

Daylight Saving Time Begins This Weekend

Don't forget to ***SPRING FORWARD*** your clocks 1 hour before you go to bed Saturday night.

It's time for a Lent check-in! How are your fasting, prayer and almsgiving practices going? If you haven't started a Lent practice yet, it's never too late to join in! Remember, Lent is about more than just fasting; you could focus on a new prayer practice, Scripture reading, or amp up your generosity by giving your resources and time to a charity.

Whatever you are doing this Lent, it may be starting to feel difficult! The newness of the practice has worn off, but Easter still feels like a long way off. If you're feeling this way, I encourage you to incorporate a fourth element into your Lent practice: community. Find some friends from church, perhaps your Sunday school class, and do a regular Lent check-in. Every week in Sunday School, our youth practice this. After sharing the highs and lows of our weeks, we share how our Lenten practice is going. It's a time to talk honestly about the times we failed to keep our fast or to celebrate a time we resisted the temptation to. Last week, several of us were struggling with consistency. I encouraged the youth to be curious, rather than judgmental or ashamed, when they broke their Lenten fasts. I encourage you to do the same! So how can you do this?

When the temptation towards that thing you've given up feels too much to resist, ask yourself, why? Why does this feel so hard to give up right now? What am I trying to satiate with this thing? What is my mental state right now? Am I tired, anxious, hungry, stressed, angry? Why is this the thing that I turn to at this moment? How can Christ meet my needs here instead?

When we lead with curiosity rather than shame or self-judgement, we can actually learn something about ourselves and work towards a deeper transformation. Fasting isn't about white-knuckling our way through something difficult; it's about eliminating something from our lives in order to make space for God to transform us.

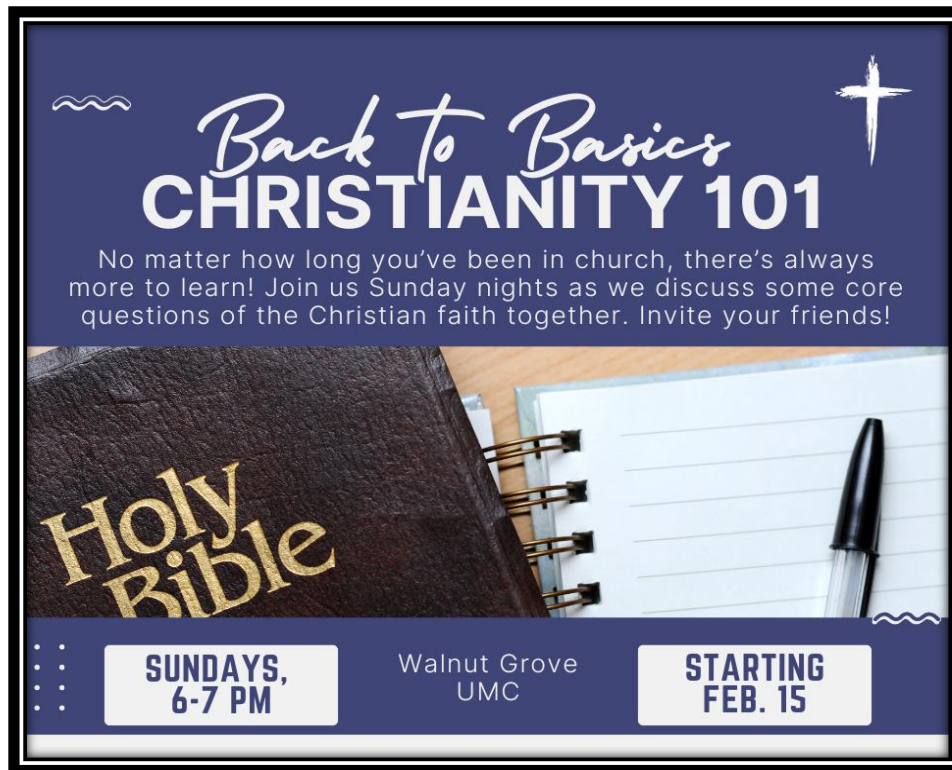
~Lauren Welch Birch

NEW AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Sunday Night Meal RSVP

Please sign up if you plan to attend and eat a meal during our Sunday night fellowship! This helps our cooks prepare the right amount of food. [SundayNightMeals.RSVP](https://www.nccumc.org/sunday-night-meals-rsvp)

Sunday Night Adults (Back to Basics - Christianity 101)



The poster features a dark blue background with a white cross in the top right corner. The title "Back to Basics" is written in a white cursive font, with "CHRISTIANITY 101" in a bold, white, sans-serif font below it. A decorative wavy line is in the top left. The main text reads: "No matter how long you've been in church, there's always more to learn! Join us Sunday nights as we discuss some core questions of the Christian faith together. Invite your friends!" Below the text is a photograph of a brown leather Bible with "Holy Bible" written in gold, next to a spiral notebook and a black pen. At the bottom, there are three white boxes: the first contains "SUNDAYS, 6-7 PM" with three dots to its left; the second contains "Walnut Grove UMC"; the third contains "STARTING FEB. 15".

Early Response Team Training- Saturday, March 7th

We are excited to host this important training, which prepares teams to respond after disasters such as floods, fires, or hurricanes. The basic training is from 8:30am-4:30pm. A four-hour recertification class is available only for those whose certifications have expired within one calendar year. Please register at this link:

<https://nccumc.org/disaster/training/>



The poster has a red background with a white hand icon in the top left. The title "EARLY RESPONSE TEAM TRAINING at Walnut Grove UMC" is in white. The text reads: "ERT Classes help participants understand how United Methodists are involved during a disaster, how we get prepared for a disaster, and what we can do when a disaster strikes. This 8 hour training is required to receive an ERT badge and become part of a fully certified team. A four hour recertification class will be offered as well. Lunch and snacks are provided." Below this is a circular photo of two people, one in a red vest, handling supplies. To the right, the date and time "MARCH 7, 2026 8:30AM - 4:30PM" are listed. Below that, a white box says "REGISTER ONLINE. \$20 FEE PER PARTICIPANT." At the bottom, it says "FOR MORE INFORMATION : https://nccumc.org/disaster/training/#ERT" and features a white cross logo.

Walnut Grove Church Family

Below is a sample of how your apportionment dollars are hard at work around the world. Thank you for giving generously to support disciple making in our community, nationally, and around the world.



Tell Me The Story of Jesus Ministries

Rev. Yuko Miller



Rev. Laura Dunlap
& Walnut Grove UMC
7215 Walnut Grove Church Rd
Hurdle Mills NC 27541-8851

February 23, 2026

Dear Pastor Laura and Walnut Grove Church family,

I hope this message finds Walnut Grove UMC family are doing well as starting 2026. Please accept my belated thank you message from behalf of SACSAL (Save a Child Save a Life) Kids Home Ministries formerly, "Jesus' Angeles Orphanage" in Mindanao Philippines. Thank you so much for your generous donation of \$50 that you made last year around the Christmas time went to this ministry directly.

It is truly making a difference in the lives of prisoners children orphanage located Mindanao Philippines. Your generosity, 100% of the donation always goes to SACSAL Kid's Home ministry as I've been doing last 7 years since I affiliated with them in 2019.

Thanks to God that there are 9 children now since 3 children went to home with the father of the family who completed his sentence in 2024. Each year I've been sending \$100.00 to each child as a birthday gift. Director Mrs. Fay Escoton takes them to buy whatever they wish to have for their birthday, usually toys books and clothes and an other \$50.00 goes to their savings account. Please see the Photos of the children who turned 10 and 11 years old in January 2024.

Every year I have been sending few 100 pound boxes by ship full of donated items collected from all over the NCCUMC. A Philippines shipping company charges us \$100 for unlimited weight which I usually pack 75-100 pounds in weight. Compare to USPS International shipping mail \$400-600, yes, we can save lots of money in shipping cost but takes 3, 4 months, some time 6 months to get to Philippines because of so much delay by storms especially by typhoons. Today I trust enough to send the money to Director of the Orphanage to buy for the children what they need for their education, personal hygiene, toys and clothes, food and birthday gifts.

These photos are blessings from all over the NCCUMC to SACSAL Kid's Home recent years. With people like you, children at SACSAL made possible to celebrate Christmas and Easter every year. Thank you again for your faithful and generous donation to them every year.



Happy Birthday gifts

有難うございます!
(Japanese)



Christmas 2021

Thank you so much !





Easter 2024
There were 12 children till 2024



Maraming Salamat ! (Tagalog)



Christmas 2024

Children goes to public school



Every day children starts with prayers and devotion



Thank you So much Walnuts Grove UMC



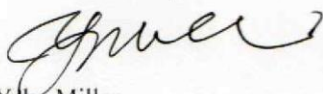
Baptism service at Christmas 2025



Without people like you, would not be able to support these children who are in the Orphanage, whose parents are in prison and left behind from the most basic and humankind of Love of God through their own family and friends and relatives. Through your acts of kindness you became their mom and dad, brother and sister, grand-mother and grand-father, uncle and aunt whom they wish to have and dream about. You are an answer from God and a Gift to them and to me also.

May God continue to bless you and "Walnut Grove UMC family" with full of His Peace and Hope while your generosity and kindness reaching out to the least people of the world 8,800 miles away.

Much Appreciation, Much Hope and Faith

Yuko 

Rev. Yuko Miller

Evangelist/Missionary
146 Hughes Plantation Rd
Pollocksville, NC 28573
(252) 229-2028
E-mail: ymiller@nccumc.org

Prayer 祈り
Peace 平安
Healing 癒し
感謝 Thank you

The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me'

(Matthew 25:40)

Youth Visit to Judea Reform Congregation, March 13th

Youth and their families, join us Friday March 13th at 6pm for the 6pm Shabbat service at Judea Reform Congregation in Durham. This is a unique opportunity to experience fellowship with our Jewish brothers and sisters in faith. Please let Lauren know if you are planning to attend or have any questions at laurenwelch880@gmail.com

Music Ministry Update

LAST CALL for 2026 Lake Junaluska Music and Worship Arts Week – 6/22 – 6/26

Let's talk summer with the warmth and beauty of the North Carolina mountains! Registration is now open for this year's music week at Lake Junaluska Assembly. Children who have completed the 3rd grade, youth, and adults are welcome to attend. Chaperones are also needed. The deadline to let Leigh know is Sunday, March 15th. For more info, contact Leigh McFalls at 919-818-3317 or leighmcfalls@gmail.com

Hallelujah Kids

The children will be singing on Palm Sunday, March 29th. In preparation, we will meet for the next 3 Sunday afternoons at 5:00pm to learn a new song. Youth are also invited to participate to provide some instrumental back-up.

Worship Choir

The adults and youth will be presenting the mini-musical, "Easter...Marvelous Love" on Easter Sunday, April 5th at the 10:30am worship service. This is a short program of musical reflections on the Resurrection. In addition to the Wednesday night practice time of 7:30pm, we will also meet for the next 4 Sunday afternoons at 6:00pm. For more information, contact Leigh McFalls at 919-818-3317 or leighmcfalls@gmail.com

Reality Ministries fosters friendships amongst people of all abilities marked by mutuality, authenticity and the reality of Christ's love for all.



Reality ministries

SPRING 2026 FUNDRAISER

An evening of desserts, story-sharing, and learning how to support Reality's beloved community

**Wednesday, March 11th
7-8:30pm**

The Reality Center
916 Lamond Ave, Durham

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. You may also access the link on our website for convenient giving. Alternatively, cash or check contributions continue to be accepted through our tithes and offerings. Your generosity helps us continue serving Christ and reaching out to our community in mission and faithful witness.



JOYS & CONCERNS

Prayer List

- Johnny Purcell from Durham who is in hospice care. Johnny is the husband of Karen Hawkins Purcell and cousin of Barry Parker.
- 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.
- Carolyn White to whom we gave a prayer quilt who is in need of prayer because of complications due to extended chemotherapy treatments.
- John Facklam from Charlotte, who is in hospice. Prayers for Tish Nowack, her mother, and sister as they await Mr. Facklam's transition. He is the father of Tish Nowack, one of our Walnut Grove Crafters
- Rick Johnson with health issues. He is friends with Judy Butler and many other church members.
- Locklynn Gribble, preemie in NICU. Locklynn's grandmother is a friend of Judy Butler.
- Paul Beck, with health issues. He is a member of Walnut Grove UMC.
- Rev. Meg Hoffman, battling cancer. She's the director of Seeds of Faith at Camp Chestnut Ridge.
- David Leonard having complications from surgery. He is the dad of a friend of Faith Parker.
- Timmy Parker with serious health issues. He is Barry Parker's brother
- Worth Miller with serious health issues. He is a friend and neighbor of Jimmy and Brenda Berry.
- Neil Donnelly with health issues.
- Helen Miller with serious health issues. She is the aunt of Pat Beck's brother-in-law.
- 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
- Herbert and JoAnn Cates, both with health issues. They are members of Walnut Grove UMC.
- Jerry Forrester, bilateral lung cancer
- Liz Matthews, friend of Katie Whitaker
- Debbie Langdale diagnosed with stage 5 kidney disease, waiting for transplant. Friend of John and Brooke Sherron
- Kelly Schoch, with brain cancer. She is co-worker of Erica Nading
- 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

Lorraine Hines from Hillsborough and a member of our church will have knee replacement surgery on March 10th.

Scott Moore from Chapel Hill was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia. He is Emma Beckham's brother-in-law.

Robert Wells Powell was born on February 28th prematurely weighing a little over 1 lb. and 12 inches long. He is in NICU with a long road ahead of him. Robert is Eddie Powell 's great nephew.

(The prayers quilt 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 3/6 – Frances Walters

Monday 3/9 – Mike Berezny, Jason Blalock, Amber Roemmich

Wednesday 3/11 – Claire Bordeaux, Edith Roberts

Thursday 3/12 – Nico Markle

Saturday 3/14 – Laurie Rogers

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

March 8th

Acolytes: Ellen Johnson/Magnus Kemnitz
Greeters: Clay & Cheryl S Parker
Ushers: Barry & Cheryl L Parker
Scripture: Courtney Humphrey
Nursery: Debby Donnelly/Margaret Williams/Michael Roberts
Financial Rep: Rick Huey
Trustee Open/Close: Johnny Clayton
PM Nursery: Ashley Parker/Lorraine Hines

March 15th

Acolytes: Gracie Hall/Wyatt James
Greeters: Dale Smithson/Faith Parker
Ushers: Mike Roberts/Stacey Spake
Scripture: Ashley Parker
Nursery: Mary Emma Roberts/Cathy Boling
Financial Rep: Rick Huey
Trustee Open/Close: Gary Spake
PM Nursery: Cheryl L Parker/Leigh McFalls

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, March 7 8:30am–4:30pm - ERT Training

Sunday, March 8

Daylight Saving Time begins – Spring forward

9:30am Sunday School

10:30am Worship Service

10:45am Children's Church

5:00pm Hallelujah Kids

5:30pm Dinner

6:00pm - 7:00pm Kids Krew, Youth, Worship Choir (Easter)

Adults (Back to Basics - Christianity 101)

Wednesday, March 11

6:30pm Worship Band

7:00pm Worship Choir

Friday, March 13

5:30pm Youth visit to Judea Reform Congregation

Sunday, March 15	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 5:00pm Hallelujah Kids 5:30pm Dinner 6:00pm - 7:00pm Kids Krew, Youth, Worship Choir (Easter) Adults (Back to Basics - Christianity 101)
Tuesday, March 17	7:00pm Men's Group
Wed., March 18	6:30pm Worship Band 7:00pm Worship Choir
Sunday, March 22	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 10:45am Children's Church 5:00pm Hallelujah Kids 5:30pm Dinner 6:00pm - 7:00pm Kids Krew, Youth, Worship Choir (Easter) Adults (Back to Basics - Christianity 101)
Wed., March 25	6:30pm Worship Band 7:00pm Worship Choir
Fri-Sat., March 27-28	Walnut Grove Crafters
Sunday, March 29	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 11:45am Easter Egg Hunt 6:00pm - 7:00pm Worship Choir (Easter)
Tuesday, March 31	7:00pm Men's Group

See You Sunday!!