

Guilford College United Methodist Church
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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



Our next blood drive will be held on Thursday, May 21. If you would like to donate, please, 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.

CROW'S NEST

Vol. XXVI, No. 10

www.guilfordcollegeumc.org

May 13, 2026

Pastor's Pen

Dear Church,

This past Sunday I shared with you about the origins of the Methodist movement, by telling you the story of John Wesley and the rise of the Methodist revival in 18th century England. This coming Sunday I look forward to talking with you about one of the primary messages which the early Methodists preached, which Wesley referred to as "The Scripture Way of Salvation."

In my own life, I have found great value in occasionally circling back to remember our Methodist roots. Not necessarily because I think Methodists are better or smarter or are even more right than Christians of other backgrounds: I love all branches of the Christian tree, and have learned a great deal from so many of them. One of the things I cherish about our Methodist heritage is that it teaches us to be an intentionally ecumenical Church, seeking to partner with and to work with and accept to Christians of all persuasions, without ever seeking to denigrate them because of our surface-level differences in style or emphasis. Our own church includes people from all kinds of spiritual backgrounds.

But while I love all expressions of Christian faith, I am IN LOVE with my own. I find that the emphases of the Methodist way of life resonate not only with what I read in the Scriptures, but with something essential in my soul. To put it another way, God grabbed ahold of me through Methodism's methods, and now I want to introduce them to others.

In particular, I find myself inspired by the passion of the early Methodist people. We are here today because once a group of people were so touched by the love and grace of God that they would get up early in the morning to sing hymns and to pray and to worship before they went to work, and then would gather together the next night to reflect on how they could grow in their love for God and neighbor and self. These transformed souls also gave generously to establish schools and hospitals and children's homes and universities: and even to plant new congregations like our own.

I find myself particularly inspired by the examples of the circuit riders, those Methodist preachers who travelled the back roads of the early United States of horseback to encourage little Methodist societies, and to issue Christ's life-changing invitation to any whom they might find. These circuit riders endured all kinds of trials for the sake of the mission of Christ. The well-known Methodist Circuit Rider Peter Cartwright wrote that "the circuit rider went through storms of wind, hail, snow, and rain; climbed hills and mountains, traversed valleys, plunged through swamps, swollen streams, lay out all night, wet, weary, and hungry, held his horse by the bridle all night, or tied him to a limb, slept with his saddle blanket for a bed, and his saddle bags for a pillow. Often he slept in dirty cabins, ate roasting ears for bread, drank butter-milk for coffee, took deer or bear meat, or wild turkey, for breakfast, dinner, and supper."

Sometimes Circuit Riders would be physically beaten or even imprisoned. John Wigger writes that during the American Revolution, the preacher Joseph Hartley was arrested in Queen Anne's County, Maryland, for preaching without having taken the oath of loyalty to the state. Hartley then spent three months in the Talbot county jail – where he preached so effectively through his cell window that his accusers begin to worry that "if the preacher was not turned out of jail, he would convert all the town."

The circuit riders' dedication was so complete, and their presence so ubiquitous, that there was even a proverbial expression from the time to describe a windy, rainy, stormy day that went, "There's nothing out there today but crows and Methodist preachers."

The passionate example of those who have come before us can inspire us and revive us today. In one of his writings, John Wesley famously expressed his one worry about the future of the Methodist people. He wrote, "I am not afraid that the people called Methodists should ever cease to exist either in Europe or America. But I am afraid, lest they should only exist as a dead sect, having the form of religion, without the power."

Wesley's concern was that the Methodist people might lose the passion they once had, and no longer show forth the life-changing power of the Holy Spirit: that they would become an outward shell of a church, without the kernel of transforming faith at the center.

One way we can make sure that never happens is by reminding ourselves of who we come from: that we are the spiritual descendants of a people so in love with God and their neighbors that they would serve their fellow human beings and worship God with their very last breath.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Jeremy

Caring

Prayer Concerns: Jack Vanstory, Teri LaRocque, Kelly Alston, Greg Fischer, Tom Patterson, Ben Brothers, Brooke Follo, Debbie Jenkins, Mike Ballard, Dorothy Zur, Lynette Whitaker, Maria Maynard, Greg Matthews, Helen Phillips, Bill Blyshak, David Wasserboehr, Tom Jenkins, Katherine Forbes, Lisa Hodges, Jim & Nancy Baity, Cam Waldron

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:

May 17: Tal Jobe, Debbie Lambeth
May 24: Charlie Groves, Bryan Cobb

Prayer Concerns – Extended Family: Ronnie Caldwell; Parker Orth; Freddy Foshay; Joan Gullett, Melissa Yates; Sutton Phillips; Linda Payne; Heather Rittner; B.J. & Sean Sullivan; Wyatt Daufeldt; Michael Patterson; Nanette Price; Landon Cottrell; Darla Freeman; Sarah Lemon, Fay Holliday; Carla Morgan; Heather Taylor; Tammy Smith; Peggy Conaway; Jim Cashman; Jim Eldrett; Shilah George; Judy Journey; Y'Suan & H'Lai Mlo & family; Tammy Strickland, Kenneth Briggs; Azalea Marbury; Shannon Wilson; Kathy McFillin

Note of Appreciation

Dear Church Family,

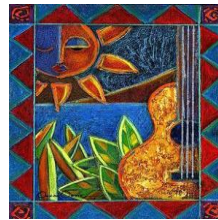
Thank you so much for your love and support during the passing of Jim's mother. Your calls, texts, cards and memorials have been bright spots in a very difficult time.

We are deeply grateful for your kindness and prayers.

With thanks, Jim & Anita Sandknop

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; **Countryside Manor** – Margaret Joyce; **Friends Home Guilford** – Bill & Sarah Brubaker, Karen Lowder, Claudette Kayler, Ellie Dawkins; Linda Metcalf, Barbara Engle, Ray & Judy Harris, Wes Kirkman, Ellen Lancaster, Marilyn & Scott Radley, Emogene Stewart, Rak Kreager; **Friends Home West** – Barbara Jones, Pat Routh, Terry & Joe Ann Weatherford, Bill & Jan Dowdy; **Greenhaven** – Becky Patterson; **Spring Arbor** – Charles Forbes; 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** – Bill Blyshak, Sue Causey, Terri Hastings, Helen Phillips, Betty Siders, Marion Sharpe



An Evening of Songs, Stories & Everything Along the Way

**May 28, 6:30 pm
Fellowship Hall**

Music has been part of
Andrés Pérez González's life

for as long as he can remember, serving as a way to process transitions, moments of crisis, celebrations, faith, grief, and hope throughout every stage of life and ministry.

Before beginning this new chapter, Andrés will be sharing an evening of music, stories, and reflection with the community that has walked alongside him during his time at Guilford College UMC and Brazos Abiertos. Through songs, personal memories, and conversations about faith, family, migration, calling, and the experiences that shaped his journey, this gathering will offer space to celebrate God's faithfulness, remember where we have been, and give thanks for the relationships formed along the way.

Everyone is invited to come listen, reflect, laugh, sing, and share in one final evening together before Andrés and his family begin their transition to Atlanta. We hope you will join us for this special evening.

Sincere sympathy is expressed to Laurin Allred and family, in the death of her grandmother, Joy Colier. Blessed are they who mourn for they will be comforted.

Connecting

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES - If your family has a 2026 high school graduate, we would like to celebrate with you. Graduates will be recognized in worship on Sunday, June 7. Please send Randy Wall their name, school, and a photo of the graduate to rwall@guilfordcollegeumc.org.



Brazos Abiertos' Pentecostes Celebration

Join us for a special bilingual worship service to celebrate Brazos Abiertos' third anniversary! We'll gather on Sunday, May 24th at 5:00 PM in the sanctuary to give thanks for all that God has done in and through our community. Refreshments will be served after the service. **All are welcome!**



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 22-24, 2026
Age 3 as of June 1st through completed Grade 6
Dinner 5:30-6:15 p.m.
Activities 6:15-8:05 p.m.
No cost for dinner and activities

This is a family friendly event for families to participate and enjoy the fun together! There will be shepherds for children who do not have an adult attending with them (please advise need). Scan QR code to register.



SCHOLARSHIPS NEEDED FOR CHILDREN -

Please consider donating to the church's Education Scholarship fund. Our scholarship fund allows children the opportunity to attend events and camps which they otherwise would not experience without this financial support. Donations may be deposited in the offering plate on Sunday mornings, directed to the church office, or online by selecting Education Scholarships. Please mark your donations "Education Scholarship Fund" for proper distribution. Thank you for this valuable support

CONGRATULATIONS to our College Graduates who were recognized on Sunday, May 10.

Joshua Allen – BS Criminal Justice, Appalachian State

Lilia Edwards - BS Marketing, Appalachian State

Christina Hull – Masters in Education, Liberty Univ.

Wesley Hull – Assoc. Degree in Culinary Arts, Johnson & Wales Univ.-Providence

Ty Goller – BS Marine Biology, UNC Wilmington

Shelby Madren – Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine

Anna Manry – BS Forensic Chemistry, West Virginia

Andrés Pérez – Master of Divinity, Duke Univ. Divinity School

Elise Pigue – Doctor of Physical Therapy, Western Carolina Univ.

José Rivera – Masters of Family Practical Nurse, UNCG

Nora Shearer – BFA in Acting, Otterbein Univ.

Victoria Townsend – BS Social Work, Western Carolina

Youth News

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. May UMYF meeting dates are May 3, 17 and 31.

YOUTH FUN NIGHTS – Join us for Wednesday Youth Fun Night activities from 6:45 - 7:45pm each Wednesday. 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.

SUMMER TRIP

Harvest of Hope Mission trip July 22-25 at Pfeiffer University. This mission trip will concentrate on food insecurity issues. Students will glean local fields and distribute food. Lodging will be in dormitories. Please register by clicking [Harvest of Hope](#). Please register ASAP.

PASTOR JEREMY'S DISCIPLE SCHOOL Disciple School will meet at 6:45 pm on Wednesday, May 20 in the James Tew Classroom with Pastors Susan and Tim leading.. Classes will continue during the Summer when dates are determined.

Connecting

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE will meet on Thursday, May 21, at 7:00 pm in room A6.

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 May 17 from 3:30-5:00. Contact Sara Hardin at hardinx4@bellsouth.net with any questions or for more information.



Join the Joy Book Club

We will meet on Monday, May 18 at 5:30 pm at McAlisters on New Garden Rd. Come join us to talk

about *Tom Lake: A Novel*, by Ann Patchett. If you can't make it this time, but are interested in joining another time, here is the list of the books we have scheduled:

July 14: *Where the Rivers Merge*, by Mary Alice Monroe
Sept. 14: *The Correspondent*, by Virginia Evans
Nov. 10: *The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post*, by Allison Pataki

We look forward to seeing you there! Feel free to contact Cyndi Allen cyndiandscott818@gmail.com.

Messy Bun Book Club will meet at 7:00pm on June 11th at The Melt. We are reading *The Lion Women of Tehran*. So far MBBC members have said this book is fantastic! We'd love to have you join this fun and supportive group of women! Come as you are, even if you haven't finished the book—messy bun and all—for great food, conversation and connection. Questions? Contact Laurin lallred@guilfordcollegeumc.org



FAITH FRIENDS (GRADES K-3) AND FAITH FILES (GRADES 4-6) – Both Groups will meet through May 20 from 6:45-7:45 p.m. Both 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.



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.



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.



WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL – Registration is open for the 2026-2027 school year. For enrollment information, please go to www.gcumckids.org or contact Shelby Hallquist preschool@guilfordcollegeumc.org.

Connecting

An Opportunity to Serve

Newcomers School is relocating and the school social worker needs help packing the community closet and other items. Would you volunteer to help Cookie Freese do some of the packing on a week day (Mon-Fri) anytime from 9:00 am-2:00 pm? Please contact Cookie directly if you can help. Phone or text her at 336-202-4658.



AFTER SCHOOL MINISTRY – Registration is open for the 2026-2027 school year. *Super Kids After School* serves children attending Claxton Elementary, Guilford Elementary, Jefferson

Elementary, Pearce Elementary and Greensboro Academy. For enrollment information, please go to www.gcumckids.org or contact Shelby Hallquist preschool@guilfordcollegeumc.org.

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.

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.

Room/Space Reservations

If you or your group would like to use any space in our church facility, please contact Amy Wall in the church office so it can be scheduled and proper forms filled out. Thank you for your cooperation.

Serving

Needs for Kenya Trip



-Reading Glasses (No Prescription glasses)

-Individually wrapped toothbrushes



-8-pack Crayons



-Wooden Pencils (not mechanical)



Please bring your items and place in the designated receptacles in the Information Center.

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.

Familites in Transition Team – Because of your generosity, Families in Transition can continue setting up apartments for individuals and families transitioning from homelessness, as well as refugees building new lives. Our most urgent needs right now include:

- Twin comforters
- Small trash cans
- Small cooking pots
- Baking dishes
- Mixing bowls
- Small paring knives
- Lamps

If you have furniture you would like to donate, please contact Judy Piper (336-312-5562) or Ronica Bowen (336-202-0460). We are especially in need of couches, dining room tables & chairs and beds—but every donation makes a difference.

Thank you for your continued faithfulness and compassion. Your support truly changes lives and brings hope to the families we serve.

Creation Care Corner Used Battery Disposal & Recycling



Powering a Cleaner Future: From remote controls and toys to flashlights and phones, batteries power much of our daily lives. But when they're tossed in the trash, they can become an environmental hazard. Recycling household batteries is a simple step that makes a big difference—for our communities and for the planet. Recycling household batteries: protects the environment; conserves valuable resources; reduces fire risk; and supports a circular economy. The Creation Care Team will make this a bit easier for you to recycle your household batteries if you do not already have a recycling system. We have placed containers in the Information Center and upstairs in the balcony. You may bring in your household batteries (A, AA, AAA, 9 Volt, hearing aid/watch, C, D only). We will monitor the container and recycle the batteries appropriately. If you'd like further information on where you can personally recycle your batteries, contact Carol Randecker at cjrandecker@msn.com or stop her in the hallway.

By taking a few simple steps to recycle household batteries, each of us can contribute to a healthier environment and a more sustainable future.

HONORARIUM

In Honor of Grey and Wilder's Wedding
Stephanie and Clark Sinkler

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Joy Collier
(Laurin Allred's grandmother)
Vicki Kidd

In Memory of Harold Eagle
Tyrone and Carolyn McDuffie
Joyce Mitchell
Tom and Joy Southerland
Donna Steele

In Memory of Harold Proctor
Tom and Joy Southerland

In Memory of Jerri Ramsey
Casey McDowell Ramsey

In Memory of Lorraine Sandknop
(Jim Sandknop's mother)
Tyrone and Carolyn McDuffie