroup—10:30a<br>Tai Chi—1:30pm<br>WelcomeTable—5pm | 16<br>Tailgate Market—3—6pm                   | 17<br>ThriveWell.—9am<br>Bricks4Kidz—10am—2pm           |
| 18<br>ThriveWell.—9am<br>AGAPE—9am<br>Worship—10:30am<br>Youth—5pm                 | 19<br>PrayerGroup—11am<br>Handbells—3pm<br>Outreach—3pm                     | 20<br>Knitters—10:30am<br>Tai Chi—1:30pm<br>MiriamCircle—3pm<br>TL3—6pm<br>SMBBConcert—7pm | 21<br>SarahCircle—2:30p<br>Choir—6pm<br>Pickleball—6pm<br>AA Meeting—6pm | 22<br>Tai Chi—1:30pm<br>WelcomeTable—5pm                      | 23<br>Tailgate Market—3—6pm                   | 24<br>Guitar League—10am                                |
| 25<br>AGAPE—9am<br>Worship—10:30am                                                 | 26<br>Memorial Day<br>PrayerGroup—11am<br>Handbells—3pm<br>Brownies—6pm     | 27<br>Knitters—10:30am<br>Tai Chi—1:30pm                                                   | 28<br>BCAE—4pm<br>Choir—6pm<br>Pickleball—6pm<br>AA Meeting—6pm          | 29<br>IsaacGroup—10:30a<br>Tai Chi—1:30pm<br>WelcomeTable—5pm | 30<br>Tailgate Market—3—6pm<br>Game Night—7pm | 31<br>Bricks4Kidz—10am—2pm                              |

**Warrior Canine Connection**  
- Mon. - Fri. from 8am to 5pm

\*Dates are subject to change.

**Asian Pacific American Heritage Month** - A rather broad term, Asian/Pacific encompasses all of the Asian continent and the Pacific islands of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia. The month of May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese people to the United States on May 7, 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. The majority of the workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants.