

# Englewood United Methodist Church Newsletter

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**AUGUST 1, 2023**

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## Here Am I!

**God said, “Go and say to this people:**

**‘Listen intently, but don’t understand;  
look carefully, but don’t comprehend.**

**Make the minds of this people dull.**

**Make their ears deaf and their eyes blind,  
so they can’t see with their eyes  
or hear with their ears,  
or understand with their minds,  
and turn, and be healed.”**

**I said, “How long, Lord?”**

**And God said, “Until cities lie ruined with no one living in them,  
until there are houses without people and the land is left devastated”.**

**The LORD will send the people far away, and the land will be  
completely abandoned.**

**Isaiah 6:9-12**



On Monday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30, we are going to begin a four week deep dive into Isaiah chapter 6. I know what you may be thinking. “We’re going to spend four weeks talking about one chapter in the Bible?” We are, and if you join us you’ll find out why! Because in order to unpack the encouraging and difficult message found within, we’ll need to have a much broader understanding of the Book of Isaiah, it’s historical context, and the overall theme Isaiah shares.

Many of us are familiar with Isaiah 6. It pops up in our lectionary every three years and we have a popular hymn devoted to it. Most of us know the story of Isaiah in the temple, witnessing a heavenly worship service and crying out “Woe is me!” We all love that special line, “Here am I, Lord! Send me!” Perhaps it has been an inspiration for us in our own call. But did

you know that Isaiah 6 doesn’t end there? Have you wrestled with a message that Isaiah will have to preach? Spoiler, it’s a tough one!

Often times, answering the call to ministry isn’t easy. There are certainly times of great joy and inspiration. But we also have difficult moments that have us crying out with Isaiah, “How long, Lord!” Perhaps the story of Isaiah 6 has a message of hope for us, even in times such as these. To find out more about this tough message, why Isaiah is called to preach it, and the hope that can be found, even in God’s judgment, be sure to join us this August for our Back to School Bible Study on Isaiah 6. Mark your calendars now!

*Pastor Nathan*



**Our Sympathy Is Expressed To:**

*The Family & Friends of Benjamin Thomas Davis, Jr. upon his death on July 8, 2023.*

*Debbie & Steve High and family upon the death of Debbie's mother, Betty Lee Gray House on July 18, 2023.*

*In Memoriam*

**BENJAMIN THOMAS DAVIS, JR.**

*July 8, 2023*

*In Memoriam*

**BETTY LEE GRAY HOUSE**

*July 18, 2023*

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To the Congregation & Members  
of Englewood United Methodist Church

Thank you so much for remembering us in your prayers during the passing of our mother, Marie Lewis.

Also, thank you for all the visits, cards, and prayers throughout her sickness.

Joan Lewis Outlaw & Susan Lewis Andrews  
(The Marie Lewis Family)

Flower Ministry,

Thank you so much for thinking of Bill and myself with the beautiful flowers. When Barbara showed up it was such a special example of kindness and God's ministry.

Rachel & Bill Dix

Dear Englewood Church Family, and Flower & Prayer Shawl/Blanket Ministries,

Words cannot express how grateful I am for your kindness and generosity shown to me while I was recovering from my foot surgery. May the Lord bless you and keep you. May his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you and give you peace. Numbers 6:24-26.

Janet Hagan

Prayer Shawl Ministry,

Ladies, thank you so much for the "Prayer Shawl". It is beautiful handiwork. I especially appreciate the prayers and loving thoughts. I can feel the "love and prayers" that go with the shawl. Very thoughtful and kind for sure!!

Sincerely,  
Sharon Fogarty



**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

01	Linda Herbert	17	Allison Ladd
02	Ian Clark	18	Tom Bazemore
02	Evan Fogarty	19	Una Thompson
03	Martha Fogarty	19	Abigail White
07	Sue Corrick	22	Ezra Wittman
11	Annette Bunn	25	Beverly Vaughan
11	Betsy Bunn	27	Pattie Collins
12	Lucy Culpepper	28	Taylor Barbour
12	Chelsey Moss	28	Anne Manning
13	Alda Fountain	28	Joyce White
13	Lorraine Snowden	29	Lea Ann Nichols
14	Dick Edmondson	29	Donald Perry
14	Judy Mesko	30	Brenda Andrews
15	Allen Wittman	30	Trudy Collier

*Please note...If your name does not appear on the birthday list, it is because we do not have this information in our records. We ask that you let the church office know the month and date of your birth so our list will be complete. Thank you for your help in updating our records!*



*Congratulations to*

*Savanna & Adam Becker*

*upon the birth of their son,*

*Owen Lucas Becker*

*on July 5, 2023.*



**T**he Outreach Committee would like to invite everyone to join us on **Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup>** for a Packing Party to put together Health Kits for distribution at the MERCI Center. These Health Kits are always in need for those hit by a disaster, whether far away or right here in Rocky Mount! We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at **2:00 p.m.** for a time of fellowship and packing. Afterwards, we will celebrate with an ice cream social. We should be done by 4:00 p.m. All the supplies will be provided; we just need **"YOU"** to help get them all put together. Thanks and **SEE YOU THERE!**

**SENIOR ADULT FELLOWSHIP**



The Senior Adult Fellowship will meet in the Fellowship Hall for Bingo at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.



**The deadline for receiving information to be included in the SEPTEMBER Newsletter is Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup>!**

**FAITH CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES  
OF NASH COUNTY - AUGUST NEEDS**

Don't forget to purchase an extra item or two for Faith Christian Ministries when shopping for your own groceries. While the physical location of this agency is in Nashville, the majority of their support is given to Rocky Mount residents.

Starting Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, the "Meals of the Month" donation will be **Soup, Muffin, and Cornbread Mixes**. There is a LOVE Can located 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 August. This is another wonderful opportunity for this generous congregation to help others who can't help themselves.

Sharon Roth

**STORM RESPONSE**

If you would like to make donations to help those affected by the EF3 tornado on July 19<sup>th</sup> in Nash and Edgecombe Counties, please make checks payable to EUMC and mark NC Storm Response Advance #S00176 on your check. Thank you.

Please also continue to pray for those affected by the tornado.

***Breaking the Bread,  
Building the Body***

A gathering of the Body of Christ from across the Rocky Mount community

Join us for  
Community Worship  
Sunday, August 6 at 6:00 p.m.  
Word Tabernacle Church  
821 Word Plaza

featuring  
Rev. Alice Johnson-Curl, preaching,  
music by a combined  
community choir, and the  
celebration of Holy Communion



An offering to benefit  
Meals on Wheels  
will be received.

Planned and  
presented by a  
partnership of  
Rocky Mount  
churches

**SUMMER COMMUNITY  
WORSHIP**

Englewood UMC will join with our friends from other Rocky Mount churches for a Summer Community Worship event on **Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.**

This event will be hosted by Word Tabernacle Church (821 Word Plaza, Rocky Mount, NC 27804). We are looking forward to sharing in worship and fellowship with our neighbors and hope you'll make plans to join us!

**The Outreach Committee** would like to thank our Youth Group for spending one of their Workday Wednesdays at the MERCI Center in Goldsboro. They were introduced to the ways The MERCI Center and our conference provide much needed supplies and assistance to those in need in our local communities, our entire country, and the world. Some of them learned how to package, weigh, and measure boxes ready for shipment while others packed 150 School Supply Kits. The school supplies were provided by our Church and the MERCI Center together. The Youth worked very hard and seemed to really enjoy the experience. Also, our thanks to Amy Quigley and Jeff Smith for accompanying them. They were invited to return anytime to lend a helping hand. Once again, our Church Family provided the hands of Jesus in helping others.

Thank you,  
Patsy Lepak & Mike Williams



**TRUSTEES REPORTING PROGRESS!**



**The Ark has arrived!** By the time you read this, Our Ark will be assembled and on the water!!! We are very excited to offer this special witness for our church family and we will have a christening very soon!!! Many people volunteered to help and we are thankful that we could be "Noah's" for EUMC!!

**Project completed!** The ice maker is ready and making plenty of ice. Shout out to all who have helped provide bags of ice and certainly a big thanks to Blaine Corrick!!

Thanks to all who give suggestions or write in our Trustees' Book. We are a great church team.

**If you need the church code, be sure to call the church office!**

Needed: Church members to greet at our entrances. A friendly face and word of welcome opening our doors will make our light shine brighter to guests. Please call Nancy if you will be willing to serve for a few Sundays.

**No Bears Hibernating this year!!!** Women of the Way Circle has some news about Wilma's Teddy Bears Ministry! More info will come, but we are asking members to bring any Teddy Bears, new and gently used to church on Bear Sunday in September. All bears coming to share kindness and love to members through this special project!!! Be on the lookout for **stuffed** Teddy Bears!!!

Trustees are: Jack Ellis, Lea Ann Nichols, Lee Pullen, Jerry Lee Ezzell, Lisa Hicks, Terry Woodley, Brian Collins, Janet Hagan and Barbara Batts.

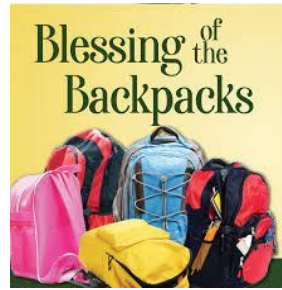




### Fifth Sunday Fellowship Breakfast

We will have a Fifth Sunday Fellowship Breakfast on Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. You are invited to bring a breakfast food or drink item to share and join us for a great time of fellowship and a fun program together!

### Backpack Blessing



On Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, we will have a special blessing for those heading back to school this fall.

Students, teachers, and school staff are invited to bring their backpacks or work bags to be blessed on the altar during worship, as the church family covenants to prayerfully support them throughout the year.

### VISION TEAM MEETING



Join us on **Monday, July 31<sup>st</sup>**, at 7:00 p.m. (Room 206/207) for Vision Team Orientation! Similar to when we gathered for Witness, this is an opportunity to hear about the team before you decide to join. Our goal will be to create an objective marker for our church in the year 2024. Who do we want to reach, how do we want to reach them, and what drives us as a church? As a United Methodist Church, we take part in the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. But we need to take that "why" and make it specific for our church. What does it mean to make disciples here at Englewood UMC in the city of Rock Mount? If you'd like to be a part of wrestling with these questions, join us!

### Stewardship Campaign Update

YTD Stewardship Pledges*	\$201,500
YTD Stewardship Giving (Actual)	\$181,961

\*Annualized 6 mo. Average from \$403K Stewardship Campaign Pledges

### Financials as of June 30, 2023

YTD General Fund Deficit	(\$22,158)
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*"25 years ago, God led us to tithing, and more importantly, growing into a personal relationship with Him. At first it took intentional planning as we consciously decided to make giving to the church our first budget priority. Honestly, it soon became a privilege."*

- Jerry & Beth Ezzell



### THE FOLLOWING GROUPS WILL RETURN IN SEPTEMBER AFTER TAKING THE SUMMER BREAK. . .



**Prayer Shawl Ministry (Blankets)** will return on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

*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.*



### Englewood United Methodist Men

will return on Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall



United Women in Faith

### Women of The Way Circle

will return on Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Aldersgate Classroom

**Lydia's Sisters Circle** will return on Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall





## Children's Sunday School

Children 5<sup>th</sup> 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 August is CELEBRATE! Here's what we'll be learning about each week:

Date	Topic	Helper
August 6	The Year of Jubilee (Deuteronomy 15)	Brenda Bazemore
August 13	The Passover (Deuteronomy 16:1-8)	Nancy Mooring
August 20	The Festival of Weeks (Deuteronomy 16:9-12)	Brenda Ellis
August 27	The Festival of Booths (Deuteronomy 16:13-17)	Jeff Smith



## 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.

### 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 each month 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 August we're learning all about ELIJAH!

Date	Topic	Leader
August 6	Obedience brings blessings	Beth Ezzell
August 13	We have a direct line to talk to God	Phyllis Woodley & Kenan Mills
August 20	God encourages us when we are discouraged	
August 27	We are taught so we can teach others	Jessica Ezzell

## Blessed ART the Children Art Camp

We had such a great week at our "Blessed ART the Children" art camp! For three awesome days, our church was filled with amazing young artists who loved exploring their creativity and seeing how that connects to who God is as our Creator. Through so many fun activities, our children were able to connect with God, grow in relationships with one another, and learn about the uniqueness of all God's creations.

Thank you to those who helped with art camp, those who brought their children and grandchildren, and to the whole church for supporting this awesome opportunity. What a blessing to be part of a church family that truly embodies Jesus' words: "Let the children come to me!"



# Youth News

## UMYF AUGUST SCHEDULE

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>August 6</i>	9:30 am 6:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Summer Community Worship Service at Word Tabernacle Church
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>August 13</i>	9:30 am 5:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Prayers at Schools
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>August 20</i>	9:30 am 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Youth Group
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>August 27</i>	9:30 am 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Youth Group

### 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>
August 6	Mexican Food	_____
August 13	Comfort Food	_____
August 20	Breakfast for Dinner	_____
August 27	Sandwiches	_____

### EUMC YOUTH WORKDAY WEDNESDAYS

Our youth participated in 6 amazing Workday Wednesdays this summer, helping to make an impact in our own community by serving those in need. We volunteered at a preschool, worked at the MERCI Center, helped with Art Camp, and did projects around our own church. WE also had some fun activities along the way such as mini golf, skating, bowling, a pool party, and trampoline park. Thank you to everyone who supports our youth group in seeking to serve God, love others, and grow together as a community!

