Englewood United Methodist Church Newsletter

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PICKING UP OR DROPPING OFF?

Ash Wednesday remains firmly in the crosshairs of pastors like me. It's the beginning of a very important season for us as Christians. It's a busy one, too! Confirmands learn more deeply about the doctrine and theology of our church before becoming full members. We examine the state of our walk with Christ and recognize that these Forty Days are an opportunity to grow closer to him. Often enough, a question we continuously

are asked is, "What are you giving up?" Some of us use this time to part with unhealthy habits, take a break from sodas, or pledge to only look longingly at a chocolate, but not partake. Some of us might look within and identify more serious struggles we are wrestling

with and identify practices we need to let go of in order for us to grow.

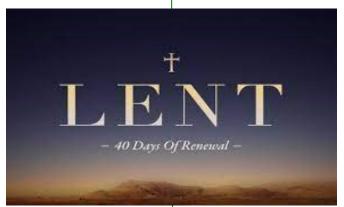
As we give up these things up for Lent, I am sure to ask another question. "What are you picking up?" Because the goal of giving up the things we don't need for Lent is so that we can make space for the things we do need. We fast from some of the distractions so that we can turn our attention to the relationship we've neglected

with God. As February 22nd, Ash Wednesday, approaches and you're prayerfully considering what to part ways with during the following forty days, consider giving up something that has impeded spending more time with God. Could it be we monitor our phone time, being intentional about setting it down to pick up scripture. Maybe we turn off the TV a little earlier at night so that we can spend the close of the day in prayer.

Whatever you commit to during this Holy Lent, be sure that you fast in a way that creates more time for God. This is a precious opportunity each year to hit the reset button and refocus us on the One who has given us everything. Paul says in Romans, "May the God of

hope fill you with all joy and peace in faith so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (15:13). Starting this Ash Wednesday, let's fast to make room for all that God seeks to bestow us with.

Pastor Nathan





Our Sympathy Is Expressed To:

Savanna & Adam Becker upon the death of Savanna's mother, **Linda Carol Blevins Dean** on December 27, 2022.

The Family & Friends of **Linda Ruffin Armstrong** upon her death on January 2, 2023.

Alda Fountain & family upon the death of her brother-in-law, **Reese H. Ferrell, Jr.** on January 18, 2023 and her cousin, **Katie Coleman Watts** on January 14, 2023.

David Rundell & family upon the death of his wife, **Wilma Patricia Hammond Rundell** on January 25, 2023.

In Memoriam BETTY GRACE TANT LEWIS

December 14, 2022

In Memoriam JOHN (Jack) NOBLE KARSHNER December 24, 2022

In Memoriam LINDA RUFFIN ARMSTRONG

January 2, 2023

In Memoriam WILMA PATRICIA HAMMOND RUNDELL January 25, 2023

Dear Church Family,

I sit here in my lounge chair admiring all the beautiful cards that you sent me during my fall and surgery! I am finding it difficult to discard them knowing of all your prayers and thoughtfulness!

I would like to thank Betty Poplin for bringing me a blanket made by the ladies in the Blanket Ministry. I am enjoying it and it has been keeping me very warm! I also thank the Flower Committee for the lovely flowers!

I KNOW & BELIEVE God answered your prayers throughout this entire ordeal! May God's richer blessings be upon one and all! I am sending everyone my LOVE!

A Christian and A Friend, Brenda Andrews

Thank you for the beautiful blanket that was delivered for Ruby Hearne - blue is her favorite color! She loved the personalized pillow. All of the cards, calls, thoughts, and prayer are felt and appreciated.

With love, Jimmy & Stephanie Hearne



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Lou Edmondson

01	Roger Winstead	14	Lou Eamonason
02	Patsy McClintock	14	Darren Fogarty
06	Kathryn Yarbrough	15	Savanna Becker
07	Milton Dickens	15	Scott Boyd
08	Ethan Ayers	15	Macie Collins
10	Terrie Buckner	15	Crayton Overton
10	Matthew Schafer	16	Adam Becker
12	Grace Bellamy	17	Linda Hughes
13	Rod Buckner	19	Denise Boswell
13	Carolyn Clay	19	Sylvia Overton
13	Robert Johnston	21	Mae Carroll
13	Harry Matthews	23	Jack Ellis
14	Margaret Bass	25	T. B. Ludwig

Thank You

We can't thank our church family enough for all of your support during the illness and passing of my mother in December. It's been a challenging time, but we have felt surrounded by your love and care the whole time. Thank you especially to those who brought us meals, sent flowers, and even drove all the way to Virginia for her funeral. We have also appreciated all the beautiful cards with your heartfelt messages. We feel so blessed to be part of the Englewood UMC family.

Savanna & Adam Becker

Members of Englewood UMC,

The Aldersgate Sunday School Class has the finest people in the world in it! Beverly and I have been unable to attend Sunday School for awhile. On January 16th, Barbara Batts and I were sitting in the sunporch talking and all of a sudden coming across the lawn was the whole Aldersgate Sunday School Class for a blessed visit on my birthday and a blessed visit it was! Even Jim Dunn was there! Every time I go through Pinetops, I say a thank you to them for giving us Jim Dunn! Ruby Hearne was not there on Monday but I know she was there in spirit.

Thank all of you for your prayers, cards, flowers, and the banana pudding! God bless each and everyone of you!

Dan & Beverly Vaughan

Care & Comfort Ministry Team,

Thank you so much for the beautiful card & gift card upon my mother's passing. It was a wonderful reminder of the love and support we have in our church family and Adam & I truly appreciate it.

> In Christ, Savanna

Frieda Massey received a prayer shawl from us. She wants to thank all for the ministry for her beautiful shawl. It looks so nice on her. Frieda is my son-in-law, Danny's mom. She is in rehab in Raleigh. Thanks Betty Poplin for your help.



In Christ, Sue McMillan



United Women in Faith News

February 21 10:00 a.m. Women of the Way Circle - Aldersgate Classroom

February 21 6:00 p.m. Lydia's Sisters' Circle - Fellowship Hall

Savanna Becker & Amy Quigley will be the hostesses.

Program: Speaker from Ripple Effects...
a community transformation organization

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



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Tuesday, February 7
 Tuesday, February 14
 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Church Parlor (Blankets)
 Church Parlor (Shawls)

Shawls and blankets will be placed on the altar rail for blessing on Sunday, February 12th.

Do you know <u>someone who</u> 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 January 17th to kick off 2023. Sharon Roth gave the devotion "This Year Make Positive Changes That Honor God". It was reported that two of our members are currently ill and after the devotion, a prayer was offered up for healing of both.

Since this was our first meeting of the year, we had no speaker but spent the time discussing events for 2023. Circle co-chairs for 2023 will continue to be Jeannie Gibbs and Sharon Roth. The circle continues to support Faith Christian Ministries with food products and The Lighthouse with paper products. The circle will continue its ongoing sales of dishcloths with Terrie Buckner in charge, but the Rada cutlery sales not be offered until the fall.

The programs for February and March were shared and it was announced that in April we will once again pack hygiene kits for the MERCI Center. We will continue to assist in Back Pack Buddies program with packing food for the students on the 1st Wednesday and the 3rd Tuesday of each month. With no additional business to come before this group, the annual pledge service was held in order to receive pledges from our members to support UWF missions. 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.



Save the Date:

LYDIA'S SISTERS TEA Saturday, March 25th



The deadline for receiving information to be included in the MARCH Newsletter is Thursday, February 16th!



SENIOR ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship The Senior Adult Fellowship will meet in the Fellowship Hall for Bingo at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 1st and

at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 15th.

<u>FAITH CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES</u> OF NASH COUNTY - FEBRUARY NEEDS

The director and staff at Faith Christian Ministries of Nash County continue to be overwhelmed with joy with the knowledge of how many hungry people they can help with your donations. You are a very giving church.

Starting Sunday, February 5th, the "Meals of the Month"

donation will be Canned Chicken with Instant Potatoes, Rice, or Helper. 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 February. We know you are donating food for the Souper Bowl of



Caring but don't forget Faith Christian Ministries which this church has supported for years. Even though this nonprofit is in Nashville, the primary area served is Rocky Mount. This is another wonderful opportunity for this generous congregation to help others who can't help themselves.

ENGLEWOOD UNITED METHODIST MEN

The Englewood United Methodist Men will meet on Tuesday, February 14th at 6:00 p.m. in the

Fellowship Hall. Our speaker is to be announced.

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.

Please mark your calendar.

Peter Varney

From the Trustees...

In order to keep our congregation safe, please be aware of visitors requesting money or items. Recently we welcomed a person into our church, not realizing his purpose. We want to be an inviting congregation, welcome new faces and guide them to where they need to go in our church. If they have special needs or request money, remember that giving a "Hands Up", is best. We can always direct these visitors to our partner, United Community Ministries to provide assistance.

2023 "SOUPER BOWL OF CARING"



The Outreach Committee has planned an exciting project for our "2023 Souper Bowl of Caring". The Kick Off was on Sunday, January 15th. We will be filling grocery carts with the items listed below. The Outreach Committee is excited to announce that 1 shopping cart is SOLD! This is a great opportunity to purchase a cart in honor or memory of someone special to you. Perhaps your Sunday School class will join with another to purchase food or buy a cart. Any considerations to TACKLE HUNGER are welcome! We are working with United Community Ministries to help SACK Hunger and Homelessness.

We have one more Sunday Game on February 5th and then THE CELEBRATION on February 12th. Join us in the Fellowship Hall "Stadium" for a party after morning worship! Bring soups, chips, sandwiches, dips, desserts, etc. Let's create a delicious fun party!!! Lemonade, tea and coffee will be available. Don't sit on the sideline...join the game today!

United Community Ministries Wish List

Monetary Contributions are greatly needed and appreciated.

Large Cans of the Following Items:

Mixed Vegetables Corn
String Beans Baked Beans
Manwich Collards
Spaghetti Sauce Yams

Tomatoes White Potatoes
Lots of Tomato Paste for Soups

Mustard Ketchup
Mayo Salt
Pepper Season Salt
Mrs. Doch Toble Pland

Mrs. Dash Table Blend Lemon Pepper Italian Seasoning Cooking Oil (Vegetable)

<u>Disposable</u> for Soup Kitchen:

Forks
Plates
Spoons
Take Out Plates
Cup Bowls
Napkins

Miscellaneous:

New or Gently Used Towels / Washcloths Trash Bags (tall kitchen & large black)

Large Plastic Totes
Combs / Brushes
Twin Sheets / Blankets

Soap

Laundry Detergent Paper Towels Toilet Paper Kleenex Bleach Deodorant Toothpaste Pine Sol



Greetings from our 2020 Souper Bowl of Caring -Canines for Veterans



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!

Conference Disaster Relief - Early Response Training First UMC - Rocky Mount, NC Saturday, April 22, 2023 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Room 43

Lunch will be provided.

If you are interested in participating,
please contact Frank Katkaveck at 252-904-4829 or
fkatkaveck@suddenlink.net.



JOYFULLY TOGETHER FELLOWSHIP EVENT

We're kicking off our first "Joyfully Together" fellowship event of 2023, and we know you're going to love it! We all love the "Moment with the Children" in worship because we never quite know what our children are going to say...We're bringing you more of that delightful kid humor with an EUMC version of "Kids Say the Darndest Things"!

On Friday, February 10th at 6:00 p.m., come enjoy a delicious meal with your church family and be entertained by our children (and youth) in this hilarious program. Dinner will be catered by Tokyo Express. We know you'll have a great time! So sign up using the insert in your bulletin or call the church office by Monday, February 6th. We can't wait to see you there!! This is also a great opportunity to invite your friends and neighbors to church - the more the merrier!



Have you eaten all the Brunswick Stew you purchased or did you want to purchase more stew??? We have good news! There are still some quarts available in the freezer!!! If you are interested in purchasing stew, just call the church office at 252-443-2926. It is \$10 a quart.

2023 FLOWER CALENDAR

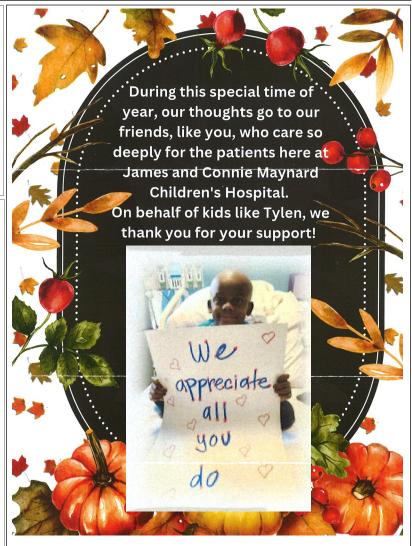
The 2023 Flower Calendar is now available for your use in reserving that special Sunday to place flowers in the sanctuary in memory of your loved ones or in honor of a special event in your family. The 2023 Flower Calendar is now online on the church website (www.englewood-umc.com). Under the Worship heading click on Flowers. Scroll down for instructions to use the calendar to reserve a date. Click



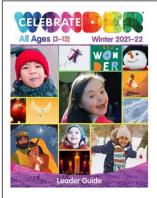
on the Sunday you would like to provide flowers. If the date is available, provide your name, email and the message you would like placed in the bulletin regarding the person (s) or event being honored by the flowers. Click 'Submit'. You should get an email confirmation that your date has been reserved.

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 from Vidant Health Foundation for blankets that were shared with the children at James and Connie Maynard Children's Hospital in Greenville, North Carolina by the EUMC Blanket / Shawl Ministry.



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 February is KINGDOM! Here's what we'll be learning about each week:

Date	Topic	Helper
February 5	Jesus and the Children (Mark 10:13-16)	Brenda Bazemore
February 12	The Lost Sheep & the Lost Coin (Luke 15:3-10)	Nancy Mooring
February 19	The Forgiving Father (Luke 15:11-32)	Brenda Ellis
February 26	The Widow's Coins (Luke 21:1-4)	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. 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.

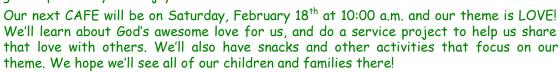
Children's Church Schedule

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 ABRAHAM!

Date	Торіс	Leader
February 5	Abraham: God is faithful! (Genesis 12:1-9)	Beth Ezzell
February 12	Abraham: God's plan is worth the wait! (Genesis 16:1-16)	Phyllis Woodley
February 19	Abraham: God fulfills his promises! (Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7)	Savanna Becker
February 26	Abraham: God will always be with us! (Genesis 22:1-18)	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 5^{th} grade and younger, and is designed for grownups to stay and enjoy the activities with us.







Did You Know?

We have two EUMC Twin County Autism Family Support Groups. Both groups provide a meal and play partners at no cost.

Meals begin at 6:00 p.m. and end at 7:15 p.m.

Our EUMC group meets on the last Friday of each month. February 24th, March 31st, April 29th joint fundraising event, "Walk and Roll". We would love to have volunteers to play with our children and come enjoy a meal together.

Our Bailey groups meets at La Hermosa Church on the second Friday of each month. February 10th, March 10th, April 14th, and April 29th is our "Walk and Roll" fundraiser. Interpreters joins us and the church welcomes all families.

Barbara Batts, our Coordinator attends each meeting and hopes you will join us for a meeting. If you will consider volunteering, please call Barbara Batts at 252-450-5000 to say yes!



UMYF FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

Sunday	February 5	9:30 am 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Confirmation Class Youth Group
Sunday	February 12	9:30 am 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Confirmation Class Youth Group
Sunday	February 19	9:30 am 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Confirmation Class Youth Group
Wednesday	February 22	5:30 pm 6:30 pm	Youth Pancake Supper Fundraiser Ash Wednesday Worship
Sunday	February 26	9:30 am 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Confirmation Class 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</u> <u>By</u>
February 5	Pasta	
February 12	Picnic Food	
February 19	Baked Potato Bar	
February 26	Pizza	Dick & Lou Edmondson & Jo Wilson

YOUTH PANCAKE SUPPER FUNDRAISER

Can you smell those delicious pancakes cooking? You will soon! Our next Youth Pancake Supper Fundraiser is coming up on Wednesday, February 22nd at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall (before the Ash Wednesday Service). Enjoy a delicious pancake supper and support a fantastic cause - our Youth Mission Fund!!

Our menu for the Pancake Supper is pancakes with syrup, sausage patties, fruit, milk, and juice...YUM!! The cost is \$7 per meal. All proceeds benefit our Youth Mission Fund, which supports youth missions and activities throughout the year. (We will not be offering a drive-thru option this time, but you can still get your meals to go! Simply come through the serving line, and we'll fix your meal in a to-go box rather than a plate.)

The deadline to sign up is Monday, February 20th. You can pay ahead of time or when you arrive at the church. You can sign up using the form included in your worship program, by calling the church office at 252-443-2926, or online at www.englewood-umc.com/pancakes.



EUMC YOUTH IN 2022: A YEAR IN REVIEW

CHECK OUT HOW OUR CHURCH IMPACTED THE LIVES OF STUDENTS LAST YEAR



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0 0

Youth who came to summer youth activities

\$355 Avg. cost per student

\$0 Amount families had to pay for their student

CHURCH SUPPORT

- 5 Adult volunteers who help with youth weekly
- 10 Additional adults who chaperoned events
- 15+ Families who provided meals for youth group

\$11,700

Amount contributed through fundraisers and donations for summer youth missions

UMYF

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- **45** Number of Sundays we met from 5-7 p.m.
- 14 Average weekly youth group attendance
- Number of students attending youth group activities in 2022

We reached 39 youth whose families are not part of our church (yet!)

THANK YOU

for making a difference to our EUMC Youth in 2022!

"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed... Though it is the smallest of all seeds, when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches." -Matthew 13:31-32