

Englewood United Methodist Church Newsletter

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MAY 1, 2023

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Rest

"Remember the Sabbath day and treat it as holy. Six days you may work and do all your tasks, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. Do not do any work on it..." Exodus 20:8-10

Maybe it's because I'm just returning from vacation. It could be that as I look ahead to the month of May I cannot help but see Memorial Day weekend and the official start to summer vacation season. But I have rest on the brain. Early in my ministry I wrote a sermon entitled "Resting is Hard Work." Never mind the content, even I have forgotten that, but I never forgot the title. Perhaps because it is so incredibly true. Resting can sometimes be incredibly hard to do. There is always a task to complete, something that has to get done. And even when we declare it's the weekend or time to take a vacation, it takes a little while before we can turn off work mode. Confession, whenever my phone rings I get a little anxiety as I look to see who is calling. What's going on now? Never mind! It's just a telemarketer.

Did you know that resting is so important for us that God even included it as a commandment? God decreed that we need to take a break, not just when we can squeeze it in, but on a regular basis. Rest is literally built into creation and into the week in such a way that we must honor it often. Walter Brueggemann argues in his book *Sabbath as Resistance: Saying No to the Culture of Now*, that the very act of taking a day to rest is resistance against our world that places value, not on people, but what we produce. Consider who heard this message first, the ancient Israelites who were literally turned into slaves to support the economics of Pharaoh and Egypt. Honoring Sabbath rest was not only recharging their

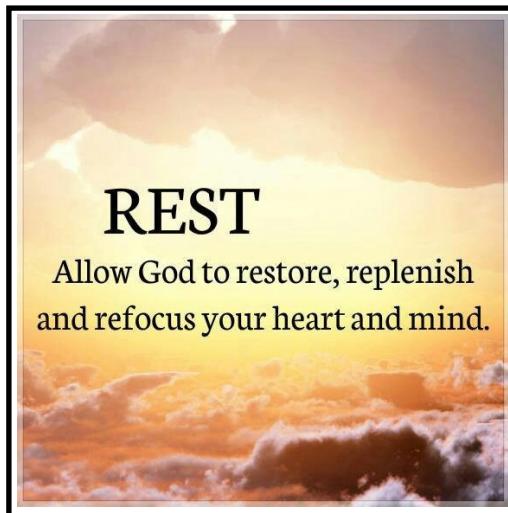
worn bodies, but a way of standing up to the one who treated them like another commodity.

Do you feel that, too? Do you feel like the demands of our culture make it hard to turn off the phone and spend a day reading or with family? When you're not doing something productive, do you start to get a little antsy or feel like the day may be wasted? God's commandment to rest tells us it's ok to not be working, that our worth is not found in what we create, but in who created us. And God demonstrated this with God's own Sabbath rest. It was ok for God to take a moment just to appreciate what God created.

So mark your calendars for Sabbath. Ensure that at least one day of the week (or more if you can!) is set aside from work and tasks, the need to be productive. Start planning that vacation with your family. And, through it all, remember that you don't have to be productive in any way shape or form during that time away.

However, do strive to be intentional with it. How is time spent with family and friends during this holy day of rest? How is time spent with the God who commanded you to take it easy? Know that if the day was filled with prayers and playing board games with loved ones, you answered God's call well.

Pastor Nathan





Our Sympathy Is Expressed To:

Beverly & Dan Vaughan and Beverly & Mike Williams upon the death of Beverly Vaughan's sister and Beverly Vaughan's aunt, Ann Collins on April 1, 2023.

Judy Overton and Crayton Overton, Jr. upon the death of Judy's husband and Crayton's brother, William Earl Overton on April 20, 2023.

In Memoriam WILLIAM EARL OVERTON

April 20, 2023

*Congratulations to
Sean & Keri Finegan
upon the birth of their son,
Colin Patrick Finegan
on April 1, 2023.*

*Grandparents are Doug & Nancy Geeting.
Proud big sister is Corinne Kate Finegan.*

Thank You

Dear Englewood Friends,

I would like to thank you for all your acts of kindness shown me in the last few months. During and after Nancy's death (my niece), I have had numerous phone calls and lots of cards, all were very much appreciated. Before that was Jeff's illness (my son). Thanks for your concerns. He is doing good and back at work. Prayers are being answered and we are so grateful.

During this period of time I have had bud vases delivered twice from the Flower Ministry. Once by Nancy Mooring and a 2nd time by Lu Czar. They were both beautiful. Fresh flowers are always so uplifting.

And, I have recently received a shawl from the Prayer Shawl / Blanket Ministry. It is beautiful, warm and I love it. I am envious and in awe of the talent these ladies have.

My friends here at Englewood sure know how to make a person feel special. This time it just happened to be me.

Thank you for caring.

Love you all,
Glenda Hortman

Many thanks to my loving church family for the care and concern expressed through phone calls, cards, flowers, and prayers after my recent health issue. They all brightened my days and lifted my spirits.

Embra Pullen

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the Bible, picture and well wishes I received on Easter Sunday for my confirmation and baptism. My thanks also to Miss Savanna for teaching us more about Christianity and the Methodist Church.

Love,
Jordan Hodges



MAY BIRTHDAYS

03	Stephanie Thompson	19	Andrew Schafer
04	Bill Dove	19	Terry VonElling
08	Nathan Wittman	20	Harriet Buss
10	Marie Holoman	20	Jerry Collier
15	Ivy Ezzell	23	Emma League
18	Jared Barbour	23	Noah League
18	Georgia Grant	24	Zackary Clark
18	Ron Harrison	25	Dixon Glenn II
18	Alison Landis	30	Jordan Page
19	Evelyn Cline		



*Congratulations to
Nathan Hayes Quigley
and
Brittany Anne Wright
who were united in marriage
on April 22, 2023 at*

*The MacHaven in Rocky Mount, North Carolina.
Nathan is the son of Jay & Amy Quigley.
Brittany is the daughter of
Austin & Stephanie Wright.*

Dear EUMC Family and Friends,

Thank you all for all the prayers, phone calls, and so many cards that were sent to and for me during my stay in the hospital and rehab in Greensboro after my traumatic fall and surgery to repair my knee and leg. The cards filled the windows of my room and the messages in them filled my heart as did the prayers and calls. And the cards, prayers and calls continued when I went home. Your visits were also very much appreciated.

Also thank you to the Flower Committee for the beautiful flowers that brightened my day when I returned home and to the Caring Committee for the lovely bag of goodies delivered by Barbara Batts.

Thanks for caring,

Love, hugs and blessings to all,
Pat Bunn

Prayer Shawl Ministry,

Your words have comforted us, your support has strengthened us, and your love has sustained us. We extend our deepest thanks to you for your kindness and prayers during our greatest sadness. We appreciate it more than words can express and it will always be remembered.

The Family of Keith Edward Hedgepeth
Larry and Mary Hedgepeth Blount

Dear Prayer Shawl / Blanket Ministry,

Your kindness goes beyond measure. Thank you so much for the prayers and beautiful blanket made by your ministry for my daughter, Amy. She is not well enough to write this herself. But please know that with God's help, she will one day be able to thank you herself.

Patsy Vickers



United
Women
in Faith

United Women in Faith News

- | | | |
|--------|------------|---|
| May 7 | 2:00 p.m. | Baby Shower for Savanna Becker
Englewood UMC Fellowship Hall |
| May 16 | 11:30 a.m. | Women of the Way Circle -
The Olive Garden Restaurant |
| May 16 | 6:00 p.m. | Lydia's Sisters' Circle -
Mario's Restaurant |

Lydia's Sisters Circle Casserole Sale

Lydia's Sisters Circle will again have their delicious frozen casseroles for sale. Signup for casseroles will be on Sunday, April 23rd and April 30th in the church lobby.



Casseroles will be available for pick up on Sunday, May 7th in the church kitchen after worship.

The casseroles are 8x8 and will cost \$12.00 each. Proceeds will be used to support local missions.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Tuesday, May 2 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm | Church Parlor (Shawls) |
| Tuesday, May 9 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm | Fellowship Hall (Blankets) |

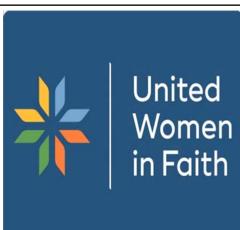
Note Change of Schedule for May: Due to Yard Sale being set up in the Fellowship Hall, Shawls will be on first Tuesday in the Church Parlor and Blankets on the second Tuesday in the Fellowship Hall.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry will be taking the summer off after the May meeting. We will return in September.

Shawls and blankets will be placed on the altar rail for blessing on Sunday, May 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.



Women of The Way Circle

The Women of the Way Circle met April 18th in the Aldersgate classroom. Sharon Roth gave the devotion "Springtime is Here". The context was taken from 2 Corinthians 5:17-18;21 which talks about new beginnings. We were reminded that God gave us a new beginning when He sent His Son to die on the cross for our sins and the continual hope that this gives us.

The circle was delighted to welcome a new member today, Carolyn Nichols. An update was given on those circle members who have incurred medical issues. The circle continues to support Faith Christian Ministries with food products and The Lighthouse with paper products. Terri Buckner reported that dishcloth bunnies were sold at Lydia's Sisters Circle Tea and in the narthex the following Sunday. Even though the demand for these items has waned, it was recommended that we continue to keep a supply of dishcloths on hand for those church members who need them. A recap was given of the Lighthouse Dinner held on March 28th. Two of their residents and their director also attended the circle meeting on the 18th. Barbara Batts gave a brief presentation on Autism Support Group and their upcoming Walk and Run Fundraiser. No program was offered today as the circle adjourned to the Fellowship Hall where members packed 64 health kits for the MERCI Center. There will be no formal meeting in May. Instead, the group will have a fellowship lunch at the Olive Garden Restaurant at 11:30 a.m. on May 16th. After this, the circle will take the summer off, but monthly meetings will resume on the 3rd Tuesday of September at 10:00 a.m. in the Aldersgate classroom. All women of the church are invited to join us.



ENGLEWOOD UNITED METHODIST MEN

The Englewood United Methodist Men will meet on Tuesday, May 9th at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This will be our last meeting until September 12th. Our speaker is Mary Jane Lyonnaise who will talk about the finds from a recent report on food insecurity in our area. The title of the report is "Healthy Families: Understanding and Improving Regional Food Access in the Upper Coastal Plain Region of Eastern North Carolina". Interestingly, the report indicates that 24% of household in our area experience food insecurity. Recall that the Englewood Methodist Men have consistently supported Meals on Wheels and voted earlier this year to support Backpack Buddies.

So come on out and join us! We will have another great meal prepared very reasonably priced at \$5.00 (free for first time visitors). We serve dinner at 6:00 p.m., receive a short devotion, and then introduce our speaker. Please mark your calendar.

Peter Varney



SENIOR ADULT FELLOWSHIP

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



The deadline for receiving information to be included in the JUNE Newsletter is Thursday, May 18th!



ATTENTION ALL 2023 HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE GRADUATES!

We are compiling a list and want to recognize all the graduates in our congregation during worship on June 11, 2023.
The church office needs the following information on ALL graduates by May 14.

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 2022, please send us your information! We want to include you!

FAITH CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES OF NASH COUNTY - MAY NEEDS

Hunger never goes away for many families in Nash County. And Faith Christian Ministries serves all of Nash County with the majority of the referrals coming from Rocky Mount. We continue to take 1 to ½ cans of food to them monthly. So please continue to donate at least one item. Just pick it up when you buy your groceries and drop it off at the church.

Starting Sunday, May 7th, the "Meals of the Month" donation will be **Cereal, Pop Tarts, Oatmeal and Grits**.



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 May. This is another wonderful opportunity for this generous congregation to help others who can't help themselves.



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.englwood-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.

Thank You

Englewood United Methodist Men,

Your continued support helps guarantee that victims of domestic violence and sexual assault will be provided services free of charge addressing their most urgent needs.

Thank you for your recent donation. You are a hero of the community that make it possible to continue to serve. We greatly appreciate Englewood United Methodist Church for all you do!

Sincerely,

Kim Cofield

Executive Director of My Sister's House

SERMON SERIES



When was the last time you read the story of Noah's Ark? Or really thought about David and Goliath? It's time to revisit these childhood Bible stories as grownups! From May 7th to June 11th, Pastors Nathan and Savanna will lead us in exploring some of the Bible stories we remember from Sunday School in new and exciting ways. From Creation and Noah's Ark to Daniel and the Lions' Den, we'll take a deeper look at these passages and discover that their impact extends beyond childhood. We can't wait to go on this adventure with you!

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 4th.



welcome! We will be looking at the Apostle Peter. The Study will continue through May 25th.

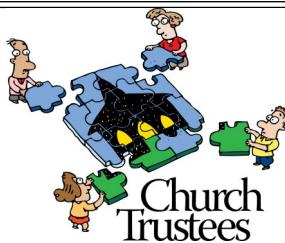
Midweek Bible Study

The Midweek Bible Study (led by retired Methodist Minister, Rev. Doug Geeting) will continue to meet on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is



Caring Card Ministry

Many thanks to those of you who are bringing cards for this ministry and sending cards, also! It makes such a difference in the lives of those who are receiving them. In the words of Dan Vaughan, "Keep those cards coming!" and his daughter Beverly, a big Thank You to the VFW team that creates many of the beautiful cards.



TRUSTEES REPORTING PROGRESS!

More of our members are bringing items to our attention that make our Church Home safer and more welcoming. Please be sure to write your observations in the notebooks available either at the office or the church lobby.

We are happy to have the new assistance rails in place at the Altar steps. We are safer using these and are grateful to a special caring member for seeing this project through to their use.

Please remember that doors will remain locked for your safety. Thank you for understanding.

Courtyard changes are coming! What does that mean? We are beginning our final planning for this area to be a fun place for our member. If you can climb, throw a ball, hug, build a train track or offer a helping hand, you will have a place in the courtyard. So, keep looking!

We welcome anyone to become a Sunday Volunteer. Please let Barbara Batts or other trustees know of you willingness.

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



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 May is MINISTRY! Here's what we'll be learning about each week:

Date	Topic	Helper
May 7	Peter (Matthew 16:13-20)	Brenda Bazemore
May 14	Peter and Tabitha (Acts 9:36-43)	Nancy Mooring
May 21	Peter in Prison (Acts 12:1-17)	Brenda Ellis
May 28	Pentecost (Acts 2:1-41)	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 May we're learning all about JOSHUA!

Date	Topic	Leader
May 7	God is the answer to all our fears (Numbers 13:26-14:10)	Beth Ezzell
May 14	God's plan never fails! (Joshua 1:1-11)	Phyllis Woodley
May 21	God fights for me (Joshua 6:2-20)	Savanna Becker
May 28	Obedience to God brings blessings! (Joshua 10:1-14)	Jessica Ezzell

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, May 20th at 10:00 a.m. and our theme is Creation! We'll learn about how God made the whole world - including us! - and we'll have plenty of games, snacks, and other activities that focus on our theme. We hope we'll see all of our children and families there!

As a reminder, the CAFE will not meet in June or July because of VBS and Art Camp. We have so many special things coming up for our families!



Vacation Bible School June 12-15 | 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Mark your calendars for an out-of-this-world adventure at Stellar VBS!! On June 12th-15th from 5:30-8:00 each night, we'll go on an intergalactic adventure to explore God's awesome creation, learn about God's love that's bigger than the whole universe, and discover how we can shine Jesus' light in our world! Registration is open

online for children who have completed 5th grade and younger: www.Englewood-UMC.com/vbs.

Grownups can join us on this 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 this week with us!

Youth News

UMYF MAY SCHEDULE

Saturday	May 6	7:00 am to Noon	Yard Sale Fundraiser
Sunday	May 7	9:30 am 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Youth Group
Sunday	May 14	9:30 am	Sunday School No Youth Group Tonight - Mother's Day
Sunday	May 21	9:30 am 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Church Cookout
Sunday	May 28	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>
May 7	Mexican Food	_____
May 14	No Meal Needed	_____
May 21	No Meal Needed	_____
May 28	Sandwiches	_____

YARD SALE

It's time for some spring cleaning! Our spring yard sale is just around the corner on Saturday, May 6th, 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).



During the yard sale on Saturday, May 6th, 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 6th. Thank you for supporting our children!

Autism Family Support Groups



TC Family Autism Group
EUMC

EUMC volunteers are truly the best! Our outreach mission to families could not exist without you!

The Fundraiser was a fun event and very successful. It does take a "whole village" working together to serve this group and others in our community and church. Thank you to all for helping and caring.



We are happy to announce that valet parking for Sunday Morning Worship will be available beginning Sunday, May 7th at the Bell Tower church entrance. Please call Lu Czar at 252-985-8126 to arrange this service for you.