

In a Nutshell

September 8, 2023

Walnut Grove UMC Friends,

Every year about this time we take time to pray, assess, and discern servants for ministry in our church. The work of the Nominations and Lay Leadership Committee looks for faithful followers of Jesus, leaders willing to serve by sharing their gifts and graces to strengthen the witness of Christ in our community.

Many of you have served in different roles in church and in other areas outside of the church. We are thankful for the passion you bring, the ideas you share, and the joy you bring to the unity of this church. And.....we need you!

We will be making plans soon to meet again, to do this good and important work of discernment. While there may seem like limited spots and roles to serve, there is no limit to what God might do through you! When we honor our baptismal vows in the United Methodist Church, we prioritize these specific aspects:

- 1) to confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior,
- 2) to believe in the Christian faith as contained in the Old and New Testaments;
- 3) to support The United Methodist Church; and
- 4) to uphold the local congregation with one's prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

It's always a great time to grow in our faith and try something new as we explore the calling God has placed on each of our lives. Please reach out to our Nominations and Lay Leadership Committee members if you are interested in serving or would like to learn more about opportunities to grow.

Our Nominations and Lay Leadership Committee members are Faith Parker, Wesley Tilley, the Pastor, Debbie Wagoner, Cheryl S. Parker, and Margaret Williams. This is the one committee I chair at church. I am excited to see what God has in store for us in the coming months and years to come! Keep us and this important work in prayer!

- Pastor Laura

NEW AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Mary Martha Busy Ladies

Mary Martha Busy Ladies will meet on Wednesday, September 13th in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. At 10:45 a.m., we will carpool to Prego Trattoria Italian Restaurant, 422 Huffman Mill Road, Suite 122, Burlington, NC for lunch. We need to be at the restaurant by 11:30 a.m. If you have not RSVP'd and plan to attend lunch, please contact Pat Thacker (984-358-1267) or Sue Powell (919-819-0344).

New Beginnings in Sunday School

Mark your calendar for September 10th for new beginnings in Sunday school!

We'll have Sunday school for the youngest in our congregation in the nursery led by Katie Whitaker.

K-2 will be led by Courtney Humphrey in the yellow room upstairs.

3-5 will be led by Ashley Parker in the children's Sunday school room.

Youth will meet in the youth room upstairs.

Young Adults will meet in the room next to the parlor now called the Young Adult Sunday School Room.

The Titus 2 Ladies Class will meet in the parlor.

The Flock Class will meet in the Fellowship Hall.

And the Faithful Followers Sunday school class will meet in the Choir Room.

This is a perfect time to invite a family to church, join in on the fun if you haven't yet, and take part in Sunday school each Sunday!

Annual Family Fun Day



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th - 4 – 6:30pm

Bring a chair, your family and friends for a fun afternoon at Walnut Grove! We will have a slip n slide, games, softball, homemade ice cream, popsicles, hot dogs, popcorn, and music. There will be softball for all ages and stages. We need volunteers with setting up, serving dinner and clean up.

2024 Budget

We need all committees that need appropriated funds for the 2024 budget to submit their information by Sept 20 to Linda Reynolds by email: Jimlindareynolds@gmail.com or by text: 919-619-2294

Sunday Night Starting Back September 17th!

Mark your calendars for Sunday Nights Together here at Walnut Grove UMC starting September 17th until November 26th. We will share in a meal together starting at 5:30 PM and share in faith formation from 6-7 PM. For our school aged children, we have Kids Krew. For youth we have UMYF; and for adults we will share in a Bible Study together for the first five weeks called, "Fear of the Other," by Bishop Willimon. Nursery will be provided during the 6-7 hour when we gather for families with preschoolers and infants.

We need your help! Sign up to help lead Kids Krew (a lesson will be provided) and consider signing up to bring food one night. Meals could be provided by families, Sunday school classes, or leadership teams. Make sure to add Sunday Nights Together to your calendar as we grow closer to God and grow together as a church family!

[Sign up for Kids Krew](#)

Sign up for Meals: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044FAFAD29AAFF2-sunday1>

1K and Laity Sunday

There are several big days coming in October. One of these is on October 1st which will be our 1K for 1Kid Day and our Laity Sunday. On that day, we will celebrate the ministry of the Laity in our Church at our 10:30 Service. We will also have a guest from the Methodist Home for Children to educate and inspire us about the ministries of this important part of our connection. During the 10:30 service, the Laity will lead all parts of worship. After worship, we will gather outside to walk or run 1K as a fun way to raise funds for the Methodist Home. Refreshments will be served as well. If you would like to participate in either or both of these on October 1st, please contact Wesley Tilley at 919-749-0173 or wesley.tilley@alumni.duke.edu.

Harvest Festival Update

I just wanted to share some info with you regarding our plans and schedules for Harvest Festival on 10/21/2023.

Be on the lookout for a poster in the WGUMC fellowship hall provided by Kim Horton where she will have a list of items needed for the stew. You will have an opportunity to sign up and donate those items, plus there will be a place to sign up for monetary donations.

There will also be a poster listing the needed desserts for our lunch and take out plates. If you're a baker, or know one, will we need lots of cakes, pies, and other homemade treats.

Our 1st Cook Day is Saturday, September 30 beginning at 6:00 am at WGUMC. We will be cooking 200 lbs. of beef and 200 lbs. of pork. Brenda and Jimmy Berry, Chris Boling and James Walker will set up the pots and put the meat on and they will need a few additional volunteers to help with that! By

9:00 AM, we need everyone who is available to help pull apart and cut the meat. Coffee and Biscuits will be served!

Our 2nd Cook Day is Saturday, October 14 beginning at 6:00 AM at WGUMC. We will be cooking 400 lbs. of chicken. The schedule is the same as above: a few volunteers at 6:00 and everyone else at 9:00 to pull apart and cut the chicken.

Please be on the lookout for more information on our Harvest Festival and how our plans are evolving and moving forward.

As always, I'm adding folks to the group email as I find out they want to be included. If you know of anyone who wants to stay in the loop, please have them shoot me an email

cheryluncfan@hotmail.com

Cheryl S. Parker
919-451-0321

Sister Church Announcements

Little River Presbyterian Church is delighted to invite you to a **"BBQ Pork Supper"** Saturday, Sept.23, 4-7:30 pm @ Schley Grange Hall.

Sandwiches will be available for lunch.

Dinner includes hushpuppies, slaw, potatoes, homemade desserts & beverages.

Eat-in or take-out

Lunch: BBQ sandwich-\$5.00 (at ballpark area behind Schley Grange)

Dinner: Adult plates- \$12.00 Children's plates (6 and under)-\$8.00

BBQ by the container - \$10.00

Pre-orders are encouraged by Sept 20. (919-732-6523/lrpcusa@gmail.com)

All proceeds will go to support **Hawaiian Fire Relief Efforts**.

RefugeeMinistry

Jesus says when we welcome the stranger we have welcomed him. Matthew 25. Have you ever wondered how you might welcome refugees who flee to the US?

JOIN

Orange Cooperative Parish and others in our community are talking about forming Welcoming Circles for our newest neighbors.

Not sure what that looks like?

Come to an interest meeting:

Tuesday, Oct. 3 @ 7 p.m.

Cedar Grove United Methodist Church 5218 Efland-Cedar Grove Road (10 minutes north of Efland)
Cedar Grove, NC 27231

Contact Pastor Monica: mbeacham@nccumc.org

RefugeeMinistry - Welcome Circles Information:

Did you know that 1 in 74 people worldwide is displaced? And that 330,000 people each year come to the US through government programs as refugees? Jesus says when we welcome the stranger we have welcomed him (Matt 25). We have an opportunity to welcome refugees in our midst by forming Welcome Circles for new families settling in our area. We are especially blessed because we have the Orange Cooperative Parish, which has seven United Methodist Churches working together, with many skills and resources that could help families who come as refugees.

What is a Welcome Circle? A Welcome Circle is a group of individuals who provide financial, resettlement, and emotional support to newcomers for six months to a year until they reach self-sufficiency. Circles can form as part of a synagogue, organization, community center, church or interfaith community, or they can be made up of private individuals. Most circles have 5-8 core members who lead on different tasks, such as finding housing, signing up for benefits, helping enroll children in school, and assisting adults with job readiness and employment.

Who will be helping us? The families are welcomed through HAIS, originally the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society. They have been helping resettle families for years, and have lots of resources and staff to help assist and answer questions.

Where do these families come from? The families we may help resettle are legal refugees who apply and gain refugee status through the government. They come from around the world, and have many different backgrounds and stories.

I'm interested! How can I help? We will have an interest meeting to answer more questions and discern together on Tuesday, October 3rd, at 7 PM at Cedar Grove United Methodist Church, located at 5218 Efland-Cedar Grove Road, Cedar Grove, NC. We are about 10 minutes North of Efland.

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".

Budget News as of September 7, 2023

Year to Date Income - \$ 186,755.81

Year to Date Expenses - \$ 209,856.16

Difference - \$ 23,100.35

Harvest Festival Fund Balance: \$ 31,840.54

Matthew 25:35 Fund Balance: \$ 10,405.12

JOYS & CONCERNS

Prayer List

- Family of Laura and Donald Tapp in the loss of their son Andrew. Laura is the custodian for the church.
- Family of Alan Horton in the loss of his mother.
- Billy Addison from Erwin, NC who has been diagnosed with mouth cancer. Cheryl Humphrey is asking for prayers for Billy.
- 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

Laura Tapp (Sympathy, passing of her son), 4822 Guess Road, Rougemont, NC 27572

Alan and Kim Horton (Sympathy, passing of Alan's mother), 7209 NC Hwy 86N, Hillsborough, NC 27278

Quilts

Billy Addison from Erwin, NC who has been diagnosed with cancer. He is a friend of Cheryl Humphrey.

Crystal Mann from Hurdle Mills, NC is having health issues. Crystal is a neighbor of Judy Parker.

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

Upcoming Birthdays

Friday 9/8 – Cheryl Jones

Sunday 9/10 – Staci Hengsterman, Courtney Ray, Tyler Smith

Tuesday 9/12 – Jeannie Burton

Wednesday 9/13 – Donald Davis, Mary Emma Roberts, Zachary Durham, Judson Dunlap

Thursday 9/14 – Chris Boling, Jan Clayton, Sydney Cole, Tucker Dillard

Friday 9/15 – LuAnne Bledsoe, Mike Roberts

Saturday 9/16 – Gloria Jean Coffey

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

September 10th

Acolytes: Isabella Conway/Michael Roberts

Greeters: Cheryl & Scott Humphrey

Ushers: Lorraine & Phil Hines

Nursery: Faith Parker/Margaret Williams

Scripture Reader: Ashley Parker

Trustee Open/Close: Mike Roberts

September 17th

Acolytes: Anna Robinson/Wyatt James

Greeters: Patty Maseth/Judy Parker

Ushers: Mary Emma Roberts/Mike Roberts

Nursery: Grace Dunlap/Katie Whitaker

Scripture Reader: Margaret Anne Dow

Trustee Open/Close: Cheryl Humphrey

PM Nursery: Cathy Boling/Leigh McFalls

Mowing Schedule

September 9 – Clay Parker

September 16 – Phil Hines

September 23 – Jimmy Berry

September 30 – Bruce Richardson

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, September 10	9:30am Sunday School
	10:30am Promotion Sunday & Announce new elementary classes
	10:45am Children's Church
	4:00 – 6:30pm Family Fun Day
Wed., September 13	10:00am Mary Martha Busy Ladies
	(leave at 10:45am for lunch in Burlington)
	6:30pm Worship Band
	7:00pm Worship Choir
Sunday, September 17	9:30am Sunday School
	10:30am Worship Service
	5:30pm Dinner
	6:00pm KidsKrew, Youth, Bible Study, Nursery

Wed., September 20 Youth: Pilgrimage Registration Due – Kara Roberts
6:30pm Worship Band
7:00pm Worship Choir

Fri-Sat, September 22-23 Walnut Grove Crafters

Sunday, September 24 9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Worship Service
10:45am Children's Church
5:30pm Dinner
6:00pm KidsKrew, Youth, Bible Study, Nursery

Wed., September 27 6:30pm Worship Band
7:00pm Worship Choir

Saturday, September 30 Harvest Festival Cook Day 1

See You Sunday!!