

Guilford College United Methodist Church
1205 Fleming Road
Greensboro, NC 27410
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Guilford College United Methodist Church
strives to be a vibrant Christian community
that **transforms** lives, **strengthens** believers,
and **equips** disciples to **live beyond ourselves**
in the light of Jesus Christ.

Guilford College UMC
Living Beyond Ourselves



BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS – Sunday, August 24

We're sending GCUMC students of all ages, teachers and administrative staff back to school with our prayers and blessings! Bring your backpacks to 11:00 am worship service to receive a blessing from our congregation as we cover you in prayer for the new year!

Save the Date: September 20, 4:00-7:00 pm

Everyone is invited to place this date on the calendar for our **Church-wide Picnic** to be held at the Troxler farm in Browns Summit. More details will follow!

CROW'S NEST

Vol. XXV, No. 16

www.guilfordcollegeumc.org

August 20, 2025

Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart;
I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.
I will be glad and rejoice in you;
I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High. Psalm 9:1,2

During the summer months, there have been many great and marvelous ways that the people of GCUMC have touched children, families and individuals with Christ's love. I would like to tell of some of God's work through his church and offer praise to God and thanks to all those who have been serving in some way.

In June, the Vacation Bible School welcomed dozens of children to learn about God and have fun. The kids came from a variety of schools and backgrounds. In July, 25 kids had the opportunity to go to Camp Guilrock and thoroughly enjoy God's creation and the pool. Because of your giving, some of the children received scholarships and attended camp for the first time in their young lives! An effort was made for a hearing-impaired student to have an American Sign Language interpreter and as a result, this student benefitted from comprehending all of the Bible teaching, devotionals and instructions. Music camp for Elementary students was also offered in July and the kids participated in learning to play the ukulele and experimented with multiple musical mediums. In late July, a three day Summer Reading program was offered in which 40 kids registered and enjoyed meeting an author, getting books to take home each day, learning about Jesus Christ, friendship, compassion and kindness.

There have been meals on the lawn, trips to the Grasshoppers' baseball games, a trip to the Homeland Creamery with the JOY group and a church-wide Ice Cream Social. The Missional Network combined together to eat and fellowship together at Muir's Chapel where the Greensboro Cluster Choir blessed us with their songs of praise and thanksgiving.

Serving opportunities have abounded and there have always been enough volunteers. Convinced that our faith must result in actions of love and support for our fellow human beings, we are always open to serving God and community. Meals have been prepared and served at Potter's House, Pathways shelter for families and the Weaver House Shelter. Food was sorted at the Food Pantry at Greensboro Urban Ministry. Book and goody bags were prepared and given to the students who attended Arts Camp at Partnership Village. Items for outfitting homes for foster families were sorted and organized at Family Room Triad. Nine volunteers collaborated in the kayak cleanup as part of the Creation Care initiative at our church to clean up Lake Townsend. The dedicated volunteers hosted three blood drives in partnership with the Red Cross during June, July and August. The team that sets up homes for people who are transitioning into affordable housing have helped ten individuals or families this summer.

The Youth and Young Adults traveled to Western North Carolina to continue rebuilding and recovery efforts after Hurricane Helene's devastating flooding in the mountains. Three youth groups combined to serve many and connect with over a dozen United Methodist Churches.

These are just a few of the wonderful deeds of our Lord that are carried out as we strive to be instruments of faith, hope and love in this world. Give thanks to the Lord with your whole heart.

Pastor Susan

Caring

Prayer Concerns: Vicki Kidd, Gay Brown, Sandra Myers, David Saunders, Minerva Heavner, Pam Wilson, Lynette Whitaker, Doris Linker, Marjorie Liles, Charles Heavner, Patsy Wyatt, Harold Proctor, Helen Phillips, Harold Eagle, Maria Maynard, Gina Murphy, Terri Hastings, Bill Blyshak, David Wasserboehr, Becky Babaoff, Carole Stevens, Tom Jenkins, Diana Clark, Lisa Hodges, Jim & Nancy Baity

Sincere sympathy is expressed to Carole Stevens and family, in the death of Larry Stevens, to Ben Garner and family, in the death of his mother Eloise Cable. Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Prayer Concerns – Extended Family: Peggy Conaway; Haley Ramsey; Robert Gullett; Hank Pearman; Jim Cashman; Steve Haines (Petersen's son-in-law), Sammy Rodriguez; Alannah Romano, Ron Moser; Jim Eldrett (Daryl Watkins' brother); Shilah George; Emily Franco (Jennifer Ward's daughter); Dawn Hand; Judy Journey; Debbie Sexton; Sammy Williams; Joanne Burgener; Y'Suan & H'Lai Mlo & family; Tammy Strickland, Travis Hicks' sister; Kenneth Briggs; Phillip Stone; Azalea Marbury; Joanne Burgener; Debra Rutt; Jerri Ramsey; Roxana Alvarado; Archie Bingham; Shannon Wilson; Jack Miller; Mark Ralls; Steve Troxler

Thank You Note

Thank you to all of our GCUMC friends for the kind cards, visits, and prayers during Pam's Mom's illness and after her recent passing. Feeling the love of friends and God's peace that truly does go beyond understanding, makes the grief so much more bearable. And knowing Mom is now part of that great cloud of witnesses brings such hope and joy!

Much love to all our GCUMC friends!
Pam & Paul Ingram

We want to thank the church for all they did for our father, Steve Fennell's funeral.

With Gratitude, Tim & Jackie Fennell

Members In Home and Senior Living Facilities:

TerraBella – Paul Long; Linda Weaver; **Carolina Estates** – Barbara McLeod, Janie Shell, Lynn Wall; Sharon Kienholz; **Brookdale Lawndale** – Ann Brantley; **Brookdale NW**-Patsy Wyatt; **Clapps Nursing & Rehab, Pleasant Garden** – Sarah Gorham; **Friends Home Guilford** – Karen Lowder, Claudette Kayler, Diana Clark, Ellie Dawkins; Barbara Engle, Ellen Lancaster, Emogene Stewart. **Friends Home West** – Bill & Sarah Brubaker, Barbara Jones, Betty Kirkman, Pat Routh, Terry & Joe Ann Weatherford, Bill & Jan Dowdy; Ray & Judy Harris; **Greenhaven** – Becky Patterson; **Pennyburn** – Roland Sasseville; **Spring Arbor** – Doris Linker; **Abbottswood** – Dot Brogan, Gay Brown; **Heritage Green** - Carrie Gowen; **Well Spring** – Barbara Ebert; **Westchester Manor** – Susie Love, Tina Bell Midgett; **In Home** – Sue Causey, Terri Hastings, Helen Phillips, Betty Siders, Marion Sharpe

Sunday Morning Transportation

If you or someone you know is unable to transport themselves to worship on Sunday mornings, please call the church office by Thursday each week, and we will be glad to arrange a ride to worship.

Sunday Morning Drivers:

Aug. 24: Cindy Johnson, Bob Beasley
Aug. 31: Charlie Groves, Bryan Cobb

SNACKS FOR STUDENTS

On Sunday, August 24th, we invite any college students with us to stay after the 11:00 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 in the Hilltop Room (the room with the pool table right behind the coffee station.)

Connecting

COLLEGE STUDENTS' ADDRESSES:

We would love to stay in touch with our students while they are away at college. Please notify the church office with the updated information. If they would like to receive the church newsletter, let us know that also. Thanks.



Thank you to our volunteers who helped make our August 14th blood drive a success. A special thank you to our donors who gave 44 units of life saving blood. Our

next Blood Drive will be held on Thursday, September 11 in room C1. To make an appointment to donate, go online to www.redcrossblood.org. If you have questions, contact David Saunders at 336-337-3126.



YOUNG ADULT SUNDAY

SCHOOL: Introducing the newest Sunday learning hour offering, "Navigators" – the class for young and youngish adults. Navigate life and your walk with Jesus with other young adults (singles & couples ages 20-35).

Because we've all got busy schedules, we will be using the YouVersion Bible App to select study and discussion plans that we can use when we're together, or keep up with when we need to be away.

Join Laurin in room B4. The third Sunday of each month will continue to hold Breakfast Bunch offsite and this group will join Breakfast Bunch on those weeks.

SUNDAY MORNINGS for Grades K-6 from 9:45-

10:45 a.m. in Rooms C12 and C14. Devotions, games and fellowship! **CHILDREN'S WORSHIP** is provided for Grades K-6 children during the 11:00 a.m. worship in Room C14. Children are escorted to C14 after they are dismissed from the Sanctuary and return to the Parlor for parents to pick up at the end of worship. **CHILD CARE** for children age 4 and under in Room C8 from 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



FAITH FILES (GRADES 4-6) AND FAITH FRIENDS (GRADES K-3) –

Both groups will not meet again until September 10 when we kick off the new school year! We begin on the playground or game room, depending on the weather, and move to the

second floor of the children's building for group time. Bring a friend! If you have questions, please contact Donna Ford, dford@guilfordcollegeumc.org.

YOUTH UPDATE

Youth Parent Meeting – Sunday, August 24, 5:00-7:00 pm in C1

Students in grades 7-12 and their parents are invited to our information meeting about the upcoming year! If you have questions, contact Randy Wall at rwall@guilfordcollegeumc.org.

We welcomed our new 7th graders into the youth group this past week. It is a new year and a time for new beginnings. Please pray for all students in the following ways:

- Pray for their anxieties of who to talk to and/or sit with.
- Pray for students who are experiencing a new school whether transitioning from pre-school to kindergarten, elementary to middle, middle to high, or high to college. These transitions are not easy.
- Pray for immigrant students who are entering a vastly different school environment.
- Pray for our students to be brave.
- Please pray for teachers, administrators, bus drivers, counselors, and professors as well.

Upcoming events:

August 27, 6:45-7:45 Wednesday Fun Night
August 31, 5:00-7:00 pm Youth Group

Other important dates for the Fall:

Campout at the Troxler farm, Sept. 20-21
Pumpkin Patch Unload, Oct. 12
Fall Retreat, Nov. 21-23

Connecting



EPIPHANY PRAYER PARTNERS:

Pastor Tim Webster is the husband of Susan Suárez Webster and a retired United Methodist Pastor. He is looking for prayer partners for an event that will take place on Sept 20. The event is a spiritual retreat for young men under the age of 18 who have been charged, convicted and sentenced to serve time in a North Carolina prison for men who are still minors. About 24 young men are scheduled to attend the all day retreat at the Cabarrus Youth Development Center in Concord. During that day, Pastor Tim, along with many other adults will be holding this spiritual retreat with the young men. During the retreat, there will be times of testimony, Bible study, prayer, meals, skits, recreation and celebration. If you would be willing to pray for the young men and team that will be ministering please pass by Pastor Susan's office and place your name on one of the strips of construction paper near her door. If you have any questions about Epiphany ministry, please let Pastor Tim know (tardellwebster@gmail.com). We will not be able to share with you the names of the young men for reasons of confidentiality. Please pray as they learn about God's love, forgiveness and power to change. You can pray anywhere, you can pray before the retreat and any time during the day on Sept 20th. Thank you.

DISCIPLE SCHOOL WITH PASTOR

JEREMY – 6:45pm in the Sanctuary on Wednesday, August 27th - Join us as Pastor Jeremy leads us in discussing and reflecting further on the weekly readings for The Bible Year. All are welcome, and no advanced reading is necessary. Come join us to learn and to grow and to connect with others.

Wednesday Night in the Fall

Meals will be offered twice a month in September, October & November, 5:45-6:45 pm.
Cost is \$6.00 per meal.

Wednesday, Sept. 10

Chicken Enchiladas, Rice, Beans, Chips, Queso, Salsa, Dessert



**PRISCILLA SHIRER
LIVE SIMULCAST**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 10:00-5:00 PM

Join other women from around the world for this inspiring one-day event with Priscilla Shirer! You are invited to be part of this global simulcast to deepen your faith in Christ! The event begins at 10:00 am and continues until 5:00 pm. Doors open and check-in begins at 9:15 am. The event contains three teaching sessions featuring Priscilla Shirer and worship with Anthony Evans and the Priscilla Shirer Live praise team. Tickets are \$30 per person which includes morning coffee, snacks, and lunch. Fresh taco salad bar provided by Salarita's Fresh Mexican Grill. Pre-registration and payment are required. Tickets are non-refundable. Please contact Donna Ford at dford@guilfordcollegeumc.org or 336-292-5833 with questions. We look forward to seeing you on August 23 for this spiritual day apart!



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. Contact Donna Ford with questions.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR TUES PM STUDY](#)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR WED AM STUDY](#)



Classes for adults who would like to learn English will begin on Wednesday, September 10th at 6:30 pm. There will be 8

sessions on Wednesdays. If you know someone who would benefit from English classes please invite them to come to our church to study. We will be meeting in the Foundations classroom (rooms B5 and B6). If you need further information, please contact Pastor Susan ssuarezwebster@guilfordcollegeumc.org

Connecting



JOY (Just Older Youth) Book Club

We're excited to share the upcoming schedule for the **JOY (Just Older Youth) Book Club**—a wonderful way to connect, reflect, and enjoy great stories together. Whether you've been with us from the start or are just thinking about joining, we'd love for you to be part of this special fellowship.

Come join us for fellowship, food, and a great book discussion! All meetings are held at **McAlister's Deli on New Garden Road**. We'd love to have you with us—whether you've read the book cover to cover or just want to listen

September 23, 2025 – 5:30 pm

Silver Alert by Lee Smith

November 18, 2025 – 5:30 pm

The Fellowship of Puzzlemakers by Samuel Burr

January 20, 2026 – 5:30 pm

The Poppy Fields by Nikki Erlick

March 24, 2026 – 5:30 pm

The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict

May 19, 2026 – 5:30 pm

Tom Lake: A Novel by Ann Patchett

Interested in joining?

Please contact **Cyndi Allen**

✉ cyndiandscott818@gmail.com (703) 615-7022

☎ Or call the church office



AFTER SCHOOL MINISTRY -

Registration is open for the 2025-2026 school year. We will be serving Claxton Elementary, Guilford Elementary, Jefferson Elementary, Pearce Elementary, and Greensboro Academy.

Transportation is provided from school to church in church vehicles. Activities include snack, outside play, weekly Bible chapel, homework assistance, reading, enrichment activities, and games all in a safe, nurturing Christian environment. For enrollment information, please go to www.gcumckids.org.

We welcome volunteers each afternoon from 2:00-6:00 p.m. Please contact Donna Ford, dford@guilfordcollegeumc.org, or Shelby Hallquist, afterschool@guilfordcollegeumc.org, if you are interested in assisting.



Photo of the JOY group's recent trip to Homeland Creamery. Consider joining this group for enjoyable activities and fellowship.

Serving



WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL – Registration

is open for the 2025-2026 school year. For enrollment information, please go to www.gcumckids.org or contact Shelby Hallquist

preschool@guilfordcollegeumc.org.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR NEWSCOMERS SCHOOL.

Thank you for the school supplies that you have brought in for the Newcomers School. They have received most of the items that are needed and are sking for helping securing:



75 packs of colored markers and 50 boxes of 24 crayons



Serving

GCUMC FINANCIAL REPORT July 31, 2025

2025 YEAR PROJECTED vs. 2025 YEAR ACTUAL:

Year to date Operating Budget Contribution analysis:

Total 2025 budget:	\$1,201,449.00
Amount needed to date for 2025 budget:	700,845.25
Amount received as of 7/31/25 for budget:	660,514.68
Difference:	(\$ 40,330.57)

*(amount between projected budget needs to-date and actual received)

Year to date Operating Budget surplus/deficit analysis:

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)

We continue to be blessed by our generous congregation and we continue to focus on our core operating budget. This budget is funded by our planned annual pledges, as well as, unplanned giving and interest/fees. These funds in total sustain our work in the community, our external missions, our internal ministries and needed upkeep of our existing grounds and facilities.



The **Backpack Ministry** served 20 students, mostly at Guilford Elementary School during the 2024-2025 school year. We are now ready to begin the 2025-2026 school year and wonder if you or your SS

class, book club or Journey group might like to sponsor a student. It has been calculated that \$400 a year will provide a student with some basic nutritional supplemental food for the weekend when they are not receiving breakfast and lunch at the school. Can you help with a donation to the Backpack Ministry at GCUMC? If you have questions about the ministry or would like to help, please contact Susan Marshall at stmarshas@gmail.com
Thank you!!!

TWIN COMFORTERS AND LAMPS NEEDED:

In June and July, nine families have been assisted to move from sub-standard housing into homes that are safe and comfortable. These are families that need a new apartment or small home outfitted. The Team that works in this area to help people transition needs twin comforters and lamps at this time. If you have something you can donate, please bring them to Pastor Susan's office. Your support and generosity has helped so many families and we are grateful.

Creation Care Corner



Kayaking Cleanup

Join GCUMC
Creation Care Team
and the City of GSO
– Lake Brandt Kayaking Cleanup

Join us for the **Lake Brandt Kayaking Cleanup** on **Tuesday, September 16, 5:30-7:30 pm** at the Lake Brandt Marina. This free event is open to participants **ages 10+** (with adult supervision) and is a great opportunity to help protect one of our local drinking water reservoirs. We'll be paddling out to collect litter in hard-to-reach areas—kayaking experience is **required**. Don't have a kayak? No problem! A limited number of boats are available for use, but we encourage you to bring your own if you can. All cleanup supplies, including buckets, trash bags, gloves, vests, and grabbers, will be provided. Just bring your paddle power and passion for clean water!

Space is limited, so sign up with Barbara McDonald early, and help us keep Lake Brandt beautiful and healthy!

Barbara McDonald, barbs_baskets@yahoo.com, 336-686-4060

SERVING DAY

SAVE THE DATE: Our next Serving Day will be held on Saturday, October 18th with a variety of serving opportunities for our congregation and others who want to serve God and our community. More details to follow!

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Dennis Creamer, Sr.

(Dennis Creamer's father)

Richard and Nancy Blackwelder

Pat Gunn

Tom and Lisa Kobrin

In Memory of Meg Duncan's uncle

Pat Gunn

In Memory of Steve Fennell

Jim and Nancy Baity

Harold and Mary Eagle

John and Carol Graham

Pat Gunn

Tom and Lisa Kobrin

Lewis and Pam Wilson

In Memory of Janet Green

Richard and Nancy Blackwelder

Gay Brown

Charles Freeman

Pat Gunn

Lewis and Pam Wilson

2/90 Class

In Memory of Sherry Jones

(Marsha Phillips' cousin)

Pat Gunn

In Memory of Mary Lehman Johnson

(Dave Lehman's daughter &

David Lehman, Jr.'s sister)

Pat Gunn

In Memory of Angelika Otte

(Pam Ingram's mother)

Harold and Mary Eagle

Pat Gunn

Tom and Lisa Kobrin

In Memory of Amy Longville

(Nancy Furnas' sister)

Harold and Mary Eagle

In Memory of Larry Proctor

(Harold Proctor's brother)

Harold and Mary Eagle

Pat Gunn

In Memory of Carolyn Sherrick

(Beth Creamer's mother)

Richard and Nancy Blackwelder

Pat Gunn

Tom and Lisa Kobrin

In Memory of Larry Stevens

Bob and Jean Beasley

Richard and Nancy Blackwelder

Mike and Donna Garcia

Carol Ingram

Vicki Kidd

Steve and Tina Sumner

Terry and Joe Ann Weatherford

In Memory of Patricia Tarlton

(Susan Marshall's mother)

Harold and Mary Eagle

Charlie and Sherry Groves

2/90 Class

In Memory of Charles Wall

(Randy Wall's uncle)

Pat Gunn

HONORARIUM

In Honor of Randy and the Youth Group

Pat Gunn



September Birthdays

Sept. 1	Dave Lehman, Y'Isaac Mlo, Jan Vanhoy
Sept. 2	Rebecca Overton
Sept. 3	Liana Adrong, Brian Cox, Kyra Dalton, Bailey Gibson, Leona Moriarty, Bob Walcot, Jack Vanstory
Sept. 4	Betty Gordon, Natanaele Owooh, Avery Pigue
Sept. 5	Kary Gray, Ken Petersen
Sept. 6	Carrie Allen, Lilli Hicks, Esther Mlo
Sept. 7	Kara Campbell, Halee Myers, Linda Rider
Sept. 8	Rick Class, Maria Maynard, Donna Steele
Sept. 9	H'Driet Enuol, Greg Fischer, Carolyn McDuffie, Angie Orth, Gabriel Planez
Sept. 10	Jim Cantrell, Mike Duncan, Amelia Hicks, Travis Hicks, Joseph Rashidi, Matthew Sacrinty
Sept. 11	Randy Marshall, Jody Martin, Helena Perez, Natalie Rider
Sept. 12	Carrie Gowen, Hunter Graham, Bob Lawton, Will Redfern, A.J. Ruley
Sept. 13	Amy Shope
Sept. 14	Nancy Gladwell, Christian Lupuishi, Prosper Lupuishi, Jackson Meister
Sept. 15	Jeff Bacon, Grace Gibson, Dylan Gragg, Crystal Hanna, Shelby Steen
Sept. 16	Jennifer Graham
Sept. 17	Terri Hastings, Shirley Ozment, Cari Ruley
Sept. 19	Cindy Keating, Carol Townsend, Pam Wilson
Sept. 20	Troy Minor, Jacob Steele, Janet Van Hook, Jacob Wall
Sept. 21	Mary Soper
Sept. 22	Charlie Groves, Holden Knox
Sept. 23	Rory Adams, Staci Kohn
Sept. 24	Gay Brown, Bill Brubaker, Erin Cheek, Shane Hamlett, Houstyn Stump, Tina Sumner, Michael Sumner
Sept. 25	Ron Frazier, Willow Gray, Collin Hicks, Jacob Stone
Sept. 26	Caroline Campbell, Mark Dirks, Davis Francisco, Lydia Shope, David Ward
Sept. 27	Tom Jenkins, Hilary Planez
Sept. 28	Claudette Kayler, Barbara McLeod
Sept. 29	Taylor Barrow, Dot Brogan
Sept. 30	Lillian Benoist, Becky Elias, Laurie Ijames, Karen Lowder, Andrés Pérez, Hudson Sharpe, Jay Stone,



Creation Care Corner

Want to learn more about our drinking water? Do you know from where your water comes? Where was your drinking water BEFORE you opened the faucet?

Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Branch Library is hosting, "Deep River Stories, Science, Stewardship, and Sustainability" on September 15, 2025, from 7-8pm. Let's explore the past, present and future of Deep River. (The Deep River is part of the Cape Fear River Basin and serves as a source of our drinking waters.) Discussion will cover contamination and how it affects the system and what is being done to address these issues; learn how you can get involved and otherwise be engaged in preserving and sustaining God's Creation of our water system.

The program is open to all ages but registration is **REQUIRED**. You may register by email to: melanie.buckingham@greensboro-nc.gov.