

PRESS ON

Philippians 3: 10-14

*I want to know Christ
and the power of his resurrection
and the sharing of his sufferings
by becoming like him in his death,
if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.*

*Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal,
but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me.
Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it,
but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind
and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal,
toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.*

Paul wanted to know Christ so that he could lay hold of that for which Christ laid hold of him.

And Christ had laid hold of Paul (then known as Saul), from the road to Damascus forward.

What is the *that*? For what reason did Christ lay hold of Saul?

Christ laid hold of Saul to transform him, so his life and teachings could transform us.

The story had to be re-enacted in Saul, a man of great education and power, in order for him to get it. In order for him to believe it. In order for him to then shape his entire life around it.

And he did, as the newly re-named Paul, and we study his words today, written by a near-contemporary of Jesus of Nazareth, while satellites zoom silently over our heads, our phones connect us to literally every piece of knowledge available, and the temperature around us is perfect and the coffee stays hot.

A different world.

Paul pressed on to his goal, which was *the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus*.

We, too, press on. Every day, every prayer, every new mercy we see. We press on as others have before us, toward the call of God we can hear through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God.

~ Lindy Thompson

PRAY

God, when we grow tired, help us press on. We love you and wish to serve you with our lives. Hear now our prayer. Amen.

~Shared by Leigh McFalls

NEW AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Looking Ahead to Sunday Worship

Scripture for Sunday: Philippians 3:4b-14

Sermon Title: *Pressing On*

As we look ahead to Sunday, I encourage you to read the scripture ahead of time as part of your devotional time and preparation for Sunday. One passage of scripture can easily take us in many directions. Use the sermon title to help guide your reflections. Spend time in Lectio Divina with the scripture as part of your daily devotions. There are lots of videos on YouTube on how to participate in Lectio Divina. Here is a meditative video that is instructive to be a resource to you –

Meditative How To - Lectio Divina

Charge Conference -- Sunday, October 11!

Charge Conference is Sunday, October 11th at 3:00pm. Walnut Grove UMC will be hosting this year. This is open to all members of the church! Please join us as we continue to grow together in Christ!

OCIM Update

Thank you for your generosity and support for the Food Pantry at OCIM (Orange Congregations in Missions). On August 31 and on September 8 our church donated 213 pounds and 111 pounds of food. Our total for the year is 2583 pounds of food since January.

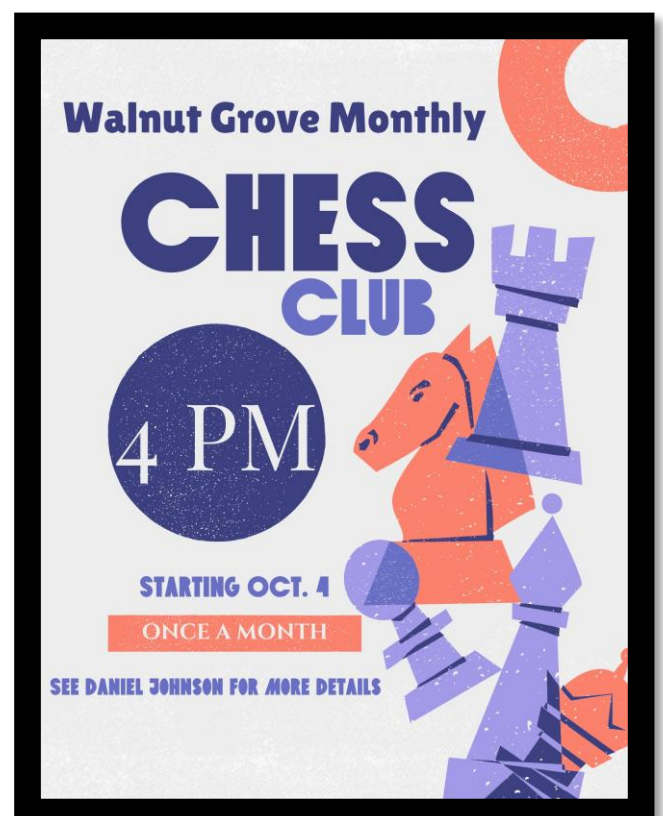
There is still a need for canned fruits, apple sauce, pork & beans, canned potatoes, jars of spaghetti sauce, ketchup, mayonnaise, and personal items such as shampoo and dishwashing soap.

Once again thank you for your continued support of the Food Pantry of Orange Congregations in Missions (OCIM).

~Brenda and Jimmy Berry

Chess Club

All are welcome to this once-a-month chess club. Bring a friend. Come if you are an expert chess player or don't know how to play at all. We'll gather once a month on the first Sunday of the month starting Oct. 4 at 4 PM in the church fellowship hall! We can't wait!



Sunday Night Gatherings

Our Sunday Night Gatherings are starting back up on October 4th and we need your support! There are several opportunities left to serve our Walnut Grove families too! All proceeds from our Sunday night meals go into our Sunday night meal fund. Receipts for the Sunday night meal submitted to the church office using the reimbursable form will be reimbursed from the Sunday night fund. Sunday school classes, committees, and other groups are welcome to sign up. We need your help! Use the sign-up genius link below to help us fill up the meal calendar.



Sunday Night Fellowship
October 4, 11, 18 & November 1, 8 & 15
Dinner 5:15-6:00pm
Nursery/KidsKrew/Youth/Bible Study
6:00-7:00pm
**No dinner October 25*

Walnut Grove UMC
7215 Walnut Grove Church Road
Hurdle Mills, NC 27541

[Sign Up to Cook Meals for our Fall Sunday Night Gatherings](#)



SUNDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

TOPIC: ARMOR OF GOD

RESERVE YOUR BOOK TODAY FOR \$10 EACH

STUDY RUNS FOR 6 WEEKS

STARTS SUNDAY, OCT. 4.

DATES INCLUDE OCTOBER 4, 15, 22

AND NOV. 1, 8, & 15

FROM 6-7 PM

PLEASE SIGN UP TO ORDER YOUR BOOK BY EMAILING
LDUNLAP@NCCUMC.ORG

Join us for our fall Bible Study! For this particular study, the book has sections for you to write in, so the book will be yours to keep. Each book costs \$10. If the cost is a hindrance, please let Pastor Laura know, and we'll make it available for free.

Harvest Festival News

The Harvest Festival needs help from everyone to be successful! This year we are short a few men. The men are our heavy lifters and if not for our men we would not have a Harvest Festival. Our Church members are getting older; therefore, it takes more of us to lend a hand. Help is needed from 10-12 men on Thursday, Friday, and the day of the Harvest Festival which is Oct. 17th. The 12 stew pots weigh on an average of 300 lbs each. The pots have to be moved around, cleaned and put away. Tables and chairs need to be put out and tents set up. Over 1,000 quarts of stew will need to be moved from the packing area to the take-out tent. A group will go to Bill Coles to pick up BBQ and bring it back to the Church to be packed. Then at the end of the day the clean-up begins. Everything has to go back to where it belongs. This is just a sampling of things to be done. A schedule for the three days of activities will be sent out soon.

Ladies, I am not leaving you out. There is plenty of fun to go around. If you want to help and don't know where to go or what to do, please give me a call.

Why do we have the Harvest Festival? Our beautiful Church building is 84 years old and our fellowship hall is 28 years old. As with our own homes there is maintenance. Sometimes we get away with a repair but sometimes it wears out, gets old and has to be replaced. Here the roofs are bigger, the space to be heated/cooled is larger requiring a larger HVAC system. The flooring covers more sq. ft. Just imagine how much paint it would take to paint these buildings. The cost associated with any of these items is huge. The Harvest Festival proceeds are not part of the general fund. These proceeds are the Trustee's budget for the coming year. This is why we have the Harvest Festival. The trustees of our Church are responsible for all of the buildings, including the parsonage, modular and the Church grounds. On their list for the coming year are painting projects and finishing the deck on the modular, just to name a few. As members of the UMC we faithfully participate in its ministries by prayer, presence, gifts, service and witness.

T shirts have arrived and are being sorted. If you still need to pay for a shirt you can do that when you pick it up.

As always, a monetary donation to the Harvest Festival is appreciated as well.

Thank You for your continued support of our Church,

Pat Beck and Stephanie Smith
919-812-8737



Walnut Grove UMC HARVEST FESTIVAL

Saturday
October 17th

***This & That pre-priced table
10:30-1:30**

***Lunch & Take Out: 11:30**

***Live Auction: 1:30**

**BBQ: \$12.00 lb.
Stew: \$12.00 qt.**

**LUNCH PLATES INCLUDE:
BBQ, STEW, SLAW, HUSHPUPIES,
DRINK AND A DESSERT**

**ADULT PLATE: \$15.00
CHILD'S PLATE: \$6.00
8YRS AND YOUNGER**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT
7215 Walnut Grove Church Road**



Here is a sneak peek at our quilts that will be available in the auction. Thank you to our quilters who work hard each year to have these ready to sell.





Walnut Grove
United Methodist Church



Gathered in Grace

WOMEN'S GROUP

Thursday, November 5, 2026

Two Gatherings — Choose the Time That Works for You

10:00 a.m.

or

7:00 p.m.

A Gathering of Gratitude

Our November gathering will focus on
GRATITUDE — taking time to recognize
God's blessings, encourage one another,
and give thanks together.



**Please bring two or more
canned goods for OCIM**

*(you can get credit for your
Sunday School class).*

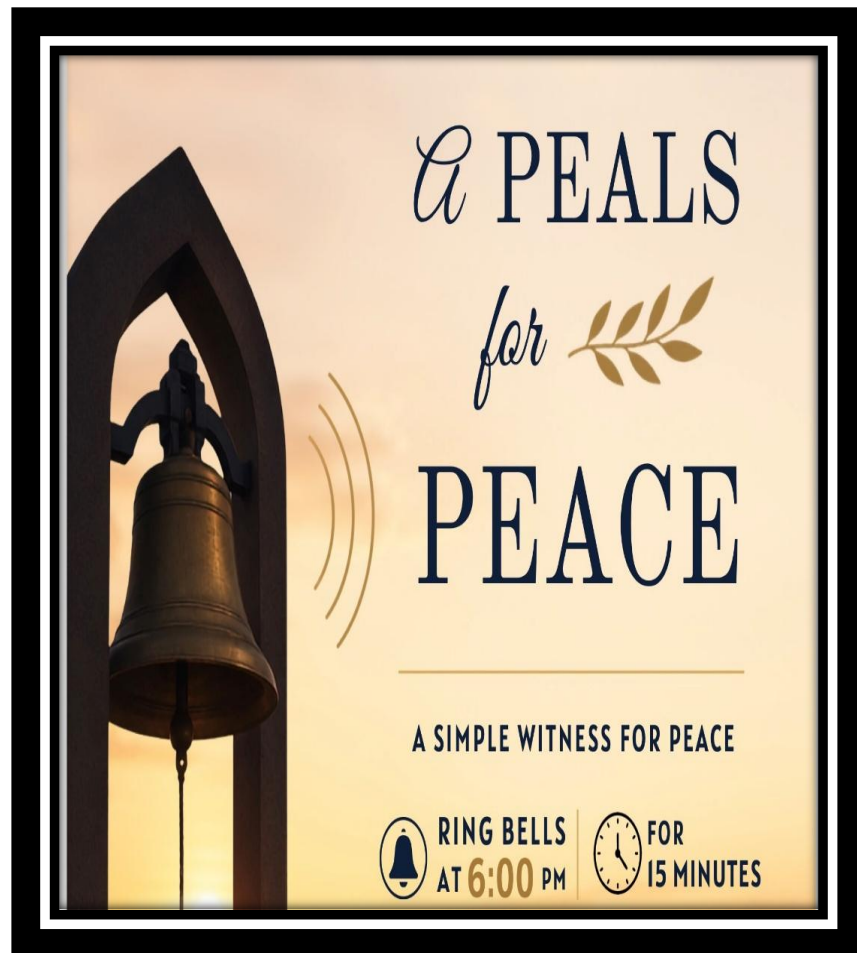
Light snacks will be provided.

RSVP by 10/31 to Sue Powell

at suepowell0504@gmail.com
text or call 919-819-0344

A Peals for Peace

Monday evenings at 6:00pm through November 2nd churches around the country will continue to ring bells for 15 minutes. Our church bells will also ring for 15 minutes in solidarity with other places of faith throughout the country with a movement in solidarity with the NC Council of Churches to share a message of peace for our world. This message of peace speaks to the need for peace in our world, in our community and state, in our homes, and in our lives. This is to be a time to pause, listen, and pray. In a world often scarred by violence, division, and suffering, God calls us to be quick to listen and slow to speak (James 1:19). May God bring healing through this A Peals for Peace.



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. Your generosity helps us continue serving Christ and reaching out to our community in mission and faithful witness.



JOYS & CONCERNS

Prayer List

- Betsy Feifs with pancreatic cancer and is in critical condition. She is Margaret Anne Dow's daughter, Katy's mother-in-law.
- Tommy Dunlow, who was involved in an LP tank explosion. He is in UNC Burn unit and is facing a long recovery. Please pray for both him and his family. He is a friend of John Sherron.
- Frances Walters with health issues
- Sebastian Anderson with health issues
- Jenna Davis and family in the loss of her grandmother. Jenna is a member of our church family.
- Family of Keegan Brooks from Durham. He is the 9-year-old who was hit by a car while riding his bike and passed away. His sister is a friend of Erin Dillard and his niece is a friend of Kinsleigh's.
- Timmy Parker with health issues. He is Barry Parker's brother.
- Tom Rutledge, in rehab with health issues. He is a member of our church family.
- Jean Mangum, recovering from a fall. She is a member of our church family.
- Rodney Overcash who is having health issues. He is Jolinda Overcash Swiggett's brother.
- Herbert Cates, health concerns. He is a member of our church family.
- JoAnn Cates with health issues. She is a member of our church family.
- Rev. Meg Hoffman, battling cancer. She's the director of Seeds of Faith at Camp Chestnut Ridge.
- John Hougom from Hurdle Mills, who is being treated for lung cancer. John is the brother of Sonja Tilley and brother-in-law of Wesley Tilley.
- Rev. Pat Sykes and Rev. Mike Sykes with health concerns
- Gene Parker who has ongoing health concerns and was recently discharged from the hospital. His wife, Kay Parker, is a member of WGIMC.
- Jaxson Bates injured in a traffic accident. He is a friend of Mary Emma Roberts.
- Scott Moore, diagnosed with leukemia. He is the brother-in-law of Emma Beckham.
- Merrill Messick, who is Beverly Huey's father and Mary Dietz, her aunt.
- Scott Hackler with cancer diagnosis. He is a friend of Jolinda Swiggett.
- Linwood Lovitte, who is a member of our church family.
- Jessy Privette from Wendell has been diagnosed with cancer. Jesse is the girlfriend of Jeffrey James, who is the son of Anita James and brother of Michael James.
- Leo Brooks Populorum from Pittsboro, has very serious health issues. Leo is the grandson of John and Judy Guibert who are friends of Beverly Huey.
- Ben Lloyd, Cheryl Humphrey's father, with serious health issues.
- Gilbert Lee in Prince George, VA, who recently had surgery for cancer. He is Richard Lee's father
- Liz Matthews, friend of Katie Whitaker
- Kathy Kimrey with health concerns. She is the sister-in-law of Lorraine Hines and Pam Kimrey.

Prayer is powerful and we love praying for one another! If you have a request on the prayer list, we would be grateful for any updates needed. This helps us know how to continue praying and when requests may be removed or celebrated. Please let us know how we can best pray for you and your loved ones.

Send A Card

Timmy Parker (Thinking of You), 6767 Cottonwood Drive, Snow Camp, NC 27349

Prayer Quilts

Caroline Neal from Wilmington, NC who is having brain tumor surgery. She is a friend of Emma Beckham.

Rosalind Hill from Charlotte, NC who has been diagnosed with cancer. Gary Spake's mother.

Helmuts and Betsy Feifs from Durham, NC who are having serious health issues. They are the parents of Chris Feifs and Katy Dow Feifs' father-in-law and mother-in-law.

(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

Walnut Grove Crafters/Quilt Ministry,

Thank you all for the prayers and cards sent during my time of being sick. I appreciate each and every one given. I miss seeing you all and hopefully will see you in October.

Thank you so much for my beautiful quilt. I love it! And love purple! Bless you so much. Please continue to keep me in your prayers as I go through more tests. Love,
Gwen Jackson

Birthdays

Friday 10/2 – Patricia Johnson, Tommy Blalock

Saturday 10/3 – John Oakley

Sunday 10/4 – Michael Burton, Jr., Cody Berezny, Logan Horton

Monday 10/5 – Ashley Parker Conway

Tuesday 10/6 – Audrey Whitaker

Wednesday 10/7 – Judy Parker, Daniel Bledsoe, Katy Dow Feifs, Rob Smith

Thursday 10/8 – Faydean Cannada

Friday 10/9 – Erica Nading

Saturday 10/10 – Ken Cecil

Sunday 10/11 – Cheryl Humphrey, Jolinda Swiggett, Linda Reynolds, Eddie Rutledge, Leila Compton

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

October 4th

Acolytes: Ellen Johnson/Kinsleigh Dillard

Greeters: Beverly Huey/Courtney Humphrey

Ushers: Barry & Cheryl L Parker

Scripture: Kara Roberts

Nursery: Debby Donnelly/Mary Emma Roberts

Trustee Open/Close: Cheryl Humphrey

Financial Rep: Rick Huey

Communion Servers: Fred & Erica Nading

PM Nursery: Cathy Boling/Ashley Parker

October 11th

Acolytes: Anna Robinson/Gracie Hall

Greeters: Anita James/Krystal Robinson

Ushers: Tyler & Stephanie Smith

Scripture: Brenda Berry

Nursery: Cheryl L Parker/Cheryl S Parker

Financial Rep: Brenda Berry

Trustee Open/Close: Mike Roberts

PM Nursery: Lorraine Hines/Leigh McFalls

Mowing Schedule

October 3 - Bruce Richardson

October 10 - Todd Harris

October 24 - Clay Parker

October 17 - Mike Parker

October 31- Barry Walker

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

Upcoming Events

Sunday, October 4

9:30am Sunday School

10:30am Worship Service

4:00pm Chess Club

5:15pm Dinner

6:00pm KidsKrew/Youth/Bible Study

Wednesday, October 7

6:30pm Worship Band

7:00pm Worship Choir

Sunday, October 11

9:30am Sunday School

10:30am Worship Service

10:45am Children's Church

3:00pm Charge Conference

5:15pm Dinner

6:00pm KidsKrew/Youth/Bible Study

Wed, October 14

6:30pm Worship Band

7:00pm Worship Choir

Friday, October 16

8:00am Harvest Festival potato & onion prep

Saturday, October 17



Sunday, October 18

9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Worship Service
5:15pm Dinner
6:00pm KidsKrew/Youth/Bible Study

Wed, October 21

6:30pm Worship Band
7:00pm Worship Choir

Fri-Sat., October 23-24

Walnut Grove Crafters

Sunday, October 25

9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Worship Service
3:00pm SPRC Meeting

Wed, October 28

6:30pm Worship Band
7:00pm Worship Choir

Saturday, October 31

3:00-5:00pm Trunk or Treat



See You Sunday!!