

Guilford College United Methodist Church  
1205 Fleming Road  
Greensboro, NC 27410  
(336) 292-5833

Non-Profit Org.  
US POSTAGE PAID  
Permit #146  
Greensboro, NC

Return Service Requested



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**



**Sunday, Dec. 14, 10:45 am Orchestral Carol Sing Service.**

Enjoy the music service at 11:00 am In the sanctuary presented by our  
Chancel Choir, Handbell Ensemble and Chamber Orchestra. Come  
early at 10:45 to hear music by the NC Brass Band.

ONE SERVICE ONLY.

**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP**

5:00PM- Family & Children's Worship

7:30PM- Contemporary Christmas Worship, also livestreamed

11:00PM- Traditional Christmas Worship with Holy Communion

\*All Christmas Eve services include candle lighting.

\*\*Nursery offered during 7:30pm worship.



The church office will be closed on December 24-26 for the Christmas  
holiday and on January 1 for New Year's Day. Our wish is for  
everyone to have a blessed Christmas and peaceful, joyful New Year.

# CROW'S NEST

Vol. XXV, No. 25

[www.guilfordcollegeumc.org](http://www.guilfordcollegeumc.org)

December 10, 2025

## Pastor's Pen

Dear Church Family,

Isaiah 9:6 (NIV)  
For to us a child is born,  
To us a son is given,  
And the government will be on his shoulders.  
And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

I looked back in our readings for the Bible Year that we began in January and we were reading Isaiah's prophecies back in July. Magrey R. DeVega writes in the daily reading guide that we have been using: "Isaiah chapters 8-11 contain many texts promising peace-texts that we are used to encountering in the season of Advent. But it also has hard images of crisis and pain. It's what the Israelites needed to change their views. It's nicer to be motivated by love, but sometimes crisis and pain are what push us to grow." In the Northern kingdom during that time the Israelites were being threatened by the Assyrians. God's covenant people in the southern kingdom had become dedicated to foreign gods and influenced by the culture of the times.

Isaiah's prophecies called the people to turn back to their Lord, the One God who had been faithful all through the years to their ancestors and to them. Isaiah offered hope for the future, a Messiah who could be trusted to set things straight and bring light and peace. In a similar way for us today, upon reading Isaiah's writings, we picture Christ Jesus who is victorious and capable of guiding us for all time. We can count on the great Teacher, the mighty One, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

I believe that as we read Isaiah's prophecies today, we can sense God calling **us** back to the relationship of love that is offered to us in Christ. Whatever is going on in the world, in our lives, our health, our families, or in our hearts, the truth is that Christ came to earth in human form to give us an option to be forgiven and become disciples of the true God. During Advent, we are encouraged to stop and consider the coming of the Messiah Jesus Christ so many years ago who came as a tiny baby to carry our burdens, to forgive us and set us free from the sins that weigh us down.

Bishop Carter has shared a prayer for each Sunday in Advent. The first one I read caused me to stop, dream, trust and hope. It is taken from Isaiah 2 and Matthew 24. I will share the prayer here:

"O God, we imagine climbing to a high mountain peak where we might see the world you dreamed of when you first began to create. There we will sit and feast with you, and we will not be alone. Friends and strangers from every nation will accompany us. There you will instruct us, you will resolve our disputes, you will purge the violence that has grown with us.

We want to be on this mountain peak with you, and yet we are not quite prepared for the journey. We confess that by now we should have been more prepared, but we are not.

So lift up our hearts, O Lord, to see a better future. Strengthen our weakened muscles, Soften our hardened hearts. Walk with us and lighten our darkness. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen." (Bishop Ken Carter, <https://www.wnccumc.org/>)

During this Advent season, let us take time together to stop, listen and wait as we pray, Come Lord Jesus, Come.

May your hearts and lives be filled with Christ's hope this Advent,  
Pastor Susan

# Caring

**Prayer Concerns:** Greg Matthews, David Saunders, Carla Sutton, David Long, Gayle Class, Vicki Kidd, Barbara Price, Bryan Cobb, Barbara Jones, Suzy Padgett, Kathy Graham, Marjorie Liles, Harold Proctor, Harold Eagle, Maria Maynard, Gina Murphy, Dot Brogan, Helen Phillips, Bill Blyshak, David Wasserboehr, Tom Jenkins, Lisa Hodges

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL & CHILDREN'S WORSHIP SCHEDULE** – In order for everyone to enjoy the special music on December 14, there will be NO children's Sunday School or Children's Worship that day. There will be NO children's Sunday School or Children's Worship on Sunday, December 28 to allow all volunteer leaders the blessing of enjoying the Christmas week/weekend with their families.

**Prayer Concerns – Extended Family:** Victoria Pigford; Nancy Krepps; Courtney Reavis; Nick King; Oliver Burns; Brooklyn Sinder; Heather Taylor; Wayne Sykes; Kathie Williams; Tom Winger; Tammy Smith; Peggy Conaway; Sue Yeeles; Jim Cashman; Alannah Romano, Ron Moser; Jim Eldrett (Daryl Watkins' brother); Shilah George; Judy Journey; Debbie Sexton; Sammy Williams; Joanne Burgener; Y'Suan & H'Lai Mlo & family; Tammy Strickland, Kenneth Briggs; Azalea Marbury; Joanne Burgener; Debra Rutt; Shannon Wilson

## Sunday Morning Transportation

If you are unable to transport yourself to worship on Sunday mornings, please call the church office by Thursday each week, and we will be glad to arrange a ride for you to worship.

## Sunday Morning Drivers:

Dec. 14: Cindy Johnson, Jim Taney  
Dec. 21: Mike Ballard, Tal Jobe  
Dec. 28: Tal Jobe, Cindy Johnson  
Jan. 4: Mike Ballard, Terry Weatherford

## **Members In Home and Senior Living Facilities:**

**TerraBella** – Paul Long; Linda Weaver; **Carolina Estates** – Barbara McLeod, Lynn Wall; Sharon Kienholz; **Brookdale Lawndale** – Ann Brantley; **Brookdale NW** - Patsy Wyatt; **Carolina Pines** – Janie Shell; **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; **Spring Arbor** – Doris Linker; **Abbottswood** – Dot Brogan, Gay Brown; **Heritage Green** - Carrie Gowen, Bobbi Peabody; **Well Spring** – Barbara Ebert; **Westchester Manor** – Susie Love, Tina Bell Midgett; **White Stone** – Barbara Price; **In Home** – Sue Causey, Terri Hastings, Helen Phillips, Betty Siders, Marion Sharpe

**Las Posadas:** All are invited to join us on Sunday, December 14 at 5:00 pm for our Las Posadas celebration, a Mexican Advent Tradition. This celebration commemorates the nine months Mary carried Jesus. Bilingual, Room C1, Children's Building. Refreshments will be served. Contact Pastor Susan or Pastor Andres with any questions.



## **LOVE FEAST. Wednesday, Dec. 17, 6:30 pm**

This is a service in the Moravian Tradition of song, scripture, sweet buns, coffee and candles. All are welcome to attend this

service in the sanctuary.

**Sincere sympathy** is expressed to the family of Jerri Ramsey, who passed away last weekend. Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

## **Quiet Christmas. Thursday, Dec. 18, 6:30 pm, in the sanctuary**

This is a service planned for those who may not feel that they are ready to experience joy and cheer during the upcoming Christmas holidays. We will have a service which offers a space for reflection, and that offers healing and hope during our time of struggle.

# Connecting



## Recipients of the 2025 Christmas Eve Offering

Traditionally the Christmas Eve offering is received anytime

during Thanksgiving and Advent and benefits an international and local mission project. The offering this year will be equally divided between the following:



**Kenya:** For the essential water and electrical infrastructure necessary for the successful growth of the ministries at the Bio Intensive Training Center and the Methodist Treatment Center

which are administered by the Methodist Church of Kenya.

- The MCK Bio-Intensive Agricultural Training Center, is a hub for sustainable farming practices that emphasizes ecological balance and food security. Farmers are trained and equipped to take advantage of the land that is at their disposal to provide for their families and community
- Methodist Treatment Center whose mission statement reads: Healing lives, restoring hope, is a leading rehabilitation facility located in Meru, Kenya. They are committed to offering comprehensive treatment for mental and substance use disorders.

**Greensboro:** For the purchase and installation of appliances (electric oven, a clothes dryer and a commercial dishwasher) and facility repairs at the two Sanctuary House locations.

- Established in 2002, Sanctuary House is a non-profit organization whose mission is to facilitate the recovery and rehabilitation of adults who experience symptoms of mental illness so that they may achieve and sustain satisfying, meaningful role and lives in our community.
- There is a **\$50,000 matching gift opportunity** for Sanctuary House for gifts received through Dec. 31.

As each one of us considers giving to this special offering during Advent and through Christmas Eve, let us praise God for this opportunity to share our resources. Please note "Christmas Eve Offering" in the memo line of your check, or you may want to give online or by texting.



Our first Red Cross Blood Drive for 2026 will be held on Thursday, January 15, 2:00-6:30 pm in the Children's Building.

If you would like to be donor, please go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) to make an appointment.. If you have questions, contact David Saunders at 336-337-3126.

**JOURNEY GROUP LEADERSHIP 2026:** It's time to start looking ahead to the next year of journeying together in small groups. If you might be feeling called to lead or co-lead a group, Laurin would love to chat with you. Leading a Journey Group is a one-year commitment to facilitate a small group of folks that meet weekly or bi-weekly. Journey Groups look at a Bible passage and discussion questions, share life updates, and pray for each other each session. Considering leadership? [Chat with Laurin](#) or [lallred@guilfordcollegeumc.org](mailto:lallred@guilfordcollegeumc.org)

## **2026 Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Service – Save the Date. Saturday, January 17, 2026, 10:00 am, University City UMC, Charlotte, NC.**

Join the Western NC Conference of the UMC for *Standing Strong and Moving Forward*, our 2026 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Program. This special gathering will be a time of worship, reflection, and recommitment to the work of justice, love and hope. Together, as followers of Christ and heirs of Dr. King's legacy, we will honor his life and renew our dedication to creating a better world.

## Welcome Friends & Family of GCUMC

We welcome you as the Greensboro Swarm hosts the Osceola Magic Knicks on **Saturday, January 17 at 6:00 pm at the Novant Fieldhouse!**

**Giveaway**-First 500 fans will receive a Jaylen Sims Bobblehead

**Hornets Takeover**-Fans enjoy as this game will be taken over by the Hornets Honey Bees crew

**Autograph Saturdays**-After the game, fans will get to snag signatures & photos from their favorite Swarm players! Ticket details to follow.



# Connecting



**The Fifth Annual Wreaths Across America Ceremony** will be held on Saturday, December 13, at 2:00 pm at the Friendship Cemetery. This short but impactful ceremony will honor veterans from all wars that are buried in the

Friendship Cemetery. More than 2 million wreaths will be placed on veterans' graves across local, state and national military sites around the world.

Members of GCUMC along with members of the Rachel Caldwell Chapter DAR, will participate in this ceremony.

This year the Guilford Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol, (Air Force Auxiliary) have provided the wreaths for this event and will provide an honor guard with the flag ceremony.

The Cemetery is located on Regional Road, ½ mile north of W. Market St. Take Samaritan's Lane from W. Market St. and then right on Regional Road. Bring a chair or stand for the brief ceremony.

**MESSY BUN BOOK CLUB:** The Messy Bun Book Club will have it's final meeting of the year on Monday December 15 at 7:00pm at Natty Greene's on Elm St. Grab your copy of *The Jolliest Bunch* by Danny Pelligrino and join us in reading some heartwarming and "unhinged" holiday stories. Messy Bun Book Club is for women, mostly aged 30s and 40s, who want to connect over good food, laughter, and every now and then we even all finish the book. Join us!



**FAITH FRIENDS (GRADES K-3) AND FAITH FILES (GRADES 4-6)** – Both groups will be on Christmas break until we resume on January 14, 2026. If you have questions, please contact Donna Ford at [dford@guilfordcollegeumc.org](mailto:dford@guilfordcollegeumc.org).

## Mark Your Calendars for Children's Events in 2026!

- Easter Egg Hunt – Sunday, March 29 – 3:30-5:30 pm. (age 3 thru current Grade 6)
- Vacation Bible School – June 22-24 Evenings (age 3-thru current Grade 6)
- Day Camp at Camp GuilRock – July 13-17 (Current Grades K-5)

# Serving



**HONOR CARDS ARE AVAILABLE AFTER WORSHIP SERVICES ON SUNDAY**



Support Community Houring Solutions and Greensboro Urban Ministry with your donation of \$5.00 and send a delightful Christmas greeting to your friends and loved ones.

100% of the proceeds from these Honor Cards goes to these two worthy organizations that serve the Triad Community.



## Cinnamon Roll Sale

The Kenya Mission Team will be selling the delicious original **Susan Jenkins cinnamon rolls** immediately following the Love Feast Service on Wednesday, December 17 in the Parlor.

There will be **No pre-orders, no deliveries.**  
**First come, first served**  
**Pricing: Tray of 6 for \$20; Singles for \$5**

Your generous donations above and beyond the price will be greatly appreciated. All proceeds will benefit the **Kenya Projects Fund** for our upcoming 2026 mission trip. Thank you for your support!

**Thank you** to the ladies who volunteered at the Senior Resource Center on Dec. 3 & 4, to fill tote bags with blankets, bathroom needs, cans or packages of food, pairs of socks, etc. Each person who receives a meal through Senior Resources will receive one of these totes. There are over 900 persons receiving a meal each day. Thank you for volunteering.

**Serve Breakfast at Potter's House Community Kitchen on Saturday, December 27, 6:00-8:00 am,** and all 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays going forward. Join the Redfern family to serve breakfast at GUM, 305 Gate City Blvd. For more information contact Justin or Julie Redfern: Julie: 337-353-1773, [juliecredfern@gmail.com](mailto:juliecredfern@gmail.com); Justin: 336-541-0464, [justin.redfern@yahoo.com](mailto:justin.redfern@yahoo.com). Carpooling/rides are available.

## MEMORIALS

### In Memory of Gary Brown

*Steve and Tina Sumner*

### In Memory of Jamie Pearman

*Steve and Tina Sumner*

### In Memory of Carole Stevens

*Donna Bowman*

*Steve and Tina Sumner*

### In Memory of Carole and Larry Stevens

*Ellie Dawkins*

*J.D. and Mary Stevens*

*Terry and Joe Ann Weatherford*



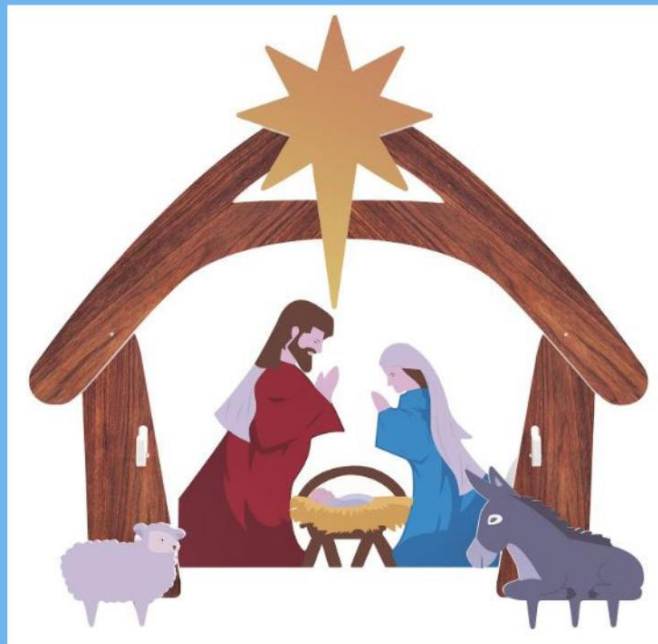
## January Birthdays

Jan. 1	H'Ne Enuol, Y-Tlui Enuol, Courtney Ozment, Michael Soper
Jan. 3	R.J. Beasley, Jacob Hepler, Rashisi Kabwe, Wes Kirkman
Jan. 4	Bobby Tanner
Jan. 5	Barbara Ebert, Margaret Hawkins, Martha Lupuishi, Leah Rice
Jan. 6	Carolyn Campbell, Lucas Estrada, Isabella Sutton
Jan. 7	Noah Lohr
Jan. 8	Gina Dixon, Traci Quate
Jan. 9	Carol Groff
Jan. 10	Sandra Myers
Jan. 11	Melanie Bacon, Metta Ballard, Cam Stone
Jan. 13	Laurin Allred, Janice Caskie, Addie Watkins
Jan. 14	Ada Robinson, Bill Soper
Jan. 15	Stephanie Brown, Mary Derbyshire, Brooke Follo, Alex Follo, Dan Fusaiotti, Ethan Shearer
Jan. 16	Dennis Creamer, Y-Wing Enuol, Mark Quate, Noah Rivera
Jan. 17	Mike Corcoran, Aggie Lawton
Jan. 18	Savannah Benoist, Sophia Bradham, Andy Morgan
Jan. 19	Charlotte Draper, Joseph Shope, Ella Stone
Jan. 20	Marlene Ingram, Marley McSwain
Jan. 21	Kirsten Corcoran, Gabriel Fiori, Grant Williams
Jan. 22	Mackenzie Kota
Jan. 23	Jeremy Troxler
Jan. 24	H'Lus Buonkrong, Jack Fusaiotti
Jan. 25	Bannon Moriarty, Mike Moriarty, Jacob O'Rork, Sue Ostrander, Julia Robson
Jan. 26	Blake Donato, Jackson Raper
Jan. 27	Austin Chase, Mason Graham, Ellen Lancaster, Julian McKinney, Scott Minor
Jan. 28	Rachel Francisco, Espy Guravage, Margaret Joyce, Bill Lucas
Jan. 29	Alan Allred, Virginia Carpenter, Shannon Myers
Jan. 30	Vicki Kendrick
Jan. 31	Katie Benoist, Jim Caskie, Derek Gibson

# BREAKFAST

## With Mary and Joseph

Bring your little ones for a delightful morning filled with joy and wonder. Join us for a delicious Breakfast with Mary and Joseph, a Christmas story, fun activities, all while we soak up the magic of the season.



**Saturday, December 20**

**Join us from 8:30-10:00 AM**

**Second Floor, Children's Building**





초대합니다

# 서울 감리교신학대학교 합창단

Seoul[South Korea] Methodist Theological University Choir

## 그린스보로 한인연합감리교회 창립 45주년 감사 합창공연

“45th Anniversary Thanksgiving Concert of  
Greensboro Korean United Methodist Church”

2026년 1월 8일(목) 오후 7시 그린스보로 한인연합감리교회 본당

Sanctuary of Greensboro Korean UMC  
2504 E Woodlyn Way, Greensboro, NC 27407

Admission is free



January 8, 2026, 7:00 pm