

## With Great Love

*Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.*  
~ Romans 12: 2

I can safely say that I do not want to be conformed to this age. Not at all.

This age, this moment in time in (for me) the U.S., is in fact freaking me out a bit. Things have changed – a lot. Generally speaking, we seem short on patience, short on understanding, short-staffed, short-tempered, and very short with each other.

It's depressing and a little scary. What to do?

Start small.

Start in our own little corner of the world. Mother Teresa said, *"Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love."* We start there, doing our daily, ordinary things in our respective ordinary lives, but keeping our connection with God so that we are transformed by the renewing of our minds, as the scripture says. As we are connected, we are transformed, and as we are transformed, we grow to love like the One to whom we are connected, and the world moves incrementally toward the kin-dom God envisions.

Connection. Transformation. Love.

This is how it's done.

~ Lindy Thompson

## **Pray**

Transform us, O God, that we may do our small things with great love. Amen.

~Shared by Leigh McFalls

## **NEW AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

### **Evangelism Workshop**

We will not be having this workshop on Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. It will be rescheduled for a later time.

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# Chestnut Ridge

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## Camp and Retreat Center

**OPEN HOUSE APRIL 14 1-5pm**

Join us for a FREE afternoon of fun for the whole family!

Activities include:

- Canoes
- Zipline
- Pony Rides
- Campfire and S'mores
- Self-guided tour of camp
- Archery
- Meet the Director
- Hayride to the Farm
- Food available for purchase

Come get a small taste of what camp is all about!



**Sunday, April 14, 2024 -- 1:00 - 5:00 pm**

### **OCIM Update**

Current needs in the OCIM food pantry: cereals, peanut butter, snack bars, and jelly. Thank you for all your donations and your continued support of the Food Pantry.

## Rise Against Hunger

The Rise Against Hunger meal packaging event on April 21st is quickly approaching, and we still need volunteers to sign up to help with the event. This event is open to anyone ages 5 and up, so ask your friends, family, neighbors, mailman, grocery store clerk, civic group, anyone you think would like to participate!! The set-up shift is full, but we have plenty of room for the event itself. Please see the link below to register to volunteer and/or donate to this worthy cause.

To make things a little more fun, I asked Mary Emma Roberts and Grace Dunlap to design a T-shirt for our event. To ensure you get your T-shirt in time for the event, the order must be in by April 6th. Any orders received after the 6th are not guaranteed to arrive before the event. You can e-mail me your order at [jolindaswiggett@gmail.com](mailto:jolindaswiggett@gmail.com) or text/call me at 919-302-0110. The shirts are for anyone who would like a shirt, participant or not. Please see the attached order form for sizes, colors and prices.



# **RISE AGAINST HUNGER**<sup>®</sup>

***Walnut Grove UMC  
Sunday, April 21st  
2 - 4 PM***

***Scan to  
register  
and  
donate!***



***Help us package  
10,000 meals  
to fight global hunger!***

**or go to:**

[events.riseagainsthunger.org/WalnutGrove24](https://events.riseagainsthunger.org/WalnutGrove24)

## Orange Cooperative Parish Seeds of Faith Retreat April 20



## Come join us for a family retreat day at Camp Chestnut Ridge on April 20!

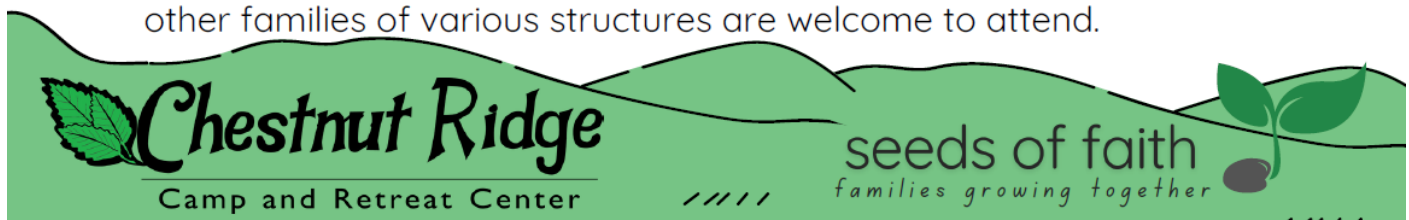
This free event includes:

- Breakfast, lunch, and dinner at camp.
- Teaching by Dr. Fred Edie of Duke Divinity School on “Taking Worship Home”
- Family fun activities around camp, including archery and canoeing.
- Family worship at the lakeside chapel.



Who is this event for?

- Families who are active in their local church, but would like to learn new resources and practices to try at home.
- Families who aren't sure where they fall on the faith spectrum.
- Parents and Caregivers who would like to meet other parents/caregivers to build new friendships and support one another.
- Two parent or Single parent families, grandparents caring for grandkids, foster families, LGBTQIA+ families, multi-generational homes, families with neurodivergent or disabled family members, and other families of various structures are welcome to attend.



## **Prayers**

You are invited to 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!



## *April Prayers*

**April 1- To be Easter people even after  
Easter Sunday**

**April 2 - those with tremendous stress**

**April 3 -General Conference Lay Delegates**

**April 4- General Conference - Clergy Delegates**

**April 5- Mary Marthas**

**April 6-Preschool Aged Children**

**April 7- Children in K-2**

**April 8- Children in 3-5 Grades**

**April 9- Middle Schoolers**

**April 10th- College Students**

**April 11th- Our Administrative Assistant, Kim**

**April 12-Ushers**

**April 13th - Greeters on Sunday Mornings**

**April 14th- OCIM**

**April 15th- sister OCP churches**

**April 16th-Church Musicians**

**April 17th- Sunday School Teachers**

**April 18th- Nursing Homes**

**April 19th - Nurses**

**April 20th- Lauren, our Intern**

**April 21- Rise Against Hunger Event**

**April 22- All of Creation**

**April 23- Those with dementia**

**April 24-General Conference**

**April 25 - Our Quilters**

**April 26- Our Crafters**

**April 27- Wisdom**

**April 28- Perseverance**

**April 29- Humility**

**April 30th- Miracles**



## **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 Brian Dillard
- Sharon Addison, her father is in hospice
- Timmy Parker with very serious health issues. He is the brother of Barry Parker and uncle of James Parker.
- Jerry Smith with serious health issues.
- Sandy Combs with serious health issues. She is Kim Combs' mother.
- Betty Sue Hyder (health issues). Margaret Williams' sister and Sharyn Gates' aunt
- Wahome Mwangi - serious condition
- Debbie Smith who recently had back surgery. She is Tyler Smith's mom
- Herring Family (Linda and husband Dortch), Dortch is at home under hospice care. Dortch is Jane Sparks' brother-in-law.
- Pat Sykes
- Debbie Haywood (cancer treatments), friend of Ann and Bruce Richardson.
- Dana Kimrey. He is the brother of Lorraine Hines.

### **Quilts**

1. Wahome Mwangi from Durham has serious medical health issues. It is requested by Fred Nading.
2. Rev. Terry Williams from Shallotte, NC is having chemo treatments for Lymphoma. He is a friend of Rev. Laura Dunlap.
3. Jerry Smith from Hillsborough who has been diagnosed with macular degeneration of the eyes and is receiving treatment. He is a member of Walnut Grove UMC.
4. Matthew Floding from Minneapolis, MN who has stage 4 pancreatic cancer. He is a friend of Cheryl L. Parker.

(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.)

### **Send A Card**

Erin Dillard, Tucker and Kinsleigh (Sympathy) 4807 Governor Hunt Street, Efland, NC 27243

Austin Dillard (Sympathy) 322 Brownlea Drive, Unit F3, Greenville, NC 27858-1681

Tom and Lou Rutledge (Sympathy) 3723 Acorn Drive, Hillsborough, NC 27278

Sharon Addison (Thinking of You), 2322 Schley Road, Hurdle Mills, NC 27541

## **Upcoming Birthdays**

Friday 4/12 – Sara Markle

Saturday 4/13 – Meghan Berry, Joyce Roberts, Jeff Smith

Sunday 4/14 – Ashley Blankenship

Monday 4/15 – Debra Snipes, Carla Snipes

Tuesday 4/16 – Casey Robinson

Wednesday 4/17 – Danny Overcash, Daniel Rath

Thursday 4/18 – Emily Oakley, Pat Hall, Hannah Casteel, Steven Prentice

Friday 4/19 – Amanda Dodson, Lori Berry, Tina Walker

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**

### **April 14th**

Acolytes: Magnus Kemnitz/Isabella Conway

Greeters: Mary Emma Roberts/Pat Beck

Ushers: Jenny Blalock/Courtney Humphrey

Nursery: Cheryl L Parker/Grace Dunlap

Scripture: Cheryl Humphrey

Trustee Open/Close: Mike Roberts

### **April 21st**

Acolytes: Corbin Smith/Wyatt James

Greeters: Ashley Parker/Grace Dunlap

Ushers: Chris & Cathy Boling

Nursery: Sharyn Gates/Mary Emma Roberts

Scripture: Scott Humphrey

Trustee Open/Close: Cheryl Humphrey

## **Mowing Schedule**

April 13 – Barry Walker

April 20 – Johnny & Shirley Clayton

April 27 - Chris Boling

**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, April 14	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 10:45am Children's Church
Wednesday, April 17	6:30pm Worship Band 7:00pm Worship Choir
Sunday, April 21	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 2:00 – 4:00pm Rise Against Hunger
Wednesday, April 24	7:00pm Worship Choir
Friday-Sat., April 26-27	Walnut Grove Crafters
Sunday, April 28	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 10:45am Children's Church

See You Sunday!!