In a Nutshell

August 22, 2025

Cloud of Witnesses

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12: 1-2

Friends, today's devotion is primarily a song.

When I was a post-college young adult, I heard an artist named Mark Schultz in a small concert in a sanctuary. He was a local artist who came to share his gifts with whomever showed up.

He sang a song which, I promise you, I have never heard since but have never forgotten. This is pre-YouTube, people. Pre-iTunes. Pre-everything. I have not heard that song again until about five minutes ago.

It holds up. It has stood the test of time.

As a reflection on the scripture above, I'd like to share that song with you today.

Peace be with us all.

~ Lindy Thompson

Click on the link below to hear the song

https://youtu.be/ 6TbVN eOOU

~Shared by Leigh McFalls

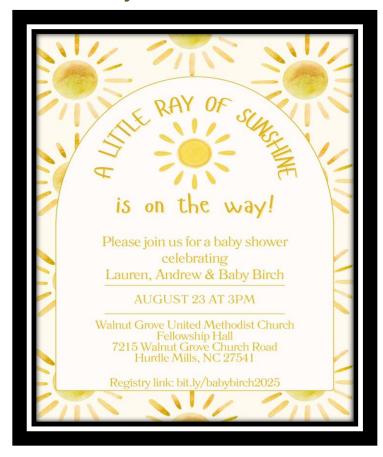
NEW AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Young Adult Bible Study

A new bible study for young adults is just beginning in Lauren's office or in a 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

Lauren's Baby Shower Tomorrow



Link to the gift registery



Backpack Blessing This Sunday



We invite students of all ages (and teachers!) to bring their backpacks to church this Sunday (8/24) to receive a blessing and a backpack tag as we celebrate the upcoming school year. Place backpacks at the altar rail before the service begins.

Youth Yard Sale on Sept. 6th!



We are accepting donations from August 24th to 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.

5th Sunday SongFest Returns in August

On Sunday, August 31st, we will have another 5th Sunday SongFest with songs requested by you! The song request sheets are on the music stand outside the choir room. So, add your song. You may contact Leigh McFalls at 919-818-3317 or leighmcfalls@gmail.com to help you find the song you're looking for.

OCIM Update

They are in desperate need of canned vegetables, fruit, green beans, green peas, pork & beans and/or baked beans, beef stew, mayonnaise, crackers, and rice. Thank you to all who have donated money as well as the actual cans of food and veggies.

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

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.

Rise Against Hunger

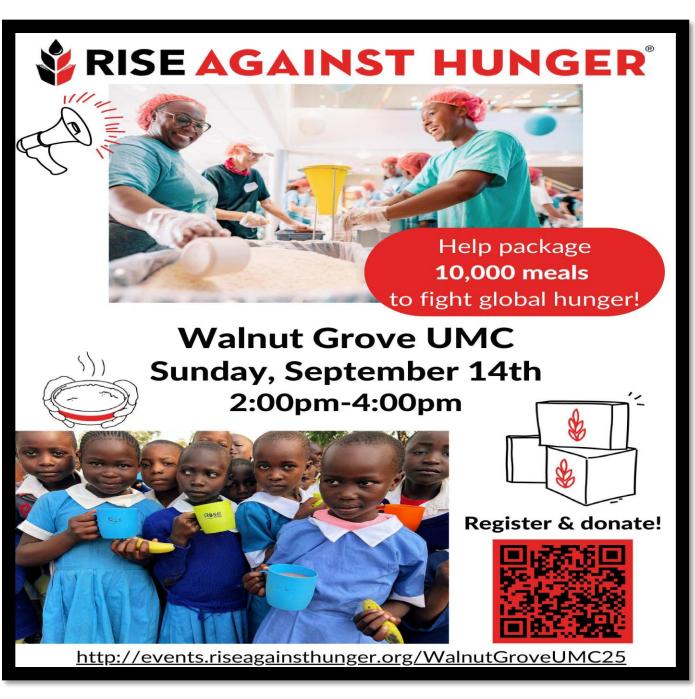
Rise Against Hunger T-shirt fundraiser: we are selling two T-shirt designs to fundraise for Rise Against Hunger. T-shirts are \$15 each, see designs below. Orders are due by August 31st and payment is due by September 7th for either shirt. Please make checks payable to Walnut Grove UMC with memo line "Tshirt fundraiser". Place your order online here or fill out the bulletin insert on Sunday.

(RAH t-shirt design not finalized)





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. I apologize for making a mistake in my announcement on Sunday that we were only about \$500.00 away from our funds for sponsoring this event, we are about \$2,300.00 away from our goal. So please donate to this event if you are able. 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. There will be more information coming about this event soon.



Pasta Dinner Fundraiser to Benefit





Saturday, August 23 Dinner Times: 4:30 & 6:30 PM

Christus Victor Lutheran Church 1615 NC-54 Durham, NC 27713

\$25 per ticket

Organized by: Christus Victor Lutheran Church, All Saints
UMC, and Parkwood UMC

When purchasing your ticket(s), Zeffy adds an extra amount to support the platform. If you do not wish to add the pre-selected amount, select "other" from the drop-down menu and enter the amount you want to give.

The Longest Day - Outshine the Darkness of Alzheimer's

Tom Carr is running for his wife, Carley, who passed away last year from Alzheimer's. She was an active member of our church for many years.

https://act.alz.org/site/TR/?px=22194006&pg=personal&fr_id=18274

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

- 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
- Farmer Tillman family in the loss of their granddaughter, Lilly
- 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

Debbie Stitt from Oxford is having health issues. Debbie is the mother-in-law of Kimberly Crabtree Gilbert and mother of Nick Gilbert.

Ben Lloyd from Efland having health issues. He is the father of Cheryl Humphrey and grandfather of Cari and Courtney Humphrey.

Brenda Sykes from Rougemont who is recovering from a recent surgery. Brenda is a cousin of Judy Parker and Jimmy Berry.

Baby Birch (Lauren Welch Birch and Andrew Birch)

(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.)

Birthdays

Friday 8/22 - Karin Hopkins

Saturday 8-23 – Tommy Compton, Rickey Robinson, Jr., Christie Smith, Larry Thomas

Olivia Guy, Patty Meehan Sunday 8/24 – Rev. Laura Dunlap

Monday 8/25 - Andy Gates, Carter Keough

Wednesday 8/27 - David Gibbs, Carlton Parker

Friday 8/29 - David Blalock

Sunday 8/31 – Strickland Wade Davis, Wyatt James

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 24th

Acolytes: Anna Robinson/Max Kemnitz Greeters: Pat Beck/Margaret Anne Dow

Ushers: Fred Nading/Faith Parker

Scripture: Cheryl Humphrey

Nursery: Courtney Humphrey/Judy Butler Trustee Open/Close: Jacob Blankenship

Financial Rep: Lou Rutledge

August 31st

Acolytes: Wyatt James/Ellen Johnson Greeters: Jimmy & Brenda Berry Ushers: Barry & Cheryl L Parker

Scripture: Rick Huey

Nursery: Ashley Parker/Erica Smith Trustee Open/Close: Johnny Clayton

Financial Rep: Judy Butler

Mowing Schedule

August 16- Mike Parker August 23- Clay Parker August 30- Chuck Davis

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, August 23 3:00pm Lauren's baby shower

Sunday, August 24 9:30am Sunday School

10:30am Worship Service 10:45am Children's Church

2:30 - 4:30pm - Youth/kids quilting workshop

Wed., August 27 6:30pm Worship Band

7:00pm Worship Choir

Thursday, August 28 6:30pm Harvest Festival meeting

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 Service10:45am Children's Church

5:30pm Dinner

6:00pm - 7:00pm Kids Krew, Youth, Adult Bible Study, Nursery

Monday, September 29 6:30pm Covenant Council meeting

Tuesday, September 30 7:00pm Men's Group

See You Sunday!!