

Guilford College United Methodist Church
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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



Sunday, September 13

Faith in Action Serving Day

This is an opportunity to express our worship in service to God and others. Please plan to sign up to serve on September 13. The 8:30 worship service will meet, but there will NOT be an 11:00 service. It will be taken "outside of the walls of the church." See the list of opportunities in this newsletter, and sign up on Sunday in the Information Center!

CROW'S NEST

Vol. XXVI, No. 17

www.guilfordcollegeumc.org

September 2, 2026

Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

The Faith in Action Serving Day is planned for Sunday, September 13th. On that day we will take our worship out into the community and proclaim our love for Christ and our neighbor. The 8:30 worship service will be offered on September 13th. For the remainder of the day, we encourage everyone to serve in one of the serving projects that are offered. Sign ups are online or in the information center.

James addressed the issue of the importance of living out our faith in the world where we live when he wrote chapter 2. It says:

"What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." (James 2:14-17)

James explains that our faith should be demonstrated with acts of service and in love for our community. Faith in Jesus Christ leads to action in the world and without this expression of spiritual transformation, faith seems empty.

We are called to worship God in Spirit and in truth. At GCUMC, we gather each Sunday morning and on other occasions to worship in this way. Simultaneously as our faith develops and our lives are filled with Christ, a desire to serve and put our faith into action strengthens our spiritual connection with the Lord and others as we serve together.

We consider Faith in Action Serving Day an opportunity to help others, and demonstrate our faith in God through

- serving or preparing a meal
- welcoming newcomers to a time when their children can choose school supplies
- painting a storage area or beautifying a place for ministry
- engaging with families at the shelter
- keeping God's creation clean at a nearby creek.

There are a variety of serving projects and the schedules vary so look them over and come alongside of us to put your faith in action. I recommend an afternoon 5K walk in Barber Park called **Steps of Hope** to benefit Greensboro Urban Ministry. If you cannot walk but would like to donate, just let me or Laurin Allred know. We would love to have your support for the faith-filled service that is offered at GUM for the unhoused, the hungry and the downtrodden.

A servant's prayer as we anticipate the Faith in Action Serving Day:

Gracious Lord, mold my heart into a vessel of service.

In prayer, I seek your transformative touch,
that I may embrace the role of a humble servant.

Remove any traces of selfishness and fill me
with a genuine desire to uplift others and sharing
your love and hope.

Amen.

Faith, hope and peace,
Pastor Susan

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 7 for Labor Day.

Caring

Prayer Concerns: Sandra Myers, Gabriel Planez, Maria Maynard, Terry Weatherford, Carolyn McDuffie, Linda Jobe, Becky Pearce, Linda Royal, Donna Garcia, Jack Vanstory, Mike Duncan, Allen Cheek, Tom Patterson, Marjorie Liles, Mary Eagle, Mike Ballard, Brooke Follo, Lynette Whitaker, Helen Phillips, Tom Jenkins

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:

September 6: Mike Duncan, Jim Taney

September 13: Jim Irvin, Charlie Groves

Prayer Concerns – Extended Family: Martina; Gayle Parrish; Lilly Cheek; Jasmine; Susan Scott; Freddy Foshay; Mo Scalf; Sutton Phillips; Linda Payne; Heather Rittner; John Scialpi; Michael Patterson; David Castro; Darla Freeman; Sarah Lemon, Fay Holliday; Carla Morgan; Heather Taylor; Peggy Conaway; Jim Cashman; Jim Eldrett; Y'Suan & H'Lai Mlo & family; Tammy Strickland, Shannon Wilson; Kathy McFillin; Wally Jarrell

Sincere sympathy to Mary Katherine Ward and family in the death of her husband, David Ward, who passed away on August 21. Sympathy also to the family of Ellen Lancaster, who passed away on August 31.

Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted.

Thank You Note:

Dear GCUMC Friends:

Words cannot express my heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the outpouring of love shown me during my recovery from foot surgery. Thank you to everyone for the cards, visits, food, phone calls, and especially the many prayers that came my way. I am so very blessed to have so many loving and caring friends at our Church.

May God Bless each of you,
Linda Royal

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, 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



If you would like to be a part of our church's e-mail prayer ministry, please contact the church office and we will be happy to place you on the list to receive notices about specific prayer concerns.

A joint memorial service for Bill and Helen Blyshak will be held on Saturday, September 19, at 11:00 am in the sanctuary. A reception will be held in the fellowship hall following the service.

Connecting

Wednesday Welcome Table: GCUMC is pleased to welcome Scott Crump as our new Wednesday Welcome Table meal coordinator. Scott is married to Melanie Crump, our wonderful music director, and he is very excited about sharing his passion of cooking for large groups with all of us. Our first meal is September 9th starting at 5:45 pm; the meal will be held every other week through mid-December. A suggested donation of \$8 per person, which is slightly higher, but needed, to offset rising food costs. Our first menu includes chicken quarters, mac & cheese, green beans, yeast rolls and banana pudding. The salad bar and a children's option will also be available. We are looking forward to sharing meals with both old and new friends in a community of faith and fellowship!



Brazos Abiertos is a bilingual (Spanish/English) faith community that, in partnership with Guilford College UMC, extends the open arms of Jesus Christ to the people of Greensboro. We seek to offer a

safe haven where people who identify as Latinas/os can experience welcome and embrace, wrestle with their faith, grow in community, and experience the transformative love of Jesus working in and through our stories and lives.

At our meeting on Aug. 16, we had 18 people in attendance and on Aug. 30, 13 of us gathered to fellowship, share and explore the life of Jesus Christ together. Please keep our growing faith community in your prayers and support us by attending the upcoming event to celebrate Hispanic Heritage on Friday, September 25 at 5:30 pm.

If you have any questions about the Brazos Abiertos Faith Community, Pastor Susan Suarez Webster is always available to answer them. ssuarezwebster@guilfordcollegeumc.org.

EVE Rebekah Circle will meet on Tuesday, Sept. 8, at 10:00 am in the Rock. All ladies of the church are invited to come and join us for a program and fellowship.

GCUMC SEEKS FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR

GCUMC is currently seeking to hire a part-time Finance Administrator who will work with our accounting partner to coordinate and oversee the church's financial processes, particularly related to contributions. The position is between 16 and 20 hours per week – candidates should have a degree or experience in Finance, Accounting, or Business Administration. To inquire or receive more information, please reach out to Bryan Cobb by email at welcome@guilfordcollegeumc.org. Applicants should send a resume and a cover letter to the same address, including relevant details of previous work experience as well as an explanation of why they feel drawn to the role, along with the names, titles, and contact information for two references. Please join us in praying that we be connected with a qualified person who has a calling to serve in this important role

BACKPACK PROGRAM 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Our church supports Guilford Elementary School's children who need extra food for the weekend during the school year with the Backpack Program. During the 25-26 school year we helped twenty-two students/families at various times with weekly food bags. Invitations to church events and special treats for holidays are also part of the program. We estimate the cost for one child for the school year to be \$300. Donations of any amount are appreciated. Please mark "Backpack" on your check. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Marshall 336-207-2172.

PASTOR JEREMY'S DISCIPLE SCHOOL Disciple School will be held roughly every other Wednesday throughout the summer at 6:45 pm in the James Tew Classroom (A3). The next class will be held on **September 9**.



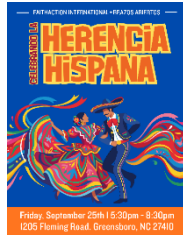
Thank you to our volunteers and a special thank you to our blood donors. We collected 51 units of life saving blood. This was more than our usual collection due to

the community's response to the news of an emergency blood shortage. Our next blood drive will be held on **Thursday, September 17**. Please go online to www.redcrossblood.org to schedule your donation. Please contact David Saunders with questions.

Connecting

National Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated annually from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 by recognizing the history, culture and contributions of Latino Americans. September 15th is significant as a start date as it marks the day that independence was granted to the Latin American countries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. The month also includes Mexican Independence Day on September 16th and Chilean Independence Day on September 18th.

Brazos Albartos invites you to join us for a **Mini Hispanic Heritage Festival** on Friday, September 25 from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. **Brazos Albartos** is partnering with Faith Action International to share a taste of Latino food and some typical songs and dance as part of this celebration. There will also be health resources available in the Rock. **Donations will be accepted** and will benefit the ministry budget of Brazos Albartos.



YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

Join other young adults for a one-day spiritual retreat with the option for an over night camp experience!

September 19th is the "[Turning Toward Trust — Letting Go & Trusting the Turn: A One-Day Pilgrimage with God](#)" retreat at St. Francis Springs Prayer Center. We will participate as a group together. For those that want an overnight experience, plan to join us Friday evening September 18th when we will have a night at camp! Think bonfire, worship, s'mores, and some time to get out in nature before the Saturday experience. All young adults 18-35 are invited to join. Register by September 8th. Register: [REGISTER FOR RETREAT](#)



Join the Joy Book Club

Sept. 14: *The Correspondent*, by Virginia Evans
Nov. 10: *The Magnificent Lives of*

Marjorie Post, by Allison Pataki

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



FAITH FRIENDS (Grades K-3) and **FAITH FILES** (Grades 4-6) will resume on Wednesday, September 16, from 6:45-7:45 p.m. Both groups will gather on the playground for outdoor play (weather permitting) before heading inside for Bible story,

games, and activities. These mid-week kids' groups provide support and discipleship for children along with monthly opportunities to help serve others in our community. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Ford, dford@guilfordcollegeumc.org.

COLOSSIANS & PHILEMON

FALL WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

COLOSSIANS & PHILEMON (9 week study)

What does it mean to be "complete in Christ?" Is Christ your "all in all?" Does He meet all your needs? Don't let anyone delude you with man-made philosophies or traditions that contradict the Word of God. Two options are available: Tuesday evenings via Zoom 6:00-7:45 p.m. starting September 22 AND Wednesday mornings in person and via Zoom 9:30-11:30 a.m. starting September 23. Cost of workbook is \$25. Please contact Donna Ford at 336-292-5833 or dford@guilfordcollegeumc.org if you have questions.

Young Adult Bible Study: Young Adults (18-35ish) are invited to a weekly Sunday evening Bible Study. Start your week off right (or end it well!) by getting into the Bible and conversation. We meet at 6:00 pm on Sundays in the Hilltop Room. What do you need to participate? A Bible and journal—though we have some if you need them! Downloading the Connected Faith app will also be helpful if you want to keep up with the daily readings and spiritual faith practices throughout the week. Questions or want to be added to the communication list? Find Laurin: text 336-688-8396/email lallred@guilfordcollegeumc.org /GroupMe DM/Discord (lorphia13)/ Ready to dive in?

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

Did you order a Faith in Action t-shirt? If you ordered a shirt, you may pick it up this Sunday in the Information Center. Wear it on our Faith in Action serving day on September 13th.

GCUMC FINANCIAL REPORT July 31, 2026

2026 YEAR PROJECTED vs. 2026 YEAR ACTUAL:

YEAR PROJECTED:

Total 2026 budget: \$1,246,670.49
Amount needed to date for 2026 budget: 727,224.45
Amount received as of 4/30/26 for budget: 689,824.45
Difference: (\$ 37,382.00)
*(amount between projected budget needs to-date and actual received)

YEAR ACTUAL:

Amount received for budget as of 7/31/26: \$ 689,842.45
Expenses as of 7/31/26: 750,198.88
Difference: (\$ 30,356.43)

Our finances are continuing on a similar trend in the previous few months, with a small surplus for the month resulting from the July pledges and offerings. We are so grateful for everyone that has helped support the important work and operation of the church.

Our changes to the Finance department continue with recruiting underway for the new Administrator position. If anyone has a potential referral, please contact Bryan Cobb.

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Bill Blyshak

*Randy and Lynne Beck
Hank and Marizell Thompson
Jack and Nancy Vanstory*

In Memory of Bobby Davis

*Bob and Margie Glenn
Pat Gunn*

In Memory of David Ward

*Mary Eagle
Carol Ingram
Len and Sandra Myers
Terry and Joe Ann Weatherford*

Youth Update

Sept 19-20 Youth Family Campout at Camp Guilrock. We invite youth and their families for a campout experience. There are options to camp in a tent or stay in the cabin. We will provide breakfast and worship the next morning. Please register by contacting Randy Wall.

Wednesday Fun Night 6:45pm-7:45pm. This is a time for fellowship, an activity, and a short devotion.

No Sunday youth group on Labor Day weekend.

UMYF youth group is Sundays at 5:00pm-7:00pm. At youth group, we will worship, break into small groups, and learn from each other.

I invite all adults to support our youth by attending their events in the community. It is a great way to build connections with the youth and their friends. Here are some possible events:

Diego Alguilera plays football for Smith HS

Enoch Lemon plays JV football for Northwest Guilford HS

Reagan Walcott plays in the marching band at Grimsley HS

Shelton plays soccer for Caldwell Academy

Collin Farlow plays football for Kiser MS

Dylan McSwain plays football for Kernodle MS

Lucy Gray runs Cross Country for Grimsley HS

Andrew Sacrinty runs Cross Country for Northern Guilford HS

October is coming soon.

The pumpkin unload is scheduled for Sunday, October 4th at 12:30pm. You can come dressed to unload a full truck of pumpkins. We will need a lots of adult volunteers to unload and to help us sell throughout Oct.



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

Connecting

HONORARIUM

In Honor of Carrie Gowen's birthday
Carol Groff

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.

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.

Serving

COSTUME COMEBACK EXTENDED: Give Halloween Costumes a Second Life!

Did you know that hundreds of Halloween costumes end up in the landfill every year? This year, the City of Greensboro is encouraging the community to help reduce waste by giving gently used costumes a second life. Donate clean, gently used Halloween costumes and accessories by placing them in the collection bin or on the hanging rack located in the Information Center. Your donation can help another family celebrate Halloween while keeping reusable items out of the landfill. It's an easy way to reduce waste, save resources, and support a more sustainable community. After cleaning out your closets, be sure to spread the word! Share this opportunity with your friends, neighbors, and family, and help make this year's Costume Comeback a spooky success for both our community and the environment.

FAMILIES IN TRANSITION TEAM – NEW NEWS!

Many thanks! We are still setting up apartments at a furious pace! Each family continues to be deeply grateful—and it's all possible because of **your generosity**. At this point we need:

Lamps	Dish sets
Towels & wash cloths	Glasses
Queen & twin bed sheets	Silverware
Queen & twin bedspreads	Mixing bowls
Shower curtain sets	Pots & pans
Baking dishes & pans	

Furniture donations:

Couches, dining room tables and chairs, and beds are especially needed—but every item makes a difference. To donate furniture, please contact: Judy Piper or Ronica Bowen. Thank you for your continued faithfulness and compassion. Your support truly changes lives and brings hope to the families we serve.

Cars needed – Help Refugees and Those Transitioning from Homelessness Get to Work



A donated vehicle can be life-changing. It provides dependable transportation to work, helping families maintain employment, become financially independent, and build a stable future in our community. Within the refugee community, a single car often serves multiple families, providing transportation for grocery shopping, medical appointments, and commuting to work.

If you have a dependable car you no longer need, would you consider donating it? If a donation isn't possible, selling a vehicle at a reduced price would also make an incredible difference.

To learn more or discuss a vehicle donation, please contact Judy Piper (336.312.5562, jrpiper114@gmail.com) or Ronica Bowen (336.202.0460, rongaze@aol.com).



DON'T MISS SERVING DAY!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH. Check out the serving opportunities at GCUMC as well as around our community. Schedules vary, so please check out the SIGN UPS IN THE INFORMATION CENTER OR SIGN UP ONLINE!

LINKS ARE AT THE GCUMC WEBSITE:

www.guilfordcollegeumc.org/events/faith-in-action-serving-days

Painting of storage room - FULL

Landscaping – NEED 2 more volunteers

Creek Cleanup - NEED 12 – 15 volunteers

Steps of Hope – walkers and donors still needed

Families in Transition School Supplies – almost full

Camp Guilrock – NEED 6 more volunteers

Prepare meals for Pathways Family Shelter and Weaver House - FULL

Donate Meal Items for Pathways and Weaver House meals - Need 3 more Macaroni and Cheese casseroles and 2 dozen cookies

Serve the meal at Pathways Family Shelter – NEED 2-3 Volunteers (must be least 12 years old)

Serve the meal at Weaver House – NEED 6 more volunteers (must be at least 12 years old)

Fun and Games - Meet at Pathways- NEED 3 more volunteers

More information? Write to Sandy Pearman (sandrawpearman@gmail.com) or Vicki Kidd (kiddv148@gmail.com) To donate or walk in **STEPS of HOPE**, contact Laurin Allred lallred@guilfordcollegeumc.org



CAMP GUILROCK

GRILL AND ROCK AT GUILROCK

CONCERT FUNDRAISER TO SUPPORT CAMP!

PERFORMANCES BY:

BARBECUE AND HOT
DOG DINNERS
AVAILABLE

TBA

KIDS' ACTIVITIES
LED BY GUILROCK
SUMMER STAFF

CAMPFIRE &
S'MORES

HAYRIDES

**4:00PM -
8:00 PM**

**SEPT 26,
2026**

**CAMPING
AVAILABLE**

531 BEVILLE ROAD, REIDSVILLE, NC 27320

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR
CAMPING RESERVATIONS:

GRILLANDROCK@CAMPGUILROCK.ORG
336-520-0220

— FAITHACTION INTERNATIONAL • BRAZOS ABIERTOS —

CELEBRANDO LA

HERENCIA HISPANA



Friday, September 25th | 5:30pm - 8:30pm
1205 Fleming Road. Greensboro, NC 27410