

Our Help

*Thanksgiving for Israel's Deliverance
A Song of Ascents. Of David.*

If it had not been the Lord who was on our side
—let Israel now say—
if it had not been the Lord who was on our side,
when our enemies attacked us,
then they would have swallowed us up alive,
when their anger was kindled against us;
then the flood would have swept us away;
the torrent would have gone over us;
then over us would have gone
the raging waters.
Blessed be the Lord,
who has not given us
as prey to their teeth.
We have escaped like a bird
from the snare of the hunters;
the snare is broken,
and we have escaped.
Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

--Psalm 124

If it had not been for the Lord ...

We don't even know, do we? We don't even know what would have happened if it had not been for the Lord.

We actually have no idea how involved God is in our specific, day to day lives. Meaning, we can't see it overtly. But we know from scripture that God is very involved, is the ground of our being in fact, and apart from God we do not exist and certainly do not do anything good in this world.

I grew up with Amy Grant's music, and I used to love the song *Angels Watching Over Me*. I'm not rock solid on that theology anymore, but then again ... what do I know? Who can know the mind of God? If I've learned anything as I get older, it is that God is God and I am resoundingly not.

Thanks be to God for the multitude of ways God is involved in our moments. May our hearts and hands be open to all we do not understand.

~ Lindy Thompson

PRAY

God, we are not going to ever understand you fully, but help us to love and trust you and never stop seeking. Our help is in your holy name. Amen.

~~Shared by Leigh McFalls

NEW AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Looking Ahead to Sunday Worship

Scripture for Sunday: Romans 12:1-3; Matthew 16:13-20

Sermon Title: *Unbound*

As we look ahead to Sunday, I encourage you to read the scripture ahead of time as part of your devotional time and preparation for Sunday. One passage of scripture can easily take us in many directions. Use the sermon title to help guide your reflections. Spend time in Lectio Divina with the scripture as part of your daily devotions. There are lots of videos on YouTube on how to participate in Lectio Divina. Here is a meditative video that is instructive to be a resource to you –

[Meditative How To - Lectio Divina](#)

Sunday Night Gatherings

It will be time to start back Sunday night fall activities before you know it! I created a survey to help us plan accordingly. Please take a few minutes to fill it out. If you have questions or comments, let me know! -Pastor Laura

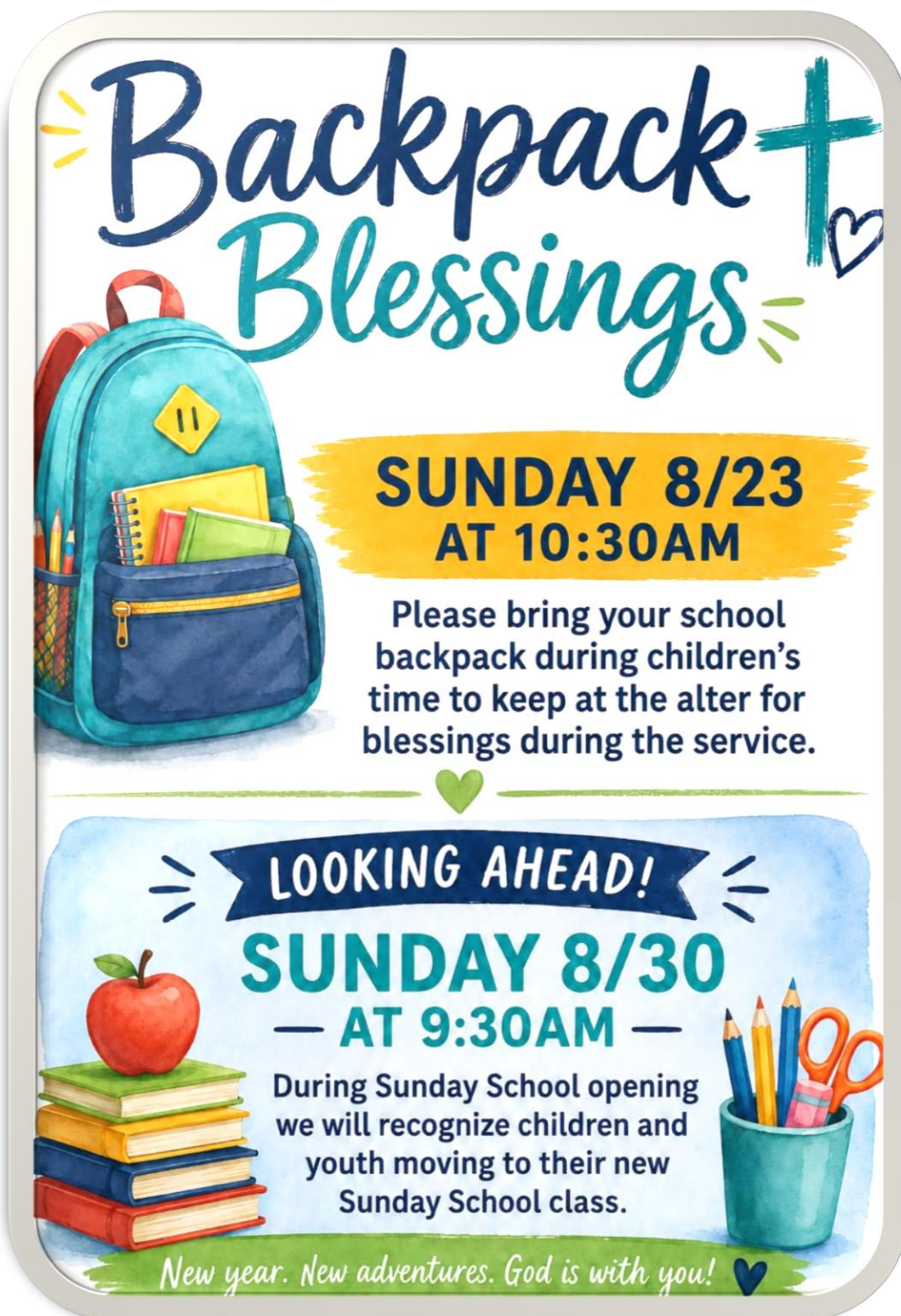
[Survey for Sunday Night Bible Study](#)

Save The Date – Charge Conference -- Sunday, October 11!

Charge Conference is Sunday, October 11th at 3:00pm. Walnut Grove UMC will be hosting this year. This is open to all members of the church! Please join us as we continue to grow together in Christ!

Backpack Blessing Sunday

We invite our students of all ages to bring their backpacks to church on Sunday August 23rd. We'll take a moment in the service to bless the backpacks (and especially their owners!) as they embark on a new school year journey.



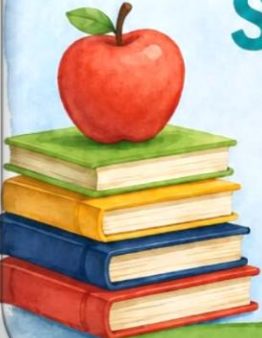
Backpack Blessings



SUNDAY 8/23
AT 10:30AM

Please bring your school backpack during children's time to keep at the altar for blessings during the service.

LOOKING AHEAD!



SUNDAY 8/30
— AT 9:30AM —

During Sunday School opening we will recognize children and youth moving to their new Sunday School class.



New year. New adventures. God is with you!

August 30th -- 5th Sunday Fun

OCIM Challenge

Sunday, August 30 is our next 5th Sunday OCIM Challenge. Please help us to help our community with this very worthy cause.

Doughnuts/Coffee

Join us at 9:00am for Doughnuts/Coffee provided by the Methodist Men and then at 9:30am in the fellowship hall for one combined Sunday School class for a fun time of learning together.

5th Sunday SongFest

At the 10:30am Worship Service, we will have our 5th Sunday SongFest with songs requested by you! The song request sheets are on the music stand outside the choir room or you may contact Leigh McFalls at 919-818-3317 or leighmcfalls@gmail.com to help you find the song you need.



Thank you for all you do for Walnut Grove UMC and OCIM.



Walnut Grove
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Women's Gathering



Thursday, September 10, 2026

Hygiene Kits for UMCOR ♡



You have your choice of times
to participate:

10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

We will have light snacks and a great time to fellowship with each other as we assemble hygiene kits for UMCOR. Materials for kits and snacks will be provided.

OUR GOAL IS
60 KITS!



SERVING
OTHERS



SHARING
GOD'S LOVE



MAKING A
DIFFERENCE



nccumc.org/disaster/kits/hygiene/



Greetings,



Calling all Youth, Women & Men!
September 14, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

Now is the time to help with Walnut Grove UMC's 2026 Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Project.

Please mark your calendars for Monday, September 14, at 6:00 p.m. as we ramp up our Shoebox Project for 2026. Calling all Youth, Women & Men! If you're interested in becoming more familiar with the shoebox packing process, please plan to join us in the Fellowship Hall that evening. Please RSVP to Jeanne Crabtree at jeanne.crabtree630@gmail.com OR text/call (919) 302-6924.

If you are unable to participate during this evening, we can certainly use all donations (whether monetary to cover shipping of the shoeboxes) or donations for items to be included in the shoeboxes. Items that are needed are: No. 2 pencils, pencil sharpeners, index cards, chunky erasers, small notepads and coloring books (that will lay flat in a shoebox), kid's socks, kid's undies, bandanas, playing cards, dominos, slinkys, yo-yos, kid's flipflops, combs, brushes, wash cloths, small stuffed animals, hair bows and ribbons.

The black Operation Christmas Child Collection Box will be placed in the Fellowship Hall. If you are able to donate any items, please leave them in the Collection Box before Sept 1st.

If you have questions and/or would like to participate in the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Project, please contact us.

Jeanne Crabtree & Kimberly Gilbert
Co-Chairs

Tithes and Offerings

We now have five 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 "My Church" mobile app. Click GIVE in the lower right corner.
5. Use our Vanco QR Code, which you can find on the back of the Sunday bulletins or right here in the weekly *In A Nutshell*.

Vanco QR Code

As we continually adapt to the gift of technology, Walnut Grove now has a Vanco QR code provided on the back of the bulletin and in the Nutshell for online giving. Simply hold your phone or tablet's camera over the code for the link to Vanco. Your generosity helps us continue serving Christ and reaching out to our community in mission and faithful witness.



JOYS & CONCERNS

Prayer List

- Tom Rutledge, in the hospital with serious health issues. He is a member of our church family.
- Jean Mangum, recovering from a fall. She is a member of our church family.
- Rodney Overcash who is having health issues. He is Jolinda Overcash Swiggett's brother.
- Pat Beck, recovering from surgery. She is a member of our church family.
- Carol Gerbracht, recovering from surgery. She is a member of our church family.
- Herbert Cates, recovering from car accident and other health concerns. He is a member of our church family.
- JoAnn Cates with health issues. She is a member of our church family.
- Rev. Meg Hoffman, battling cancer. She's the director of Seeds of Faith at Camp Chestnut Ridge.
- John Hougom from Hurdle Mills, who is being treated for lung cancer. John is the brother of Sonja Tilley and brother-in-law of Wesley Tilley.
- Rev. Pat Sykes and Rev. Mike Sykes with health concerns
- Kathy Matthews, recovering from a fall. She is a friend of Kim McColman.
- Gene Parker who has ongoing health concerns and was recently discharged from the hospital. His wife, Kay Parker, is a member of WGIMC.
- Jaxson Bates injured in a traffic accident. He is a friend of Mary Emma Roberts.
- Scott Moore, diagnosed with leukemia. He is the brother-in-law of Emma Beckham.
- Merrill Messick, who is Beverly Huey's father and Mary Dietz, her aunt.
- Scott Hackler with cancer diagnosis. He is a friend of Jolinda Swiggett.
- Linwood Lovitte, who is a member of our church family.

- Jessy Privette from Wendell has been diagnosed with cancer. Jesse is the girlfriend of Jeffrey James, who is the son of Anita James and brother of Michael James.
- David Leonard having complications from surgery. He is the dad of a friend of Faith Parker.
- Leo Brooks Populorum (7 Months old), from Pittsboro, has very serious health issues. Leo is the grandson of John and Judy Guibert who are friends of Beverly Huey.
- Ben Lloyd, Cheryl Humphrey's father, with serious health issues.
- Gilbert Lee in Prince George, VA, who recently had surgery for cancer. He is Richard Lee's father
- Liz Matthews, friend of Katie Whitaker
- Kathy Kimrey with health concerns. She is the sister-in-law of Lorraine Hines and Pam Kimrey.

Prayer is powerful and we love praying for one another! If you have a request on the prayer list, we would be grateful for any updates needed. This helps us know how to continue praying and when requests may be removed or celebrated. Please let us know how we can best pray for you and your loved ones.

Quilts

Gwen Jackson from Roxboro who is in the hospital with a serious illness. She is a crafting friend of Walnut Grove Crafters.

Eric Godsey from Durham who is in the UNC Burn Unit because of an accident in Fireman practice. He is a friend of Bennett Lockamy.

Pat Beck who is recovering from a recent surgery. She is the wife of Paul Beck and mother of Stephanie Harris Smith and Todd Harris.

(The prayer quilts will be at the front of the sanctuary on Sunday. You're invited to tie a knot and say a prayer before or after the service.)

Birthdays

Friday 8/21 – Carson Latta

Saturday 8/22 – Karin Hopkins

Sunday 8/23 – Tommy Compton, Rickey Robinson Jr., Christie Smith, Larry Thomas, Olivia Guy,
Patty Meehan

Monday 8/24 – Rev. Laura Dunlap

Tuesday 8/25 – Carter Keough

Thursday 8/27 – David Gibbs, Carlton Parker

Saturday 8/29 – David Blalock

Monday 8/31 – Wyatt James, Strickland Wade Davis

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](#)

Serving in Worship

August 23rd

Acolytes: Ellen Johnson/Isabella Conway
Greeters: Chris & Cathy Boling
Ushers: Fred Nading/Aubrey Nading
Scripture: Kara Roberts
Nursery: Stephanie Smith/Margaret Williams
Trustee Open/Close: Johnny Clayton
Financial Rep: Rick Huey

August 30th

Acolytes: Kinsleigh Dillard/Magnus Kemnitz
Greeters: Shirley Clayton/Grace Dunlap
Ushers: Courtney Humphrey/Grayson Nading
Scripture: Cheryl L Parker
Nursery: Sharyn Gates/Cathy Boling/Aubrey Nading
Trustee Open/Close: Gary Spake
Financial Rep: Judy Butler

Mowing Schedule

August 22 - Barry Walker	August 29 - Phil Hines
September 5- Johnny & Shirley Clayton	September 12 - Chris Boling
September 19 - Scott Humphrey	September 26 - Jimmy Berry

NOTE: If you're unable to serve in your role listed above, please find someone to serve in your place and notify Kim of the change. This will allow us to have an updated listing to publish each week.

Upcoming Events

Fri-Sat., August 21-22	Walnut Grove Crafters
Sunday, August 23	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service Back to School Sunday (bring your backpacks) 10:45am Children's Church
Wednesday, August 26	6:30pm Worship Band 7:00pm Worship Choir
Saturday, August 29	8:00am–noon Harvest Festival chicken cook day

Sunday, August 30	9:00am Doughnuts/Coffee for everyone!! (provided by Methodist Men) 9:30am Sunday School Opening/Student recognition Joint Sunday School Adults 10:30am Worship Service - 5th Sunday SongFest Time TBD Youth pool party/celebration
Monday, August 31	7:00pm Covenant Council meeting
Wed., September 2	6:30pm Worship Band 7:00pm Worship Choir
Sunday, September 6	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service
Wed., September 9	6:30pm Worship Band 7:00pm Worship Choir
Thursday, September 10	10:00am-12:00pm Women's Gathering – Hygiene kits 7:00-8:00pm Women's Gathering – Hygiene kits
Sunday, September 13	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 10:45am Children's Church Grandparents & Games – 5:30-6:00pm Dinner 6:00-7:00pm Games
Monday, September 14	6:00-8:00pm Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Project
Wed, September 16	6:30pm Worship Band 7:00pm Worship Choir
Saturday, September 19	8:00am-noon Harvest Festival beef/pork cook day
Sunday, September 20	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 2:00pm Finance Committee meeting 3:00pm SPRC meeting 5:30pm Youth gathering

Tuesday, September 22 6:30pm Harvest Festival meeting

Wed, September 23 6:30pm Worship Band
7:00pm Worship Choir

Fri-Sat., September 25-26 Walnut Grove Crafters

Sunday, September 27 9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Worship Service
10:45am Children's Church
Stewardship UMF following church service
United Methodist Foundation (Dinner & presentation)

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

See You Sunday!!