

Englewood United Methodist Church Newsletter

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You Deserve It!

August 24th, 2023. It's behind us now, but it marked a momentous occasion. That's the day that Starbucks released their pumpkin spiced latte and Laura was sure to make me mark my calendar for the event. True story, the PSL is not my most favorite drink on their menu or on the menu of any other coffee shop I frequent. But there is something special that the drink represents. Fall is near.

Some of us are excited at that news, tired of hot humid days and being worried that the thing we currently smell is ourselves after too much sweating. Some of us are not. While parents celebrate the return of their children to school, school teachers and administrators might not be quite so excited. Those of us who love the summer, filled with beach trips and lemonades on the back porch will grumble at the thought of cooler air. And there is one thing certain for all of us. It's about to get busier!

At the beginning of the summer I shared an article about Sabbath and a plea for everyone to take it. But in many ways, now is the time for us to hear that reminder. Calendars are beginning to look a lot fuller. Right before writing this I sat down with Christian in the office struggling to find spaces for meetings in September! School and after school activities mean that parents and caretakers will be struggling to be in more than one space at once. All of a sudden that summer vacation is no longer the thing we look forward to, but the memory in the rear view mirror. However, no matter how busy we get, we cannot lose sight of the need for rest and resting with God.

So hear this plea and word of encouragement. First of all, never find yourself too busy for worship and the fellowship we all need with our church family. Never feel like you need to be a part of everything the church is doing, but don't skip out on everything, too. Worshiping with your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ keeps the purpose of our lives in focus. It is not found in our busyness or the accumulation of stuff, but in being reoriented around Christ's love for us and the purposes he prepares us for. Sunday morning gives the rest of the week meaning.

Second of all, and please hear this, you deserve rest. I hear it often, right before taking some time away. Someone says you earned it! You've worked hard for that vacation! But consider that God's command to rest and take sabbath is a gift. God did not say, "After you put in a certain amount of work you can take sabbath." No! God oriented the entire week around it and modeled it by resting, too. Our lives aren't meant to be filled with busyness, finding purpose only in what we accomplish and earn. Rather, our lives are meant to find purpose in God, and that means resting and enjoying what God has created for us.

Yes. Put together those to do lists. Make good on the commitments that we've made in these busy times. But don't lose sight of your need for rest, your need to enjoy what God has given, to enjoy God's presence, too. Because you deserve it. Because God has given the gift of rest to you.

Pastor Nathan



Thank You

We are humbly grateful for the many supports and encouragements you gave to my mom, Betty House, in the weeks following her fall and to our family following her death last month. We'd like to offer special thanks to the Flower Ministry for the love and grace and sunshine provided "Nana" over the years. The "prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness" of our church family was evidence of "God with us!" We are so thankful for you!

With love,
Debbie and Steve High, Terry Best, and family

Prayer Shawl Ministry,

Thank you so much for the shades-of-gray prayer shawl that you provided to Coats Vet-it was sweetly draped over the coffin box of our dear rescue beagle. Knowing it, and my pet and myself, had been prayed over made it even more comforting.

In the love of Christ,
Phyllis Hardy

Eric and I have been cheered and encouraged by all the calls, cards, emails, flowers, and visits during his illness and since my surgery! You are such a supportive church family!

Thank you!
Chris Miller

Friendly
Reminder

The deadline for receiving
information to be included in the
OCTOBER Newsletter is
Wednesday, September 20th!



TRUSTEES REPORTING PROGRESS!

Your EUMC Trustees care about your concerns and we are delighted to listen to your comments. Don't forget to record your suggestions and concerns in our notebooks available in the vestibule and the office.

Thank you for being an Englewood caretaker! We are so appreciative to Blaine Corrick, Lee Pullen and Christian Davenport for your diligence in getting the new icemaker and other efforts that needed help. *We report that we will no longer have a garbage disposal in our kitchen, so please be careful in using the sinks.*

In keeping with our concerns for the safety of church and congregation, we are hoping all will use the code to enter our building, but just in case you forget, and to make sure that visitors are welcomed, we have greeters at each entrance. Thank you for being alert to our needs and volunteer to be a greeter. Just call Lu Czar to say YES!

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

Stewardship Campaign Update

YTD Stewardship Pledges*	\$235,083
YTD Stewardship Giving (Actual)	\$213,624

*Annualized monthly average from \$403K Stewardship Campaign Pledges

Financials as of July 31, 2023

YTD General Fund Deficit**	(\$23,826)
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**Reflects all income less expenses



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

01	Crystal Collier	17	Betty Ann Bruner
01	Sharon Muller	17	Cam Fisher
03	Michael Williams	17	Jeannie Gibbs
04	Phyllis Coats Williford	18	Nancy Porter
06	Angie Griffin	18	David Rundell
09	Larry Boyd, Jr.	19	Theresa Cruz
09	Allan Buss	21	James White
09	Beth Ezzell	22	Sam Quigley
11	Jayden Davis	23	Jerry Ezzell, Jr.
11	Adam Marlowe	24	Amy Schafer
12	Kenan Mills	25	Wyatt Collins
14	Jean Bailey	26	Faith Schafer
14	Carolyn Carter	29	Betty Lee
14	Jessica Ezzell	30	Alaina Boyd
15	Randolph Holoman	30	Lin Varney

SENIOR ADULT FELLOWSHIP



The Senior Adult Fellowship will meet in the Fellowship Hall for Bingo at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 6th and Wednesday, September 20th.

"We were raised in the church which laid the foundation for how we live our adult lives. Giving our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness is vital in sustaining our church and its mission....This is why we tithe."

- Jimmy and Lisa Hicks

3 ways to give



in person



by mail



online



United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith News

September 19 10:00 a.m. Women of the Way - Aldersgate Classroom

September 19 6:00 p.m. Lydia's Sisters' Circle - Fellowship Hall
 Bring bag supper. Dessert and Drinks will be provided.
 Program: Savanna Becker & Youth will speak about Workday Wednesdays
 Hostesses: Lisa Clark & Robin Tank



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Tuesday, September 5 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Fellowship Hall (Blankets)

Tuesday, September 12 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Parlor

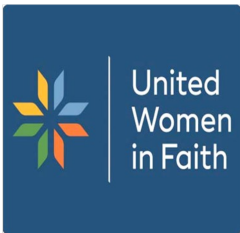
Shawls and blankets will be placed on the altar rail for blessing on Sunday, September 10th.



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 will resume meeting on Tuesday, September 19th at 10:00 a.m. in the Aldersgate Classroom. Our speaker will be Christy Warrick, CRPC, with Edward Jones. She will be speaking on "How to Outsmart Scammers".



Circle members are also reminded to bring a teddy bear that will be blessed and placed in the church for the new "Wilma's Teddy Bears" Outreach Program. All women of the church are invited to join us.

United Women in Faith Brunswick Stew Sale

The Englewood United Women in Faith (under the leadership of Jay Quigley) will be cooking their fabulous Brunswick Stew on October 7th! Cooking sign-up sheets will be available at each September Circle Meeting. As usual, pre-sales will be conducted in the church lobby for four weeks prior to the cooking date (September 10th, September 17th, September 24th and October 1st). The cost of the stew is \$10.00 per quart. You may also place your order through the church office by phone or email. So mark your calendars to participate in this annual event and plan to purchase lots of stew. The pre-sale orders will be ready for pick up on October 7th at 12:00 p.m. under the Bell Tower.



**Billy Hunt & Dan Vaughan
Cooking Stew - November 4, 1989**

Stew will also be available for the public to purchase at the Yard Sale at 11:00 a.m.

Remember this is the one primary fund raiser for UMW and we appreciate your support!!

Teddy Bear Project in Memory and Honor of Wilma Rundell

Teddy Bears at EUMC are coming out of hibernation!!

Please go find these soft snuggly teddy bears so that we can begin placing them throughout our church in September. So many folks might need a hug or could share this sweet teddy bear with a friend. Wilma led this project at her previous church and her husband, Dave, is very grateful to Wilma's circle, Women of the Way, for leading this project. You may find soft cuddly teddy bears at stores of course, but we have heard they are waiting at many resale shops in our area!! Please call Barbara Batts, Patsy Lepak or Jeannie Gibbs with any questions.



"Wilma's Teddy Bears"

2023 FLOWER CALENDAR



There are still dates available for you to reserve that special Sunday to provide flowers for worship in the sanctuary in memory/honor of your loved ones or in honor of a special event in your family.

The following Sundays are available:

*September 24, October 22, November 26.
December 3, December 10, December 31.*

The 2023 Flower Calendar is now online on the church website (www.inglewood-umc.com) or you may call the church office to reserve your special Sunday.



ENGLEWOOD UNITED METHODIST MEN

Now ready to return from a three month summer break, the Englewood United Methodist Men will resume our normal monthly meeting schedule on Tuesday, September 12th at 6:00 p.m. Our speaker is Brent Fisher, Assistant Director of Emergency Services for Nash County. He will speak on emergency preparedness and the response to the tornado that struck our area last month.

Come and join us Tuesday, September 12th at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall . We will have a great meal 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 and make plans to attend.

Peter Varney

SUPPORT FOR MAUI

On August 8th, several wildfires impacted homes, businesses, and communities in Hawaii.

Rev. Edgar DeJesus, pastor in the North Carolina Conference, said, "My family and I were in Hawaii last week attending the NAFAUM 17th Convocation when we got the news about the wildfire disaster in Maui. We have close ties in Hawaii, being home to the second largest Filipino population in the United States, and we have many Filipinos who are active members of United Methodist congregations on the Hawaiian islands, including Maui. Lahaina UMC was completely destroyed, and many of their church members were displaced."

Please continue to pray for all impacted by the devastating wildfires. If you would like to share your gifts with those in need, donations can be made to **UMCOR US Disaster Recovery and Response Advance #901670**. You can make your checks payable to Englewood UMC and on the memo line you can write Advance #901670-Hawaii.

"We're all stunned in disbelief at the destruction from the wildfires across Hawaii. We are grateful for the United Methodist connection that turns our helplessness into hope, rebuilding, and transformation", said Bishop Connie Mitchell Shelton. "Please give generously to UMCOR, who is resourcing those on the ground even now on our behalf."

FAITH CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES OF NASH COUNTY - SEPTEMBER NEEDS

Remember HUNGER is still here and there are some people that are still out of work. Faith Christian Ministries of Nash County is doing their part, with you help, to aide those in need. While the physical location of this agency is in Nashville, the majority of their support is given to Rocky Mount residents.

Starting Sunday, September 3rd, the "Meals of the Month" donation will be **Canned Beef Stew, Canned Chicken & Dumplings, and Rice**. There are two big LOVE Cans 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 September. This is another wonderful opportunity for this generous congregation to help others who can't help themselves.

STORM RESPONSE

If you would like to make donations to help those affected by the EF3 tornado on July 19th 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.



Thursday Evening Bible Study September 14th at 7:00 p.m.

Led by Doug Geeting, Retired UMC Pastor

Our Bible study resumes, as we ponder together, the many aspects of our faith and history. We find God's grace and love touching each of us. We will be looking at the Letters of John as we resume. It's interesting, learning facts about the Bible and that realm in which "we live and move and have our being." As always, if there is a specific topic, book of the Bible, or something you have always wanted to learn about and discuss; I am more than happy to lead a discussion on that. Please let me know if you will be attending so I will know how many copies of the material we need to provide. Email me at dgeeting@me.com or call 540-841-2900. Thanks and blessings!

Doug Geeting



AGAPE Christmas Boxes

On Sunday, September 10th, you will find 200 empty Christmas Boxes on the Chancel railing. We are excited to once again have the opportunity to prepare a special gift for the children in Armenia that might otherwise receive nothing. Please pick up one or multiple boxes to fill with items listed on the lid. **We cannot include candy, batteries, toothpaste, used items or perishables.** Please include \$5.00 per box for shipping and then secure with the 3 rubber bands included in the box. We will collect thru the month of September and return them on October 8th. Please place the filled boxes on the railing when you return them for a blessing from Pastor Nathan and the congregation during worship on Sunday, October 8th before they are taken to the MERCI Center.

If you would like to participate in this project but are not up to the shopping, you can send a check to the church office and the Outreach Ministry Team will do the shopping for you. Please enclose \$30.00 to cover the gifts and the cost of shipping and send to the church office by September 25th. This year we are adding an opportunity for you to pack a Christmas box even if you are not up to shopping. We will be having a “packing party” at one of the upcoming Wednesday Senior Adult Fellowship days. We will provide the date in the upcoming weeks. The items will be provided. Also, we are ordering some of the hard to find items - like diapers, diaper pins, plastic baby pants, toboggans, etc. They will be available in the Church office for you to pick up if you need them. We hope this will be a project your family embraces with open arms. Thank you for participating in this wonderful Christmas Shoebox Program for the children of Armenia.

The Outreach Committee



Hygiene Kit Packing Party

What a great afternoon we had on Sunday, August 13th. Thirty-four people came to give their time and service to the Outreach Project “Packing Hygiene Kits” for the MERCI Center. These kits contain 7 items that we all have around our house but no one has them when a disaster strikes: hand towel, wash cloth, bar of soap, comb, toothbrush, nail clippers and 10 band aids. These kits will replenish the depleted supplies at the center and be ready to ship when a disaster strikes. Everyone worked hard to pack and box the kits for shipment to Goldsboro. This group packed 308 hygiene kits in 30 minutes. That must be an all-time record. AWESOME JOB!!!



Thanks to everyone that came to help. After the packing was completed, an ice cream social was enjoyed by all present. The Outreach Committee is so appreciative of everyone’s support and help. The pictures of this event only shows a bit of what occurred. What a great church family we have!!



The Outreach Committee

PEACEMAKERS “CHRISTMAS IN JULY” TOY COLLECTION

The Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone who contributed toys to our “Christmas in July” which benefits Peacemakers Christmas Toy Store. You went above and beyond! We collected 103 toys, gifts, and gift cards! These will benefit families here in our own backyard at Christmas Time to provide gifts for their children who might not otherwise have a special holiday.

This year’s toy drive was carried on in memory of our friend, Wilma Rundell, who had a great passion for Mission work in the name of Jesus. Again, thank you for helping fulfill her dream of more toys for the children this year.

The Outreach Committee



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 September is CREATIVITY! Here's what we'll be learning about each week:

Date	Topic	Helper
September 3	God creates the earth (Genesis 1:1-19)	Susan Hayes
September 10	God creates living things (Genesis 1:20-25)	Patsy Lepak
September 17	God creates people (Genesis 1:26-2:4)	Lu Czar
September 24	God creates helpers (Genesis 2:10-23)	Savanna Becker



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 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 September we're learning all about ESTHER!

Date	Topic	Leader
September 3	Unexpected blessings come from unexpected places	Beth Ezzell
September 10	God will place us at the right place at the right time	Phyllis Woodley
September 17	We don't know what our actions will set in motion	Savanna Becker
September 24	We should do everything for the glory of God	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. Our next CAFE will be on Saturday, September 23rd at 10:00 a.m. Our theme is Show & Tell! Everyone is invited to bring a special item from home and tell us about it! Then we'll work on a special fundraiser project that will help us show and tell the world how much we love Jesus! We hope we'll see everyone here!



AUTISM SUPPORT GROUP

Our Autism Groups will begin meeting in September. The EUMC meeting is the last Friday of the month, and our Bailey Group meeting will be held on the second Friday of the month.

Please contact Barbara Batts at 252-450-5000 if you would like to volunteer.

We need food servers and childcare providers for our EUMC group.

Thank you loving all of God's children!!

A BIG SHOUT OUT TO OUR NOAH'S

For two Saturdays, many came to assist our Landscape Architect and Project Manager, Tom Moss, in unloading and construction of the ARK!!! Yes, it was hot and we drank lots of water!! We had many prayers and laughs. For those of you who do not know Tom's background, he is well known for creating church and school play areas. Tom's company is Land Planning & Design, Inc. Landscape Architect NC and VA. He was also the mastermind who led the creation of the Community play area for Down East Partnership for Children. We will introduce our Ark team when we have our official dedication. God Bless all of these loyal workers!



Youth News

UMYF SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>September 3</i>	9:30 am 5:00 pm - 7:00 p.m.	Sunday School & Worship Youth Group
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>September 10</i>	9:30 am 5:00 pm - 7:00 p.m.	Sunday School & Worship Youth Group
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>September 17</i>	9:30 am 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Youth Group
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>September 24</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>
September 3	Pasta	_____
September 10	No Meal Needed	_____
September 17	Picnic Food	_____
September 24	Baked Potato Bar	_____

YARD SALE / BAKE SALE



Our Fall Yard Sale is coming up on Saturday, October 7th from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. You can reserve your own spot to sell items for only \$10 by calling the church office, or you can donate items for the youth group to sell. Please bring your donations to the room behind the Fellowship Hall (furniture and large items) or Room 5 across the hall. If you're able to sort your items into categories we have organized in there, that would be a great help! All proceeds from the yard sale benefit our Youth Mission Fund.

In addition to the yard sale, our children are accepting donations of baked goods for a bake sale on that day! If you are able to bake cakes, cookies, muffins, brownies, or any other goodies, please bring your items to the church kitchen by Friday, October 6th. Thank you for your support!

Prayers At Schools

Our EUMC Youth are starting the year off right - with prayer! On Sunday, August 13th, our youth traveled to each of the schools where our students are attending this year to pray

over them for the new school year. Prayers at Schools is a long held and much loved tradition for our youth group, and this year was no exception. Please continue to join us in praying for all students, teachers, and school staff as they continue through this school year!



Northern Nash High School



Nash Central Middle School



Rocky Mount Middle School