

# Englewood United Methodist Church Newsletter

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**SEPTEMBER 1, 2022**

300 S. Circle Drive

Mail: P.O. Box 7128

Rocky Mount, NC 27804-0128

Phone: (252) 443-2926

Church Email: [nporter@englewood-umc.com](mailto:nporter@englewood-umc.com)

Web Site: [www.englewood-umc.com](http://www.englewood-umc.com)

Rev. Nathan Wittman  
Lead Pastor  
[nwittman@englewood-umc.com](mailto:nwittman@englewood-umc.com)

Rev. Savanna Becker  
Minister of Christian Education  
[sbecker@englewood-umc.com](mailto:sbecker@englewood-umc.com)

Christian Davenport  
Office Administrator  
[cdavenport@englewood-umc.com](mailto:cdavenport@englewood-umc.com)

Nancy Porter  
Secretary  
[nporter@englewood-umc.com](mailto:nporter@englewood-umc.com)

## A MONTH OF GIVING

*"So, brothers and sisters, because of God's mercies, I encourage you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice that is holy and pleasing to God" (Romans 12:1)*

Say it with me: "It's the month of September." Pumpkin spice once again flows, Halloween costumes and decorations are given a special aisle at Walmart and Target, and the pastor's sending out messages about stewardship. We're celebrating generosity in September this year, and it all culminates in making our pledges and having a meal together on September 25<sup>th</sup>. Offering takes so many shapes within the church, from financial to service, and there are so many opportunities to serve. Why? Because there is so much that exists to keep our church thriving and changing the lives of both the people within and those outside in our community. I know that these many needs and opportunities can be draining or daunting, and sometimes we are not as excited to hear about ways to offer. Believe you me, your pastors and leaders are sometimes not excited to ask! But as I read Romans 12:1 I hear a new way to shape our stewardship.

Paul tells us that these offerings are a response to the God who gave us everything. Our God who breathed life into humanity's lungs, who rescued God's people countless times from their enemies, who forgave and forgave and forgave, even to the point of giving God's son on a cross, expects only one thing in return...that we give, too. Paul shares that the thanksgiving God requires is that we are just as generous towards our neighbors, God's very children. And so these ways we offer are more than simply church chores or something we do because we will feel bad if we don't. These are truly opportunities to say thanks to the God of the universe that is responsible for giving us life and all that we see. These are opportunities to grow closer to God as we imitate God's sacrificial love.

There are so many ways that we can keep this church going as a life-giving presence of God's kingdom breaking through in Rocky Mount. We've just completed our Summer of Service and experienced a buffet of ways to give back. During my time with you I've seen a range of opportunities from collecting toys for Peacemakers, preparing flood buckets for those affected by flooding in Kentucky, and making prayer shawls and blankets. Even our youth have been busy to support our schools, other churches, and places in the community through their Workday Wednesdays. These ministries need hands and feet in service, but they also need our funding. That is why our tithe, along with our volunteering, is so very important, and we cannot say thank you enough for it. I have seen a very generous church since arriving in July and I know that this is but a window into our hearts, a brief list coming from a pastor who has only been with you for a brief time.

As you reflect on this year so far and ways in which you may feel called to serve, ask yourself, "How will I say 'Thank you' to God next?" How will we nurture

the growth our church continues to experience? How will we grow in our generosity? Paul calls us to offer ourselves as a living sacrifice to the God who gave a Son's last breathe on the cross for our salvation. We will never be able to repay that, but God isn't asking us to. God is asking us to love one another, be God's church of peace in a chaotic world, and to make disciples of Jesus Christ. We will need everyone for that goal!

*Pastor Nathan*





### Our Sympathy Is Expressed To:

*Jim & Sharon Dunn and family upon the death of Jim's brother, **Robert "Bobby" Lee Dunn, Jr.** on August 5, 2022.*

What a blessing my church family is! Thank you for your prayers and the many ways you have offered love and support as I've dealt with new health issues. And let me include a special thanks to our Flower Ministry ladies (and contributors who make it possible) for those bouquets of sunshine. Through you I am reminded that God is good...all the time.

With love,  
Debbie High

A huge thank you for all the phone calls, cards, flowers, visits, food, and especially the prayers lifted for me after my recent knee replacement surgery. Although I am still in recovery as I continue physical therapy, I have come a long way and feeling much better. Your care and concern are definitely felt and appreciated.

Love to all my church family,  
Embra Pullen

Englewood UMC Prayer Shawl Ministry,

I thank you for remembering me with the beautiful prayer shawl and the prayer blanket for Donnie. The praying hands that touched them gives us a lot of comfort.

We appreciate all the love the many acts of kindness my church family has shown to us during Don's illness and death.

May God bless each of you as you continue this ministry.

Love,  
Lois Barnes

Dear Members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry,

My sincere thanks to Lin Varney for having introduced the lovely gesture of prayer shawls at the time of sorrow in families.

Thank you for the beautiful shawl.

Sandy Coan

I wish to say a grateful thank you for all the cards that you sent me and phone calls that you made in response to my brother's passing. To those who attended the funeral, it gave us strength and we appreciated your presence. Thanks to the Flower Ministry for the flowers delivered by Jeannie Gibbs, and for those who made some delicious baked goods for us. It is at times like this that our church family means so much and clearly reflects Christ's command to show love to one another. Your actions, thoughts, and prayers have meant so much to Sharon and myself during this time.

A special thanks goes to Pastor Nathan for attending the funeral and visitation. It was uplifting to see his smiling face coming through the visitation line, and his words of encouragement meant so much to us.

Thank you again for all your love.

Jim Dunn



### 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	David Ayers	19	Theresa Cruz
09	Larry Boyd, Jr.	21	James White
09	Allan Buss	22	Sam Quigley
09	Beth Ezzell	23	Jerry Ezzell, Jr.
11	Jayden Davis	23	Abigale Morehart
11	Adam Marlowe	24	Amy Schafer
12	Kandy Domina	25	Wyatt Collins
12	Kenan Mills	26	Faith Schafer
14	Jean Bailey	29	Betty Lee
14	Carolyn Carter	30	Alaina Boyd
14	Jessica Ezzell	30	Lin Varney
15	Randolph Holoman		

*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!*

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Flower Ministry Ladies,

The flowers Sharon Dunn and Brenda Andrews brought to me were beautiful. They help brighten my day and your thoughtfulness was much appreciated.

Blessings to all of you,  
Brenda Ellis

Dear Members of Prayer Shawl / Blanket Ministry,

Thank you for the warm hand-knitted blanket you made for us. We especially appreciate the prayers uttered for us during this time of grief. Losing a loved one is never easy. Knowing people are praying on our behalf is a real comfort.

Love,  
Donnie & Cindy Barnes

Dear Ladies of the Prayer Shawl / Blanket Ministry,

Peggy Edwards, a resident at Autumn Care of Nash, is my sister. She gave me the beautiful Prayer shawl that you made and have prayed over for me.

I am a stage 3 cancer patient and am continuously fighting it with the Lord's help and prayers of many people like you.

The Lord has blessed you with this talent you're using to help and bless those in need. Thank you for your kindness, caring, and the love of the Lord.

May God continue to bless you as you do His work.

My fate is in God's hands and I accept whatever His will for me will be. Praise the Lord!

Love in Christ,  
Claudia Gail Wallace



## UMW NEWS

September 20 10:00 a.m. Women of the Way -  
Aldersgate Classroom

September 20 6:00 p.m. Lydia's Sisters' Circle -  
Fellowship Hall  
Program: Youth Summer Missions -  
Savanna Becker  
Hostesses: Lea Ann Nichols  
& Savanna Becker

## 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, September 11<sup>th</sup>, September 18<sup>th</sup> and September 25<sup>th</sup> in the church lobby.



Casseroles will be available for pick up on Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> 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, September 6 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Fellowship Hall (Blankets)  
Tuesday, September 13 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Church Parlor (Shawls)

**Shawls and Blankets will be placed on the altar rail for blessing on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>.**



## Women of The Way Circle



The United Methodist Women will resume their meetings in September. The UMW is a community of women whose purpose is to know God and experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ, to develop a creative supportive fellowship, and to expand concepts of mission through

participation in the global ministries of the church. The Women of the Way Circle will meet on Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Aldersgate Classroom.

Members are reminded to bring paper products for the Lighthouse and food for Faith Christian Ministries. The UMW is open to all women of the church so anyone wishing to join us please come!!



Senior Adult Fellowship

## **SENIOR ADULT FELLOWSHIP**

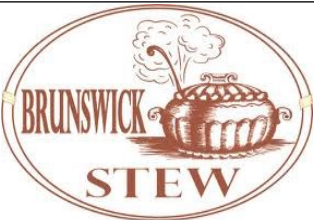
The Senior Adult Fellowship will meet in the Fellowship Hall for Bingo at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> and at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>.

## FAITH CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES OF NASH COUNTY - SEPTEMBER NEEDS

Faith Christian Ministries serves those in need in Nash County. Since the pandemic, more people are asking for help with bills, medicines, and food. So you see, it is very important that we continue to supply them with the food they need. Please purchase an extra item or two for FCM when you shop for your groceries and drop it off at the church. Remember HUNGER is still here and some people are out of work. Faith Christian Ministries of Nash County is doing their part, with your 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 4<sup>th</sup>, the "Meals of the Month" donation will be **Canned Beef Stew, Canned Chicken & Dumplings, and Rice**. 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 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.



## **UMW Brunswick Stew Sale**

The Englewood UMW (under the leadership of Jay Quigley) will be cooking their fabulous Brunswick Stew on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Cooking sign-up sheets will be available at each September Circle Meeting. As usual, pre-sales will be conducted in the church lobby for three weeks prior to the cooking date (October 2<sup>nd</sup>, October 9<sup>th</sup> and October 16<sup>th</sup>). 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.

Remember this is the one primary fund raiser for UMW and we appreciate your support. Plus your stomachs get a great reward!!



## ENGLEWOOD UNITED METHODIST MEN

Our summer break is over! The Englewood United Methodist Men will meet Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Our speaker is Ken Hunter who will speak about the economic outlook for this area. 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 brief devotion, and then introduce our speaker.

At the end of our time together, we will need to talk about the outlook for the peanut production operation and plans for Ladies Night. Hope to see you there!

Peter Varney

### PEANUT PRICE INCREASE



Because we are experiencing rising costs of supplies and shipping expenses, the Methodist Men are increasing the price of peanuts effective September 1<sup>st</sup>. The new prices are:

	<u>Case</u>	<u>Jar</u>
Retail	\$45.00	\$3.75
Wholesale	\$42.00	\$3.50



I continue to recover from surgery and am so thankful to be on this side of the recovery. I've had issues with my back and chronic nerve pain for some time. I had gotten exponentially worse since the spring. I've been working with a surgeon who was able to get me into last week's surgery rotation (August 18<sup>th</sup>). I actually didn't think I'd have surgery for another month, but I think he saw and understood the intense pain it was causing.

They successfully removed a facet cyst on my L5 S1 that was pressing against my spinal cord and causing so much chronic nerve pain. I certainly feel better and hope surgery resolved the issue. Now it's time for healing, therapy and strengthening to avoid its return.

I wanted to share my thanks and gratitude for all the prayers and support from the church community. I believe in the power of prayer and appreciate my fellow church family for uplifting me in their prayers. The flowers Barbara Batts dropped off today were special, unexpected and they certainly brightened my day. Hope to be up and at'm soon!

Godspeed,  
Jeff Smith

EUMC Family,,

I am so thankful for all the expressions of love that were sent my way after my recent injury. All the calls, prayers, cards, food, flowers and visits were so very special. I feel very blessed to have such a wonderful church family.

Love,  
Brenda Ellis



### Church-Wide Clean-Up Day

We're gearing up for a church-wide clean-up day on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to noon, and we hope you'll be here to help! There are a number of projects to work on, so we'll get into teams and tackle every area of the church - cleaning, reorganizing, decluttering, and inspecting for updates. There are plenty of jobs for everyone to be part of this workday, and we plan to have some fun along the way! We will plan to meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 a.m. on September 17<sup>th</sup> and get to work. We hope to see you here! If you have suggestions of projects we might want to add to our list for that day, please contact Savanna or the church office.

### 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.

### OUR YEAR-TO-DATE RECORD (Thru August 28, 2022)

#### FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	<u>Ministry Needs</u>	
	<u>Monthly Actual</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Receipts	\$28,717.32	\$270,720.72
Goal	\$35,260.00	\$282,080.00

*Our 2022 General Budget includes our Missional Giving*

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

Date	Topic	Helper
September 4	Hannah (1 Samuel 1:1-28)	Susan Hayes
September 11	God Calls Samuel (1 Samuel 3:1-21)	Patsy Smith
September 18	Samuel Anoints Saul (1 Samuel 7-8; 10:17-24)	Savanna Becker
September 25	Samuel Anoints David (1 Samuel 16:1-13)	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

In Children's Church we're learning about important stories in the Bible that help us understand God better. Together we'll learn what God is like, what God wants from us, and how, if we are willing, God can do great things through us! During September, we'll continue learning about the Armor of God, focusing on a different element each Sunday.

Date	Topic	Leader
September 4	Helmet of Salvation	Beth Ezzell
September 11	Sword of the Spirit	Phyllis Woodley & Kenan Mills
September 18	Prayer	Savanna Becker
September 25	Full Armor of God	Jessica Ezzell

## Saturday Morning CAFE (Children And Families @ Englewood)

Our Saturday Morning CAFE! The 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 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Our theme is "Fall Fun"! We have fall-themed crafts that children of all ages will enjoy, and then we'll work on a special fundraiser project. We need everyone's help to make this project a success, so we hope we'll see everyone here!



## AFTER SCHOOL BEARS CLUB



We are excited to welcome back our After-School Bears starting on Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>! The Bears Program meets on Thursday afternoons from 3:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

We host a group of 10 students from Englewood Elementary School for a snack, homework help, other educational and fun activities, and a Bible lesson. Please join us in praying for a great school year for all of our children!

If you are interested in volunteering with the Bears Program, please contact Savanna Becker.

## Caring Card Ministry

The Caring Card Committee reminds you that an assortment of cards are available in the narthex and on the table in the hallway outside the church office. We invite our entire church family to take some cards and send them to someone who needs to hear from a friend!

We have some permanent members we send cards to and we will send cards to any friend or person you love! Please contact Christian or Nancy with a name and address and the Caring Card members will mail a card immediately.



The deadline for receiving information to be included in the OCTOBER Newsletter is Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>!

## UMYF SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>September 4</i>	9:30 am 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Youth Group
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>September 7</i>	5:30 pm	Pancake Supper Fundraiser
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>September 11</i>	9:30 am 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Youth Group
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>September 18</i>	9:30 am 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Youth Group
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>September 20</i>	6:00 pm	Youth share about summer experiences at Lydia's Sisters Circle
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>September 25</i>	9:30 am 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Youth Group
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>October 1</i>	6:00 am - Noon	Yard Sale Fundraiser

### 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 4	Sandwiches	Brian & Pattie Collins
September 11	Pasta	James White & Leslie Balfance
September 18	Picnic Food	_____
September 25	Baked Potato Bar	_____



### Youth Pancake Supper Fundraiser Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>

We hope you're hungry—because it's time for our Youth Pancake Supper Fundraiser! Join us on **Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.** for a delicious meal of pancakes with syrup, sausage, fruit, and drinks. The cost for each meal is \$7.00 and all proceeds benefit our Youth Missions Fund. You can choose to either dine in with us in the Fellowship Hall or drive-thru and pick up your meal (*pickup is available from 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. only*).

The deadline to sign up is Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at noon, so be sure to call the church office and get your reservations in now!



Our Fall Yard Sale is coming up on Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup> from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. You can reserve your own spot to sell items for only \$10.00 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, September 30<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your support!

# Prayers At Schools

Our EUMC Youth are starting the year off right—with prayer! On Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup> our youth traveled to each of the ten 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 we were able to share it with our friends from the St. Andrew's Episcopal Church youth group as well!



Nash Central Middle School



Nash Central High School



Nash-Rocky Mount Early College  
High School



Faith Christian School



Rocky Mount Academy



Rocky Mount Preparatory School



Northern Nash High School



Rocky Mount High School



Rocky Mount Middle School



North Carolina Wesleyan University

## PONDERING WITH THE PASTOR



Have you completed a form letting Pastor Nathan know what day (*Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday*) and time (*morning, afternoon, or evening*) would be the most convenient time for you to be a part of a small group meeting to “Ponder With the Pastor” about “Why?” Based on the information gathered, Pastor Nathan will set up multiple opportunities for a one-time small group gatherings in September. The goal of the gatherings is simple: we’ll get to know each other better and also ask those “why?” questions. Forms are available in the church narthex and on the table outside the church office. Please place the completed forms in the offering plate on Sunday or bring to the church office as soon as possible.

## Youth Sunday

On Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup> our EUMC Youth led our morning worship service. We got to hear about all of their summer mission experiences, including the mission trip and Workday Wednesdays. It’s wonderful to see how the seeds we plant as a church continue to grow and bear fruit. Thank you for continuing to support our EUMC Youth!



## AGAPE Christmas Boxes



On Sunday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, 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 2<sup>nd</sup>. 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for participating this wonderful Christmas Shoebox Program for the children of Armenia.

The Outreach Committee

## DISASTER MINISTRIES TRAINING



Disaster Ministries serves as a caring Christian presence in the aftermath of disaster, fostering partnerships between United Methodists and others to help rebuild homes, communities, and lives. Our Conference offers training courses from the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to help staff, churches, and volunteers learn how to prepare and respond to disasters.

### Early Response Team

Register at: (<https://nccumc.org/disaster/training/#ert>)  
September 24, 2022 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
First UMC Rocky Mount Fellowship Hall  
Lunch & snacks will be provided.

### Advanced ERT

(<https://nccumc.org/disaster/training/#advanced>)

### Connecting Neighbors

(<https://nccumc.org/disaster/training/#connectingneighbors>)

### Other Training

(<https://nccumc.org/disaster/training/#other>)



## MERCI CENTER WAREHOUSE

Help is needed at the MERCI Center in Goldsboro to prepare Flood Buckets and Hygiene Kits to go to the Kentucky flood victims. We are receiving items that are needed to fill the Flood Buckets and Hygiene Kits. A list of the items that are needed for each kit is available on the table outside the church office. Monetary donations are also welcomed and needed. Please make checks payable to EUMC and mark UMCOR on the memo line.

If you are available to go to Goldsboro to help pack these kits, please contact Mike Williams at 252-813-3282 for more information.