

# In a Nutshell

## September 5, 2025

Some middle schoolers are reading Linda Park's book, *A Long Walk to Water*. I ordered two copies, one for myself too. While the Amazon truck delivered it yesterday and I haven't read it yet, the cover of a person with a jug in the heat reminds me of a biblical story familiar to us all from John 4, the Samaritan woman at the well. Jesus spoke to a woman. Jesus spoke to a Samaritan woman. Jesus spoke to a Samaritan woman around noon at Jacob's well. Any of the previous three sentences was scandalous and miraculous in and of itself, not to mention Jesus offering the woman living water.

I confess I'm not a big water drinker. I'm trying to be better with my avocado green Christmas cup, throwing in some lemon and ice, or chia seeds when I want to be extra healthy. I take it for granted that I am able to turn on the faucet and have potable water.

Park's book cover reminded me this is not everyone's reality. It's not just in the New or Old Testaments that people journeyed for water. It is very much a way of life for many to take such a trek in some developing parts of the world. Most of my years growing up in Latin America, I was never able to turn on the faucet and then drink a glass of water. It's a luxury I have come to take for granted.

Admittedly, I also take for granted that Jesus is still speaking. In unexpected places, to unexpected people, in unexpected times, Jesus still shows us with promises that he knows us, loves us, and offers us living water. And this delight in knowing that God is still speaking is an assurance of the power of Christ still at work in each of our journeys, whether we feel God at work, or if the journey seems hard and tiresome. For no matter where I am on the journey, when I'm thirsty or even when I'm not, even if it requires of me a long walk to get there, Jesus offers a well that never runs dry.

~Pastor Laura

### **NEW AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

#### **Young Adult Bible Study**

A new bible study for young adults has begun. We will be meeting in Lauren's office or in the modular depending on the a/c situation. Study may be starting a little after 9:30am. Please feel free to join us.

~Daniel Johnson

#### **Sunday Night Meal Sign-up and RSVP:**

If you want to cook AND/OR eat a meal this fall at Sunday night Bible study, you need to sign up!

Sign up [HERE](#) to cook a meal (just 4 slots remain)

[RSVP HERE](#) for which meals you and your family plan to eat.

## Youth Yard Sale Tomorrow!

Youth Yard Sale THIS Saturday, 8am-12pm: Come browse through a great assortment of furniture, clothing, children's supplies, household goods, antiques and more this Saturday morning! All funds from every item sold will go to support our wonderful youth group as they serve the Lord and our church. 8am to 12pm, sharp! Please no early-arrivers, we will still be setting up.

**All unsold donations will be taken to OCIM, Goodwill or the dump unless picked up by 12:30pm on Saturday, Sept. 6th. The yard sale is 8am to 12pm on Saturday Sept. 6th.**



## Grandparents and Games, This Sunday Night

Join us for hotdogs, hamburgers, and games from 5:30pm-7pm! Bring your favorite board games and card games to play with others. We'll also have a short Q&A with Donnie Davis, our very own WGUMC published author!





## Rise Against Hunger

Dear Walnut Grove Church Family,

Friends, get ready for another year with hair nets and the ringing of the gong at our third annual Rise Against Hunger, coming up on September 14th, from 2 to 4! Jolinda Swiggett is our coordinator for the event, so please reach out to her with any questions. You'll also find more information on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. As we live into being a generous church, we are so grateful for each and every donation. So far we have raised more than half of our needed goal with only \$1642.74 left to raise. If we raise more than our goal, the extra funds will give us a head start in supporting next year's Rise Against Hunger event. No matter how large or small, every gift makes a difference! Together, let's make a dent in fighting hunger around the world in the spirit of Christian love! Link for September 14th event to:

### [Donate and Register for Rise Against Hunger](#)

We will be packaging at least 10,000 meals in this 2-hour span, so we need at least 50 volunteers to make this event a success. Also, at 1 pm, we will need strong individuals to help with unloading the rice and setting up tables before the event. Then we will need help with clean up after the event.

You can sign up to volunteer or to donate by clicking on the link above. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Jolinda Swiggett @ 919-302-0110 or [jolindaswiggett@gmail.com](mailto:jolindaswiggett@gmail.com). Please donate to this event if you are able.

**RISE AGAINST HUNGER®**



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

**Walnut Grove UMC**  
**Sunday, September 14th**  
**2:00pm-4:00pm**

**Register & donate!**  


<http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/WalnutGroveUMC25>

## **OCIM Update**

They are in need of canned fruit, green beans, dried pinto beans, 1 lb. or 2 lb. bags of rice, and very low on personal care items such as toilet paper, deodorant for men, deodorant for women, toothpaste, laundry detergent pods, and Pampers (diapers) sizes 4, 5, & 6.

Thank you to all who have donated money as well as the actual cans of food and veggies, plus the above items. Thank you all so much for your participation.

## **PRAYERS & SQUARES MINISTRY**

Prayers and Squares is an international, interfaith outreach ministry that combines the gift of prayer with the gift of a handmade and hand-tied quilt. The purpose of the quilts is not to make and distribute quilts but to promote prayer through the use of quilts. The motto is "It is not about the quilt but about the prayers." As each knot is tied, a prayer is offered for a person who is in need due to health issues, or other issues.

The finished quilt goes to that person as a silent testimony to our belief in the power of prayer. These quilts truly can be called "comforters".

Before you request a prayer quilt, please contact the person or a family member to see if the person wants a prayer quilt.

Prayer quilt requests can be made by contacting Brenda Berry at [brenda.berry505@gmail.com](mailto:brenda.berry505@gmail.com) Please include in your request the following information:

1. Name of the person who will receive the quilt.
2. The name of town or city (if out of North Carolina include the state name) where the person resides.
3. What information about the person who needs our prayers (Such as recovering from surgery, requests for prayers of healing, health issues) can be placed in the bulletin.

We may need a week or two before we can place a quilt in church to make the quilt and have it ready for the church service.

Thank you to all who request prayer quilts and say prayers and tie knots in each quilt. "We may not know why or who needs a prayer quilt, but God knows and will hear our prayers for the recipient."

## **Little River Presbyterian Church "BBQ Pork Supper"**

Little River Presbyterian Church is delighted to return to its eat-in or take out "BBQ Pork Supper" Saturday, Sept. 27, 4-7:00 pm @ Schley Grange Hall. Dinner includes BBQ Pork, hushpuppies, slaw, potatoes, homemade desserts & beverages.

Sandwiches will be available for lunch 11am-4pm, behind the Grange near the ball field.

Eat-in or take-out

Lunch: BBQ sandwich-\$7.00

Dinner: Adult plates- \$15.00

Children's plates (6 and under) \$5.00 (eat-in only)

BBQ by the container- \$12.00

Pre-orders are encouraged by Sept 21. ([919-732-6523/lrpcusa@gmail.com](mailto:919-732-6523/lrpcusa@gmail.com))

Preorder pick up at Schley Grange, 4-7pm, Sept 27

All proceeds will go to support Western North Carolina Disaster Recovery Efforts.

## **Opportunities and Work Days with Disaster Ministry**

Deployment dates for North Corridor Early Response Team. To volunteer or if you have any questions, please contact Jim Polhamus at [jbuspolhamusii@gmail.com](mailto:jbuspolhamusii@gmail.com). Please prayerfully consider joining us and mark your calendars below:

**Sep 8 - 13**, LTRG09, Western NC Conference UMC- (Location TBD (Spruce Pine, Asheville, Hendersonville), UNC-Wesley students to potentially join Thursday -Saturday, - open 1 ERT to 1 non ERT member, Reservation and awaiting confirmation

**Oct 9 - 11**, LTRG10, Columbus Co, NC - (Leland Disaster Center, Zion UMC Parsonage, Leland, NC) - open to ERT and non ERT members

## **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*.

## **Budget News as of August 31, 2025**

Year to Date Income: \$ 167,782.19

Year to Date Expenses: \$ 203,869.54

Difference: \$ (36,087.35)

Matthew 25:35 Fund Balance: \$ 3,209.17

Harvest Festival Fund Balance: \$ 28,241.57

## **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**

- 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.
- Katherine Huey, with health issues. She is Rick Huey's mom.
- Family of Justin and Casey McBroom, relatives of Cheryl L. Parker. Please keep their young children, Anderson, Jaxon, and Kason, in prayer in the passing of their parents.
- Joan Bickel who lives in Dallas TX. She has been diagnosed with brain cancer. She is Erica Nading's aunt.
- Shannon Brown, friend of Kristin Rigsbee
- Ben Lloyd, Cheryl Humphrey's father, with serious health issues
- Iris Tilley, recuperating from a recent fall
- Gilbert Lee in Prince George, VA, who recently had surgery for cancer. He is Richard Lee's father
- Gene Parker, brother of Dorothy Roberts, uncle of Mike Roberts, and family of Debbie Oakley and Sue Powell
- Craig Powell, brother of Ed Powell, with health problems
- Maria Guerrero, mother in-law of Alejandro Rivas, Duke intern, as she deals with terminal illness.
- 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
- Will Hall, of Cedar Grove, NC with serious health issues- son of Billy Hall and Lynn Clark, nephew of Tommy Hall and Lorraine Parker, cousin of James Parker.
- Kathy Kimrey with health concerns. She is the sister-in-law of Lorraine Hines and Pam Kimrey.

## **Quilts**

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.

Laura Crouch from Mebane who has been in and out of the hospital in a health crisis. Laura is a new member of the Walnut Grove Crafters and friend of Pat Beck

(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 9/5 – Sylvia Overby

Sunday 9/7 – Aubrey Nading, Grayson Nading

Monday 9/8 – Cheryl Jones

Wednesday 9/10 – Staci Hengsternan, Courtney Ray, Tyler Smith

Friday 9/12 – Jeannie Burton

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

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](#)

## **Serving in Worship**

### **September 7th**

Acolytes: Samanth Johnson/Grayson Nading

Greeters: Shirley Clayton/Grace Dunlap

Ushers: Mary Emma Roberts/Mike Roberts

Scripture: Scott Humphrey

Nursery: Krystal Robinson/Cheryl S Parker

Trustee Open/Close: Michael James

Communion Servers: Erica Smith/Stacey Spake

Financial Rep: Lou Rutledge

### **September 14th**

Acolytes: Michael Roberts/Callie Smith

Greeters: Jenny Blalock/Debby Donnelly

Ushers: Krystal Robinson/Stacey Spake

Scripture: Courtney Humphrey

Nursery: Cheryl L Parker/Grace Dunlap

Trustee Open/Close: Gary Spake

Financial Rep: Brenda Berry



### **Mowing Schedule**

September 6- Scott Humphrey

September 13- Barry Walker

September 20- Johnny & Shirley Clayton

September 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**

Saturday, September 6      8:00am – 12:00pm – Youth yard sale fundraiser

Sunday, September 7      9:30am Sunday School  
10:30am Worship Service  
5:30-7:00pm – Grandparents & Games Sunday Night Kickoff

Tuesday, September 9      9:00am–2:00pm Mary Martha Busy Ladies

Wed., September 10      9:00am–2:00pm Mary Martha Busy Ladies  
6:30pm Worship Band  
7:00pm Worship Choir

Sunday, September 14      9:30am Sunday School  
10:30am Worship Service  
10:45am Children's Church  
1:00pm Rise Against Hunger Set Up – Event starts at 2:00pm

Tuesday, September 16      7:00pm Men's Group

Wed., September 17      6:30pm Worship Band  
7:00pm Worship Choir

Saturday, September 20      Cook Day for Harvest Festival (chicken)

Sunday, September 21      9:30am Sunday School  
10:30am Worship Service  
5:30pm Dinner  
6:00pm - 7:00pm Kids Krew, Youth, Adult Bible Study, Nursery

Wed., September 24      6:30pm Worship Band  
7:00pm Worship Choir

Fri-Sat., September 26-27   Walnut Grove Crafters

Saturday, September 27    TarWheels will be using the parking lot

Sunday, September 28      9:30am Sunday School  
10:30am Worship Service  
10:45am Children's Church  
5:30pm Dinner  
6:00pm - 7:00pm Kids Krew, Youth, Adult Bible Study, Nursery

Monday, September 29      6:30pm Covenant Council meeting

Tuesday, September 30    6:30pm Harvest Festival meeting  
7:00pm Men's Group

See You Sunday!!