

Worship
Sundays @ 10am
rehobethumc.org

REHOBETH

MESSENGER



July 2026

Dear Rehobeth Family,

Three years ago this month, by the appointment of our Bishop and the providence of God, my family and I came to serve among you. I will be honest — I arrived like a whirlwind. I came with ideas, with urgency, with a Marine's instinct to move fast and adjust fire later. I know that made some of you uncomfortable. And yet you extended me grace upon grace, and for that I love you more than these words can carry.

When I arrived, I think most of us were hurting. The United Methodist Church was in an upheaval in the wake of disaffiliation votes and churches leaving the denomination. Disagreement on the UMC's stance on inclusion had thinned our pews and wounded our spirit. In three years, we have said goodbye to friends and family — some who moved on, some who moved away, and some whom we have laid to rest in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection. Every one of those goodbyes left a mark on my heart, because every one of them was part of this body.

But hear me, church: God was not finished with Rehobeth! He still isn't. During Eastertide we proclaimed that the risen Christ is Still Here — and so is His church. We have watched new faces step into leadership, and we have watched saints who thought they had earned the right to slow down find a renewed vigor for ministry. We have stood at the foot of the cross together and heard the Words from the Cross — words of forgiveness, of belonging, of "it is finished" — and we have learned that what was finished was sin's claim on us, not God's work through us. This Pentecost season, the Breath of Heaven has been filling our lungs again, reminding us that the same Spirit who hovered over creation hovers over this congregation still.

Our Terrell and Sherrills Ford community is changing rapidly around us. New neighbors arrive every week. And Rehobeth has answered, continuing to be a dynamo for missions and outreach — the hands, the feet, and the loving embrace of Christ to people who may never have known a church like ours existed. That is who we are. That is who we have always been.

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Missions & Outreach

Inspired & Intentional Greetings

From our Missions & Outreach Committee



Beginning this summer, Missions & Outreach will have a renewed focus on the Visitor experience. It's not only important to attract visitors but also engage them.

Some activities you may see include:

- 1) Digital QR Codes printed on materials and available through social media for guests and visitors to use prior to attendance. The code will link them to a warm greeting, photos of inside the church, schedule, nursery info, access info and more.
- 2) QR Codes on tabletops, bulletins and info center for onsite linking. A visitor attends a service, scans the code, and is instantly linked to a follow-up message page that will thank them, engage them and provide additional information. This only enhances their in-person first day experience.
- 3) We plan to create a short welcome video this summer that can be viewed, forwarded and promoted by a link, email or text. Easy for anyone to quickly send to a friend or neighbor.

Thank you to all the Greeters each Sunday! You are many times the first impression for visitors. Your role is key to Rehobeth.

Going the Third Mile — Together

3rd Mile Giving

The Parade of Cans

3rd Mile Giving is our monthly opportunity to support a specific ministry beyond our regular tithes and offerings. Your faithful giving to Rehobeth is the "first mile" that sustains our church family. 3rd Mile Giving invites you to consider what you might offer beyond that - not from obligation, but from gratitude. On the third Sunday of each month, we collect a special offering that goes entirely to that month's recipient.

How to Give

On Sunday, June 21, bring your 3rd Mile gift to worship. Checks payable to Rehobeth UMC with "3rd Mile" in the memo. 100% goes directly to the recipient.

This Month's 3rd Mile giving recipient is the **Parade of Cans**.

Canned food items are collected for the Corner Table Mission in Newton to use in their food ministry. We will collect and stack cans in the alcove just inside main entrance to Narthex.

A group of our volunteers also help prepare meals onsite throughout the year. Contact Janet Prestwood if you would like to participate in a Corner Table volunteer opportunity.

A family stays in their home. A child eats lunch. A neighbor finds a way forward. That is the third mile - and it begins with us.

Summer Sermon Series



Unbreakable

A Love That Will Not Let Go | A nine-week journey through Romans 8

Beginning Sunday, July 12, we'll launch a new sermon series called ***Unbreakable***, a nine-week journey through Romans 8 — perhaps the most soaring chapter in all of Scripture.

If you've ever lain awake wondering whether you've finally worn out God's patience... if you've carried a guilt you couldn't seem to set down... if you've prayed until the words ran out and weren't sure anyone was listening — then this series is for you. Romans 8 was written for people exactly like us.

Across these nine weeks we'll travel from Paul's opening promise, that there is now no condemnation, all the way to his breathtaking finish: that nothing in all creation — not death, not life, not our worst day or our biggest failure — can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Along the way we'll meet the Spirit who lives in us, the God who calls us his own children, and a love that simply refuses to let us go.

This is not a series about trying harder. It's a series about a grace that goes before us, a love that holds onto us, and a victory already won. Come expecting good news.

We hope you'll be with us each Sunday this summer, and that you'll bring along a friend or neighbor who needs to hear they are loved beyond breaking. Bring your questions, your weariness, and your hope — there's room at the table for all of it.

Sermon Dates & Titles

July 12th	No Condemnation (8:1-4)
July 19th	Life in the Spirit (8:5-11)
July 26th	Abba (8:12-17)
August 2nd	Groaning Toward Glory (8:18-25)
August 9th	When You Don't Know How to Pray (8:26-27)
August 16th	God Works for Good (8:28-30)
August 23rd	If God Is For Us (8:31-34)
August 30th	A Sweeping Victory (8:35-37)
September 6th	Nothing Can Separate Us (8:38-39)

Celebrations

Happy Birthday

Another Trip Around the Sun!

Here's a thought worth a slice of cake: somewhere back at the very beginning, the world was humming along just fine... and then God leaned in and said, "Ah, but it needs this one." And so a birthday was born — yours, and every name twinkling on the list below.

So when a familiar one catches your eye, please don't just smile and sail on past! A phone call, a text, or a few cheerful words scribbled on a card can sprinkle a little confetti on someone's whole day.

Care to celebrate the proper way — with crumbs on your shirt and lemonade on your chin? The Mae Howard Circle throws open the Narthex doors on the 3rd Sunday of each month, right after worship, for cookies, lemonade, and a hearty round of "Happy Birthday!" Come one, come all! And if we've gone and missed your big day — or nudged a date slightly sideways — whisper it to the church office and we'll set the calendar straight.

7/1	Joey Johnson	7/19	Luke Goodwin
7/2	Elizabeth Goodwin		John Pope
7/3	Kim Howard	7/21	Paula Long
7/5	Rick Lawing	7/25	Elaine Cansler
7/6	Tony Stutts		Harlie Parham
7/8	Melissa Maas	7/27	Jessica Seagle
	Maria Johnston	7/28	Oliver Connor
7/11	Jason York		Karen Lail
7/14	Rachelle Ceccarelli	7/29	Jeannene Allen
7/16	Jesse Goodwin	7/30	Holly Schneeman
	Ann Hunnicutt		Dave Schneeman
	Doug Vanderburg		

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From the Pastor's Heart

John Wesley's dying words were these: "The best of all is, God is with us." After three years with you, I can testify that those words are true on Sherrills Ford Road. And Corrie ten Boom reminds us, "Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God." We know this God. We have watched Him bring beauty from ashes right here.

This year we celebrate 237 years of ministry on this ground. Two hundred thirty-seven years of baptisms and weddings, funerals and homecomings, prayers whispered and hymns raised. But I do not believe God brought us this far to admire a monument. I believe He brought us here to lay a cornerstone. The next 237 years of Rehobeth's legacy begin now — with us, in this generation, in this season.

This summer we turn to Romans 8, where Paul declares that we are **More Than Conquerors** through Him who loved us. Church, that is my hope and my conviction for you: that nothing — not loss, not change, not an uncertain future — can separate Rehobeth from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Thank you for three years of grace, of patience, of partnership in the Gospel. I love you. Erin loves you. And I cannot wait to see what God has in store for us next.

Pressing on toward the goal,

Pastor Tony



COME PLAY PICKLEBALL! — A Connor Rec Center Comic



In Memoriam

Gifts That Remember, Gifts That Renew

When words fall short, generosity speaks. Memorial gifts offered in honor of those we have loved and lost are among the most tender expressions of faith a congregation can offer. They carry within them both grief and hope — a grief that does not forget, and a hope that insists love outlasts death.

We are grateful to the following members and friends of Rehobeth who have honored the memory of our beloved departed through their generous giving:

*In memory of: **Mike Graham***

Given by: Tom Graham & Karen Oxidine

*In memory of: **Steve Jamgochian***

Given by: David & Joanne Sigmon

*In memory of: **Rosalie Sailstad***

Given by:

George & Sylvia Baker

Evelyn Campbell

Bill & Linda Godbout

Richard Hoke

Charles & Ann Howard

Earl & Cheryl Kiser

Art & Kathy Layton

Fred & Jan Liska

Nancy Myers

Elizabeth & R. Douglas Neal, Jr.

Steve & Doris Pickard

Janet & Chris Poole

Janet Prestwood

George & Elizabeth Ruth

Wayne & Cherylene Setzer

David & Joanne Sigmon

Tommy & Judy Stutts

Meg Thompson

Doug & Carolyn Vanderburg

Lori Wyant

*In memory of: **John “Cooter” Sherrill***

Given by:

Tommy & Judy Stutts

Lori Wyant

Sympathy Expressed

The family of Steve Jamgochian is held close in the heart of this congregation today. As they begin to make their way through the early, tender days of loss, the members and friends of Rehobeth United Methodist Church surround them with love, with prayer, and with the quiet companionship of a church family that grieves alongside them.

Loss is heavy, and we do not pretend otherwise. But we carry our sorrow as a people of resurrection hope. The same Jesus who wept at the grave of his friend Lazarus also stood before it and called him by name into new life — and that hope is no less real for Steve and for all who trusted in Christ. Death does not get the last word over those whom God has claimed as His own.

Steve was part of the fabric of this place, and his absence will be felt in the rooms and routines where he was known and loved. In the days ahead, may this congregation be a steady presence to his family — a meal delivered, a card written, a hand held, a name spoken so it is not forgotten. And may the God of all comfort meet them in their grief with a peace deeper than they can explain.

“I’m absolutely convinced that nothing— nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable—absolutely nothing can get between us and God’s love because of the way that Jesus our Master has embraced us.”

Romans 8:38-39 The Message



*On behalf of the family of Kelly Robinson,
we would like to thank everyone for their calls, texts, and cards.*

We greatly appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Thank you to Pastor Tony for officiating the gathering of friends.

Thank you to Corie Pearson & Carol Stutts for hosting refreshments after the service.

Barry, Lou, Ronnie & Phyllis

Odds & Ends



To My Cherished Church Family,

Thank you so much for the prayers, text messages, cards, and calls during my chemo treatments. I finished chemo on June 3 and, when you read this, will already be a few days into my radiation treatments. This journey would be so much more challenging without your love and encouragement for me and my family. I am deeply grateful to each one of you.

With love,

Karen Lail

Digital Church Directory

Thank you for participating in the photo sessions during May for the new digital church directory. It is never too late! The directory will be updated as needed online. You may submit a photo to info@rehobethumc.org, drop off an image to be scanned or setup a time for us to take your photo.

Photos and info are now being loaded into the online tool. We will keep you updated when it is available for access online. Your info is protected and will only be accessible by passcode.



Rehobeth's Mae Howard Mission Circle Loving Our Neighbors!



Our community is so fortunate to have the beautiful **Carolina Caring Hospice House** located on Sherrills Ford Road here in Sherrills Ford. Many of us have had an opportunity to visit family or friends who have been a patient there. Rehobeth is one of several local churches that take a turn providing snack items for folks who come to the Hospice House to visit loved ones. Our Mae Howard women's circle provided a variety of snack items for Hospice during the month of June. We also include the following message on each snack:

"Your snack is provided by:

Rehobeth United Methodist Church (Mae Howard Mission Circle)

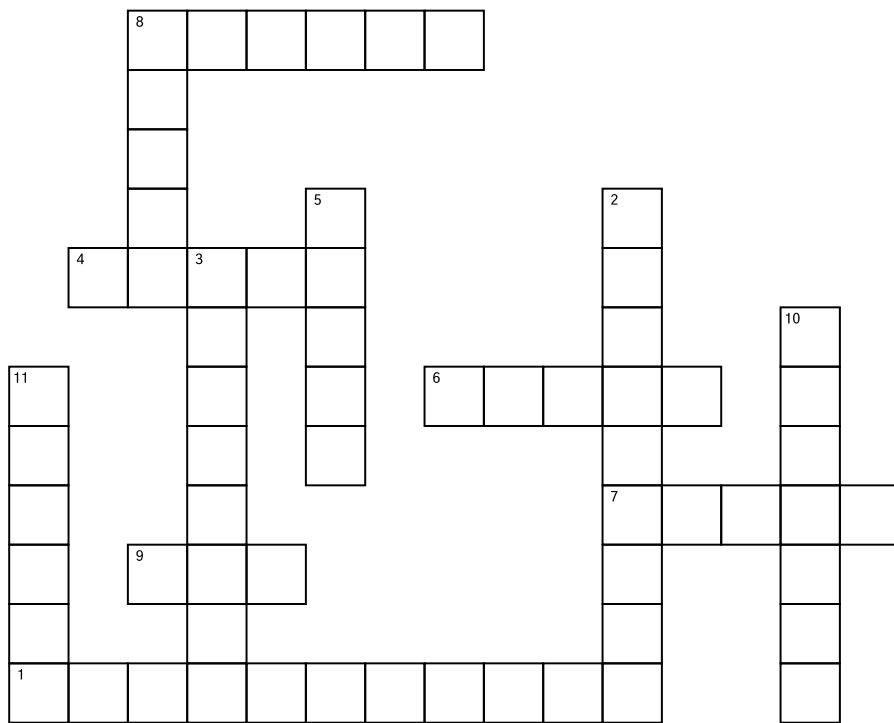
9297 Sherrills Ford Road, Terrell NC 28682

May God bless you and comfort you!



Unbreakable: A Romans Crossword Challenge

The Letter to the Romans stands as one of the most profound and theologically rich writings in all of Scripture. In it, the Apostle Paul unfolds the sweeping story of God's righteousness — from the reality of human sin, through the miracle of justifying grace, to the glorious hope of a life transformed by the Holy Spirit. This crossword puzzle invites you to explore twelve key words drawn directly from Romans, each one a window into the heart of the gospel Paul proclaimed. As you work through the clues, let each word sink a little deeper — because this summer at Rehobeth, we are diving headfirst into Romans 8 together. Beginning in mid-July, our sermon series Unbreakable: A Love That Will Not Let Gowill walk us through one of the most breathtaking chapters in the entire Bible, week by week, exploring the unstoppable, unshakeable, unbreakable love of God in Christ Jesus. Consider this puzzle your warm-up. The best is yet to come.



Across:

1. What happens to the mind that is renewed (Romans 12:2)
4. The result of being justified by faith (Romans 5:1)
6. God's righteous response to human ungodliness (Roman 1:18)
7. The means by which righteousness is credited to us (Romans 4:5)
8. The power of God for salvation to all who believe (Romans 1:16)
9. The power from which believers have been set free (Romans 6:7)

Down:

2. Declared righteous before God through Christ (Romans 5:1)
3. The status received when we cry "Abba, Father" (Romans 8:15)
5. What God shows to whom He wills (Romans 9:18)
8. God's unmerited favor, freely given to sinners (Romans 3:24)
10. The act by which believers are united with Christ's death (Romans 6:4)
11. The indwelling presence that gives life and intercedes for us (Romans 8:11)

Answers on the back page

