

Englewood United Methodist Church Newsletter

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General Conference 2024



After many years of being delayed by the Coronavirus Pandemic and its effects, General Conference is about to begin. Delegates from across the country and world are converging on Charlotte, NC from April 23rd - May 3rd to discuss the future of the United Methodist Church. These gatherings traditionally happen every four years and are the only body capable of making changes to the Book of Discipline that contains our law and doctrine.

As of right now, it is hard to know what, if any changes will be made during this gathering. A diverse group of delegates from across the world will be meeting to discuss the many resolutions sent from our Jurisdictional and Annual conferences and decide what will be in our Book of Discipline and Social Principles. As we get closer to General Conference, we'll gain some clarity as to what our delegates will be wrestling with and how it will shape and change The United Methodist Church going forward.

Though we do not have a crystal ball predicting, both, what will happen with our greater United Methodist Church and how it will affect Englewood UMC specifically, I'm making a promise to stay on top of what happens and convey that information to you. I will not be physically present in Charlotte for this gathering, but I will be glued to

the stream listening and seeking to understand each motion from the floor, what passes and what does not, and how the decisions made will affect our ministry here. Expect email updates, Facebook posts from my personal page, announcements from the pulpit and future newsletters that I pray will be helpful in providing transparency and understanding about what is happening at General Conference. Of course, my door is open and my phone is ready to take your call or text if you have any questions and concerns. The overall goal is that we all have access to the facts and are not guided by rumors or fears.

Will you covenant with me to pray for our General Conference Delegates from our Annual Conference and the delegates from across the world when they gather? Perhaps you could set a reminder each day to say a brief prayer for the work they will be doing. Also, you, too, have the ability to watch the stream and see everything that is going on. I will be sure to pass that information on to you before the event starts. The Holy Spirit is moving within The United Methodist Church. I cannot wait to see where that Spirit takes us next!

Pastor Nathan



Our Sympathy Is Expressed To:

Carol Ludwig and David Earp upon the death of their aunt, Vera Collins Walker on March 1, 2024.

The Family and Friends of Rose Alene Ivey "Ms. A" Hagwood upon her death on March 10, 2024.

In Memoriam

ROSA ALENE IVEY "Ms. A" HAGWOOD

March 10, 2024

Thank You

I would like to give a shout out to the ladies who go to Brekenridge on Friday's for Bingo. This is a wonderful Outreach Ministry you provide. Just wanted you to know when I would pick Ms. A up on Sunday mornings that was one of the first things she would tell me - how many prizes she had won at Bingo on Friday! She did truly enjoy your visits! Thank you again - you are appreciated!

Patsy Lepak

Thank You

Dear Englewood Church,

You are such a thoughtful church and I appreciate all of you. Thank you for the beautiful red rose you gave us in honor of our "Little Bowan". He is precious.

Also, thanks to Rita Vickers for the beautiful bud vase she delivered to me. I love flowers and I enjoy them to the end.

Love you all,
Glenda Hortman

Thank You

Dear Englewood UMC Family,

I don't have the words to truly say how THANKFUL we are for each one of you from showering Ivy Grace, Maiya and James before Ivy's birth to even just this week! Ivy is one special little girl to have such a sweet and loving church family to love her and show her how Jesus loves! Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus in so many different ways but you have really shown Him and His love to Ivy and her parents.

You have blessed this grandmother's heart so, so much! I will say it again, I am so thankful for each and every one of you! You are truly a blessing to me and a true testament of Jesus!

Love you all so much! Continue to be the hands and feet of Jesus!

Christian Davenport



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|----|---------------------|
| 01 | Colin Finegan | 18 | Kim Murrill-Gniadek |
| 03 | Lois Barnes | 21 | Doug Bullock |
| 05 | Adam Hodges | 21 | Holt Hodges |
| 08 | Linda Marks | 21 | Patrick Holt |
| 08 | Sally Spreder | 22 | Eric Pullen |
| 09 | Melissa Barbour | 23 | Peter Varney |
| 09 | Shirley Frederick | 24 | John Batts |
| 11 | Tyler Clark | 25 | Alex Beasley |
| 11 | Richard Ladd | 25 | Laura Wittman |
| 12 | Signe Ulrich | 27 | Tommye Collins |
| 13 | Blaine Corrick | 29 | Sally Zeigler |
| 16 | Corrine Kate Finegan | | |

Thank You

Englewood United Women in Faith,

Thank you so much for hosting the Mission Study - Exploring the Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation!

A gift to missions has been given in your honor.

Heritage District USF

Thank You

Dear EUMC Friends,

Thank you all so much for your thoughts, prayers, cards, visits, and food that were sent out to me during my recovery from knee replacement surgery. With physical therapy my recovery is going quite well. A huge thank you to Nathan for visiting me in the hospital. And to the Flower Committee, thanks for the beautiful flower arrangements delivered by Rita Vickers and Barbara Batts. They certainly brightened my day.

I hope to see you all in church soon.

Blessings to all,
Pat Bunn

Thank You

Dear Flower Ministry,

Thank you very much for the beautiful flowers Barbara brought to me. They have been a constant reminder of just how many prayers were lifted up and answered for my sister to receive her much needed kidney. I know that God will continue to bless her in the months ahead.

Thank you again for your thoughtfulness.

Brenda Ellis

United Women in Faith News



United
Women
in Faith

April 16	10:00 a.m.	Women of the Way - The Nash County Arboretum <i>(Meet in church parking lot at 9:30 a.m. to carpool)</i>
April 16	6:00 p.m.	Lydia's Sisters' Circle - Fellowship Hall Program: Chris Hall, Director of the Light House Thrift Store Hostesses: Llewellyn Edmondson and Susan Hayes



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Tuesday, April 2	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Fellowship Hall (Blankets)
Tuesday, April 9	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Parlor

Shawls and blankets will be placed on the altar rail for blessing on Sunday, April 14th.

Do you know someone who would be comforted by receiving a Prayer Shawl or a Blanket? Forms are available on the table outside the church office for you to request shawls/blankets. You may call the church office at 252-443-2926. You may also contact Betty Poplin at 252-985-0950.



Lydia's Sisters Circle Casserole Sale

Lydia's Sisters Circle will again have their delicious frozen casseroles for sale. Signup for casseroles will be in the church lobby on Sunday, April 21st and Sunday, April 28th. Casseroles will be available for pick up on Sunday, May 5th in the church kitchen after worship. The casseroles are 8x8 and will cost \$12.00 each. Proceeds will be used to support local missions



Women of The Way Circle



The Women of the Way Circle met March 19th and took a road trip to The Lighthouse. Vanessa, Lighthouse Director, gave a tour of the home to our members. Following the tour, The Lighthouse Residents joined our circle members for a Bible study. Sharon Roth led the study on The Importance of Prayer. All present were reminded that prayer is simply a conversation with God, but we need to listen for his answers and not do all the talking. To help make prayer life simple and easy, the 5 Finger Prayer Method was explained along with scriptures to reflect each finger's topic. What happens if we ignore God's gift of prayer? We miss the opportunity to seek the truth from our Lord.

Next month, we will go on the road again. This time to the Arboretum in Nashville. Circle members are asked to meet at the church on April 16th at 9:30 a.m. to carpool to Nashville. There will be no morning meeting in May, but we will host the Lighthouse Women for dinner at 5:30 p.m. on May 21st in the Fellowship Hall. Members of Lydia's Sisters Circle will also join us that evening.

We will take the summer off with meetings resumed in September. This circle meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Aldersgate Classroom. All women of the church are invited to join us.

FAITH CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES OF NASH COUNTY - APRIL NEEDS

Thank you for your continued support of this mission project by donating food to feed the hungry in Nash County. This agency supports all of Nash County, not just Nashville. Hunger never goes away and so many people continue to be in need, so please continue to step up to the plate with donations. The Outreach Committee will deliver the food. You just need to drop it at the church.



Starting Sunday, April 7th, the **"Meals of the Month"** donation will be **Canned Ham, Dried Beans, and Canned Greens**. There are two LOVE CANS located in the area beneath the name tags in the church lobby, labeled **"FCM MEALS OF THE MONTH"**. Please donate these food items to help stock their food pantry throughout the month of April. This is another wonderful opportunity for this generous congregation to help others who can't help themselves.

Stewardship Campaign Update

YTD Stewardship Pledges*	\$62,306
YTD Stewardship Giving (Actual)	\$68,367

**Annualized monthly average from \$410K Stewardship Campaign Pledges*

Financials as of February 29, 2024

	Monthly	YTD
Total Receipts	\$27,251	\$65,327
Total Expenses	\$34,302	\$68,665





ENGLEWOOD UNITED METHODIST MEN

The Methodist Men will meet on **Tuesday, April 9th** at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for our regular meeting. Our speaker will be our own Jimmy Carter who will talk about the growth of his company, Lambert Cable, from a very small telecommunications utility construction company beginning in 1967 here in Rocky Mount to one of the nation's top utility contractors serving the Northeast, mid-Atlantic, and Southeast.

Their capabilities include underground and aerial construction, precision fiber installation, and splicing. It is a "rags to riches" story originating here in our community that many who have lived here a long time have not heard.

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend. This is a story about "home cooking" in our local economy that you will find interesting.

FYI...Due to the Election Runoff in May, the May United Methodist Men's meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 7th instead of the 14th.

PEANUT PRICE INCREASE

At our Meeting on February 13th, the Methodist Men voted to increase the per case price of our classic peanuts **effective April 1, 2024** as follows:

	<u>Current</u>	<u>New</u>
Retail	\$45.00	\$48.00
Wholesale	\$42.00	\$45.00

The reason for the price increase is the increased cost of raw peanuts, shipping, oil, jars, and other supplies needed for the production of our delicious peanuts.

Peter Varney

SENIOR ADULT FELLOWSHIP



Senior Adult Fellowship will meet in the Fellowship Hall for Bingo at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 3rd and at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 17th.

Vacation Bible School

June 10-13 | 5:30 p.m. to - 8:00 p.m.

Mark your calendars for an amazing undersea adventure at Scuba VBS!! On June 10-13 from 5:30-8:00 each night, we'll go on an awesome undersea adventure to discover a friendship with God that's deeper than the ocean! Registration is open online for children who have completed 5th grade and younger: www.inglewood-umc.com/vbs.

Grownups can join us on the amazing adventure too!! How can you help?

- Sign up to help the week of VBS as a crew leader, station leader, food coordinator, photographer, or registration helper
- Donate supplies and food items (lists are in the church lobby)
- Invite children you know to participate
- PRAY for us as we're preparing and for everyone who will experience VBS with us!



Touch-A-Truck Event: April 13

Get ready for the ultimate boys' adventure at our Touch-A-Truck Event!

On Saturday, April 13th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., prepare for a day filled with excitement and exploration as our young adventurers are invited to get up close and personal with an impressive lineup of trucks, vehicles, and machinery that make everyday life extraordinary.

Event Highlights:

- Touch, Explore, and Climb: Engage with a diverse array of trucks, construction vehicles, emergency response units, and more! Climb aboard and discover the ins and outs of those powerful machines.
- Interactive Demonstrations: Witness exciting live demonstrations showcasing the capabilities of various vehicles.
- Driver Meet-and-Greet: Meet the skilled drivers and operators behind the wheels, ask questions, and learn about their fascinating work.
- Hotdog Lunch: Enjoy a lunch of a hotdog, chips, a drink, and a cookie for only \$5 each.

Don't miss out on the chance for your young explorer to see, touch, and experience the world of big machines in a safe and interactive environment. There is no cost to attend or need to sign up ahead of time. All are welcome!! Let the exploration begin!



Update your Information!



Does the church office have the most current contact information for you in our records? Please help by sending us the following information. You may send an email to nporter@englewood-umc.com or call the church office at 252-443-2926 and give us your full name, your home address, mailing address, email address, landline phone number, cell phone number, birthday, emergency contact name and phone number, date of marriage, work place, and work phone number. Please provide this information on each person in your household. Thank you!

COME JOIN OUR BIBLE Study



Thursday Evening Bible Study

The Thursday evening Bible study will resume with our looking at *Grace*. What is it? What it isn't? How do we receive it? What's "cheap grace?" Please join us in the Aldersgate Classroom on April 4th, at 6:30 p.m. Rev. Doug Geeting leads the study.



**The deadline for receiving
information to be included in
the MAY Newsletter is
Thursday, April 18th!**

2024 Flower Calendar

Reminder . . . The 2024 Flower Calendar is available online and in the hallway outside the church office for your use in signing up to place flowers in the sanctuary or narthex in honor or memory of your loved ones. Please call the church office at 252-443-2926 if you have questions.

TEACHER SUPPLY COLLECTION



Help the students and teachers
at Englewood Elementary School
by providing the requested items.
Thank you for your support!!

Teacher Supply Collection

In our ongoing efforts to support the wonderful staff and students at Englewood Elementary School, we are hoping to provide some supplies that will be useful in the classrooms. These are supplies that have been specifically requested by the teachers, and they will be so grateful to receive them! You can place the donations in the marked bin in the Church Lobby.

If you would prefer to make a monetary contribution, please mark your donation as "Teacher Supplies" and we will purchase the supplies. Thank you for your continued support!

- Pencils
- Notebooks
- Dry erase markers
- Pencil erasers
- Clorox or Lysol wipes
- Tissues
- Notebook paper
- Sticky notes
- Scissors
- Glue
- Colored pencils
- Crayons
- Paper towels
- Hand soap
- Masking tape
- Grabbers to pickup trash on playground (5 needed)
- Cleaning rags
- Red and black pens
- Highlighters
- Staples
- Toilet brushes (6 needed)

Partnerships as We Grow

It is wonderful to see the growth of our church and the many ways we have reached out to others as we go, showing God's love and our church's activities! Specifically, I am sharing the excitement of seeing our Audio-Visual program and our online presence growing with the support of special members' ideas, contributions and prayers. Beginning with Nathan Quigley's outstanding Eagle Scout project in 2015, through Troop 628 at Englewood Presbyterian Church, he researched our needs and determined that the AV system could be enhanced and thus the Sanctuary screen, monitor, new speakers and the control board would be his most ambitious project. It was not without partnerships and cooperation by many that this came to fruition. Our special member, Bill Dove, supported the idea and through his guidance the project was welcomed by the Trustees and members. Many loving members contributed to this project and their support is continuing today.

Before Bill's death, he and Rod Buckner discussed updates needed to our system including removing the wire that was running across the floor for streaming our services on Facebook and presented this to our Trustees. After much research and many EUMC contributors we were able to add new cameras, monitors, computers, a new Audio-Visual desk, repairs to our Fellowship Hall system and increased our streaming for on-line viewers. Many families have contributed to this project along with several memorials, but we would like to give special recognition to the families of Bill Dove (Lea Ann & Tom Nichols, Billy Dove & Jo Ellen Rogers) and Isaac Smith (Ginger Maynard) for carrying on their legacy and allowing our church to finish this project.

Barbara Batts

TRUSTEES CORNER!



Many thanks to the members who say "yes, I will do this"! We want to highlight our recent volunteers and forgive us if someone's efforts are not mentioned. The ice maker addition is Blaine Corrick's idea, Greg Roth added the front cover to our new Audio-Visual desk in the sanctuary completing that design. Lee Pullen helped to secure the new locks on the heating and air fenced units and Peter Varney added stain to our Ark. Enjoy the Altar Table in the Narthex for Easter created by Phyllis Woodley and Kenan Mills. Recently, David Thomas Smith was called to lend a hand to our Care and comfort Committee, and he came immediately. As we share Christ's Love throughout our community, let's remember how special our church family is to all.

Our Trustees are: Barbara Batts, Rod Buckner, Brian Collins, Jeff de los Santos, Jerry Lee Ezzell, Janet Hagan, Lisa Hicks, Terry Von Elling & Terry Woodley

Mother's Day / Father's Day Pictures

Mother's Day and Father's Day are coming up, and we would like to honor our parents in a slideshow of pictures on those days in worship!

You can submit pictures by email to sbecker@englewood-umc.com or by bringing hard copies to the church office.

We do have pictures that have been submitted in previous years, but if you want to make sure we have yours on file, you can call the church office or email Savanna to check.

The deadline for receiving Mother's Day pictures is May 1st.



ATTENTION ALL 2024 HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE GRADUATES!

We are compiling a list and want to recognize all the graduates in our congregation during worship on June 2, 2024.
The church office needs the following information on ALL graduates by May 12.

Graduate's Full Name: _____ Telephone No.: _____

Address: _____

School Attended: _____ Degree Earned: _____

College / University you plan to attend: _____

Note: If you graduated from college in December of 2023, please send us your information! We want to include you!

A Royal Recap: Princess Tea Party Highlights!

What a magical time we had at our recent Princess Tea! Our fellowship hall was transformed into a beautiful ballroom, complete with shimmering decorations and elegant tea sets fit for royalty. The atmosphere was filled with excitement and wonder as our princesses arrived, dressed in their finest attire and ready to enjoy a day of fun.

The highlight of the day was, of course, the special appearances by our beloved princess characters. Cinderella, Snow White, Rapunzel, and Ariel captivated our young attendees with their grace, charm, and enchanting stories. It was truly a joy to see the smiles and excitement on the faces of our little princesses as they interacted with their favorite characters.

In addition to royal mingling, guests enjoyed a delightful spread of delectable treats, made crafts, and created cherished memories that will last a lifetime. We hope all our guests left with a reminder that as children of God, the one true King, they truly are princesses!

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who contributed to the success of our Princess Tea Party. We look forward to creating more magical memories together in the future!



Children's Sunday School



Children 5th grade and younger are invited to join us on the children's hall for a time of learning, fellowship, and fun on Sunday mornings at 9:30! Our younger children will have a special activity in our nursery, while our older children journey through the Bible one week at a time. Here's what we'll be learning about each week:

Date	Topic	Helper
April 7	The Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20)	Jeannie Gibbs
April 14	Peter and John (Acts 3:1-20)	Rita Vickers
April 21	Believers Share (Acts 4:32-35)	Debbie High
April 28	Choosing the Seven (Acts 6:1-7)	Helper Needed



Children's Church & Nursery

Our children and adult leaders are having such a wonderful time learning about God's Word in Children's Church during worship on Sunday mornings! Children are invited to join us in worship with their families at 10:30 a.m. After a special children's message just for them, our children can go back to the children's hall for more awesome activities! Parents can pick up children on the children's hall after worship ends.

Children's Church Schedule

We're continuing our focus on Jesus in a series called "New Testament Life Lessons". Each week we'll learn about a different story from the New Testament that shows us something about who Jesus is and who he calls us to be as his followers. It's going to be a great journey - we hope all our children will join us!

Date	Topic	Leader
April 7	The Precious Pearl & the Great Treasure	Beth Ezzell
April 14	Sometimes Getting Mad Is Okay	Phyllis Woodley
April 21	Saying Thank You to God	Savanna Becker
April 28	Being Persistent to See Jesus Like Zacchaeus	Jessica Ezzell

Nursery Schedule:

Date	Helper
April 7	Lea Ann Nichols
April 14	Ashley Murphy
April 21	Lisa Hicks
April 28	Glenda Hortman

Saturday Morning CAFE (Children And Families @ Englewood)

Our Saturday Morning CAFE (Children And Families @ Englewood) is an opportunity for our children and their families to get together and explore our faith in fresh ways. The CAFE is for families with children in 5th grade and younger, and is designed for grownups to stay and enjoy the activities with us.

We will not have a CAFE in March or April because of the Easter Egg Hunt, Princess Tea, and Touch-A-Truck Events. We have so many exciting things going on!! Our next CAFE will be on Saturday, May 18th at 10:00 a.m. and our theme is Spring! We'll learn all about how God gives us new life, just like nature gets new life in the springtime. We'll also have snacks and other activities that focus on our theme. We hope we'll see all of our children and families there!





UMYF APRIL SCHEDULE

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>April 7</i>	9:30 a.m. 5:00 - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Youth Group
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>April 14</i>	9:30 a.m. 5:00 - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Youth Group
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>April 20</i>	9:00 a.m.	Service Project at Englewood Elementary
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>April 21</i>	9:30 a.m. 5:00 - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Youth Group
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>April 28</i>	9:30 a.m. 5:00 - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Youth Group - Yard Sale Prep
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>May 4</i>	7:00 a.m. - Noon	Yard Sale Fundraiser

UMYF Dinner Signups

Our UMYF meets on Sundays from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. for dinner, Bible study, games, and fellowship. If you are able to provide a meal for our UMYF one Sunday evening, our group would really appreciate your help! You can either bring the meal or donate financially toward our meal fund. The sign-up list is in the church lobby. Thank you for your ongoing support of our UMYF!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Theme</u>	<u>Provided By</u>
April 7	Pasta	_____
April 14	Picnic Food	_____
April 21	Baked Potato Bar	_____
April 28	Pizza	_____

YARD SALE - May 4, 2024

It's time for some spring cleaning! Our spring yard sale is just around the corner on Saturday, May 4th, and our youth are collecting donations of items to sell. Please bring your donations to Room 5 ("The Rock") on the Fellowship Hall hallway; larger items such as furniture can be placed in the room behind the stage. **(*Note: Please do not leave yard sale items in the youth room.*)** All proceeds from the yard sale will benefit the Youth Mission Fund, helping to support the awesome summer experiences we have planned for our youth!

Outside spaces (parking space) may be rented for \$10.00 each in the church office during office hours (Monday thru Thursday).



Youth Summer Activity: Breakaway

Breakaway is a weeklong summer event for junior high and senior high school students, hosted by the NC Conference of the United Methodist Church at NC Wesleyan University here in Rocky Mount (you will stay in the dorms). The theme will be "Life is a Jungle: Navigating a World of Change." During Breakaway, we will grow in faith together as we anticipate God's sustaining presence. Breakaway includes growth groups, legislative affairs. Worship, small groups, siesta, missions, a talent show, a dance, a movie, and elections for youth leadership.

The deadline to sign up for Breakaway is Sunday, May 26th, so that we can get registered by June 1st. The cost per student is \$400. **If you have participated in fundraisers (Pancake Supper, Ladies' Night, Luminaries, Yard Sale) your cost is covered by the youth group.**

If you have questions or want more information, please let Savanna know!



During the yard sale on Saturday, May 4th, our Children's Ministry will be selling baked goods, biscuits, hot dogs, snack items, and drinks to support our Children's Ministry Fund! If you would like to contribute baked goods such as cookies, brownies, cakes, muffins, or other goodies for the children to sell, please bring them to the church kitchen before May 3rd. Thank you for supporting our children!



Our Autism Meeting for April will be held at the CrossRiver Therapy office in Nashville on our regular meeting date, April 26th at 6:30 p.m. We will not serve a meal that night. We will learn more about the Social Group we are planning for our teen members. This is certainly important to our families as our members began 5 years ago and are growing up fast!