

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

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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



MARCH MADNESS FOOD DRIVE HAS STARTED!!
MARCH 12-22

Bring non-perishable food items to put in your team's box to help with the food shortage at Greensboro Urban Ministry. Specific needs are cereal, peanut butter, protein bars, and canned meat.

The boxes will be in the fellowship hall lobby through March 22 for you to drop off food items at any time. Let's pack these boxes until they overflow!



CROW'S NEST

Vol. XXVI, No. 5

www.guilfordcollegeumc.org

March 4, 2026

Caring

Prayer Concerns: Ellen Lancaster, Brooke Follo, Debbie Jenkins, Mike Ballard, Greg Matthews, Carla Sutton, Cathy Pierce, Katherine and Charles Forbes, Kathy Graham, Marjorie Liles, Betty Kirkman, Harold Eagle, Becky Archer, Gina Murphy, Dot Brogan, Helen Phillips, Bill Blyshak, David Wasserboehr, Tom Jenkins, Lisa Hodges, Jim & Nancy Baity

Prayer Concerns – Extended Family: Steve Troxler; Bo Sinkler; Darla Freeman; Sarah Lemon, Fay Holliday; Carla Morgan; Heather Taylor; Kathie Williams; Tammy Smith; Peggy Conaway; Jim Cashman; Alannah Romano, 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; Debra Rutt; Shannon Wilson

Members In Home and Senior Living Facilities:
TerraBella – Paul Long; **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, Betty Kirkman, Ellen Lancaster, Emogene Stewart, Rak Kreager; **Friends Home West** – Bill & Sarah Brubaker, Barbara Jones, Pat Routh, Terry & Joe Ann Weatherford, Bill & Jan Dowdy; Ray & Judy Harris; Linda Metcalf; **Greenhaven** – Becky Patterson; **Spring Arbor** – Doris Linker; **Abbottswood** – Dot Brogan, Gay Brown; Betty Gordon, Barbara Price; **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



Daylight Savings Time begins this weekend. Don't forget to turn your clocks **forward** an hour!

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:

Mar. 8: Jim Irvin, Bob Beasley
Mar. 15: Terry Weatherford, Mike Ballard



The Western Guilford Missional Network invites you to the Lenten Services. Each Wednesday during Lent the service will be in one of the Missional Network churches at noon with a light lunch to follow. Please plan to attend.

March 11 - Collins Grove, Rev. Linda Moore
March 18 – Muirs Chapel, Rev. Carl Manuel
March 25 – Guilford College, Rev. Kim Troy-Richardson
April 1 – Greensboro Korean, Rev. Josh Britton

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP – Age appropriate Children's Worship is provided during the 11:00 am worship for children in Grades K-6. Children are dismissed to Children's Worship after the children's message in the Sanctuary and remain there until the end of worship. Parents may pick up children from the Parlor just outside the Sanctuary. Child care for younger children is available in room C8, first floor children's building.

Connecting

New Member Class



GCUMC New Member Classes – Sunday, March 15 at 6:45 pm and/or Wednesday, March 18, at 6:45 pm in Room A4

Do you feel led to explore becoming a member of our congregation at GCUMC? If so, please make plans to join us at one of these two opportunities. Questions? Contact Pastor Jeremy at jtroxler@guilfordcollegeumc.org or Pastor Susan at ssuarezwebster@guilfordcollegeumc.org.

Wednesday Welcome Table

**March 11, 5:45-6:45 pm
\$7.00 per meal**

Enchiladas, Rice, Black Beans, Salad Bar,
Dessert: Churros
(Chicken available on Salad Bar)
Kids' Meal: Pizza

March 18

BBQ Pulled Pork, Mac & Cheese, Green Beans,
Rolls, Dessert: Banana Pudding
(Chicken available on Salad Bar)
Kids Meal: Chicken Nuggets, Apple Sauce, Chips

EASTER MISSION OFFERING



This year, the GCUMC Easter Mission Offering will benefit the Client Choice Food Pantry at Greensboro Urban Ministry. WE WANT TO HELP THE PANTRY PURCHASE A NEW COOLER! GCUMC purchased the first cooler for the Food Pantry in 2018.

GUM is receiving more fresh vegetables, fruit, meats, dairy products, etc. The Food Pantry needs another cooler to store these generous donations. In 2025, 28,272 families shopped with dignity and received 1,477,522 pounds of food at the GUM Client Choice Food Pantry.

The cost of the new cooler will be at least \$30,000. Let's help the Food Pantry get their cooler!

Consider how you would like to give this year.

Donate options include:

- Text GiveGCUMC to 73256. Click on the link provided.
- Visit our website: www.guilfordcollegeumc.org. Choose Easter Mission Offering option.
- Write a check. Note EMO or Easter Mission Offering in the memo line.
- Give cash in an envelope. Mark EMO or Easter Mission Offering.

Sunday, March 22, 9:45 to 10:30 AM: Join Brian Hahne, CEO of Greensboro Urban Ministry in the Fellowship Hall for updates on Greensboro Urban Ministry and an interactive Q&A session. Brian will also join us during the Sunday morning worship services.

Applications Invited for Coleman Ministry Grants

This past fall, GCUMC received a very generous bequest gift from the estate of Lt. Colonel James Arthur Coleman. Our Church Council has decided to make these funds available in the form of potential grants that would support new ministries or serve to strengthen the overall mission of the church. The application to request a grant can be found on our Church's Website under the "Give" tab, and one can also be picked up in the church office. Ministry areas, church committees, and groups within the congregation are invited to apply. Applications for the first round of grants will be received by the GCUMC Endowment Committee through Friday, **March 13th**, with recommendations made to the Church Council at the end of April. Questions? Contact Bonnie Burkett at bburkett@triad.rr.com.

Signage On Walls

Please refrain from attaching signage, actually ANYTHING, to any surface in the renovated areas of the church. Tape is known to remove paint from walls or leave residue behind and we would like to avoid that if possible. The Trustees are looking into alternate ways to display advertising signage in that area of the building. Thank you for your help with this and spreading the word to others!

Connecting



Thank you to our volunteers who helped make our February 19, Blood Drive a success. A special thanks to our donors as we collected 46 units of life-saving blood to

help replenish some of the 20,000 units that went uncollected during the recent extreme winter weather.

Our next blood drive will be held on Thursday, March 19th. Go online to www.redcrossblood.org to schedule your appointment to donate. Should you have any questions, call/text David Saunders at 336-337-3126.

SILENT AUCTION – A BIG WIN!

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Silent Auction on Ash Wednesday! The Refugee/Transition Team had been placing items that were very nice, (but did not quite match the guidelines for new families) into the corners of the room. When these items began to creep out into needed space, we heard what this year's projects in Kenya would be—and the AHA moment occurred! To use those items in a silent auction for donations to the Kenya projects. We have a great respect for the items that are donated, and the auction put about 80 items into new homes where they are appreciated and helped the Kenya Team to exceed their fundraising goal! So a WIN for items being respected! A WIN for regaining needed storage space! A WIN for Kenya Team fundraising! We are grateful for your donations, and thank you to each of you who shopped at the auction!

Cookie Freese, Sharon Crocker, H'Ne Enuol, Gayle Knight, Carolyn Campbell, Metta Ballard, Bob and Jimmy Stimpson

SEEKERS CLASS - If one of your New Year's Resolutions, is to spend more time in the Bible, then perhaps you would like to try the Seekers class. The class meets on Sunday morning at 9:45. We are digging and reflecting on the book of James. We would love to have you join us. Contact Sara Hardin at hardinx4@bellsouth.net if you have questions. We meet in Room B5.

SnYP (Students & Young Professionals) meets weekly on Wednesdays. Small group starts at 6:45! Not sure if SnYP is for you? SnYP is for college students, young adults navigating the working and grown-up world and others who want to journey together in a supportive, inquisitive, and fun environment.



KID'S MUSIC

CLUB – The Kid's Music Club for grades 1 - 6

meets on Wednesdays at

6:10 pm in the choir room. Our focus during the Spring will be on Hand Chimes. Children will be transported to Faith Files or Faith Friends after Music Club if the parents wish. Come join us!

PASTOR JEREMY'S DISCIPLE SCHOOL has returned. All are welcome to join us in the sanctuary beginning at 6:45 pm for an hour in which we focus on how we can become better followers of Jesus together. Early in the year we are learning how we can draw closer to God through what John Wesley called "The Means of Grace": the gifts of Scripture, Prayer, Community, Fasting, Holy Communion, and Visiting the Poor. Disciple School meets roughly every other Wednesday, with future sessions planned for 3/11, 3/25, 4/08, 4/22 & 5/06.

Praise and Worship Line Dancing at GCUMC

Psalm 149:3 – Let them praise His name with dancing
2 Samuel 6:14 – David danced before the Lord with all his might

Ecclesiastes 3:4 – A time to mourn and a time to dance

If line dancing is something that you've been wanting to try, now is the time! It's a great way to get exercise, push away the blues, and meet some new friends. It's good for all ages and you don't need a partner. We will start off with a 15-20 minute devotion and then learn some fun and easy line dances that will be done to Christian music like Mercy Me and Zach Williams. We'll meet in C1 on the first floor of the Children's Building on March 22, April 19, May 3 and May 17 from 3:30-5:00. Contact Sara Hardin at hardinx4@bellsouth.net with any questions or for more information. Hope to see you on the dance floor!

Connecting



St. Patrick's Day Pot Luck
Tuesday, March 17
12:30-2:30 pm
Fellowship Hall

JOY (Just Older Youth) are invited to join us for a fun and festive afternoon of great food, joyful music and wonderful fellowship. Fried chicken and drinks will be provided – just bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share!

Enjoy live music from Sara Hardin's ukulele group and don't miss a special update from Stephanie Sinkler as she shares highlights from the upcoming Kenya trip. Come hungry, bring a friend and celebrate with us!

JOY BOOK CLUB - The JOY book club will meet on Tuesday, March 24, at McAlister's on New Garden Road. The book we will discuss is *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict. We hope you will join us.

Focused Book Discussion: Laurin is looking for two or more folks to read Rachel Gilmore's book, *Followers Under 40*, along with her and then commit to discussing the book and brainstorming about how we can best invite and live alongside younger adults in the church. Email Laurin at lallred@guilfordcollegeumc.org to join the discussion and get your free copy of the book.

SUNDAY KIDS ZONE for Grades K-6 is provided in Room C14, Second Floor Children's Building from 9:45-10:45 am. Children explore a devotional message and connect through games and activities.



FAITH FRIENDS (GRADES K-3) AND FAITH FILES (GRADES 4-6) – Both groups meet regularly on Wednesdays, from 6:45-7:45 pm. Both kids' groups provide an environment for children to pray for each other, encourage each other, learn about

God and each other, and have great fun together! Faith Files (Grades 4-6) is enjoying "*Bible Explorers*" where we learn about the Bible through games, music, activities, and digging into their own Bibles given to them by the church. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Ford, dford@guilfordcollegeumc.org.



Ladies Luncheon (to meet new people and enjoy lunch.)

Friday, March 27,
11:30 am

at Sarah's Kabob Shop, 5340 W. Market St.

RSVP to Sandy Riffe at sandyriffe@hotmail.com or call at 336-664-1087 or text to 336-255-7078 by **March 20. Please leave your name when you call/text.**

After eating, each person stands and tells one thing about themselves. Meet neighbors on both sides of you and get to know them.

Make plans to join us and enjoy the fellowship, food and making new friends.



CAMP GUILROCK DAY CAMP

- Current Grades K-5 children during 2025-2026 school year (Rising Grades 1-6 children during the summer 2026) – A five day experience (July 13-17)! Monday

thru Thursday will be at Camp GuilRock. Friday, July 17, is a fabulous fun Friday held at Kaleideum in Winston Salem. Children will gather at 8:10 a.m. to travel to camp or the Friday location. We will return to the church each afternoon by 3:45 p.m. Extended afternoon care is available, and advance notice is required. Please let Donna know if you anticipate needing extended care on the registration and consent form. Scan the QR code to access online registration and required health form

Registration deadline is May 31.



AFTER SCHOOL MINISTRY –

Registration is now open for the 2025-2026 school year. *Super Kids After School* serves children attending Claxton Elementary, Guilford Elementary, Jefferson Elementary, Pearce Elementary and

Greensboro Academy. Volunteers are needed to assist the teachers and engage with the children from 2:00-6:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. Excellent kiddos who are fun to be with! Please contact Donna Ford,

dford@guilfordcollegeumc.org, or Shelby Hallquist, afterschool@guilfordcollegeumc.org.

Connecting

YOUTH UPDATE

UNITED METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (UMYF) - Students in grades 7-12 are invited to join us Sundays from 5pm-7pm in the C Building. This is a time for students to explore their faith and minister to each other. Snack supper is provided.

YOUTH FUN NIGHTS – Our Wednesday Youth Fun Nights are from 6:45 - 7:45pm. We either gather on the back field or in Room C1 depending on the weather. Contact Randy Wall, rwall@guilfordcollegeumc.org, should you have any questions about Youth Ministry at Guilford College United Methodist Church

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Vacation Bible School – June 22-24 Evenings (age 3 through current Grade 6)

PRISCILLA SHIRER LIVE SIMULCAST WOMEN'S DAY APART – Save the date of Saturday, August 22, for a full-day women's spiritual renewal day at GCUMC. We will soak in uplifting worship and Bible teaching as we encourage and fellowship together. It will be good for your soul.

Serving

GCUMC Mission Team to Spruce Pine – April 23rd – 26th, 2026

We are forming a work team of about 20 people who will travel to the Spruce Pine area in the mountains of Western NC to continue to help with the rebuilding effort following Hurricane Helene. We will be leaving on Thursday evening after work and returning on Sunday afternoon. If you would like more information, or are interested in joining the team, please contact Team Leader Jim Sandknop at jim.sandknop@leoterradevelopment.com or 336-362-1716.



Rise Against Hunger

extends a huge thank you to GCUMC for your invaluable support during your recent meal packing experience.

Your dedication and hard work helped us package over **17,200** meals, which is truly incredible!

It's inspiring to see the impact we can make when we come together as a community. These meals will undoubtedly go on to make a significant difference in the communities we serve, providing nourishment and hope to those in need. Your efforts have directly contributed to this meaningful cause, and we couldn't be more grateful.

THANKS FROM THE FAMILIES IN TRANSITION TEAM!!!

- Our church continues to help set up apartments for Families in Transition, including those moving out of homelessness and refugees starting over. This ministry has been busier than expected, and we are so grateful for the opportunity to help these families begin again.

We currently need:

- Comforters/bedspreads and blankets (twin, full, queen - washed would be wonderful!)
- Lamps (lots of them!) and light bulbs
- Shower curtains, liners, hooks
- Bath mats
- Drinking glasses
- Flatware/silverware – especially forks!
- Pots and pans
- Mixing bowls

The joy these families express because you have cared enough to help them in their new beginnings is truly rewarding to witness. Your generosity makes a meaningful difference in turning an apartment into a welcoming home.

Thank you for your continued support and kindness.



WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL –

Registrations are being received for the 2025- 2026 & 2026-2027 school years. For enrollment information go to www.gcumckids.org or contact Shelby Hallquist

preschool@guilfordcollegeumc.org

Serving

Invitation to Adults:

Youth Snack Supper. We need people to help us with Sunday night youth dinners. You can cater or cook the meal. We also ask that you stay and eat with us. This is an excellent opportunity for adults and youth to connect over food. Please contact Randy Wall or Lindsay Fusaiotti to sign up. We need volunteers most Sundays in March, April and May.
rwall@guilfordcollegeumc.org
lindsayfusaiotti@gmail.com

Trip Chaperones

We need adult men and women to journey with the youth on our mission trip to Asheville June 22-28. If you can come for the whole week or just a couple days. We need people to help with transportation, projects, chaperoning, and meals. Please contact Randy Wall (rwall@guilfordcollegeumc.org) if you are interested in helping.

Serve Breakfast at Potter's House Community Kitchen on the 4th Saturday of each month, 6:00-8:00 am. 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; Justin: 336-541-0464, justin.redfern@yahoo.com. Carpooling/rides are available.

HONORARIUM

In Honor of Jim Sandknop, Mike Symonds and the Fellowship Hall Committee
Another Grateful Friend

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Max Ballinger
(Jonathan Ballinger's father)
Jim and Nancy Baity
Richard and Nancy Blackwelder
Carol Ingram

In Memory of Nickey Hart
(Lewis Wilson's sister)
Richard and Nancy Blackwelder
Harold and Mary Eagle
Carol Ingram
Len and Sandra Myers
Jimmy and Peggy Provost
Jugrette and Roger Whitt

In Memory of Mary Katherine Wells
(Carolyn Campbell's sister & Kathy Raper's aunt)
Carol Ingram

EASTER LILY ORDER FORM



Easter lilies will be used in our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 5th. If you would like to order a lily in honor or in memory of a loved one, cost is \$12.00 each. Make your check payable to GCUMC and mark "Easter Lily" on memo line. **Attach payment with your order**, and return to the church office.

Deadline for ordering is March 29th.

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Given by: _____

No. of Lilies to order _____

Pastor's Pen

(Dear Church, the following is a brief excerpt from the message I was led to share at the Dedication Service of our renovated Fellowship Hall. I have a sense this is an important message for our congregation: so I wanted to re-share a portion of it with you here, especially for those who couldn't be present. Let's continue to build God's dream together.)

***Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said,
'Surely the LORD is in this place – and I did not know it! . . .
How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God,
and this is the gate of heaven.'***

-Genesis 28: 16-17

Long ago, as he travelled through the wilderness, God gave to the biblical figure Jacob an outrageous vision. Jacob, the former schemer, becomes a dreamer: he sees a kind of ladder or stairway set up on the earth, with its top reaching all the way into heaven. Jacob sees messengers from God ascending and descending the ladder, as if they are commuters heading into or returning from work. And then Jacob encounters the Lord standing right there beside him.

Suddenly Jacob awakens from his outrageous, audacious dream. And as his eyes pop open, he is given a revelation. Jacob exclaims, "Surely the Lord is in this place – and I did not know it! . . . How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven!"

In response, Jacob turns his pillow into a pillar and dedicates the spot as place of worship. The place where he had laid his head is made into a place where he bows his head.

Jacob doesn't just have a dream –he builds the dream.

Sixty-seven years ago, God gave to some of our ancestors a similarly audacious dream. The Greensboro airport had expanded: planes were ascending and descending nearby as if there were a ladder between earth and heaven.

The leaders of Friendship Methodist Church, located right next to the airport, requested guidance from the Western NC Annual Conference on what they should do as the airport continued to expand around them. The then-District Superintendent issued a challenge to the congregation to relocate nearby and to plant a whole new church. This new congregation could serve the Methodist families in the area, along with the Methodist students at Guilford College – and it could also become a base for worship and evangelism as the population of the area continued to grow.

A first gathering to discuss the new church plant was held on February 1st, 1959 in the living room of Mr. and Mrs. Colon Needham. Twenty-one people were present. The nascent congregation decided to rent the Student Union Building at Guilford College as a temporary meeting space. The first service was held on July 12th, 1959, with fifty-seven persons present.

At the second service, the founding minister, Fred Barber, wrote in the bulletin, "It is going to take a lot of hard work to realize our dreams here, but with work and prayer we can, and will, succeed. Let us rejoice in our efforts to make church history in this community."

Three months later, by the end of October, there were over a hundred charter members. The following year, a parsonage for the minister was built on Foxwood Drive. At the same time, a three-phase plan was developed for the eventual construction of a marvelous church building on donated land. A grocery store owner and real estate broker named Sam Talbert had given six acres, located where we are now, to the Greensboro District Mission Society of the Methodist Church – all for the whopping figure of \$10 – the cost of a meal at Chick-Fil-A.

On the first day of the new year, 1961, the members of the new church met on that land, this land, right near where we are sitting, to break ground. Construction began in what used to be a goat pasture. The people planned to turn that former goat pasture into a sheepfold for the Good Shepherd.

The congregation, like Jacob, had been given an outrageous dream. But they were determined to not just dream that dream, but to build it. And it was because they were committed to making God's dream for them a physical reality that we are here today.

(Pastor's Pen continued)

Today, as we re-dedicate this space, first constructed by those who came before us, we remember that we are the spiritual children of outrageous dreamers – and we are the offspring of the kind of people who, by the grace of God, seek to build their dreams.

And we, in dedicating this space, are dreamers as well.

The dream God has given us is the same one given to our spiritual ancestors, and similar to the dream given to Jacob.

We dream that, like Jacob, others will discover this place to be a thin place, where there is traffic back and forth between earth and heaven.

We dream that, like Jacob, those who gather here to serve or worship or meet or eat or even sleep will discover in this place that the Lord of heaven and earth is already standing right by their side.

We dream that in this place, as with Jacob, schemers will be turned into dreamers – that, like Jacob, we and all who come after us in this place will be transformed from those who steal or hoard blessing, to those who share blessing with all the diverse peoples of our community and the nations of the earth.

We dream that long after we are gone, when no one still remembers our names, when this day is no more than an old bulletin in a scrapbook, that future generations will still be drawn to this place-

and that as they fill this space, eating and sharing and laughing and worshipping and praying and welcoming and serving,

that they will be given a joyous revelation:

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place!

This is the gate of heaven!

This is the house of God!

How awesome is this place!

Let's build that dream together.

YOU ARE INVITED

EASTER

Egg Hunt

Grab your baskets for some Easter party fun! Bring a friend for an Egg-cellent Hunt & Inflatables!

SUNDAY

MARCH 29 AT 3:00 PM

Church Back Field



GUILFORD COLLEGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1205 Fleming Road - Greensboro, NC