

# In a Nutshell

# November 21, 2025



## GIVING THANKS FOR WALNUT GROVE UMC 2025



Beloved,

As Thanksgiving approaches, many of us are planning on stretchy pant attire for the day. We also prepare our hearts with gratitude. We serve an abundant God, and this year we have seen that abundance in so many ways through local mission opportunities and our work in western North Carolina, through weekly worship including an inspiring Laity Sunday, through quilts lovingly stitched, and through another outstanding Harvest Festival. As we celebrate the goodness of God at work at Walnut Grove as evidenced in our heartfelt desires to reach out to others to address their needs, we felt we should share that we are running behind in our budget this year. We understand that the current economy is challenging for many, but if you are able to give a little extra as we approach year's end, your generosity will help us continue the vital ministries of Walnut Grove for years to come.

In Christ,

Lou Rutledge (Finance Chair)  
and Pastor Laura

## NEW AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### Office Closed

Please note that the church office will be closed next week. There will not be a Nutshell on November 28th. Praying everyone has a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving!!

~From the WGUMC Staff

### Food Train for Lauren and Andrew Birch

Walnut Grove Church Family and Friends,

We are so excited to welcome to our church family little Lenora Louise Birch. As Lauren, our Minister of Discipleship, and Andrew settle into being first time parents, we want to support them as best we can. We've attached a Food Train sign up for them if you are able to support them with a meal or gift card to a restaurant as they continue to adjust to the gift being a family. Thank you so much for your loving support of the Birch family!

<https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/o89gkl>

### Seeds of Faith - Advent-a-Palooza



Come celebrate  
**ADVENT**  
with Orange Cooperative Parish & Seeds of Faith  
Sunday, November 23, 2025 12:30-3:30  
at Camp Chestnut Ridge

CRAFTS & ACTIVITIES

WREATH MAKING

HAYRIDES

Bring the family to enjoy lunch, play games, make crafts, create an Advent wreath, and more! This event is offered free of charge through a generous grant from Lilly Foundation Inc. Register today using the QR code or visit [campchestnutridge.org/seedsoffait](http://campchestnutridge.org/seedsoffait)

Scan me



## Youth Online Safety Training

This event has been rescheduled to January 11, 2026. If you have a teen in your life, be sure to mark your calendar for this one! Tyler Smith will be back to teach our teens about staying safe online and on social media. The workshop will be upstairs in the youth room.

## OCIM Update

Thank you to everyone who participated in bringing cans or boxes of food for OCIM or donated to OCIM.

**Here is a list of food items from the OCIM Food Pantry Shopping List:** canned vegetables, tomatoes, canned or cups of Applesauce, Baked Beans or Pork & Beans, Peanut Butter, jelly mayonnaise, soup, Pasta Sauce, Canned Pasta meals, beef stew, tuna, canned chicken, other canned meat, dry macaroni or spaghetti, crackers, macaroni and cheese, school snacks, juice boxes, bottled or gallon water,

**Non Food items:** Toilet Paper, bath soap, shampoo and conditioner, deodorant, laundry detergent powder or pods)

## OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT OCIM



**COLOR AND LIGHT**  
COMMUNITY CHOIR

# SINGALONG FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22  
SINGING STARTS AT 4:00 PM

Join us at Eno House for an afternoon of familiar songs and community singing to support local efforts around food insecurity and SNAP assistance. Enjoy a short choir set plus classic singalongs like Stand By Me, Lean On Me, My Girl, and Take Me Home Country Roads.

**ENO HOUSE, HILLSBOROUGH NC**  
903 Eno St, Hillsborough, NC 27278  
Suggested Donation \$20

Benefitting Orange Congregations in Mission in support of local food security.  
Donate directly via QR code:



**ORANGE WRESTLING**

# THANKS FOOD DRIVE GIVING

We would love your help in providing non-perishable items to **ORANGE CONGREGATIONS IN MISSIONS.**

**We Are Collecting The Following Items:**

Canned Soups	Saltines
Canned Vegetables	Pasta Sauce
Canned Fruits	Mac and Cheese
Lance Crackers	Peanut Butter
Nutri-Grain Bars	Jelly

**Items Will Be Collected**  
**TUESDAY**  
**NOVEMBER**  
**25th**

**Drop Off Location**  
**ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL**  
During the Bobby Shriver Tri Begins at 6 PM  
500 Orange High School Road  
Hillsborough, NC

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** [www.ohswrestling.com](http://www.ohswrestling.com)

## Music Ministry Update

Can you believe that Christmas is less than 5 weeks away?

The **Worship Choir** is working on this year's cantata, "All is Well". We will present this on Sunday, December 14th, during the 10:30am worship service. If you are interested in participating with us (singing or speaking), join us on Wednesdays at 7:30pm and/or Sundays at 6:00pm. Youth are welcome to participate too!

**Hallelujah Kids** are working on their Christmas music, "The Mystery of the Missing Manger". We will present this on Sunday, December 21st during the 10:30am worship service. Children K through 5th grade are invited to participate in the singing and acting parts. We will also have some opportunities for the younger children as well. Join us on Sundays at 4:45pm!

For more information, contact Leigh McFalls at 919-818-3317 or [leighmcfalls@gmail.com](mailto:leighmcfalls@gmail.com).

## Pull Tabs For Ronald McDonald House

I am collecting **ALL PULL TABS** (drinks, cat food, vegetables/fruit cans-etc.), for the Ronald McDonald house. A collection bag will be hung on the fellowship hall bulletin board, with their explanation of the purpose. Thanks for contributing.

Carol Gerbracht



## **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**

- Rev. Meg Hoffman, battling cancer. She is the director of Seeds of Life at Camp Chestnut Ridge.
- David Leonard having complications from surgery. He is the dad of a friend of Faith Parker.
- Timmy Parker with serious health issues. He is Barry Parker's brother
- Worth Miller with serious health issues. He is a friend and neighbor of Jimmy and Brenda Berry.
- Neil Donnelly with health issues.
- Helen Miller with serious health issues. She is the aunt of Pat Beck's brother-in-law.
- Leo Brooks Populorum (7 Months old), from Pittsboro, has very serious health issues. Leo is the grandson of John and Judy Guibert who are friends of Beverly Huey.
- Katherine Huey, with health issues. She is Rick Huey's mom.
- 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
- 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
- Kathy Kimrey with health concerns. She is the sister-in-law of Lorraine Hines and Pam Kimrey.

## **Quilt**

Jean Griffin Espinoza from Durham who will have a kidney transplant on November 24th. She is a friend of Martha Niles.

(The prayer quilt 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**

Dear Prayers & Squares Ministry,

I did cry today as I opened my prayer blanket. And, I do love pink!! It, of course, made me cry as I had no idea this would be mailed to me.

This "gesture" did make me cry! I love it that you prayed for me and ALL is so helpful. Thank you and thank you praying for me. All is so helpful!

Love you!! Janet Reynolds

## **Birthdays**

Friday 11/21 – Christie Mathers

Saturday 11/22 – Grace Dunlap, Katie Whitaker, Doug Kimrey

Sunday 11/23 – Kelsey Hines, Rickey Robinson, Sr., Katherine Berezny

Monday 11/24 – Margaret Williams

Wednesday 11/26 – Jamie Blalock

Saturday 11/29 – Michelle Dunevant, Jordan Jeffreys

Sunday 11/30 – Toni Shaw

Monday 12/1 – Callie White

Thursday 12/4 – Billie Roberts, Patty Maseth, Kathryn Parker, Kassie Kimrey Baker, Sandra Penland,  
Gordon Christen, Shane Parker

Friday 12/5 – Phil Hines, Hunter Preston

Saturday 12/6 – Cheryl Ray, Robin Williams

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](mailto:office@walnutgroveumc.org) so we can update our records.

## **STAYING CONNECTED**

[WG YouTube](#)

[WG Facebook](#)

[Website](#)

## **Serving in Worship**

### **November 23rd**

Acolytes: Eleanor Whitaker/Isabella Conway

Greeters: Dale Smithson/Kennedy Dunlap

Ushers: Courtney Humphrey/Kennedy Dunlap

Scripture: Stacey Spake

Nursery: Mary Emma Roberts/Krystal Robinson

Trustee Open/Close: Patty Maseth

Financial Rep: Emma Beckham



Wednesday, December 10 11:00am Mary Martha Busy Ladies – Lunch at Homestead  
7:00pm Worship Choir

Saturday, December 13 9:30am – Worship Choir Final Rehearsal

Sunday, December 14 9:30am Sunday School  
10:30am Worship Service – Worship Choir Program “All is Well”  
4:45pm Hallelujah Kids  
6:00pm - 7:00pm Youth Christmas party

Tuesday, December 16 7:00pm Men’s Group

Wednesday, December 17 6:30pm Worship Band  
7:00pm Worship Choir

Saturday, December 20 9:30am Hallelujah Kids Final Rehearsal  
Birthday party for Jesus following rehearsal

Sunday, December 21 9:30am Sunday School  
10:30am Worship Service  
Children’s Program “The Mystery of the Missing Manger”  
3:00pm – 4:30pm Christmas caroling for shut-ins

Wednesday, December 24 7:00pm Christmas Eve Service

Thursday, December 25



Sunday, December 28 9:30am Sunday School  
10:30am Worship Service – Christmas songs and stories

Wednesday, December 31 6:00-8:00pm New Year’s Eve at the Grove



See You Sunday!!