

I rest. I rest from the worries of yesterday. Yesterday is gone and I cannot change it. I rest from the worries of today. I will rest in peace because God works in this day. He will give me strength for this day and I do not have to live it alone. I rest from the worries of tomorrow because tomorrow is in the hands of the Lord who made all my days. His care of me is continuous. He has promised that there is grace for every day and every situation. Jesus promised to always be with me and His mercy endures forever. Imagining the "what ifs" can be scary. Many different thoughts come to mind - some I have faced and some yet to come. But the reason I can rest is because Jesus Christ has overcome every obstacle that I will face. He promised that I will have tribulations. He also promised that I could be of good cheer, because He has overcome the world. I must keep my eyes on Jesus Christ and rest in His unwavering grace and love.

**Matthew 11:29** - Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

**Jeremiah 31:25** - I will satisfy the weary, and all who are faint I will replenish.

**Psalms 4:8** - I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.

**Romans 15:13** - May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Isaiah 40:28-31** - <sup>28</sup> Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. <sup>29</sup> He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

<sup>30</sup> Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;

<sup>31</sup> but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Shared by Kim Combs

## NEW AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### Newly Forming Evangelism Team

Are you interested in evangelism? Want to reach out to others and visitors we have at church? Want to help with follow-up when we have guests and share ideas to help us to continue to grow? Please see Pastor Laura. We are hoping to form a team soon and would love for you to be a part of this new work!

## The Church Needs YOU!

Do you have an interest in serving within the church? We would love to have you! The nursery needs volunteers to watch children during the 10:30 service, Sunday Nights Together (6:00pm when in session) and at various times during church events.

We also need volunteers during worship to greet, usher, read scripture and serve communion. To sign up or if you have questions, let the church office or Stephanie Smith know. Once signed up, Stephanie will give you a quick tutorial.

## OCIM Update

I was at OCIM last week and the shelves are almost bare. There is a need for beef stew, mayonnaise, mustard, spaghetti sauce, jelly, soups and pork and beans or baked beans. They have plenty of various kinds of canned beans like green beans.

~Brenda Berry

## From the Missions Committee

Coming up February 11th, 2024, while many watch football in the evening with snacks and parties filled with appetizing foods, we are aware many in our community go each and every day without knowing where their next meal will come from. This includes children and elderly here in Orange County too. Through the work of OCIM, we invite you to make a dent in helping our understocked local community food pantry by a) bringing a nonperishable item to church and/or b) donating above your tithes and offerings to OCIM. Please make sure monies and checks are clearly marked. Thank you for showing Christ's love and touching the lives of so many in Jesus' name!



**THINK BEYOND THE BOWL!**

What if every person in your congregation or organization watching the Big Game donated just \$1 or 1 can of food?

**TACKLE HUNGER**  
with the  
**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**

**February 11, 2024**

**TACKLE HUNGER**  
★ **S** ★  
#BeyondTheBowl

  
Orange Congregations In  
Mission

## Valentine's Dinner

You are invited to Walnut Grove's Valentine Celebration on Saturday night, February 10th. The doors open at 5:30pm and the meal starts at 6:00. The cost of the meal is by donation. The menu is grilled chicken, baked potatoes, green beans, rolls and dessert. There will be entertainment and great fellowship. We will have a friendly competition as individuals decorate their own table and guests vote on their favorite theme. Please contact Tina Walker (919-619-1971), Judy Butler (919-971-5689) or Lorraine Hines (919-619-1090) to let us know as soon as possible if you can come. We need to order food by the end of the week. We still have a few spots left if you wish to decorate a table. All proceeds go to Rise Against Hunger.

We need **YOU** to decorate a table for our  
*Valentine's Dinner*  
on February 10th at 5:30pm

*Proceeds will benefit  
Walnut Grove's next*



### **HOW TO SIGN UP**

*Fill out the sign up sheet in the fellowship hall or  
text/call Judy Butler at 919-971-5689*

### **THE FINE PRINT**

**Each table needs a name/theme (does not have to be Valentine's Day!).  
Tables need to be decorated by 3pm on Feb. 10th.  
The table creator is responsible for: decorating, setup and cleanup of the table.  
The table creator provides a place setting for 8 including: plates, glasses, and silverware.  
Dessert plates will be provided. Off white table cloths are available.  
!!!CONTEST for the favorite table!!!**

## 2024 Mowing Schedule

We are in the deep freeze of winter at this writing, but soon Spring will arrive and the grass will begin to grow! If you are interested in signing up to mow the church yard, please contact Cheryl Humphrey at [cherylhumphreydesign@gmail.com](mailto:cherylhumphreydesign@gmail.com) or text 919-730-9365 by 3/15/24. The cemetery and old parsonage yard are mowed professionally so this is just the areas around the church and fellowship hall. We begin the first weekend of April and mow weekly through the last weekend in October. You will need to provide your own mower, weed eater and blower, if used. Thanks for helping to keep our beloved Walnut Grove beautiful!

## Sunday Nights Return in February

We are starting back Sunday nights in February after a month of planning in January. We'll meet at the same time 5:30-6:00 dinner, 6:00-7:00 Kids Krew, Bible Study, and Youth Group. Nursery will be provided during the 6-7 hour for families with preschoolers and infants. Come join in on the fun! If

you can't make it every week, no worries-we're happy to have you when you are able. We'll start back Feb. 18th and go to March 17th for the winter/spring time. Make sure to add Sunday Nights Together to your calendar as we grow closer to God and grow together as a church family!

We need your help! Sign up to help lead Kids Krew (a lesson will be provided). Please click the link below if you want to help with Kids Krew: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044FAFAD29AFFF2-46901879-kids>

Also, please consider signing up to bring food one night. Meals could be provided by families, Sunday school classes, or leadership teams. For questions about the meals, contact Lorraine Hines at 919-619-1090 or [lhines0130@gmail.com](mailto:lhines0130@gmail.com). You can sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044FAFAD29AFFF2-sunday1>

## **Music Ministry Update**

### **Easter Music**

February is here and rehearsals for Easter and other special music have begun. Easter Sunday is March 31st this year and the Worship Choir will be presenting the musical "Is He Worthy" during the 10:30am worship service. We practice on Wednesdays at 7:30pm and Sundays at 4:30pm, starting on February 18th if you would like to join us.

### **Lake Junaluska**

We still have 2 spaces left to attend Music and Worship Arts Week at Lake Junaluska Assembly near Waynesville, NC. Children (rising 4<sup>th</sup> graders and up), youth and adults are eligible to attend. We will leave on Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, and return on Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup>.

For more information contact Leigh McFalls at 919-818-3317 for more information.

## **NC Conference**

Friends,

There are many opportunities to learn and grow through our connection as United Methodists. I invite you to take time to look at some of the resources offered in the NC Conference. Also, we give thanks for the missions grant that we have received thanks to our connectional nature. We will have the exact amount shared sometime in the spring. Beloved, we give thanks for our connection, our sister churches in the OCP, and our joy and serving Christ together!

See attachment for more information.

### **Interested in an updated or new hymnal?**

Want to get a five dollar gift card to Amazon? Take a survey regarding your thoughts about updating/creating a new UM Hymnal. Please note the survey will only work if you are interested in updating the current UM Hymnal. If not, then it will say that you do not qualify. For this quick survey, a \$5 Amazon gift card will be sent to you. Peace!

[click here to start the survey](#).

## Prayers

Hard to believe it's February! Join us on this journey of prayer in 2024 as we strengthen our prayer lives together each and every day. We know the power of prayer in our lives and in our world. God continues to heal, perform miracles, and offer grace and mercy in unexpected ways. We give thanks for the ways the Holy Spirit moves among us. We'll have a new list each month with prayer prompts for us each to grow in our intercessory prayers and broaden our circles to those we might not consider in our daily prayers. Use this list, pass it on, and let it guide you closer to others and to God in 2024!

# February Prayers

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- Feb. 1st- Widows/ Widowers
  - Feb. 2nd- Survivors of War
  - Feb. 3rd – Our Children Doing Mission Work for OCIM
  - Feb. 4th- Nourishment for our souls with Holy Communion
  - Feb. 5th- Deepen in our faith
  - Feb. 6th- For God to open our eyes
  - Feb. 7th – For God to open our ears
  - Feb. 8th- For God to open our hearts
  - Feb. 9th- For the work of our Trustees Committee
  - Feb. 10th- For Our Valentine's Dinner
  - Feb. 11th- For our SPRC
  - Feb. 12th- For our Fellowship Committee
  - Feb. 13th – For our Worship Committee
  - Feb. 14th- For God to renew a right spirit within us as we enter Lent (Ash Wednesday Service 7 PM)
  - Feb. 15th- For Missions Committee
  - Feb. 16th- For Our Music Director
  - Feb. 17th- For Our Organist
  - Feb. 18th – Survivors of Domestic Abuse
  - Feb. 19th – School Principals and Vice-Principals
  - Feb. 20th – Those working in sweat shops around the world
  - Feb. 21st- Repent of our greed and consumeristic tendencies
  - Feb. 22nd- Our quilters
  - Feb. 23- Those receiving quilts
  - Feb. 24th- Sabbath rest
  - Feb. 25th- our children
  - Feb. 26th- caregivers
  - Feb. 27th- those without reliable transportation
  - Feb. 28th- Our police officers

## **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**

- Family of Katinka Bates (who recently passed away)
- Debbie Smith who recently had back surgery. She is Tyler Smith's mom
- Herring Family (Linda and husband Dortch), Dortch has been in Duke Hospital for several weeks with dementia while they try to find him a permanent facility to go to. Dortch is Jane Sparks' brother-in-law.
- Betty Sue Hyder (cancer treatments), Margaret Williams' sister and Sharyn Gates' aunt
- Pat Sykes
- Debbie Haywood (cancer treatments), friend of Ann and Bruce Richardson.
- Dana Kimrey. He is the brother of Lorraine Hines.

### **Quilts**

1. Snodean Logan from Mebane, NC who had back surgery on February 1. Snodean is Faydean Cannada's sister.
2. Marti Bennett from Durham who is 92 years old has been diagnosed with breast cancer for the 3rd time and has other health issues. Quilt is requested by Martha Niles (member of Walnut Grove Crafters, Prayers & Squares, Walnut Grove Quilters and Mary Martha Busy Ladies).

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

### **Upcoming Birthdays**

Friday 2/2 – Caleb Painter, Sam Wimberly  
Sunday 2/4 – Howard Parker, Madora Davis  
Monday 2/5 – Alice Parker, Wesley Nulf  
Tuesday 2/6 – Kathryn Daniel  
Wednesday 2/7 – Lathan Hawkins  
Thursday 2/8 – Krista Phillips  
Friday 2/9 – Ashton Kajcienski, Kristin Kajcienski  
Saturday 2/10 – Patrick Keough, Tony Holleman

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](#)

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

### Serving in Worship

#### February 4th

Acolytes: Max Kemnitz/Corbin Smith

Greeters: Shirley Clayton/Courtney Humphrey

Ushers: Margaret Anne Dow/Courtney Humphrey

Nursery: Cheryl S Parker/Grace Dunlap

Scripture: Lorraine Parker

Trustee Open/Close: Mike Roberts

Communion Servers: Cheryl & Scott Humphrey

#### February 11th

Acolytes: Anna Robinson/Wyatt James

Greeters: Dan & LuAnne Bledsoe

Ushers: Dan & LuAnne Bledsoe

Nursery: Grace Dunlap/Cathy Boling

Scripture: Mary Emma Roberts

Trustee Open/Close: Cheryl Humphrey

**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

Saturday, February 3      3:00pm Kids shop for OCIM

Sunday, February 4      9:30am Sunday School  
10:30am Worship Service

Monday, February 5      7:00pm Worship Committee meeting

Wednesday, February 7      6:30pm Worship Band  
7:00pm Worship Choir

Saturday, February 10      5:30pm Valentine's Dinner

Sunday, February 11      9:30am Sunday School  
10:30am Worship Service  
10:45am Children's Church

Wednesday, February 14 11:00am Mary Martha Busy Ladies  
7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service  
Worship Choir (following Ash Wednesday Service)

Sunday, February 18 9:30am Sunday School  
10:30am Worship Service  
4:30pm Worship Choir (Easter)  
5:30pm Dinner  
6:00-7:00pm Kids Krew, Youth, Bible Study, Nursery

Wednesday, February 21 6:30pm Worship Band  
7:00pm Worship Choir

Friday-Sat., Feb. 23-24 Walnut Grove Crafters

Sunday, February 25 9:30am Sunday School  
10:30am Worship Service  
10:45am Children's Church  
4:30pm Worship Choir (Easter)  
5:30pm Dinner  
6:00-7:00pm Kids Krew, Youth, Bible Study, Nursery

Wednesday, February 28 6:30pm Worship Band  
7:00pm Worship Choir

See You Sunday!!