

Englewood United Methodist Church Newsletter

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JULY 1, 2024

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SIMPLIFIED ACCOUNTABLE STRUCTURE

Leadership is incredibly important in any church. We need clergy, staff, and laity, working together to cast a vision and equip our members to live into it. For most of my time serving in the church, lay leadership has been embodied by ministry teams like nurture, outreach and witness, and five committees called administrative council, finance, trustees, staff parish relations, and nominations. Each of them come with their own members, set of meetings, and charges. In some churches they work together, while in others they can feel siloed and as if they are doing their own thing. Recently, the conference and district have introduced some new structures for leadership meant to shape our teams to be more effective and free members of our congregations from a deluge of meetings. One of these is called the Simplified Accountable Structure. In our last admin council meeting we began discussing it and have decided to enter into a season of discernment to see if it is the right fit for Englewood UMC. In this article we will unpack this new organization of leadership, but I also wanted to extend an invitation. A key part of this new way to do committees is accountability and the transparency it takes to make that accountability possible. That's why we are bringing you along in the process and keeping you informed so that you understand it and can offer your feedback.

'Why' is an important question to ask in any situation. Why is it that we are pursuing the possibility of implementing this structure at Englewood UMC? There is a technical reason that I have already alluded to. For one, it frees up many of our members from serving on multiple committees so that they can be the hands and feet of our ministries to the community. It will also mean fewer meetings in general. Those two ideas are great, but the greater 'why' to me is the opportunity to move past meetings that focus on what came before to a focus on the vision for what we want to be as a church. Our 'why' greatly aligns with what is presented in Kay Kotan's book, 'Mission Possible':

- Efficiency - The more time we spend in meetings the less time we spend in ministry with the community
- Alignment - Rather than siloed teams, we can now work together towards a common vision and goal
- Missional Focus - Changing from an internal focus of being served to an outward motivation to make disciples
- Accountability - One of the things that accompanies this structural transition is transparency. We have to be better about transparency with one another and with the congregation through regular communications like quarterly town halls. We can also improve on inviting members to observe the gathering of the board. The only stipulation is that SPRC matters are reserved for a closed session that only the board can be a part of.

'What' is another important question. What does the Simplified Accountable Structure look like? Simply put, it is the

combining of the admin council, trustees, finance, and SPRC into one board. That board is charged with shaping and sharing the vision with our members and ministry teams and setting the goals and guidelines for us to live into and make decisions. This would be composed of around nine people with one chair and representation from United Methodist Men, United Women in Faith, our youth, our treasurer, and our lay member to Annual Conference. Like our current committees, we would have, at least, three classes of three people committed to serve for three years. Each year a class of three will rotate off, while another class of three will be set to rotate on.

Another 'what' question deals with the benefits of making such a change. For one, we have all four of these committees working together rather than being siloed. Decision making can now happen faster and with fewer meetings because everyone is equipped to be on the same page. Another benefit comes from what will be driving our meetings going forward. Our goal is to be motivated by our vision and not the structures that tend to guide our churches like the old budget, the old calendar, or even the building needs. This committee would not be about micromanaging the ministries of the church, but setting goals for our ministry teams and staff to help them make their own decisions while living into our unified vision for what the church could be.

Finally, accountability is important for this new leadership structure to work. Transparency continues to be one of our biggest drivers. Our congregation is already invited to attend any of our admin council meetings, but we'd strive to make that invitation even clearer with the new model. The only thing that is not open to the public are staff parish relations matters which deal with the staff and are closed sessions. We will seek to announce through the bulletin and newsletter decisions and happenings with our board and we will try new approaches like regular town hall meetings where you can hear what is going on and give us feedback. In fact, that's the next opportunity we are working on to provide information about this new structure of leadership and include you in the discernment process. Stay tuned, as we will announce shortly a town hall where you can attend to hear more about the Simplified Accountable Structure, ask questions, and begin giving us feedback.

Many of our United Methodist Congregations are making this move for the reasons I shared above. After hearing why and seeing the ways it reinvigorated their leadership, we are excited for us to consider that here. Be in prayer for our admin council as we wrestle with this and be sure to be in constant communication with us if you have any questions. You are a part of this process with us and the surest way for us to succeed is for us to work together on this.

Pastor Nathan



Our Sympathy Is Expressed To:

Janet & Paul Hagan and family upon the death of their son, Justin P. Hagan on June 9, 2024.

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EUMC Flower Committee,
I received the most beautiful vase of flowers, delivered by Jeannie Gibbs that sure did make my day "special". Thank you!
Janice Roberson

Thank you to the Flower Ministry for the beautiful flowers and to Sharon & Jim Dunn for delivering them to me. Also, thank you to Janice Roberson for the much appreciated visit and the snacks and to the members that have sent cards and made telephone calls.
Love,
Shirley Frederick

Thank you Pastor & Englewood for all you have done to help our kids here at Williford Elementary School. Thank you and God bless. It has been a blessing.
Joyce Lynch

Thank you so much for the lovely white mums that I enjoyed all week. They were a bright spot during my illness. And you didn't even know I was sick!
Thank you, Jeannie, for delivering them, and I'm sorry I missed seeing you.
This is such a caring, kind ministry. I'm thankful that you thought of me.



The deadline for receiving information to be included in the AUGUST Newsletter is Thursday, July 18th



JULY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 01 Earl McIlwean, Jr. | 20 Lottie Hodges |
| 05 Owen Becker | 21 Gerald Church |
| 06 Michael James | 22 Stephen Mills, Jr. |
| 06 Sandra James | 23 Lu Czar |
| 07 Mya Cruz | 23 Lee Dawson, Jr. |
| 08 Christine Howell | 24 Brysun Hearne |
| 08 Eric Miller | 25 Judy Overton |
| 09 Kent Creech | 26 Mattie Bullock |
| 09 James Hearne | 26 Carolyn Quigley |
| 12 Pat Bunn | 28 Keri Finegan |
| 12 Cameron Wittman | 28 Declan Murphy |
| 14 Teddy Miller | 29 Lisa Clark |
| 15 Gusty Coats | 30 Jimmy Hicks |
| 15 Robert James, Jr. | 30 Lana VanderLinden |
| 15 Sharon Meade | 31 Lisa Hicks |
| 17 Diane Marsh | |



THE WOMEN OF THE WAY CIRCLE will have an **Ice Cream Social** at the **Dairy Queen** (1321 Benvenue Road) on July 16th at 2:00 p.m. Our friends from the Lighthouse will be our guests. Please bring paper products, cleaning supplies, etc.



SENIOR ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Senior Adult Fellowship will meet for Bingo at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 3rd in The Fellowship Hall and at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 17th in The Fellowship Hall.

SUMMER COMMUNITY WORSHIP

Englewood UMC will join with our friends from other Rocky Mount churches for a Summer Community Worship event on **Sunday, July 28th at 6:00 p.m.**



This event will be hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church (433 S. Winstead Avenue, Rocky Mount, NC 27804).

We are looking forward to sharing in worship and fellowship with our neighbors and hope you'll make plans to join us!

It's SUMMERTIME...and while we are all looking forward to a little time off, our ministry opportunities can't afford to take a vacation break. Before you head off to the sandy white beaches and salty ocean air or the beautiful mountains, remember to help EUMC avoid the dreaded summer slump and offer God thanks through your giving.





United Women in Faith

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH NEWS

Candle Burning



Candle Burning is a special service observed each year by the United Women in Faith.

Its purpose is to make the congregation aware of the total budget it takes to conduct United Women in Faith missions work in the local, national, and world communities. This money that is donated by each unit is sent in to the North Carolina Conference for missions. The money is distributed as needed in mission fields worldwide. In the Fall, we will participate by burning the candle in honor or in memory of our loved ones.

This year the United Women in Faith invites you, all members of Englewood United Methodist Church, to participate in Candle Burning. There will be an insert in your Order of Worship on June 30 and July 7 for you to fill out and make a donation in honor or memory of your loved one. Forms are also available in the church lobby and on the table outside the church office for your convenience. You may place your donation along with the completed form in the offering plate on Sunday during worship. Forms and donations will also be received in the church office during the week. We appreciate your participation in this important mission work.

The deadline for receiving donations for Candle Burning is July 8, 2024.



OUTREACH - "Christmas In July"

The Outreach Committee would like to invite you to participate once again in our "Christmas in July" collection of toys for the Peacemakers Toy Store. These toys will be used by Peacemakers for distribution at their annual "Toy Store" held the first Friday and Saturday in December. This event allows Parents/Guardians to purchase toys for their children at a reduced price who may not otherwise have the means to provide a "Special Christmas" for them.

We are trying to spread our Mission work out and at the same time give everyone a chance to participate in those projects dear to their heart. So if you would like to contribute a **new, unwrapped toy** for this mission, please bring them to the church during the month of July. Items accepted include Toys, Bikes, Sports Balls, Head Phones, Ear Buds, and New Shoes. There will be a box located in the church lobby area for these collections.

Also, Gift Cards to a Fast Food restaurant are a "Big Hit". IF you bring a gift card, please turn these in to Nancy or Christian in the church office.

You may also make a monetary donation and we will do the shopping for you. Just make your check payable to EUMC and mark "Peacemakers" on the memo line.

We hope you will help make this Christmas special for a lot of kids.

Thank you for your continued support of our EUMC Missions.



FAITH CHRISTIAN MINISTRY OF NASH COUNTY - JULY NEEDS



Faith Christian Ministry continues to serve all who need them in Nash County. They are so grateful for the monthly food donations that this church provides. Remember hunger is still thriving for so many due to our economy and increased prices of food. Faith Christian Ministry is doing its part, with your help, to aid those in need. Starting Sunday, July 7th, the "**Meals of the Month**" donation will be **Spam and Macaroni & Cheese**. So when you shop for your family's groceries this month, just throw an extra box or three in your cart. Then bring them to EUMC and drop them in the Love Cans under the name tags in the church lobby. This is one easy way that we, as a church, can continue to serve others by providing food for those in need.

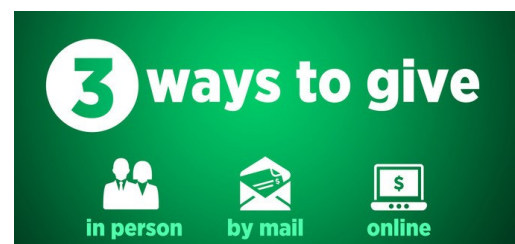
Stewardship Campaign Update

YTD Stewardship Pledges* \$170,917
 YTD Stewardship Giving (Actual) \$155,798

*Annualized monthly average from \$410K Stewardship Campaign Pledges

Financials as of May 31, 2024

	Monthly	YTD
Total Receipts	\$25,688	\$165,259
Total Expenses	\$33,244	\$175,137





Blessed ART the Children

Children's Art Camp | July 22-24

Register: englewood-umc.com/art-camp

Dates: July 22nd - July 24th

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Location: Englewood UMC Children's Hall

We're getting so excited for the 4th year of our children's art camp: Blessed ART the Children! This is a wonderful chance for our children to explore their own creativity and feel connected to the creativity of God. Throughout

the week we'll have a variety of art projects for our kids to enjoy, and at the end of the camp we'll have an **art show (July 24th at 12:00 p.m. | Fellowship Hall)** where everyone is invited to come and see all that they've created!

Children who are between 3 years old and having completed 5th grade are welcome at ART Camp! We'll have the children in groups by age, with projects designed just for them. Registration is open for ART Camp online, so you can sign up today, and don't forget to invite your friends! Register at www.englewood-umc.com/art-camp.

Clothes for Kids | Back-to-School Clothing & Supply Drive

As part of one of our Workday Wednesdays, our EUMC Youth are organizing a back-to-school clothing and school supply drive for families in our community. Many children are not able to start the school year with well-fitting clothes, nice shoes, and all the supplies they need to learn during the school year. We want to help with that!

On Saturday, August 10th, from 9:00 a.m. to noon, we will invite families from our community to come to our Fellowship Hall, where they will find a selection of new and gently used clothes and shoes for children and youth, as well as school supplies their children might need for the year. They can try things on in our "fitting rooms" (bathrooms), just like they would in the store. We hope this will help kids feel confident to start the school year off on a good foot! Our youth will organize the donations and help run the drive that Saturday.

How can you help?

- Donate new or gently used clothing items for children of school age. Many of us have clothes and shoes that our children or grandchildren have outgrown that are still in good shape. Those items will be perfect!
- Donate school supplies for us to give out such as notebooks, binders, paper, pencils, erasers, notecards, glue sticks, safety scissors, markers, crayons, etc.
- Volunteer to help with the event. We can use help assisting people who come to shop, greeting folks, handing out information about our church, etc.

This is a great opportunity for us to make a real difference to the children and families in our community. We look forward to seeing how God works in and through EUMC during this new project!



BACK-TO-SCHOOL CLOTHING & SUPPLY DRIVE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10 | 9:00 A.M. TO NOON

ENGLEWOOD UMC (300 S. CIRCLE DRIVE, ROCKY MOUNT, NC)

Providing clothes & school supplies to children & teens in need to get the school year started on the right foot!

THE FOLLOWING GROUPS WILL RETURN IN SEPTEMBER AFTER TAKING A SUMMER BREAK. . .



Prayer Shawl Ministry will return on Tuesday, September 3rd at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall with Blankets

Do you know someone who would be comforted by receiving a Prayer Shawl or a Blanket? Forms are available on the table outside the church office for you to request shawls/blankets. You may call the church office at 252-443-2926. You may also contact Betty Poplin at 252-985-0950.



Englewood United Methodist Men are on summer break and will return on Tuesday, September 10th. Enjoy your summer!



United Women in Faith

Women of The Way Circle

will return on Tuesday, September 17th at 10:00 a.m. in the Aldersgate Classroom

Lydia's Sisters Circle

will return on Tuesday, September 17th at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Vacation Bible School 2024

We had fin-tastic adventure at Scuba VBS on June 10th-13th! We had over 30 children who experienced the love of God through the help of our 19 incredible adult and youth volunteers. Together we dove into friendship with God, building a relationship that will last a lifetime! Thank you to everyone who helped make VBS possible this year - it really takes the whole church! We can hardly wait until next summer's True North VBS (Alaskan Adventure theme) in June 2025!!



Children's Sunday School



Children 5th grade and younger are invited to join us on the children's hall for a time of learning, fellowship, and fun on Sunday mornings at 9:30! Our younger children will have a special activity in our nursery, while our older children journey through the Bible one week at a time. Our theme for July is BELONG! Here's what we'll be learning about each week:

Date	Topic	Helper
July 7	Babel (Genesis 11:1-9)	Jeannie Gibbs
July 14	Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9:1-13)	Rita Vickers
July 21	The Woman at the Well (John 4:4-42)	Debbie High
July 28	Peter's Dream (Acts 10:1-48)	Helper Needed

Children's Church & Nursery



Our children and adult leaders are having such a wonderful time learning about God's Word in Children's Church during worship on Sunday mornings! Children are invited to join us in worship with their families at 10:30 a.m. After a special children's message just for them, our children can go back to the children's hall for more awesome activities! ***Our Nursery is for children in Pre-K and younger, and Children's Church is for children in grades K-5.*** Parents can pick up children on the children's hall after worship ends.

This summer our Children's Church group is learning about the parables of Jesus! Each week we'll discover a new story Jesus told to help us learn more about God and how we can be part of his kingdom. There will be hands-on activities, crafts, snacks, and more!

Children's Church Schedule

Date	Topic	Leader
July 7	Parable of the Laborers	Beth Ezzell
July 14	Parable of the Good Samaritan	Phyllis Woodley & Kenan Mills
July 21	Parable of the Lost Son	Savanna Becker
July 28	Parables of Jesus Bingo Review!	Savanna Becker

Nursery Schedule

Date	Helper
July 7	Lea Ann Nichols
July 14	Lisa Hicks
July 21	Ashley Murphy
July 28	Laura Earp

Saturday Morning CAFE (Children And Families @ Englewood)

We'll take a break from our Saturday Morning CAFE (Children And Families @ Englewood) during the summer because of all the wonderful Children's Ministry activities we have planned. Don't miss Art Camp on July 22nd - 24th! You can mark your calendars for our next CAFE, which is scheduled for Saturday, August 17th at 10:00 a.m. on the Children's Hall.



TRUSTEES CORNER!



Summer is a great time to begin cleaning out the old items that your group may not need. Please check closets or cubbies where items are stored to help keep our church clean and less cluttered. Thank you!!

Trustees Schedule for Opening & Closing Church:

July: Barbara Batts; **August:** Lisa Hicks & Barbara Batts **September:** Jerry Lee Ezzell, Jr.

Our Trustees are: Barbara Batts, Rod Buckner, Brian Collins, Jeff de los Santos, Jerry Lee Ezzell, Janet Hagan, Lisa Hicks, Terry Von Elling & Terry Woodley

Youth News

Wednesday July 3
Sunday July 7

Monday July 8 - 12
Sunday July 14
Wednesday July 17
Sunday July 21
Wednesday July 24
Sunday July 28
Sunday August 4
Wednesday August 7

JULY SCHEDULE

9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Workday Wednesday
 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Gatekeepers Cookout at Lakeside Church
 (No regular Youth Group)
 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. **Gatekeepers Workcamp**
 5:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m. Youth Group
 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Workday Wednesday
 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Youth Group
 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Workday Wednesday
 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Youth Group
 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Youth Group
 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Workday Wednesday

UMYF Dinner Signups

Our UMYF meets on Sundays from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. for dinner, Bible study, games, and fellowship. If you are able to provide a meal for our UMYF one Sunday evening, our group would really appreciate your help! You can either bring the meal or donate financially toward our meal fund. The sign-up list is in the church lobby. Thank you for your ongoing support of our UMYF!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Theme</u>	<u>Provided By</u>
July 7	Picnic Food	_____
July 14	Baked Potato Bar	_____
July 21	Pizza	Lou Edmondson & Jo Wilson
July 28	Mexican Food	_____



Gatekeepers Workcamp

Gatekeepers Workcamp is a week of service here in Rocky Mount. Youth groups from other area churches come together to be on crews that work on a particular site for the week. **Gatekeepers Workcamp is July 7th - 12th.** Everyone will meet at Lakeside Church each morning at 7:00 a.m. and get picked up there at 2:00 p.m. You will need to have your own transportation to and from Lakeside to participate. Crews will travel together from the church to worksites. Lunch is provided daily.

Please keep those participating in the Gatekeepers Workcamp in your prayers!



WORKDAY WEDNESDAYS

Workday Wednesdays are going strong for our EUMC Youth this summer! For 5 Wednesdays our youth are participating in mission projects right here in our own community. This year we'll be partnering with United Community Ministries, the Lighthouse Home, Joyland Preschool, and Create Hope, as well as working on projects here at Englewood UMC. These are the dates for our remaining Workday Wednesday this summer:

- July 3 The Lighthouse Home & Bowling
- July 17 Projects at Englewood UMC & Pool Party
- July 24 ART Camp & Defy Gravity
- August 7 Joyland Preschool & Capps Entertainment

There is no cost for our youth to participate on Workday Wednesdays, thanks to the generous support of our congregation and our fundraisers, but we do ask that youth sign up ahead of time to let us know who will be participating in each week's workday. Youth can sign up by letting Savanna know by Monday of each week.