

Weekly Devotion

The Psalms contain some of the most beloved and recognizable Scripture in the Bible. They show the full range of human emotion, joyful praise, quiet comfort, fierce anger and deep grief...sometimes all in a single psalm!

Martin Luther called the psalms “a little Bible” because he felt that it contained the whole message of Scripture in a “beautiful and compendious manner.” He even thought the Psalms were “especially dear and valuable” for detailing the death and resurrection of Christ.* Perhaps there is more to the message of the Psalms than we expect!

This week we’re beginning a summer sermon series through the Psalms. But while we’re discussing these psalms on Sunday, I invite you to spend some time with them in your daily life too. Pray through them. Journal with them. Contemplate the beauty, truth and usefulness that the Psalms hold for our everyday lives.

If you’d like to get a headstart for Sunday, try reading slowly through Psalm 146 three times, noticing and maybe even writing a list of who and what the psalmist says God cares about. How does this expand your view of who God is?

- Written by Lauren Birch, Duke Divinity School Intern

*<https://wolfmueeller.co/martin-luthers-introduction-psalms/#:~:text=But%20I%20maintain%20that%20no,adopt%20the%20Book%20of%20Psalms.>

NEW AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

VBS Update

Join us for Vacation Bible School and help us “Shine Jesus’ light!” Sunday, July 16-Wednesday, July 19th from 5:30-7:30. Dinner is served at 5:30 and each night the program runs from 6-7:30. Wednesday night, we will have ice cream at 7:30 as well. Kids from nursery aged to rising fifth graders are welcome to attend. No preregistration is necessary. Please contact Ashley Parker (ashleymorganparker@gmail.com or (919)475-5211) with any questions or to volunteer for this year’s phenomenal fun-filled VBS experience!

Music and Worship Arts Week Update

A big thank you for your prayers and financial gifts that helped support this year’s Music and Worship Arts Week with our group from Walnut Grove UMC in attendance. We had kids from 3rd

grade on up to rising 9th grade in attendance and three adult chaperones. We rented a van in advance as our church van is having issues currently that make it unsafe to drive. We had a little adventure at the end of the trip with the rental van breaking down, although the trip altogether was wonderful! We began each morning with breakfast and worship and closed down each (almost every night) with worship and devotions.

Our kids learned new pieces of music, participated in the talent show with the ever popular "Church Clap" dance, and enjoyed crepes at Lake Junaluska. Mark your calendars for next year's Music and Worship Arts Week being held June 23rd to June 25th!



Choir Update

Right after our return from Music and Worship Arts Week, the *Washington Post* shared an article that might entice you to join choir or share this with a friend who might want to join in here at Walnut Grove UMC. The article from the post shared about the many benefits of singing with others. Singing in choirs promotes social bonding & joy. Choir members are more optimistic, less lonely, and more likely to contribute a positive force in their communities. Choirs are large families, the

Washington Post shared. Coming out of COVID, we all long for the power community gives, particularly the community of our church family and the blessing of our choral family. If you are a part of choir, you may find these findings to be true to what you experience. If you like to sing (even in the shower) and are not yet part of choir, now may you have extra reasons on why to join in on the fun!

[Link to Article about Benefits of Singing in a Choir](#)

Fifth Sunday Can Competition and Penny Push

One of our interns, Abby Muelhstein, shared with me a ministry idea from her home church in TX called a Penny Push. A Penny Push encourages kids and people of all ages to bring in change right after our return from Music and Worship Arts Week, the *Washington Post* shared an article that might entice you to join choir or share this with a friend who might want to join in here at Walnut Grove UMC. The article from the post shared about the many benefits of singing with others. Singing in choirs promotes social bonding & joy. Choir members are more optimistic, less lonely, and more likely to contribute a positive force in their communities. Choirs are large families, the *Washington Post* shared. Coming out of COVID, we all long for the power community gives, particularly the community of our church family and the blessing of our choral family. If you are a part of choir, you may find these findings to be true to what you experience. If you like to sing (even in the shower) and are not yet part of choir, now may you have extra reasons on why to join in on the fun! Bring in your coin change and non-perishable items as we have a friendly competition for all ages to help our community through Orange Congregations in Mission.

Tithes and Offerings

We have four 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 online giving app "Vanco Mobile".

JOYS & CONCERNS

Prayer List

- Peggy Bledsoe, health issues. She is Dan Bledsoe's mom.
- Pat Sykes
- Debbie Haywood (cancer treatments), friend of Ann and Bruce Richardson.
- Dana Kimrey. He is the brother of Lorraine Hines.

Send A Card

Isaac Conway

Quilts

Here are the quilts for July 1: Estelle Reeves from Lakeland, FL who is having a double kidney transplant. She is a friend of Emma Beckham.

2. Bobby Solomon from Durham, NC who has pancreatic cancer. He is a friend of David and Gaye Walker.

Upcoming Birthdays

Friday 6/30 – Bill Atkins, Jeanne Crabtree, Daniel Todd III, Erin Christen

Saturday 7/1 – Cindy Anderson

Sunday 7/2 – Kitty Hawkins

Monday 7/3 – Ricky Creech, Ron Gerbracht

Tuesday 7/4 – Ty Clayton, Austin Dillard, Jamie Freeland, Renna Baker

Wednesday 7/5 – JoAnn Hall, Rusty Wagoner

Saturday 7/8 – Kasen Dean, Kara Roberts

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!](#)

[Sign UpHere! For Online Sign-Up](#)

Serving in Worship

July 2nd

Acolytes: Max Kemnitz/Michael Roberts

Greeters: Cheryl & Clay Parker

Ushers: Cheryl & Scott Humphrey

Nursery: Cheryl L. Parker/Mary Emma Roberts

Scripture Reader: Lorraine Parker

Trustee Open/Close: Mike Roberts

Communion Servers: Kara & Mike Roberts

July 9th

Acolytes: Anna Robinson/Eleanor Whitaker

Greeters: Faith Parker/Judy Parker

Ushers: Grace Dunlap/Patty Maseth

Nursery: Cheryl S. Parker/Laurie Rogers

Scripture Reader: Margaret Anne Dow

Trustee Open/Close: Cheryl Humphrey

Mowing Schedule

July 1 – Clay Parker

July 8 – Phil Hines

July 22 – Bruce Richardson

July 15 – Jimmy Berry

July 29 – Todd Harris

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

Sunday, July 2	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service
Wednesday July 5	6:30pm Worship Band 7:00pm Worship Choir
Thursday, July 6	11:00am Workout Class in pool at Linda's house
Sunday, July 9	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 10:45am Children's Church
Tuesday, July 11	11:00am Workout Class in pool at Linda's house
Wednesday, July 12	10:00 Mary Martha Busy Ladies
Thursday, July 13	11:00am Workout Class in pool at Linda's house
Sunday, July 16	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service
Sun – Wed. July 16 – 19	5:30pm – 7:30pm Vacation Bible School
Tuesday, July 18	11:00am Workout Class in pool at Linda's house
Wednesday, July 19	7:30pm Worship Choir
Thursday, July 20	11:00am Workout Class in pool at Linda's house
Fri-Sat, July 21-22	Walnut Grove Crafters
Sunday, July 23	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 10:45am Children's Church

Tuesday, July 25	11:00am Workout Class in pool at Linda's house
Wednesday, July 26	6:30pm Worship Band 7:00pm Worship Choir
Thursday, July 27	11:00am Workout Class in pool at Linda's house
Sunday, July 30	9:30am Sunday School Opening – Promotion Sunday Joint Sunday School (Adults) 10:30am SONGFEST Service

See You Sunday!!