

If you have watched the news lately out of the Middle East, your heart, I imagine has been broken by images of violence, war, aggression, and unspeakable horrors. We lift up prayers for peace in war torn areas, as we lift up in prayer Israel, Palestine, Syria, Afghanistan, Ukraine, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and other places where people cry out, "O, Lord, how much more can we endure?"

I read this poem recently as it relates to our frustration at times with peace, knowing God's peace is part of the fulfillment of God's reign and as we long we for God to reign over us, we also may hear this cry as well. This is a poem by Rev. Ann Weems, a Presbyterian pastor and poet, who shares this poem that might speak to the depth of peace we need.

Blessings, beloved.

-Pastor Laura

I No Longer Pray for Peace (poem)

"I No Longer Pray For Peace"

On the edge of war, one foot already in,

I no longer pray for peace:

I pray for miracles.

I pray that stone hearts will turn
to tenderheartedness,
and evil intentions will turn
to mercifulness,
and all the soldiers already deployed
will be snatched out of harm's way,
and the whole world will be
astounded onto its knees.

I pray that all the "God talk"
will take bones,
and stand up and shed
its cloak of faithlessness,
and walk again in its powerful truth.

I pray that the whole world might
sit down together and share
its bread and its wine.

Some say there is no hope,
but then I've always applauded the holy fools
who never seem to give up on
the scandalousness of our faith:
that we are loved by God.....
that we can truly love one another.

I no longer pray for peace:
I pray for miracles.

Poem by Ann Weems, a Presbyterian elder and poet

NEW AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Lunch With Lauren

Consider taking our intern this year out to lunch after church. Lauren can learn more about the ministries and life of Walnut Grove through your sharing stories and food together. You can sign up on one of the available Sundays by clicking the link below. Thank you for supporting all that she is doing for the church and her call to ministry.

Meal Time with Lauren

Lay Servant Ministries team for the Corridor District

Corridor District is offering 3 classes on Oct 21, 2023, at Orange UMC in Chapel Hill. These classes are open to ANYONE who is interested in attending. They are full-day classes (8:00 am-4:30 pm) and there is a book and registration fee required for each. The \$25 fee includes instruction for the day, morning snacks and lunch and we end the day with a worship service and Holy Communion. You are responsible for purchasing your own book.

Soul Reset (book by Junius B Dotson)

For the Common Good - spiritual gifts class using the new book by Dr. Christine Harmon

Justice in Everyday Life

Registration can be completed online through nccumc.org/laity/events These classes are a time of learning and fellowship open to all congregations and there are no prerequisites for any of the classes.

For more information feel free to contact Vicki

vambrose@nccumc.org

Thank you!

Vicki Ambrose and Allen Burden

Co-Directors, Corridor District Lay Servant Ministries

Harvest Festival

Don't forget Cook Day #2 tomorrow, Saturday, October 14th



On Saturday, October 21, 2023 Walnut Grove will hold our annual Harvest Festival on the church grounds. Please consider this your cordial invitation to attend and participate in this well-loved community and church event. BBQ and Brunswick Stew will be prepared, cooked, served and sold for take-out. The auction sale will be held outdoors, weather permitting.

Harvest Festival doesn't just happen. It takes a lot of work and planning from a lot of folks to make it run smoothly and to make this event a success. Many hands make light work. There is a job for YOU! With that in mind, please take a look at the projected timeline of events that will take place all along and up to that weekend. Times are approximate and subject to change.

Please check the bulletin board in the fellowship hall for specific ways you can volunteer and specific donations you can make to support our efforts in the upcoming Harvest Festival. You can see how many people it takes to get these jobs done. Besides your presence, gifts and service, you can also support us with your prayers and witness.

As always, we would like to see lots of home-made crafts, jams and jellies, pickles, desserts and baked goods for our craft table/pre-priced items and for the auction. If you're dropping off a dessert, please put a note on it and indicate if you want it served at lunch, or auctioned off.

Ingredient donations should be at the church by 12:00 noon on Friday, October 20.

Auction items and items for the craft/pre-priced items can be dropped off as early as Thursday 10/19, but no later than Saturday morning. Auction items should be placed in the hallway between the fellowship hall and the sanctuary. Craft/Pre-Priced items should be placed on the table marked accordingly.

Flyers are available for you to share with your friends, co-workers and other places in the community.

With everyone working together, we will have an exciting and successful 2023 Harvest Festival. When it's over, with full tummies and tired feet, we will smile at the memories and count our blessings!

Cheryl S. Parker
HF Team 23

Music Ministry Update

Sunday, October 29 at 10:30am - 5th Sunday SONGFEST (requests are ongoing)

Christmas will be here before you know it! Here are some music programs to look forward to.

Sunday, December 17 at 10:30am - Worship Choir Christmas Program

Sunday, December 24 at 10:30am - Hallelujah Kids Christmas Program

For more information, contact Leigh McFalls at 919-818-3317 or leighmcfalls@gmail.com.

Trunk or Treat and Hot Dog Supper



Join us for one of our fall favorites on Sunday October 29th from 4pm-6pm

We will have decorated trunks, hot dog supper, popcorn, candy, cookie walk, games and a bouncy house.

If you are wanting to decorate your trunks, please let Stephanie Smith know and have them ready by 3:45pm that day.

We are in need of donated items for dinner and candy. We will have a sign up in the fellowship hall, please see Ashley Parker for questions about food.

Orange County Prison Ministry

ORDER FRESH PECANS & SUPPORT PRISON MINISTRY

Did you know that the chaplain at Orange Correctional Center is entirely community funded? Support our incarcerated neighbors by buying fresh NC pecans for your holiday gatherings! See attached flyer.

Prayer Partners

If you are longing for a prayer partner or have one and would like to grow in your prayer life, check out this new opportunity through United Methodist Discipleship focused on growing in prayer. To learn more check out the link: [Finding a Prayer Partner](#)

Sunday Night Activities

Come and join us for Sunday Night activities!

5:30 PM – Meal

6-7 PM - Kids Krew, UMYF, Adult Bible Study ("Fear of the Other," by Bishop Willimon).

Nursery will be provided during the 6-7 hour for preschoolers and infants.

We need your help with Kids Krew (a lesson will be provided) and meals. Meals could be provided by families, Sunday school classes, or leadership teams. Make sure to add Sunday Nights Together through November 26th to your calendar as we grow closer to God and grow together as a church family!

Sign up to be a Kids Krew Leader

[Sign up for Kids Krew](#)

Sign up for Sunday night meals

For questions about the meals, contact Lorraine Hines at 919-619-1090 or lkhines0130@gmail.com. You can sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044FAFAD29AAFF2-sunday1>

Operation Christmas Child

To my Walnut Grove UMC Family, I am so blessed to be allowed to serve as WGUMC Project Leader for the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Project. I am excited to advise that with the funds previously donated, the items purchased and the time given by so many people, that we have already packed 150 shoeboxes. That is a YEA GOD!!!!!!

We still have items that can be packed this year and have ordered an additional 50 shoeboxes. If those boxes are not filled for 2023, we will use them next year.

Now, I am seeking donations to cover the shipping and related costs for the shoeboxes we have filled and now have ready to go to the Packing Centers in Boone and Charlotte.

The \$10 per shoebox cost, not only covers the cost of shipping, but helps train and equip local churches to use our Ministry Partner Guide. This resource shows churches how to share the Good News of the Lord Jesus Christ in a child-friendly way.

Your \$10 donation also provides The Greatest Gift Gospel Booklets, which are written in the children's language and distributed along with shoebox gifts.

If you are led to help with the shipping costs, you may write a check to Samaritan's Purse Operation Children Child and give it to me OR you can make your donation to Walnut Grove UMC and note that it is to be designated for the OCC Project. These donations are needed prior to November 1, 2023.

In addition, several of our crafting ladies are planning to travel to the Packing Center in Boone in late November or early December to pack shoeboxes. If you are interested, please contact me immediately via phone or text at (919) 302-6924 for more details. There are limited spaces available!

Jeanne Crabtree, Project Leader

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 Dan and LuAnne Bledsoe in the loss of Dan's mother, Peggy Bledsoe
- Beth Roberts, who was recently in a bad car accident. She is the daughter of Billie Roberts
- Family of Jenny Fritz. Friend of Heidi Gerbracht
- Allen Tidwell, recovering from a car accident
- Lori Berry, health issues
- Paul Beck, recovering from a fall
- Cindy Sherron, recovering from a fall
- Billy Addison from Erwin, NC who has been diagnosed with mouth cancer. Cheryl Humphrey is asking for prayers for Billy.
- Pat Sykes
- Debbie Haywood (cancer treatments), friend of Ann and Bruce Richardson.
- Dana Kimrey. He is the brother of Lorraine Hines.

Send A Card

Dan and LuAnne Bledsoe (Sympathy) 3605 Brown Road, Hurdle Mills, NC 27541

Beth Roberts, (Get Well), 4603 Walnut Grove Church Road, Hillsborough, NC 27278

Quilts

Neal Clack from Hillsborough, NC who has had 3 surgeries since Christmas. Neal is the husband of Betty Clack Walker.

Charlene Carpenter from Denison, TX with leukemia. She is a cousin of Martha Niles.

(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 10/13 – Tabitha Long, Isabella Conway, Ava Lee

Saturday 10/14 – Pat Thacker, Levy Beneville, Christi Hawkins

Sunday 10/15 – Linwood Lovitte, Allyson Cecil, Tyler White

Monday 10/16 – Mary Beth Elliott, Dave Gibbs

Tuesday 10/17 – William Berry, Jr., Kaitlin Burton, James Parker

Wednesday 10/18 – Chris Adkins, Denise Ford, Sarah Parker, Richard Cain Roberts, II

Thursday 10/19 – Cole Campbell

Friday 10/20 – Jane Sparks, Richard Lee

Saturday 10/21 – Aaron Carr, C.J. Triplett

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 Up Here! For Online Sign-Up](#)

Serving in Worship

October 15th

Acolytes: Kennedy Dunlap/Isabella Conway

Greeters: Pat Beck/Shirley Clayton

Ushers: Barry and Cheryl L. Parker

Nursery: Ashley Parker/Mary Beth Elliott

Scripture: Scott Humphrey

Trustee Open/Close: Judy Parker

Communion Servers: Barry and Cheryl L. Parker

PM Nursery: Laurie Rogers/Cheryl L. Parker

October 22nd

Acolytes: Gracie Hall/Eleanor Whitaker

Greeters: Jenny Blalock/Ashley Parker

Ushers: Judy Parker/Faith Parker

Nursery: Debby Donnelly/Grace Dunlap

Scripture Reader: Cheryl L. Parker

Trustee Open/Close: Bruce Richardson

Mowing Schedule

October 14 – Mike Parker

October 21 – Johnny & Shirley Clayton

October 28 – Scott 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, October 14 Harvest Festival Cook Day 2

Sunday, October 15 9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Worship Service
5:30pm Dinner
6:00pm KidsKrew, Youth, Bible Study, Nursery

Wednesday, October 18 6:30pm Worship Band
7:00pm Worship Choir

Friday, October 20 Harvest Festival – Preparation and Peeling



Saturday, October 21

Sunday, October 22 9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Worship Service
10:45am Children's Church
NO Sunday Night Events

Wednesday, October 25 6:30pm Worship Band
7:00pm Worship Choir

Fri-Sat, October 27-28 Walnut Grove Crafters

Sunday, October 29 9:30am Sunday School Opening
Joint Sunday School (Adults)
10:30am SONGFEST Service
4:00 – 6:00pm Trunk or Treat & Hot Dog Dinner

Monday, October 30 7:00pm Covenant Council Meeting

See You Sunday!!