

Englewood United Methodist Church Newsletter

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JANUARY 1, 2023
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A NEW YEAR'S COVENANT

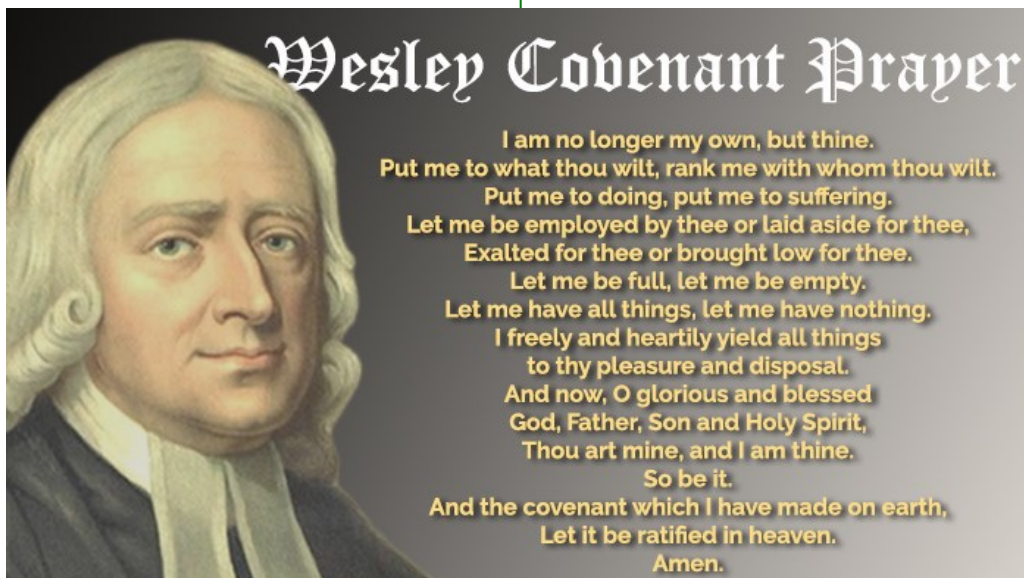
You know what time it is! It's 'New Year's Resolution' time. Are we drinking more water? Laying off the sweets? Oh no! My gym's going to be super busy again, isn't it? At least until the end of January. Maybe we'll just stay away from the resolutions this year. We never follow through with them anyway!

May I suggest something different? This year, instead of a resolution, let's revisit the covenant our church has lived into for a long, long time. It's a covenant that did not begin with us, but with the God that calls us to be something more. Every year, John Wesley invited his Methodists to begin with a recommitment to the covenant between us and God. There was also a very special prayer included. What I invite you to do is pray that prayer with me. Listen to those words and be reminded of what is at stake with our relationship to God. That relationship is sooo much more important than any resolution we can make.

Let us pray:

"I am no longer my own, but thine.
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed for thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things to thy
pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father,
Son and Holy Spirit,
thou art mine, and I am thine.
So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven.
Amen."

Pastor Nathan





JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Our Sympathy Is Expressed To:

The Family & Friends of **Betty Grace Tant Lewis** upon her death on December 14, 2022.

Nancy Porter and family upon the death of her sister, **Linda Priest Vakos** on December 16, 2022.

Dale Sneed and family upon the death of her sister, **Elizabeth Moore** on December 18, 2022.

Family and friends of **John (Jack) Noble Karshner** up his death on December 24, 2022.

01	Larry Lugar	17	Mickey League
01	Betty Poplin	18	Jim Dunn
02	Bill Ames	20	Michael Ayers
03	Ellen Hicks	21	Kathy Harrison
04	Robin Tank	22	David Thomas Smith
05	Deborah Ladd	23	Carolyn Mobley
06	Gail Jenkins	23	David Spreder
08	Mackenzie Haynes	23	Jo Wilson
09	Linda Armstrong	24	Janice Alford
09	Ira Varney	25	Mary Lou Matthews
11	Brenda Bazemore	27	Paul Dunn
15	Brenda Ellis	27	Bettina Howard
15	Ken Jackson	27	Bob League
15	Rachel McClintock	28	Greg Roth II
16	Dan Vaughan	29	Christian Davenport
16	Kristin VonElling	31	Zachary Woodley



*Congratulations to
Catherine Coats
and
Kyle Ross
who were united in marriage
in the sanctuary at
Englewood United Methodist Church
on December 9, 2022.
Catherine is the daughter of
Eddie & Polly Coats
and the granddaughter of Harold Winstead
and the late Dottie Winstead.*

Thank You

Dear Friends,

Thank you for all you did for me and my daughter, Margo, when we were home with Covid. Flowers, food, cards and calls were much appreciated. We are blessed to have such caring friends.

Jo Lynn Wilson

Thank You

Dear Englewood Church Family,

Thank you for all the prayers, thoughts, messages, cards, and calls from you during the loss of my sister. You have made me feel so loved. I am so blessed to have you all in my life.

God bless you.

Nancy Porter

Thank You

Flower Ministry of EUMC,

Craig was so touched by the flowers Benda and Sharon delivered! Your thoughtfulness after the death of his sweet mom Dorothy was greatly appreciated!

Thanks so much,

Frances & Craig Johnson

Grace Upon Grace

“From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace.”

John 1:16

These words from John describe a God who, through Jesus Christ, has poured out unending grace on an underserving people. Those words, “grace upon grace,” have also come to describe my short time here at Englewood. As we close out one year and begin another, I continue to be overwhelmed by the welcome, the love, and the continued support you have given my family and me. Thank you so much for the many gifts we received at Christmas and for reminding me of God’s grace through your many acts of kindness.

Pastor Nathan

Birth

Congratulations to

Zachary & Deah Woodley
upon the birth of their daughter,

Baylor Brooks Woodley

on December 14, 2022.

Grandparents are Terry & Phyllis Woodley.

Proud big sister is Blakley Woodley.

Happy New Year!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & TRUSTEES

**Will meet on Monday,
January 23, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
in the Church Library.**





United
Women
in Faith

United Women in Faith News

January 17 10:00 a.m. Women of the Way Circle - Aldersgate Classroom

January 17 6:00 p.m. Lydia's Sisters' Circle - Fellowship Hall

Lisa Hicks will be the hostess.

The program will be "Organizing Tips for the New Year."

Dessert and drinks will be provided. Please bring your own bag supper.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Tuesday, January 3 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Church Parlor (Blankets)

Tuesday, January 10 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Church Parlor (Shawls)

Shawls and blankets will be placed on the altar rail for blessing on Sunday, January 8th.

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.



Women of The Way Circle

The Women of the Way Circle met at the Red Lobster Restaurant on December 13th for a Christmas luncheon. Nancy Porter and Christian Davenport also joined us for this time of fellowship and good food. Jeannie Gibbs welcomed everyone and told of the plans to provide each Lighthouse resident with a Walmart gift card and a gift card from the Circle for \$140 at Red Lobster so they can enjoy being out together like we did today. Sharon Roth led the group in prayer. We will resume our regular meeting format in January with our annual pledge service. The UMW is open to all women of the church and we invite you to come join us in the Aldersgate classroom on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m.



The deadline for receiving information to be included in the **FEBRUARY Newsletter** is **Thursday, January 19th**



SENIOR ADULT FELLOWSHIP

The Senior Adult Fellowship will meet in the Fellowship Hall for Bingo at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 4th and at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 18st.



AUTISM SUPPORT GROUP

Our Autism Groups will resume meeting in January. We will need volunteers to help us play with our children and hope you would consider. Just call Barbara Batts at 252-450-5000 to say yes!

FAITH CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES OF NASH COUNTY - JANUARY NEEDS

Thank you for your faithfulness in continuing to support this mission project by donating food to feed the hungry in Nash County during the first 10 months of 2022 and during the November and December, supplies needed to keep themselves and their clothing clean. Your donations mean so much to this nonprofit agency and enables them to continue to help others.

Starting Sunday, January 1st the "Meals of the Month" donation will be **Spaghetti and Canned Sauce**. There is a Love Can located in the area beneath the name tags in the church lobby, labeled "**FCM MEALS OF THE MONTH**". Please donate these items to help stock their pantry throughout the month of January. This is another wonderful opportunity for this generous congregation to help others who can't help themselves.



Women of the Way

The Women of the Way Circle invites everyone to donate paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, etc. to The Lighthouse.

They are also requesting cleaning supplies.

You may bring them to the church on Sunday or during the week.

Please contact Jeannie Gibbs for more information.

Thank You!



ENGLEWOOD UNITED METHODIST MEN

The Englewood United Methodist Men will begin the new year by meeting Tuesday, January 10th at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Our speaker will be Susan Phelps, Director of Economic Development for Nash County. She will update us on the strategies, plans, and projects Nash County has adopted in pursuit of economic development. I believe you will find this to be quite interesting.

Come and join us for a very reasonably priced meal (free for first timers). We serve dinner at 6:00 p.m., receive a brief devotion, and then introduce our speaker. We will follow this with a brief business session which includes the consideration of a budget for 2023.

Please mark your calendar.

Peter Varney

2023 "SOUPER BOWL OF CARING"



The Outreach Committee is planning an exciting project for our "Souper Bowl of Caring" coming up soon. We will be working with one of our local agencies to help those in need. Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks

OUTREACH MISSION PROJECTS - 2022

The Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone for helping make our 2022 Mission Projects a success. As a congregation working together, we were able to provide love and hope to a lot of people. We started the year off with our "Souper Bowl of Caring". We chose to partner with "My Sisters House" to provide assistance in allowing the residents to be able to keep their loyal companions with them. We raised \$3,798.60 to help with the expenses of them staying there. Our thanks to Jay Quigley for working on this project for us.

Second, we tried something new in partnering once again with Peacemakers of Rocky Mount to provide toys for their annual Toy Store. We held a "Christmas in July" event to collect the toys. We provided 46 toys and \$90 to be used to purchase additional toys for the children of our own community. This gave parents a chance to purchase Christmas gifts for their children at a reduced price so they could have a happy Christmas. Our thanks to Dave and Wilma Rundell for overseeing this project for us and delivering all the toys to The Toy Store.

Then, with help from our neighbors at St. Andrews Church and The Mill Church, we were able to provide 179 Christmas shoe boxes to the children of Armenia. Just think of all the joy this will provide to those children who have so little. A special thank you to Mike and Beverly Williams for heading up this project and getting the shoeboxes delivered to the MERCI Center.

Also, we participated in the Angel Tree Ministry thru Prison Fellowship which provides Christmas gifts to children whose parents will not be spending the Holidays with them. We more than tripled our original commitment of 10 and provided for 31 children and all of them were in Nash County. Thank you to all who contributed and a special "Shout Out" to the Seekers Sunday School Class for putting us over the top. Thank you Christian for taking care of the paperwork and getting the funds delivered.

We also want to acknowledge the monthly donations to our "Love Cans" for Faith Christian Ministry and The Salvation Army. We continue to deliver about One can per month for each.

We have resumed our visits to The MERCI Center to help in preparing Flood Buckets, Hygiene Kits, checking the Christmas Shoeboxes and other projects they have going on. Thank you to all who have spent time there helping with these projects and enjoying good fellowship. Also, thanks to "The Women of the Way" for preparing 55 hygiene kits that were greatly needed for the flood victims.

Now a special acknowledgement – our own Mike Williams has been invited to join the Board of MERCI Center and will begin his term in January. Thank you Mike for all you do for the MERCI Center and the People it serves!

So you see we have accomplished a lot of wonderful work this year. We have definitely been the hands of Jesus in providing love and hope for our neighbors at home and abroad. Again, thank you for helping us make these mission projects a success.

The Outreach Committee



2023 FLOWER CALENDAR

The 2023 Flower Calendar is now available for your use in reserving that special Sunday to place flowers in the sanctuary in memory of your loved ones or in honor of a special event in your family. The 2023 Flower Calendar is now online on the church website (www.inglewood-umc.com). Under the Worship heading click on Flowers. Scroll down for instructions to use the calendar to reserve a date. Click on the Sunday you would like to provide flowers. If the date is available, provide your name, email and the message you would like placed in the bulletin regarding the person(s) or event being honored by the flowers. Click 'Submit'. You should get an email confirmation that your date has been reserved.

If you have questions or are unable to make your reservation, call the church office (252-443-2926) and we will be happy to help you. If the Sunday you would like to reserve has already been scheduled and you would like to place flowers in the narthex, please call the church office. As in the past you will receive an email or phone call reminder the week before your scheduled Sunday. **Please Note:** Flowers placed in the sanctuary should be no more than 36" wide and 25" high.



Caring Card Ministry

Thank you for the outpouring of love sent to our special people on the bulletin prayer list. Cards are flying through the mail and hearts are made happier. Don't forget that we have many cards available for sending in the Narthex. Thank you for being such a loving congregation!

OUR YEAR-TO-DATE RECORD

(Thru December 22, 2022)

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Ministry Needs

	<i>Monthly Actual</i>	<i>YTD</i>
Receipts	\$32,007.74	\$404,409.29
Goal	\$35,260.00	\$423,120.00

Our 2022 General Budget includes our Missional Giving



We have restarted our Back Pack Buddies project which provides food for children on weekends when they might otherwise go without. These children receive two meals a day at school but have limited access to food on weekends. We have partnered with Saint Paul United Methodist to feed 45 children at Williford School.

Our biggest concern is how to fund this project. We are attempting to provide food for more than twice the number of children than we did before. United Women in Faith and Methodist Men are presently supporting Back Pack Buddies. If you can donate to this effort, we and the children would greatly appreciate it.

Currently, we have two teams to pack and deliver the bags. If you would like to be a part of this, call Jeannie Gibbs at 252-443-4930.

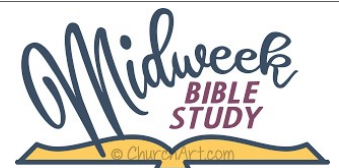
EUMC FLOWER MINISTRY

When you place flowers in the sanctuary or narthex, if you would like to donate them to the Flower Ministry, please contact **Sharon Dunn** at 252-443-1920 (*during the months of January, April, July, October*), **Jo Wilson** at 252-937-4848 (*during the months of February, May, August, November*), and **Barbara Batts** at 252-450-5000 (*during the months of March, June, September, December*). They will be delivered to our sick and shut-ins on Monday.

On those Sundays when no one has signed up to place flowers in the sanctuary, the Flower Ministry Fund is used to place flowers in the sanctuary so that flowers will be available for the shut-ins that week. If you would like to make a contribution to this fund, please make your check payable to EUMC and mark Flower Ministry on the memo line.



My name is Doug Geeting and I am a retired United Methodist pastor, new to Englewood Church. With Pastor Nathan's permission, I would like to offer a mid-week Bible Study.



If you are in high school or retired or somewhere in the middle, you are more than welcome to attend. What I am hoping to do is to provide a study that responds to things you would like to study, discuss, or learn about. I will lead each study, but I want to hear what you are interested in. I'll do my homework, and then present that for the next week's study.

Our study will begin on Thursday, January 5th at 7:00 p.m. We will begin by talking a bit about the Bible and about the fate of the disciples. I hope you will join us.

We usually go for an hour to an hour and a half, depending on the conversation. Feel free to bring snacks or drinks. We will meet for about six weeks. Please sign-up on the sheet in the Narthex.

Blessings,
Doug Geeting
dgeeting@me.com - 540-841-2900

SAFE SANCTUARIES TRAINING

I think we can all agree that making sure our church is a safe place for children is a top priority. Help us make sure we keep it that way by participating in our Safe Sanctuaries training on Sunday, January 15th at 3:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The training will not last more than an hour. We'll go over our church's policies that are in place to protect the most vulnerable among us, and also have time for questions and suggestions for improvement. The training will also include a background check.

Current Safe Sanctuaries training is a requirement for those of us who work with children and youth at the church. However, because we're truly a family here at EUMC and all spend time around our young people, it would be amazing to have our whole church be Safe Sanctuary trained. What a statement that would make about how important our children are to us at Englewood UMC! We hope to see everyone there!

CHRISTMAS CARD FUNDRAISER



Thank you to everyone who purchased Christmas cards from our Children's Ministry. We hope they were a blessing to you, as well as the friends and family who received them! We raised over \$900 for our Children's Ministry Fund through this fundraiser! That will go a long way to make our many awesome children's events possible this year, including our Saturday Morning CAFEs, Easter Egg Hunt, Art Camp, and more!



Fifth Sunday Fellowship

Our next Fifth Sunday Fellowship is Sunday, January 29th at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite breakfast food and join us for breakfast and fellowship.

JOYFULLY TOGETHER FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

One thing we know for sure about our church family is that we LOVE being together, and we LOVE having a good time! Our Nurture Ministry Team has been working on plans to help us do a lot more of that in 2023!!! Here are some super fun fellowship events we have coming up this year. Go ahead and mark your calendars now because you've not going to want to miss a single one.! This is also a great opportunity to invite your friends and neighbors to church - the more the merrier!!

The first of these events is going to be dinner and a show on Saturday, February 11th at 5:00 p.m. Come enjoy a delicious meal with your church family, and you're sure to be howling with laughter as our Children and Youth entertain us with our own EUMC edition of "Kids Say the Darndest Things!" The cost for dinner is only \$5 per person, and we know everyone will have a great time. We can't wait to see you there!!

A promotional graphic for the 'Kids Say the Darndest Things' event. It features a yellow background with a cartoon girl laughing and a red megaphone. Text includes 'HA HA HA', 'KIDS SAY THE DARNDEST THINGS', 'SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11 5:00 P.M. EUMC FELLOWSHIP HALL COST: \$5 PER PERSON', and 'Enjoy a delicious meal and howl with laughter as our own children and youth bring us the EUMC edition of this hilarious show!'.

A large graphic titled 'WELCOME TO JOYFULLY TOGETHER'. It lists several fellowship events with dates and descriptions. The events are: February 11 (Sat.) Valentine dinner & Kids Say the Darndest Things; May 21 (Sun.) Church cookout with entertainment for adults and children; June 17 (Sat.) Outdoor movie night - You bring comfy seating, we'll bring the movie and the snacks!; July 22 (Sat.) Dinner & Sunday School Family Feud - See which Sunday School class ends up on top!; September 10 (Sun.) Celebrate back to school with dinner & a challenge... Are YOU smarter than a 5th grader?; November 18 (Sat.) Happy Friendsgiving! Bring your favorite dish to share and celebrate the joy of friendship with us. The graphic includes icons for a calendar, popcorn, a pizza, a trophy, and a pie.



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. Our theme for January is BELIEVE! Here's what we'll be learning about each week:

Date	Topic	Helper
January 1	Wise Men Visit Jesus (Matthew 2:1-12)	Jeannie Gibbs
January 8	Jesus' Baptism (Mark 1:4-11)	Rita Vickers
January 15	Jesus Calls Levi (Mark 2:13-17)	Debbie High
January 22	Jesus Feeds Five Thousand (Luke 4:14-20)	Helper Needed
January 29	Fifth Sunday Fellowship Breakfast	



Children's Church

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. During Children's Church time, we have a Nursery for infants through Pre-K, Children's Church for K-3rd Grade, and Tween Church for our 4th-6th Graders.

Children's Church Schedule

This year in Children's Church we're going on a Bible Hero Adventure, focusing on a different hero in the Bible and what they teach us about God. These imperfect people will point us to our perfect Savior, Jesus, who loves us all and can use all of us to serve God's kingdom! In January we're learning all about NOAH!

Date	Topic	Leader
January 1	Noah: Sin (Genesis 6:5-22, 7:6-12)	Beth Ezzell
January 8	Noah: The Flood (Genesis 7:24-8:12)	Phyllis Woodley
January 15	Noah: The Promise (Genesis 9:8-17)	Savanna Becker
January 22	Noah: Sin Remains (Genesis 11:1-9)	Jessica Ezzell
January 29	Review!	Savanna Becker

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.

Our next CAFE will be on Saturday, January 21st at 10:00 a.m. We'll see what we can learn about God from snowmen! We'll also have snacks and other activities that focus on being thankful. We hope we'll see all of our children and families there!



Nursery Workers Needed



The number of little ones in our Nursery on Sunday mornings is growing, and we are in need of nursery workers to care for our precious kiddos! We're looking for people who have a heart for young children and a desire to engage with them and help them grow. This is a paid position on Sunday mornings from 9:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m., as well as occasional special services. Nursery workers will complete a Safe Sanctuaries training and background check through the church. First Aid and CPR training are a plus, and we are willing to provide that training if needed. If you know someone who might be interested, have them contact Savanna at sbecker@englewood-umc.com.

NURSERY WORKERS: NOW HIRING!

AFTER-SCHOOL BEARS CLUB

We have a great group of 10 students in our Bears Program this year, and they are all SO excited to be part of this program - and so are we!! The Bears Program meets on Thursday afternoons from 3:00 -5:45 p.m. for a snack, homework help, other educational and fun activities, and a Bible lesson. We could use some additional adult helpers during the 4:00-5:00 p.m. hour. If you are interested in volunteering with the Bears Program, please contact Savanna Becker.

