

Like a Tree

"Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit."

(Jeremiah 17:7-8, NRSV)

God is trustworthy.

When we place our trust in God alone,

(and when we fail to do so, commit again and again to trusting God –)

we will be like a healthy tree.

We will receive our nutrients in various ways – through roots that never cease reaching towards deep water, through leaves that open up fully to sun and rain. We will grow and grow and grow. We will have good years and less-good years for this growth, and we will have places where we were injured and signs of healing from injury. We will be varied in appearance, and we will be beautiful. And in our blessedness, we will bless others – with shade, with a place to live and rest, with much-needed food.

We shall not fear when heat comes, and in times of drought we will not be anxious. We will trust in God, and we will bear fruit.

Thanks be to God.

~ Lindy Thompson

Pray

O God, I trust you! Help me to trust you more! Amen.

~Shared by Leigh McFalls

NEW AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Penny Push final update

Thank you all, once again, for your generosity during the Penny Push fundraiser in July. Congratulations to the Titus 2 class in the parlor for raising the most money by class, nearly half of our total! A special thanks also goes out to the children, youth, and adults who helped to count so many pennies. Thanks to all of your support, a donation is being made to the OCIM food pantry in the amount of \$334.34!

Sunday Night Dinners

We are starting back with our Sunday night dinners this fall! Please sign up for a date and let us know what you'll be bringing. You can sign up by clicking this link

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044FAFAD29AAFF2-sunday1>

Ticket To Ride

The Carpenters and Beatles sang a song, "Ticket to Ride." It's a great tune w/the Carpenters' version going, "Think I'm going to be sad.... he's got a ticket to ride and he don't care." Well we do care and as loving family of faith and want to ensure everyone has a "ticket to ride" to church. It has been brought to our attention that we have a few folks who could use rides to the church on Sunday morning. Please let one of our interns, Abby or Lauren, Kim at the church office, or Pastor Laura know if you are interested in helping drive a person (s) to church so that they might have a "ticket to ride."

Harvest Festival Update

We're Back and gearing up for Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 21!

Please go ahead and work on your items for auction: crafts, wreaths, signs, floral arrangements, sewing, paint and wood projects!

Also, plan on helping with the 2 scheduled cook days (time TBD, but plan on AM start time) and 1 peeling party date:

Saturday, September 30 (cook)

Saturday, October 14 (cook)

Friday, October 20 (peeling)

Also, on Friday, October 20 (time TBD) we'll need to clean and prepare the fellowship hall to serve lunch, the take-out area, the dessert area, the auction area etc.

Check the fellowship hall often for specific duty assignments and items needed for donations!

We need everyone's help to make Harvest Festival successful!

Thanks in advance for supporting Walnut Grove with your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness!

Cheryl S. Parker

Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Project

We blessed and excited that Walnut Grove UMC has approved our participation in the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Project this year!

There are numerous ways to participate:

- 1) Pick up a box from the Operation Christmas Child Table in the fellowship for your family to purchase items and fill. Each box will have a label inside for you to place on the box and check which sex/age child your box goes to. Return your shoebox to a container located underneath the table on or before October 1, 2023. The shipping and administrative cost is \$10 per box. Please follow the directions on the label for donations. Please put the portion of the label regarding shipping costs inside/top of box. **DO NOT BURY IT DOWN IN THE BOX!!!!** If you pick up a box to be filled, **PLEASE** write your name and contact information on the sign-up sheet on OCC table so that an inventory can be kept.
- 2) Purchase items from lists provided in the weekly e-mail and e-Nutshell. There will large boxes underneath the OCC table for you to leave those items as you bring them in. The sooner the better as shoeboxes will be filled as we receive appropriate items!
- 3) If you prefer not to shop and would like to contribute funds, you may give those funds directly to me and I will do the shopping for you. If you have a specific area that you prefer your funds to be used, please let me know.
- 4) You may put money in the offering plate on any Sunday morning. Be sure to designate it for Operation Christmas Child Project. Those funds will be used to buy any additional items needed to fill boxes and/or for shipping costs.
- 5) And, most of all, please remember to **say a prayer** for the children who will receive these shoeboxes.

Suggested Items for Each Box:

- 1) "WOW" ITEMS such as soccer balls (deflated) with pump; dolls; stuffed animals or shoes (Note, each box should contain one WOW item!)
- 2) TOYS such as toy cars, jump ropes, yo-yos, cards, or dominos
- 3) TOILETRIES such as tooth brushes, combs, brushes, soap (individually wrapped!), stick deodorant, wash cloths
- 4) SCHOOL SUPPLIES such as pens, pencils, sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, coloring books, picture books, solar calculators
- 5) ACCESSORIES such as socks, sunglasses, jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), caps, t-shirts, underwear

Do Not Include:

Candy, toothpaste, gum, seeds, food, liquids, lotions, aerosol cans, glass containers, breakable items, scary or war-related items, or used or damaged items!

Please feel free to contact me at (919) 619-2489/cell, (919) 732-4959/home or e-mail at:

jcrabtree@centurylink.net

BLESSINGS!

Jeanne A. Crabtree, Project Leader

Walnut Grove United Methodist Church

Travel to the Billy Graham Library and the NarroWay production of "The Real Christmas Story" - Saturday, December 16, 2023

Jean Mangum is coordinating a Holiday Tours' bus trip to The Billy Graham Library and to Martin & Clark's "The Real Christmas Story" on Saturday, December 16th. The cost is \$135 per person. This is a one day trip to Charlotte, NC. Lunch is on your own, but the NarroWay production of the Christmas Story includes dinner: Oven-roasted turkey breast, creamy mashed potatoes, brown gravy, Christmas dressing, cranberry sauce, garden green beans, fresh, warm yeast rolls w/butter, homemade pumpkin pie with whipped topping and sweet iced tea or water.

Before attending the dinner theatre, we will travel to The Billy Graham Library. Jean has already paid the necessary deposit to book the trip. Payment needs to be made, in full, by October 1st to Jean Mangum by check or cash. There is room for you and your family and friends. Join us for a great time with our church family!

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.

Quilts

- Abby Muehlstein, prayers for much success as she continues her journey of teaching and serving others.
- Lauren W. Birch, prayers for much success in her continued studies and serving others.

(The quilts will be in the Fellowship Hall. You're invited to tie a knot and say a prayer over them.)

Upcoming Birthdays

Saturday 8/12 – Melissa White, Clayton Robinson

Sunday 8/13 – Mike Bordeaux, Kara Horton Campbell, Kathy Keough, Bill Lee, Jr.

Tuesday 8/15 – Cynthia Gibbs, Debra Todd

Wednesday 8/16 – David Berry, Carolyn Parker

Thursday 8/17 – Bryan Phelps, Lilly Virginia

Friday 8/18 – Penny Burton, Mechelle Clayton

Saturday 8/19 – Jean Mangum, Debbie Phelps

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

August 13th

Acolytes: Eleanor Whitaker/Wyatt James

Greeters: Cathy & Chris Boling

Ushers: Pat Beck/Judy Parker

Nursery: Mary Beth Elliott/Sharyn Gates

Scripture Reader: Mike Roberts

Trustee Open/Close: Bruce Richardson

August 20th

Acolytes: Max Kemnitz/Isaac Conway

Greeters: Ashley Parker/Grace Dunlap

Ushers: Brenda & Jimmy Berry

Nursery: Lorraine Hines/Ava Lee

Scripture Reader: Emma Beckham

Trustee Open/Close: Joshua Rogers

Mowing Schedule

August 12 – Johnny Clayton

August 19 - Scott Humphrey

August 26 - Barry Walker

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, August 13	9:30am Sunday School
	10:30am Worship Service
	10:45am Children's Church
	11:45 Kids & Youth Pizza & Bowling

Sunday, August 20	9:30am Sunday School
	10:30am Worship Service
	11:45am Fellowship Committee Lunch & Planning
	Esp. Back to School Bash

Tuesday, August 22	11:00am Workout Class in pool at Linda's house
Wednesday, August 23	6:30pm Worship Band 7:00pm Worship Choir
Thursday, August 24	11:00am Workout Class in pool at Linda's house
Fri-Sat, August 25-26	Walnut Grove Crafters
Sunday, August 27	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 10:45am Children's Church
Monday, August 28	7:00pm Covenant Council meeting
Tuesday, August 29	11:00am Workout Class in pool at Linda's house
Wednesday, August 30	6:30pm Worship Band 7:00pm Worship Choir
Thursday, August 31	11:00am Workout Class in pool at Linda's house

See You Sunday!!