

Together

"Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

~ Matthew 11: 28-30

I read a handful of newsletters from Christian authors and leaders. One I read recently from Sarah Bessey really got me thinking.

She talked about the concept of God "using" us versus us being co-creators with God. Considering that I have long prayed for God to use me, this was something worth noodling on.

In the verse above, Jesus invites us to take his yoke upon our shoulders and learn from him. I have a very clear picture in my mind of what this looks like because I have read Farmer Boy by Laura Ingalls Wilder so many times and there is a very detailed description of young Almanzo Wilder (Laura's future husband) being given a small cattle yoke for his ninth birthday. He is allowed complete freedom to teach his two calves to properly use the new equipment, and after many false starts, he figures it out and has the calves walking together under the yoke by lunchtime.

Being yoked to Jesus doesn't mean we are dragged along. It doesn't work that way. We are companioned. And when we are weak, the other partner can shoulder the load and we can keep in step.

May we let Christ companion us down our roads, on the way to the world God longs to create with us.

~ Lindy Thompson

Pray

O God, may it be so. Amen.

--Shared by Rev. Laura Dunlap

NEW AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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."

Mary Martha Busy Ladies

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 9, 2023. This meeting will be a covered dish at church. Please plan to gather at 11:00 a.m. We will have lunch first and, then, proceed with our meeting afterwards. Brenda Berry will be providing our devotion.

OCIM Update

Jimmy and Brenda Berry would like on behalf of OCIM Pantry to thank everyone who participated in the PennyPush for the month of July and for the 58 pounds of canned goods that they took to OCIM on Monday. We have contributed thus far this year (2023) about 983 pounds. Thank you so much for helping to care for people living in our community and county.

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

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.

Send A Card

Jolinda Swiggett (Congratulations on new grandbaby), 3227 Forrest Avenue, Efland, NC 27243

Linwood and Linda Lovitte (Congratulations on 70th Anniversary), 7715 Tilley Road, Hurdle Mills, NC 27541

Quilts

Lydia Wilson from Aumsville, Oregon who has stage 4 lung cancer. She is a friend of Gwen Jackson, one of our Walnut Grove Quilters.

The prayer quilt will be placed at the front of the sanctuary so that anyone who desires to tie a knot and say a prayer can do so before or after Sunday School. There will also be an opportunity to tie a knot and say a prayer during Communion. Thank you for your participation in this important ministry.

Upcoming Birthdays

Saturday 8/5 – Cain Roberts, RJ Roemmich

Monday 8/7 – Nicholas Hengstern

Tuesday 8/8 – Jay Berry, Nelson Parker, Alexis Patten

Wednesday 8/9 – M.J. Bumgarner

Thursday 8/10 – Luke Taylor

Saturday 8/12 – Melissa White, Clayton Robinson

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 6th

Acolytes: Anna Robinson/Kennedy Dunlap

Greeters: Dan & LuAnne Bledsoe

Ushers: Dan & LuAnne Bledsoe

Nursery: Ashley Parker/Debby Donnelly

Scripture Reader: Lorraine Parker

Trustee Open/Close: Judy Parker

August 13th

Acolytes: Eleanor Whitaker/Wyatt James

Greeters: Cathy & Chris Boling

Ushers: Pat Beck/Jenny Blalock

Nursery: Mary Beth Elliott/Sharyn Gates

Scripture Reader: Mike Roberts

Trustee Open/Close: Bruce Richardson

Mowing Schedule

August 5 – Mike Parker

August 19 - Scott Humphrey

August 12 – Merle Terry

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 6	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service
Tuesday, August 8	11:00am Workout Class in pool at Linda's house
Wednesday, August 9	11:00am Mary Martha Busy Ladies 6:30pm Worship Band 7:00pm Worship Choir
Thursday, August 10	11:00am Workout Class in pool at Linda's house
Sunday, August 13	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 10:45am Children's Church 11:45 Kids & Youth Pizza & Bowling
Tuesday, August 15	11:00am Workout Class in pool at Linda's house
Thursday, August 17	11:00am Workout Class in pool at Linda's house
Sunday, August 20	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service
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!!