# Winstead Connection



Pastor Rachel Kwashe (phone) (252) 408-3894

This past month, the Building Committee has been hard at work making decisions about small things like countertops all the way to bigger things like our audio-visual needs and the kitchen layout. We have kept up with our budget and been thinking ahead to things not yet purchased like chairs for worship and office shelving. If you've been out to the site, you can see the progress. If you have not been out to the site, I encourage you to walk around inside the building, to pray over it and ask questions if you are curious about what they are doing each day. We are in a season where we get to lean into new creation and imagining what God is going to do through the things that He has put in front of us.

I am humbled knowing that this July will mark two years of me being with you. And I can see God's faithfulness in every month that we had to be adaptive or make hard decisions or have challenging conversations. I can see the way that God provided for us even when I wished that it had been a smoother road. God has brought too many pieces of this puzzle together for me to be able to deny that this is where God wants us to be.

Just like many of you, I am yearning for us to get in that building, to have our own space, and rejoice in this beautiful new beginning. It is hard to wait. It is hard to be flexible. But I am encouraged by your continued commitment to seeing this project through. As a church we are dependent on one another and the gifts that we all can offer, whether it is your time, talent, and/or financial gifts. For every Easter that held a wide-open property with dreams for the future, we now have the gift of an Easter in which we could see the building going up knowing our next Easter will be in that very place.

You may notice some new changes in worship, slight changes to the words of the hymns we sing and thinking about how to welcome people that may not know anything about our church or even church in general. These changes may be surprising, different, or you may not notice much difference at all. But this is intentional. May we have open eyes to see the ways in which God will continue to surprise us as we seek his will in this time.

Pastor Rachel's office hours are Monday - Wednesday, 9:30 am - Noon Text or call: (252) 408-3894

Strengthening children and families so that all may know God better.



#### **Children's Sunday School**

We have had a great year in Sunday School. Despite some of the challenges and the fact that we are sharing a building, we have had a great time teaching our children how to worship and why we worship.

As we head into May we are already in our last unit which is MISSION. The Mission unit will lead us into our summer time and "Summer of Service."

Our last Sunday school will be on Sunday, May 21. This will be a combined Sunday School with the adults.

Our new venture this summer is called "Summer of Service." This is going to be a great opportunity for corporate mission ministries. Mark your calendar for Sunday, May 21. The time and place will be announced later this month. Keep your ears open for more information.

#### **Coming Soon - Summer of Service**

Summer of Service will be a church-wide corporate missions ministry opportunity and we will be emphasizing Summer Servants.

The basic idea is that we will gather together after worship once or twice in June, July and August to have a fellowship meal together. While we're having this meal, we will be hearing from different parts of our church family.

After food and fellowship, we will have an active mission project that will last about 1 hour.

In June the mission theme will be NATURE. In July the mission theme will be FRIENDS AND FAMILY. And then in August, as we're looking for the possibility of moving into a new church, our mission project will be COMMUNITY.

Details about Summer of Service will be coming soon.

If you would like to know more about this or would love to be a part of creating and building this time of worshiping through missions, please contact me, Pastor Rachel, Priscilla Morello, Jodi Ruotolo, Ryan Kirby or any of our education team members.

We are excited about the possibilities this summer and want you to be a part of our community projects.

1 Peter 4:10,

Mr. Marty

(Continued on page 3)



(Continued from page 2)

#### **ECHO YOUTH SCHEDULE**

May 7

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Game Night

May 14

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm What's Your Gift

May 21

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Cool Out

May 28

NO YOUTH Happy Memorial Day

Marty Johnson, Director of Youth Ministries
Office hours
Tuesday, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm and

Thursday, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Email: MartyKeithJohnson@gmail.com

Cell phone: 336-402-5000



### **Women of Winstead**

#### by Sanda Hight

The WOW (Women of Winstead) report on the chicken salad sale held in March has been finalized. Thanks to the members of WOW, to members of our church family, and to friends in the community, the chicken salad sale was a success. Several members of our congregation and friends in the community gave donations toward the expenses or would not accept change after their purchase. Thanks to all who went that second mile. On the morning of March 29, we made 135 pounds of chicken salad, more than we had anticipated. The profit after all expenses were met was \$1082.44, which will be divided between our "Raise the Roof" fund and the Seeds of Hope Neighborly Food Closet. Members of WOW are thankful for the opportunity to work hard to make contributions to these worthy causes. Special thanks to members of our church family who donated ingredients and spent time in planning, preparation, cleanup, and delivery. Those who contributed planning and bookkeeping skills made a difference in the success of the sale. Also, thanks to those who contributed knowledge of preparing chicken salad in years past so that our product could continue to be of high quality. Let us not forget to thank Parkers again for donating 150 containers for the chicken salad sale. Throughout the planning and preparation, WOW members kept in mind our four goals for the project: fellowship among WOW members, contact with numerous members of the community, monetary contributions to causes dear to the hearts of our congregation, and some really good chicken salad.

WOW has a tentative plan to have the May meeting at the Farmer and the Dail restaurant in Snow Hill on Saturday, May 20. We plan to leave Wilson at 8:00 and arrive at the restaurant in time for breakfast. If you plan to attend, please call Karen Rowley to get your name on the list. Please stay posted in the event that plans for the May meeting are changed.

We invite all women of our church to join WOW for study, fellowship, and service.

# Outreach News By Mary Ellen Bass

The May Food Drive will be held on the 3rd Sunday in May (instead of on Mother's Day), May 21, following Worship Service at 12:30 p.m., in the parking lot by the TBOB building.

The Outreach Team will meet for our quarterly meeting on Tuesday, May 23, at 11:45 a.m., at the Peanut Building. A light lunch will be provided.



# Hand in Hand Ministry By Sanda Hight



Our church family appreciates teachers at Vick Elementary School throughout the year. We especially think of the hard work of teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week, which is observed during the first week of May. Again this year, our Hand in Hand Committee will treat the entire Vick staff to strawberry shortcake and a jar of Winstead peanuts during a staff meeting on Wednesday, May 3. The staff always enjoys the sweet spring treat and the peanuts.

We have delivered the Prayer Partner Cards for April, and we will be signing cards for May during the first two Sundays of the month. Please look for the cards on display in the hall outside the sanctuary and in the fellowship hall. Everyone is invited to sign cards and give a message to the Vick staff.

One final treat for the children at Vick is being planned for the end of the school year.

We are also thinking ahead to "Books for Vick" in December. We are working on grants to help cover the cost of books, and we are also asking the Vick teachers for suggested book titles for their classes. Please anticipate more information about "Books for Vick" next fall as we plan this

project for the Vick students and teachers again during the 2023-2024 school year.

Finally, thanks for all your prayers and support for our Hand in Hand outreach. We want to continue spreading our love to the students, teachers, and families of Vick Elementary School into the future.

# DID YOU KNOW



West Nash UMC collects wrapped take-out utensils to donate to area shelters. Drop yours in the box outside the kitchen door.



### **May Birthdays**

Caroline Harper	l
Graham Brock	3
Greg Griffin	6
Alayna Wilson	29
Ricky Wilson	29
Tessa Kirby	30

## **May Anniversaries**

Chris & Sandy Pittman	ç
Don & Ophelia Taylor1	(
Jake & Joyce Wolfe3	1





# RAISE THE ROOF UPDATE

### Priscilla Morello, Stewardship Chair

Dear Winstead Family,

I hope you are as excited as I am about the progress of our new building!

I will give you an update as to our progress on the Raise The Roof campaign at the end of this article, but before I do that, I wanted to share two stories with you that give hope and a glimpse into how God is at work in this process of a new building and a new mission for Winstead United Methodist Church.

Both these stories revolve around the Easter Eggstravaganza that Winstead sponsored for our church and for the community. It was a great event with 34 children who participated in addition to their moms and dads. We reached ten new families from the community in addition to our own church families.

The first story is about a little girl from the community who participated in the Seek and Ye Shall Find activity we had for 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> graders. The activity went as follows: we had two teams of about five children each. Their goal was to read nine different scriptures. After reading a scripture passage a member of their team had to race to their designated bucket and pick out an item that represented the scripture they had just read. Both teams did a great job and the children had fun while looking up scriptures in the Bible. When it was this little girl's turn to read from the Bible, she shied away saying she had never read the Bible before. But her team rallied around her and helped her find

the passage for her to read. It was a wonderful example of Christian community, and it points out the very purpose of our church—to be witnesses to those who don't know about the Bible or faith in Christ Jesus!

The second story is about one of our church members who helped with the Easter Eggstravaganza. The preparations for this event were extensive and took a couple of months to prepare. As I worked alongside this member of the church, we became very excited at the prospect of ministering through this event to the children and their fami-

lies who would be coming. At one point this member shared with me that she and her family had decided to give a sizable gift to the Raise The Roof Building Fund because they believed in what the church is trying to do. Now this family may have made this donation even without working

on Easter Eggstravaganza, but I am persuaded that her participation in our ministry to children and the hope of seeing Winstead UMC reach even more families in our new church location, influenced this decision to donate funds to Raise The Roof.

I thank all those who participated in making the Easter Eggstravaganza such a huge success—there were over 25 Winstead volunteers and parents who helped. But more importantly, I give praise to God who is showing us on continual basis and in many different ways, that He is leading us forward!

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# RAISE THE ROOF (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 8)

And now for a monetary update. In addition to the \$106,925 RTR donations collected in 2022, we have had pledged an additional \$54,100 in 2023! That is a total of **\$161,025** which brings us more than halfway to our stated goal of \$300,000 over three years.

THANK YOU to everyone who has pledged and/or made contributions to this fund. We have already paid out to Farrior & Sons a total of \$96,214.50 from the Raise The Roof funds for work that has been completed.

AND PLEASE...consider making a pledge to the Raise The Roof Building Fund so we will have an idea of the funds that will come in for 2023. This will help us manage our obligations with integrity and frugality.

Just Print off this RTR Pledge Card, fill it out and turn it in to the church office. And thank you once again for your commitment to Winstead United Methodist Church.

## Raise The Roof Pledge Card ~ 2023



Winstead United Methodist Church 2302 Nash St. N Suite E #275 Wilson, NC 27896 252-237-3709 We are excited that the new building is underway on Airport Blvd. I/We want to contribute to the funding of this new Family Life Center that will also be our Worship Center when we move in later this year.

I/We pledge to donate \$ construction of our new ch	this year to help pay for the nurch.
I/We will pay our pledge:	In One payment
	In Quarterly payments
	In Monthly payments
Name (please print)	
Address:	
Phone:	
Email address:	
Signature:	



Sunday, April 2



April 13



**April 13** 

## MAY AT WINSTEAD

See the online calendar for the most current information - winsteadumc.org/calendar

Monday, May 1

6:30 pm Men's Small Group

Tuesday, May 2

2:00 pm Bible Study (Williams Home) 2:00 pm Hand in Hand (Hight Home)

6:30 pm Church Council (Eagle Farm Clubhouse)

Thursday, May 4

9:30 am Bible Study (Wolfe Home)

Sunday, May 7

10:00 am Sunday School for All

11:00 am Fellowship Time

11:30 am Worship 5:00 pm WAM Kids

6:00 pm ECHO Youth

Tuesday, May 9

2:00 pm Bible Study (Williams Home)

7:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, May 11

9:30 am Bible Study (Wolfe Home)

Friday, May 12

1:00 pm Seeds of Hope Wilson Golf Tournament

(Wedgewood Golf Course)

Sunday, May 14

Happy Mother's Day

10:00 am Sunday School for All

11:30 am Worship

11:00 am Fellowship Time

5:00 pm WAM Kids

6:00 pm ECHO Youth

Monday, May 15

6:30 pm SPRC Meeting

Tuesday, May 16

2:00 pm Bible Study (Williams Home)

7:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, May 18

9:30 am Bible Study (Wolfe Home)

Saturday, May 20

10:00 am Women of Winstead (pg. 4)

Sunday, May 21

10:00 am Sunday School for All

11:00 am Fellowship Time

11:30 am Worship

12:30 pm Drive-in Food Drive

5:00 pm WAM Kids 6:00 pm ECHO Youth

Tuesday, May 23

11:45 am Outreach Committee Meeting (pg. 4)

2:00 pm Bible Study (Williams Home)

7:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, May 25

**Newsletter Deadline** 

9:30 am Bible Study (Wolfe Home)

Sunday, May 28

10:00 am Sunday School for All

11:00 am Fellowship Time

11:30 am Worship

6:00 pm No Youth

Monday, May 29

**Office Closed - Memorial Day** 

Tuesday, May 30

2:00 pm Bible Study (Williams Home)

7:00 pm Choir Practice

**Coming in JUNE** 

June 14 - 17

**Annual Conference** 

If your group will change its meeting time for summer, be sure to let the office know so that the online calendar and bulletin are accurate.



2302 Nash St. N Suite E #275 Wilson, NC 27896

Pastor Rev. Rachel Kwashe
Director of Youth Ministries
Marty Johnson
Minister of Music
Sandy Pittman
Handbell Choir Director
Joyce Wolfe
Church Musician
Faye Jones
Children's Choir Director
Becky Holland
Office Administrator
Gretchen Hunt

Sandy Lamm

Lay Leader

#### The Winstead Connection

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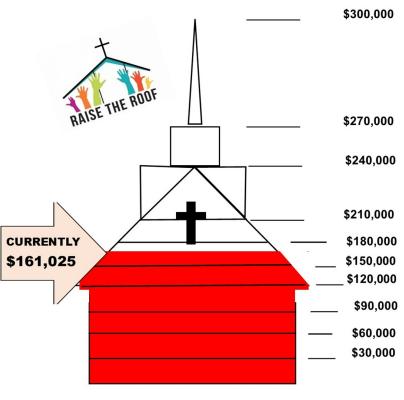
Sunday Schedule

10:00 am Sunday School for all11:30 am Worship6:00 pm ECHO Youth

Pastor: Rev. Rachel Kwashe Email: rkwashe@nccumc.org



## PLEDGE GOAL: \$300,000



Winstead's New Church