

In a Nutshell

August 29, 2025

"Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming fire."

Hebrews 12:28-29

I am struck by the kind of God we encounter in Hebrews 12:18-29. Is this a God whose very presence causes us to tremble with fear and look away in terror? Or is this the God made flesh in Jesus, whose sprinkled blood welcomes us into a new covenant of grace and mercy? Or is this God a consuming fire? I believe the answer might be "all of the above."

I find both a sense of both comfort and awe in the fact that I serve such a complex God. When our world faces horrific evil, I need a God of consuming fire who can destroy wickedness in a mere flash. When I myself participate in wrongdoing, I am dearly grateful to serve a God who forgives and washes my sin away. I may not always know how to approach this God, and yet God welcomes me into his unshakeable kingdom anyways. In return, I am called to offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving, reverence and awe— and how could I not?

~Lauren Welch Birch

NEW AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Young Adult Bible Study

A new bible study for young adults has begun. We will be meeting in Lauren's office or in the modular if the a/c is still not working. Study may be starting a little after 9:30am. Please feel free to join us.

~Daniel Johnson

5th Sunday SongFest This Sunday

On Sunday, August 31st, we will have our 5th Sunday SongFest with songs requested by you! You don't want to miss it!

Sunday Night Meal Sign-up and RSVP:

If you want to cook AND/OR eat a meal this fall at Sunday night Bible study, you need to sign up!

Sign up [HERE](#) to cook a meal (just 4 slots remain)

[RSVP HERE](#) for which meals you and your family plan to eat.

OCIM Update

They are in need of canned fruit, green beans, dried pinto beans, 1 lb. or 2 lb. bags of rice, and very low on personal care items such as toilet paper, deodorant for men, deodorant for women, toothpaste, laundry detergent pods, and Pampers (diapers) sizes 4, 5, & 6.

Thank you to all who have donated money as well as the actual cans of food and veggies, plus the above items.

Looking forward to seeing what we bring on August 31. Thank you all so much for your participation.

PRAYERS & SQUARES MINISTRY

Prayers and Squares is an international, interfaith outreach ministry that combines the gift of prayer with the gift of a handmade and hand-tied quilt. The purpose of the quilts is not to make and distribute quilts but to promote prayer through the use of quilts. The motto is "It is not about the quilt but about the prayers." As each knot is tied, a prayer is offered for a person who is in need due to health issues, or other issues.

The finished quilt goes to that person as a silent testimony to our belief in the power of prayer. These quilts truly can be called "comforters".

Before you request a prayer quilt, please contact the person or a family member to see if the person wants a prayer quilt.

Prayer quilt requests can be made by contacting Brenda Berry at brenda.berry505@gmail.com

Please include in your request the following information:

1. Name of the person who will receive the quilt.
2. The name of town or city (if out of North Carolina include the state name) where the person resides.
3. What information about the person who needs our prayers (Such as recovering from surgery, requests for prayers of healing, health issues) can be placed in the bulletin.

We may need a week or two before we can place a quilt in church to make the quilt and have it ready for the church service.

Thank you to all who request prayer quilts and say prayers and tie knots in each quilt. "We may not know why or who needs a prayer quilt, but God knows and will hear our prayers for the recipient."

Youth Yard Sale on Sept. 6th!



We are accepting donations through Sept 5th for our youth yard sale!

Drop-off locations:

During church office hours: Old Parsonage garage, see Kim for key.

After church office hours: Choir Room

These are the ONLY places we will receive donations. DO NOT put donations anywhere in the fellowship hall, hallways, youth room, etc.

All unsold donations will be taken to OCIM, Goodwill or the dump unless picked up by 12:30pm on Saturday, Sept. 6th. The yard sale is 8am to 12pm on Saturday Sept. 6th.

Rise Against Hunger

Rise Against Hunger T-shirt fundraiser: We are having a T-shirt fundraiser for our Rise Against Hunger Event scheduled for September 14th from 2-4 pm. The T-shirts will be \$15-\$18 each (depending on size) and must be ordered by September 1 to receive them by the event date. The Sizes range from adult small-XX large and children's sizes range from small to large. You can order them by filling out an order form found in your bulletin or emailing me at jolindaswiggett@gmail.com or calling/texting me at 919-302-0110. You can also place your order [online here](#) Please make checks payable to Walnut Grove UMC with memo line "Tshirt fundraiser".

Also, remember to sign up for the event by scanning the QR code or going to the website on the flyer posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. You can also donate to our event by scanning the QR code or going to the website. I thank everyone for doing your part in making this event a success! If you have any questions about the event or the shirts, please feel free to contact me.

~Jolinda Swiggett



(Please note: This is the back of the Rise Against Hunger shirts and the front will have the United Methodist emblem with Walnut Grove UMC underneath)

We will be having our next Rise Against Hunger event on September 14th from 2-4 pm. We will be packaging at least 10,000 meals in this 2-hour span, so we need at least 50 volunteers to make this event a success. Also, at 1 pm, we will need strong individuals to help with unloading the rice and setting up tables before the event. Then we will need help with clean up after the event.

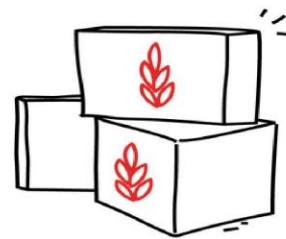
You can sign up to volunteer or to donate by scanning the QR code or following the link on the flyer above. You can find out more about this event by visiting the bulletin board in the fellowship hall or getting in touch with me, Jolinda Swiggett @ 919-302-0110 or jolindaswiggett@gmail.com. Please donate to this event if you are able. There will be more information coming about this event soon.

RISE AGAINST HUNGER®



Help package
10,000 meals
to fight global hunger!

Walnut Grove UMC
Sunday, September 14th
2:00pm-4:00pm



Register & donate!



<http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/WalnutGroveUMC25>

Opportunities and Work Days with Disaster Ministry

Deployment dates for North Corridor Early Response Team. To volunteer or if you have any questions, please contact Jim Polhamus at jbuspolhamusii@gmail.com. Please prayerfully consider joining us and mark your calendars below:

Sep 8 - 13, LTRG09, Western NC Conference UMC- (Location TBD (Spruce Pine, Asheville, Hendersonville), UNC-Wesley students to potentially join Thursday -Saturday, - open 1 ERT to 1 non ERT member, Reservation and awaiting confirmation

Oct 9 - 11, LTRG10, Columbus Co, NC - (Leland Disaster Center, Zion UMC Parsonage, Leland, NC) - open to ERT and non ERT member

Tithes and Offerings

We now have five ways to give to our ministries. If you would like your offering to be allocated towards a specific ministry, please indicate it in the memo of your check or you will be prompted on the website.

1. Give during our weekly Worship Services.
2. Mail in a check to 7215 Walnut Grove Church Road, Hurdle Mills, NC 27541.
3. Use our church [website](#). Click GIVE in the upper right corner.
4. Use our "My Church" mobile app. Click GIVE in the lower right corner.
5. Use our Vanco QR Code, which you can find on the back of the Sunday bulletins or right here in the weekly *In A Nutshell*.

Vanco QR Code

As we continually adapt to the gift of technology, Walnut Grove now has a Vanco QR code provided on the back of the bulletin and in the Nutshell for online giving. Simply hold your phone or tablet's camera over the code for the link to Vanco. You may also access the link on our website for convenient giving. Alternatively, cash or check contributions continue to be accepted through our tithes and offerings. Your generosity helps us continue serving Christ and reaching out to our community in mission and faithful witness.



JOYS & CONCERNS

Prayer List

- Family of Justin and Casey McBroom, relatives of Cheryl L. Parker. Please keep their young children, Anderson, Jaxon, and Kason, in prayer in the passing of their parents.
- Joan Bickel who lives in Dallas TX. She has been diagnosed with brain cancer. She is Erica Nading's aunt.
- Shannon Brown, friend of Kristen Rigsbee
- Ben Lloyd, Cheryl Humphrey's father, with serious health issues
- Iris Tilley, recuperating from a recent fall
- Gilbert Lee in Prince George, VA, who recently had surgery for cancer. He is Richard Lee's father

- Gene Parker, brother of Dorothy Roberts, uncle of Mike Roberts, and family of Debbie Oakley and Sue Powell
- Craig Powell, brother of Ed Powell, with health problems
- Maria Guerrero, mother in-law of Alejandro Rivas, Duke intern, as she deals with terminal illness.
- Herbert and JoAnn Cates, both with health issues. They are members of Walnut Grove UMC.
- Jerry Forrester, bilateral lung cancer
- Liz Matthews, friend of Katie Whitaker
- Debbie Langdale diagnosed with stage 5 kidney disease, waiting for transplant. Friend of John and Brooke Sherron
- Kelly Schoch, with brain cancer. She is co-worker of Erica Nading
- Will Hall, of Cedar Grove, NC with serious health issues- son of Billy Hall and Lynn Clark, nephew of Tommy Hall and Lorraine Parker, cousin of James Parker.
- Kathy Kimrey with health concerns. She is the sister-in-law of Lorraine Hines and Pam Kimrey.

Quilts

Shannon Brown from Hillsborough who is recovering from ATV accident. She is the sister of Brandy Walker .

Ben Neal from Albany, GA who is having a heart valve replacement surgery. He is a cousin of Emma Beckham.

(The prayer quilts will be at the front of the sanctuary on Sunday. You're invited to tie a knot and say a prayer before or after the service.)

From The Mailbox

To Walnut Grove People,

Thank you so much for the beautiful pink quilt. Surgery went well and I am recuperating well at home. I appreciate you thinking about me. Blessings,

~Patty Meehan

Birthdays

Friday 8/29 – David Blalock

Sunday 8/31 – Strickland Wade Davis, Wyatt James

Monday 9/1 – Robby Dow

Wednesday 9/3 – Kimberly Long, Kirk Metcalf

Thursday 9/4 – Janet Freeland

Friday 9/5 – Sylvia Overby

If your birthday is incorrect or missing, please contact Kim at the church office at 919-732-5722 or by email at office@walnutgroveumc.org so we can update our records.

STAYING CONNECTED

WG YouTube

WG Facebook

Website

Serving in Worship

August 31st

Acolytes: Wyatt James/Ellen Johnson

Greeters: Jimmy & Brenda Berry

Ushers: Barry & Cheryl L Parker

Scripture: Kara Roberts

Nursery: Ashley Parker/Erica Smith

Trustee Open/Close: Johnny Clayton

Financial Rep: Judy Butler

September 7th

Acolytes: Samanth Johnson/Grayson Nading

Greeters: Shirley Clayton/Grace Dunlap

Ushers: Mary Emma Roberts/Mike Roberts

Scripture: Scott Humphrey

Nursery: Krystal Robinson/Cheryl S Parker

Trustee Open/Close: Michael James

Communion Servers: Erica Smith/Stacey Spake

Financial Rep: Lou Rutledge

Mowing Schedule

August 30- Chuck Davis

September 6- Scott Humphrey

September 13- Barry Walker

September 20- Johnny & Shirley Clayton

September 27- Chris Boling

NOTE: If you're unable to serve in your role listed above, please find someone to serve in your place and notify the church secretary of the change. This will allow us to have an updated listing to publish each week.

Upcoming Happenings

Fri-Sat., August 29-30 Walnut Grove Crafters

Sunday, August 31 9:00am Doughnuts/Coffee for everyone!!
(provided by Men's Group)

9:30am Sunday School Opening - Joint Sunday School (Adults)

10:30am 5th Sunday SONGFEST Service

Tuesday, September 2 7:00pm Men's Group

Wed., September 3	6:30pm Worship Band 7:00pm Worship Choir
Saturday, September 6	8:00am – 12:00pm – Youth yard sale fundraiser
Sunday, September 7	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 5:30-7:00pm – Grandparents & Games Sunday Night Kickoff
Tuesday, September 9	9:00am–2:00pm Mary Martha Busy Ladies
Wed., September 10	9:00am–2:00pm Mary Martha Busy Ladies 6:30pm Worship Band 7:00pm Worship Choir
Sunday, September 14	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 10:45am Children's Church 1:00pm Rise Against Hunger Set Up – Event starts at 2:00pm
Tuesday, September 16	7:00pm Men's Group
Wed., September 17	6:30pm Worship Band 7:00pm Worship Choir
Saturday, September 20	Cook Day for Harvest Festival (chicken)
Sunday, September 21	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 5:30pm Dinner 6:00pm - 7:00pm Kids Krew, Youth, Adult Bible Study, Nursery
Wed., September 24	6:30pm Worship Band 7:00pm Worship Choir
Fri-Sat., September 26-27	Walnut Grove Crafters
Saturday, September 27	TarWheels will be using the parking lot

Sunday, September 28	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 10:45am Children's Church 5:30pm Dinner 6:00pm - 7:00pm Kids Krew, Youth, Adult Bible Study, Nursery
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Monday, September 29	6:30pm Covenant Council meeting
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Tuesday, September 30	7:00pm Men's Group
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See You Sunday!!