



# ARCHWAYS



# May 2025

**Archdale Methodist Church**  
*A Global Methodist Church Congregation*  
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Archdale, NC 27263

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## WORSHIP TIMES

9:45 am  
Sunday School

10:45 am  
Worship Service

## MINISTERS

The Congregation

## STAFF

### **Pastor**

Rev. Mike Lee  
[AMCpastor@northstate.net](mailto:AMCpastor@northstate.net)

### **Pastor Emeritus**

Harold Shives

### **Choir Director**

Norma Kennedy  
[hakennedy@hotmail.com](mailto:hakennedy@hotmail.com)

### **Office Administrator**

Sidney Pace  
[AMCoffice@northstate.net](mailto:AMCoffice@northstate.net)

## ***From Pastor Mike....***

When we hear the word "REVIVAL", most church folks think of a series of worship services with special music and guest speakers. We often see revival as a break in our traditional worship experience for the pursuit of high-energy evangelistic efforts. However, the Biblical expression of revival is a bit different. The writer of Psalm 85:6 offers a uniquely personal spiritual approach to revival when he says, "Will You not Yourself revive us again, that Your people may rejoice in You?" What we see being expressed here is that revival is not just an attempt to reach the unsaved but is in fact a time for believers to be reawakened and restored in our personal relationships with God. It is easy to get bogged down in the pursuit of living and lose sight of God's calling on our lives. While bills have to be paid, and family obligations must be met, we must never lose sight of the spiritual dimension of our lives. We need to be reminded that it takes time and focus to cultivate and nurture our spiritual well-being. It is imperative that we as believers pay attention to and focus on the state of our relationship with God through Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. Revival provides the opportunity to come together in an atmosphere of fellowship and worship and find restoration and transformation thereby setting our hearts aflame with the fire of the God's presence and power.

Revival services will begin at Archdale Methodist church on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> and run through Tuesday evening, May 6<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Mike will open our revival services during the 10:45 AM worship service on Sunday morning. The evening services will begin at 6:30 PM each evening. On Sunday evening, we will be led in worship by Brandon Snow, Worship Leader at Shady Grove Methodist Church and our speaker will be the Rev. Tom Mabry, Senior Pastor at Shady Grove. On Tuesday evening, the speaker will be our Lay Leader, Gary Hunt who will challenge us to be the church God is calling us to be and become. The Rev. Eric Lineberry will preach for us on Tuesday evening. Each speaker will share with us their unique perspective regarding God's desire for our church and how we can best fulfill the calling of Christ to spread scriptural holiness to all believers as we worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly. Please be in prayer for our speakers and that each of us will be open to God's Spirit moving in and through each piece and part of these revival services and help make a difference in our lives that will in turn lead us to touch our community with God's love and grace.



***Our Spring Revival is just around the corner!***

The dates are May 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup>. We will start on Sunday morning at our 10:45am worship service and meet each evening from 6:30 PM until 8:00 PM.

The theme for our revival is:

“Rise up O Church of God ... Be done with Lesser Things”

Our revival speakers will be challenging us as a church to take our task of spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ more seriously. Please be in prayer for the speakers and for all those who attend. I believe God will show us things we have never seen and challenge us to become disciples that truly make a difference in the lives of those in our church and for those in our community. Start praying now that God will prepare your heart and spirit for our Spring Revival.

## OUR CONDOLENCES

- Craig Grimmatt lost his grandmother, Virginia Juanita Beck Henry (97) on Thursday, March 27, 2025, at GrayBrier Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Trinity. She was the great grandmother of Chris and Lindsay Grimmatt. A private graveside service was to be held at Floral Garden Memorial Park Cemetery.

- Rev. Mike Lee lost his father April 14, 2025 in Goldsboro. Alton "Al" Lee (94) service was held Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at Adamsville Baptist Church in Goldsboro at 2pm. His interment concluded at Evergreen Memorial Cemetery in Princeton.

- Shirley Cecil lost her husband, Ray Cecil, March 22, 2025. See more details in the newsletter under George Elder SS Class members.

- Larry Sechrest lost his wife, Maxine Sechrest, March 24, 2025. She is the daughter of AMC member, Sherry Sechrest and grandson, Paul Sechrest, who is a baptized member Of AMC. More details are available in the George Elder SS Class members section of this newsletter.

- Sherry Thomas lost her husband, Paul Thomas, April 17, 2025. See the George Elder SS Class member section of this newsletter for additional information.

*As those listed above walk through this time of loss, they can be assured that the Lord walks with each one to bring comfort, peace and love.*



### Stephen Ministry

Confidentiality is a cornerstone of Stephen Ministry. This is not a "secret organization" but what a care receiver says to his or her Stephen Minister is kept in strictest confidence. Even the identity of a care receiver is kept secret (unless the care receiver chooses to tell someone). Confidentiality gives care receivers the reassurance they need so they can risk revealing to their Stephen Ministers their deepest thoughts and feelings, detail they might not be able to discuss with anyone else. It is through the sharing of innermost feelings that God can work the miracle of healing, restoring faith and hope to care receivers' lives. Stephen Ministry is confidential because trust is vital for a caring relationship to be effective.

## Memorials

### In Memory of Ray Cecil

*Given by:*

*Barry & Janice Zachary*

*Larry & Gail Lawson*

*Marshall & Debra White*

*Lloyd Roberts*

*Tommy & Betsy Reagan*

*Hershel & Teena Reddeck*

*David & Susan Stewart*

*Sharon Crist*

*Rae Askeu*

*Shelby Buchanan*

*Sharron Lawrence*

*Gary & Marcia Guffey*

*Sharon Carpenter*

*Sandra Hale*

*Kevin & Melinda Peele*

*Gary & Cathy Hunt*

*Clyde & Dorothy Brown*

*Archdale Methodist Men*

### In Memory of Maxine Sechrest

*Given by:*

*Tommy & Betsy Reagan*

*Hershel & Teena Reddeck*

*Eunice Rice*

*Larry & Gail Lawson*

*David & Susan Stewart*

*Sharon Crist*

*Rae Askeu*

*Shelby Buchanan*

*Gary & Marcia Guffey*

*Sharon Carpenter*

*Sandra Hale*

*Kevin & Melinda Peele*

*Ronda Hofmann*

*Gary & Cathy Hunt*

*Clyde & Dorothy Brown*

### In Memory of Alton lee

*Given by Rae Askeu*

### In Memory of Paul Thomas

*Given by:*

*Peggy Johnson*

*George Elder Sunday SS Class*

*Sharon Carpenter*

*Shirley Cecil*

*Hoyt & Kay Nichols*

*Tommy & Betsy Reagan*

*Gary & Cathy Hunt*

*Linda Game*

*Bobbie Finch*

## Honorarium

*In Honor of Mary Hamilton*

*Given by The George Elder Sunday School Class*

## THANK YOU

I want you to know how much the cards, prayers, calls, texts, emails and visits during Ray's illness and passing meant to Ray and I. He loved his church family and was blessed with many long and wonderful friendships.

The sympathy cards I have received have been a real comfort since Ray's passing and I appreciate them.

Shirley Cecil

## **FROM THE GEORGE ELDER SS CLASS** **THE LOSS OF 3 BELOVED CLASS MEMBERS WITHIN 1 MONTH**

- **Ray Cecil** entered his heavenly home on Saturday, March 22, 2025. He passed at Atrium Wake Forest High Point Medical Center. He fell on March 1 2025 and broke his hip and was recovering at Shannon Gray Rehab when he became very ill on March 21<sup>st</sup>.

Ray joined Archdale Methodist Church December 10, 1967. Ray started attending AMC when he was invited by Larry & Maxine Sechrest. He joined the Faith Sunday School Class now called the George Elder SS Class when he started attending AMC. He later taught the class for many years. He also taught the Susannah Wesley SS Class. Ray remained very faithful in his attendance and support of class functions until mobility issues changed that.

Ray joined the Methodist Men early on and became very involved with their projects. The 70's was when they had Ham & Egg Dinners. Later they had BBQ as one of their signature fund raisers along with Brunswick Stew. Ray served as Treasurer of Methodist Men for many years. Ray supported the projects and worked diligently to make them successful. As recent as March he made sure preparations were made for the shoulders to be cooked at Fairfield Community Church for their April BBQ.

Ray's servant hood at AMC include serving as Chairman of Church Council, a Trustee, Chairman of the Staff Parish Relations Committee, a greeter, opening crew person, van driver, Front Porch Caller, and anywhere he saw the need to fulfill a responsibility to the church. He was a delegate to the Methodist Conference at Lake Juanaluska representing AMC. He was recognized as Lay Man of the Year December 13, 2015. He was faithful and committed when called upon and led by example as a Christian Disciple.

Ray's funeral service was held on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at Cumby Family Funeral Service in Archdale with Rev. Mike Lee and Rev. Dr. Jeff Patterson officiating. The burial followed at Fairfield Community Church where he was an associate member.

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- **Maxine Sechrest** was welcomed at the Pearly Gates when she departed her earthly home on March 24, 2025. She passed at the Hospice House in High Point. Maxine had valiantly dealt with declining health for a few years being in the hospital more recently and then in rehab at Westchester Manor. Larry was her devoted caregiver during her health decline keeping her at home where she treasured her time.

Maxine joined Archdale Methodist Church in 1967 with the exact date unavailable. She was so involved in many projects including the Methodist Women when she would provide transportation for ladies to attend and also when they were working on other projects in the church. She worked diligently on the 1974 recipe book called "The Kitchen Corner". Maxine worked closely in providing the furnishings at the parsonage that was built in the mid 1970's when she was Chairperson of the Parsonage Committee.

She loved to provide beautiful flowers for worship several years ago. It was fitting that the brass vases previously used in worship contained beautiful flower arrangements at her Memorial Service. They were made by her son-in-law.

(Continued on next page)

## **FROM THE GEORGE ELDER SS CLASS** **THE LOSS OF 3 BELOVED CLASS MEMBERS WITHIN 1 MONTH**

Maxine was a very long time member of the George Elder SS Class (formerly the Faith SS Class) and treasured the friendship of her class members. She was on the Food Committee for the SS class, she was either a scheduled SS teacher or substitute teacher in the late 1980's and again several years later. She also served on the Scrapbook Committee for several years. She loved the class socials and enjoyed hosting at their home when the opportunity presented itself. We often heard in Sunday School of one of her favorite scriptures from Psalm.

She was a member of the Chancel Choir for several years and she especially enjoyed and appreciated the late Wayne Burley as Choir Director. She had a beautiful soprano voice and loved the beautiful old hymns that were played prior to her Memorial Service at AMC.

She served many years on the Senior Lunch Committee. She enjoyed the camaraderie, food and fun enjoyed at these monthly gatherings. She was a greeter and also a Front Porch Caller at AMC. Maxine served willingly and loved her church and the strong connection she forged with many people at AMC.

Maxine's Memorial Service was held on Saturday, March 29, 2025 at Archdale Methodist Church with Rev. Mike Lee officiating. Her cremains are in the AMC Columbarium.

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- **Paul Thomas** departed his earthly life and entered his heavenly home on Thursday, April 17, 2025. He passed away at Westchester Manor under the care of Hospice. Paul had cognitive issues for some time and fell on February 18, 2025 and broke his hip. Sherry, a retired nurse, lovingly cared for Paul at home with his cognitive decline. He had been in rehab at Westchester Manor following his hospital stay and dealt with different health issues while there.

Paul was a member of Archdale Methodist Church having joined 05-27-2001. He transferred from Bethany United Methodist Church in West Jefferson, NC.

He joined the George Elder SS Class in 2003 or sooner. He was Class President in 2016. He was so active in SS and worship as long as his health permitted.

Paul's involvement in the church was wide and varied. He served on Church Council in 2008, 2013 and 2016-2017. He was on the Finance Committee – 2008, 2013 and 2015-2021. He was on Staff Parish Relations Committee at different times and served as Chairperson of this committee. He was so devoted to the work of the church and implemented plans to have volunteers assemble church records based on the retention policy in place at that time. This included eliminating retained files no longer needed or part of the retention policy. He always wanted what was best for the church, the staff and the members of AMC.

He was on the Stewardship Committee, Lay Leadership Committee, Executive Committee and a long time member of the Methodist Men. Paul was a good worker with their big projects. He had a strong bond with many of the dedicated Methodist Men.

Paul's graveside was held Thursday, April 24, 2025 at 11am at Holly Hill Memorial Park in Thomasville. Rev. Stuart Noell officiated at his service. He was entombed in the Mausoleum.

- Submitted by Shirley Cecil

Archdale Methodist Church  
Policy for Use of Church Property

The primary purpose of this policy is to keep everyone as safe as possible while on church property and to protect church property.

During normal business hours (9:00 AM to 3:00 PM – Monday through Friday) everyone entering the buildings should check in with the office so staff is aware of your presence and check out at the office when you leave. This action prevents the staff from being surprised or startled if they were to just come upon you. Also, it will prevent your presence being unknown if you were to suffer an accident or a medical situation while in the buildings. Our insurance carrier highly recommends no one be in the building alone if possible.

Any use of church facilities must be reserved ahead of time with the church administrator.

The church member sponsoring the function is responsible for the following:

- Do not prop outside doors open if the door is unattended.
- Clean up and place trash bags in the outside totes.
- Make sure all doors are closed and locked.
- Make sure no water is running.
- All lights cut off.
- Any borrowed keys must be returned to the office or dropped in the lock box outside the office in the Fellowship Hall foyer.
- Thermostats returned to regular setting.

This policy was approved and adopted by the Board of Trustees on April 28, 2025.

# Happy Birthday!

05/01 Ellis Bentley  
 05/03 Gary Brock  
 05/03 Ronald Fletcher  
 05/03 Sydnie Stewart  
 05/03 Amanda Wentz  
 05/03 Sarah Yow  
 05/04 Jill Connor  
 05/04 Wesley Hodgin  
 05/04 Heather Mann  
 05/04 Cade McKinney  
 05/04 Daniel Peele  
 05/04 Larry Sechrest  
 05/04 Amanda Sellers  
 05/06 Ashton Harmon  
 05/07 Shirley Cecil  
 05/08 Damian Milligan  
 05/09 Carol Hanes  
 05/09 Will Huffman  
 05/09 LuAnn Spain  
 05/10 Sarrah Horne  
 05/10 Teri Boles  
 05/10 Lauren Huthmaker  
 05/10 Liam Lanier  
 05/10 Cathy Lee  
 05/10 Haley Mazoo  
 05/10 Emily Rose  
 05/12 April Kennedy  
 05/12 Kevin Stewart  
 05/13 Burt Casper  
 05/13 Robert Knotts  
 05/13 Harold Shives  
 05/13 Jaxson White  
 05/14 Allie-Cate Bentley

05/15 Bobbie Finch  
 05/15 Joe Martin  
 05/15 Gavin Prince  
 05/16 Cindy Clodfelter  
 05/16 Kim Everhart  
 05/17 Charles Dobbins  
 05/17 Gladys Suggs  
 05/18 Graham Dysinger  
 05/18 Judah Hollifield  
 05/18 Kay Nichols  
 05/19 Joe Colclough  
 05/19 Gayle Powell  
 05/19 Brandon Smith  
 05/20 Stephanie Hedrick  
 05/21 Wayne Jarrell  
 05/21 Priscilla Simonenko  
 05/21 Amy Walker  
 05/22 Steve Huffman  
 05/22 Zachary Huffman  
 05/22 Linda Justice  
 05/25 Zane Blossom  
 05/25 Auburn Lance  
 05/26 Gary Guffey  
 05/26 Lindsay O'Connor  
 05/26 Don Ross  
 05/27 McKenzie Barefoot  
 05/28 Ellie Beck  
 05/28 John Snead  
 05/29 Darrell Gates  
 05/29 Phillip Hollifield  
 05/29 Sandy Rains  
 05/29 Debbie Robertson



## Where We Were Last Month

Date	Offering Received	Budget Amount Received to Date	Budget Amount Needed to Date	Week #	Sunday School	Worship Attendance
04/06/2025	\$3,035.00	\$56,031.00	\$73,542.56	14	80	104
04/13/2025	\$2,982.00	\$59,013.00	\$78,795.60	15	73	100
04/20/2025	\$4,501.00	\$63,514.00	\$84,048.64	16	80	120
04/27/2025	\$6,505.00	\$70,019.00	\$89,301.67	17	78	86

## Capital Improvements Fund

Given in April: \$2,300.00

Received to date: \$6,375.00