

# WE LISTEN TO THE WORD

Introduction to the Scripture Reading  
Rev. Jeremy Troxler

^Scripture Reading  
Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; 3:17-19 (NRSVue)

Sermon Message  
*When the Fig Tree Doesn't Blossom*  
Rev. Jeremy Troxler

# WE ARE SENT TO SERVE

^ Closing Hymn  
*Be Thou My Vision*, UMH #451

^Next Steps & Benediction

Postlude

# FOR NEW FOLKS:

## WELCOME TO GUILFORD COLLEGE UMC!

We are so glad that you chose to worship with us this morning. GCUMC is a place for all who long to grow closer to God and others. Please know that you are loved and accepted here.

## WE LOVE CHILDREN

If you brought the kids with you, please know that the noises children make are music in our, and God's, ears. You are welcome to keep your children with you in worship. We also have child care available for infants through age 4 in Room C8 on the first floor of the children's building during the 11:00am worship service, and a separate children's worship experience at 11am that begins after the children's message for children in grades K-6.

## JOIN US FOR "COFFEE WITH THE PASTORS"

Join us in the parlor, just down the hall from the sanctuary, after the worship services on **September 14** for "Coffee with the Pastors." This informal gathering with Pastors Jeremy and Susan will help you get to know them, meet other newcomers, learn more about our church, ask questions, and talk about how you might become more involved.

## WE CARE THAT YOU ARE HERE

Whether you're a new guest or a regular worshipper, you matter to us. We want to know that you are here and how we can pray for you. **We hope you will please take a moment to fill out our attendance pad with your name and contact information and leave it in the pew.**

## PLEASE VISIT US ONLINE

To learn more about us, please visit us either at our website, [guilfordcollegeumc.org](http://guilfordcollegeumc.org), through our YouTube Channel, or on our Facebook Page (just search "Guilford College UMC" for each). You may also use your phone's camera or QR app to scan the QR code to the right:



# GIVE

## MAKE AN OFFERING TO THE WORK OF GOD'S CHURCH

- 1 - Text GiveGCUMC to 73256. Then click on the link provided to give.
- 2 – Visit our website [www.guilfordcollegeumc.org](http://www.guilfordcollegeumc.org) to use your credit card or to set up an automatic draft. Immediate receipts are available. You can even use the GCUMC QR code in this bulletin.
- 3 – Log into your REALM account to give through your profile's giving page.
- 4 - Checks can be made out to "Guilford College UMC" and placed in the offering plate and cash is always a good form of giving.

## GCUMC FINANCIAL REPORT

Operating Budget surplus/deficit analysis through July 31, 2025:  
Amount received for budget as of 7/31/25: \$ 660,514.68  
Expenses as of 7/31/25: 668,365.80  
Difference: (\$ 7,851.12)

# CONNECT

## BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

We're sending GCUMC students of all ages, teachers and administrative staff back to school with our congregation's prayers and blessings!

## SNACKS FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

We invite **any college students** with us today to stay after the 11:00am worship service to grab a snack and meet other area students. You can also learn about ways for young adults to plug into life at GCUMC! You can meet Laurin Allred in the Hilltop Room (the room with the pool table right behind the coffee station on the main hallway).

## COLLEGE STUDENT ADDRESSES

We would love to stay in touch with our students while they are away at college. Please notify the church office with their updated address information. Thank you!

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT OUT MEALS AND PROGRAMMING

During the months of September, October and November we will be offering Wednesday night meals twice a month from 5:45 – 6:45pm with the first meal on September 10. Programming for all ages will follow the meal.

## CHURCH PICNIC & YOUTH CAMPOUT AT THE TROXLER FARM

Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 4pm – 7pm

Location: 7017 Clayton Rd., Browns Summit, NC 27214

If you can, bring a Chair, along with a Side Dish or Dessert to Share GCUMC Vans will be available at the Church to provide transportation (Youth Overnight Campout afterwards from 7pm till Sunday lunchtime)

# GROW

## YOUTH & YOUTH PARENT INFORMATION MEETING

Please join us on Sunday, August 24, 5pm-7pm in Room C1 in the Children's Education Building. Students in grades 7-12 and their parents are invited to our information meeting about the upcoming year. Questions contact: Randy Wall at [rwall@guilfordcollegeumc.org](mailto:rwall@guilfordcollegeumc.org).

## DISCIPLE SCHOOL WITH PASTOR JEREMY

Join with Pastor Jeremy in the Sanctuary on Wednesday, August 27 at 6:45pm to learn and discuss from our Bible Year scripture readings. No preparation needed to attend.

## REVELATION PART 3 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

In the Book of Revelation, God pulls back the curtain and allows us to have a glimpse of things that are to come. In Part 3 (11 sessions), observe a detailed exploration of the Lamb's worthiness to open the scroll, the unfolding apocalyptic events, the ultimate triumph of good over evil, and the establishment of God's eternal kingdom, focusing on themes of judgment, redemption, and hope. Two options are available: Tuesday evenings via Zoom 6:00-7:45 PM starting September 16 AND Wednesday mornings in person and via Zoom 9:30-11:30 AM starting September 17. Cost of workbook is \$25. Sign up online or through Donna Ford in the church office.

# PRAY

## AMONG THOSE WE ARE PRAYING FOR TODAY:

*Within Our Church Family:* **Those who are Grieving:** The Family and Friends of Larry Stevens; The Family and Friends of Janet Green; all those who have lost a loved one; **Healing:** Sandra Myers; David Saunders, Gay Brown; Minerva Heavner; Marjorie Liles; Vicki Kidd; Charlie Heavner; Diana Clark; Dave Wasserboehr; Grey Lane; **Strength & Faith:** Carole Stevens **Surgery or Tests:** Pam Wilson (surgery 9/2); Susan Whitesides (surgery Sept.); **Those With Cancer:** Maria Maynard; Tom Jenkins; Becky Babaoft; Lisa Hodges; **Sustaining and Guidance:** Harold Eagle; Harold Proctor; Doris Linker; Patsy Wyatt; Nancy and Jim Baity; Helen Phillips; Bill Blyshak; Gina Murphy; Tina Bell Midgett; Terri Hastings; Y'Josue M'lo (military service in Germany);

*Extended Church Family:* **Grieving:** The Family and Friends of David Bayersdorfer (John's brother); The Family and Friends of Carolyn Sherrick (Beth Creamer's mother); the Family the Friends of Mr. Dennis Creamer (Dennis Creamer's father); Troy Hoilman on the passing of his grandmother (Rachel); The Family and Friends of Don Murphy; all who are grieving and need comfort; **Cancer:** Jackson Keller; Jim Cashman; Joanne Burgener (Sandy Riffe's relative); Dawn Hand; Mark Ralls; Ron Moser; Debra Rutt; Shilah George; Shannon Wilson; Sammy Williams; Azalea Marbury; Debbie Sexton; Judy Journey; Tammy Strickland; Jerri Ramsey; **Surgery and Awaiting Test Results:** Roxana Alvarado; **Healing:** Pastor Linda Moore; Haley Ramsey; Steve Haines; Robert Gullet; Peggy Conaway; Hank Pearman (fractured femur); Roxana Alvarado; Alannah Romano; Steve Troxler; **Strength and Guidance:** Jim Eldrett; Sammy Rodriguez (military in Cuba); Emily Franco; Kenneth Briggs; Christopher Blyshak; Y'Suan Mlo and H'Lai, H'Jina, H'Sally, Bunlim and Darwin; our ministry partners in Kenya; **Missionaries:** Liz and David Gamble; **World:** all who are in areas where there is war, famine, drought and natural disasters; victims of violence, famine in Israel, Gaza and Iran

# SERMON NOTES

Today in worship we continue with our year-long series called “The Bible Year,” in which we are reading the Scriptures all the way through together, from cover to cover, from Genesis all the way through Revelation.

Recently we began reading a part of the Bible sometimes called The Minor Prophets, which consists of twelve shorter books written by or about messengers whom God sends to God’s people. Among the prophetic books we read in the past week was that of the prophet Habakkuk. We do not know much about Habakkuk’s ministry – what we have are his writings, some of which consist of Psalm-like prayers to God. Like the biblical figure Job, Habakkuk asks God why there is so much violence and injustice and seemingly senseless suffering in the world. The message Habakkuk receives is a call to patient trust and enduring hope– a message that reminds the prophet that the temporary events of life are not always an accurate reflection of God’s character, or God’s long-term purpose. In response, Habakkuk declares that whatever may be happening to him in life, he will continue to rejoice in the goodness of God.



**Today's Scripture:**

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; 3:17-19 (NRSVue)

**KEY VERSES:**

<sup>“2</sup> O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen?

Or cry to you “Violence!” and you will not save?

<sup>3</sup> Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble?

Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

<sup>4</sup> So the law becomes slack, and justice never prevails.

<sup>2</sup> Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. <sup>3</sup> For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end and does not lie.

If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay . . .

Though the fig tree does not blossom, and no fruit is on the vines . . .

<sup>18</sup> yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will exult in the God of my salvation.”

**THIS WEEK’S READINGS FOR “THE BIBLE YEAR”:**

Day 236:	Sunday, August 24 <sup>th</sup>	Zephaniah 1:1 – 3:20
Day 237:	Monday, August 25 <sup>th</sup>	Haggai 1:1 – 2:23
Day 238:	Tuesday, August 26 <sup>th</sup>	Zechariah 1:1 – 4:14
Day 239:	Wednesday, August 27 <sup>th</sup>	Zechariah 5:1 – 9:17
Day 240:	Thursday, August 28 <sup>th</sup>	Zechariah 10:1–14:21
Day 241:	Friday, August 29 <sup>th</sup>	Malachi 1:1 – 2:17
Day 242:	Saturday, August 30 <sup>th</sup>	Malachi 3:1 – 4:6
Day 243:	Sunday, August 31 <sup>st</sup>	Matthew 1:1 – 2:23

# CONTACT US

**Guilford College United Methodist Church**  
1205 Fleming Road, Greensboro, NC 27410  
Phone: 336-292-5833 / Website: [www.guilfordcollegeumc.org](http://www.guilfordcollegeumc.org)  
Email: [welcome@guilfordcollegeumc.org](mailto:welcome@guilfordcollegeumc.org)

# THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

**Sunday, August 24**

Worship in the Sanctuary at 8:30am  
Various Learning Groups at 9:45am  
Worship in the Sanctuary and Livestream Broadcast w/ Blessing of the Backpacks at 11:00am  
Soccer on the back field at 4:30pm  
Youth (Grades 7-12) & Youth Parent Information Session Room C1 from 5:00-7:00PM  
Preschool/After School Board Meeting in Room A4 at 5:00pm  
Building Team meeting in Room A4 at 6:30pm

**Monday, August 25**

Scouts in the Children’s Building in the evening  
NA in the Sanctuary at 7:00pm

**Tuesday, August 26**

Church Council in Room A4 and via Zoom at 6:30pm

**Wednesday, August 27**

New Direction Nar-Anon Family Group in Room A2 at Noon  
Mid-week Prayer Time in the Parlor at Noon  
SnYP in Laurin’s office from 6:45 – 7:45pm  
Disciple School in the Sanctuary from 6:45 – 7:45pm  
Youth Fun Night meet on the back field from 6:45-7:45pm  
Choir Rehearsal in the choir room at 7:00pm

**Thursday, August 28**

Preschool Open House 9:00am - Noon  
Quilting Group in Room A4 at 9:30am  
NarAnon in Room A2 at 7:00pm

**Saturday, August 30**

Memorial Service for Janet Green in the Sanctuary at 10:30am  
Memorial Service for Don Murphy in the Sanctuary at 2:00pm

**Sunday, August 31**

Worship in the Sanctuary at 8:30am  
Various Learning Groups at 9:45am  
Worship in the Sanctuary and Livestream Broadcast at 11:00am  
UMYF (Grades 7-12) in Rooms C10 & C11 from 5:00 -7:00pm  
Brazos Abiertos: Pan offsite at 5:00pm

**Monday, September 1 – Labor Day**

Holiday – Church Office Closed

**GCUMC STAFF**

<b>Jeremy Troxler</b> , Lead Pastor	<b>Susan Suárez Webster</b> , Pastor
<b>Andrés Pérez</b> , Student Assoc. Minister	<b>Donna Ford</b> , Dir. of Christian Education
<b>Randy Wall</b> , Dir. of Youth & College Min.	<b>Laurin Allred</b> , Young Adult & Connections
<b>Shelby Hallquist</b> , Dir. Pre- & AfterSchool	<b>Melanie Crump</b> , Director of Music
<b>Ginny Williamson</b> , Accompanist	<b>Amy Wall</b> , Church Administrator
<b>Carol Ingram</b> , Administrative Assist.	<b>Gloria Brown</b> , Financial Director
<b>Christina &amp; Michael Hull</b> , WNO Coordinators	

**Guilford College**  
**United Methodist Church**  
**August 24, 2025 – 11:00am**

# WE GATHER TOGETHER

**Prelude**

Ginny Williamson

**Chiming of the Hour**

**Welcome, Praises & Opening Prayer**

Laurin Allred

**^Fellowship Greeting & Opening Hymn**

*When We All Get to Heaven*, UMH #701

# WE PRAISE GOD AND PRAY

**Children's Moment**

Donna Ford and Jordan

\*At the 11am worship celebration, Children in Grades K-6 may exit for Children's Worship on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Children's building. They can be picked up from the church Parlor after 11am worship.

**Back to School Recognition and Blessing of the Backpacks**

Donna Ford and Randy Wall

**^Hymn**

*Step by Step*

**Offering**

Rev. Susan Suárez Webster

**Choral Offertory**

*We Walk By Faith*

**Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer**

Rev. Susan Suárez Webster

^ = **Please stand as you are able.**  
Our worship services may be recorded and/or live streamed to YouTube, Facebook, and the church's website.  
Should you need a hearing device, please ask an usher for assistance.