

Winstead Connection



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

On April 22nd, I will travel to Charlotte to attend General Conference. General Conference happens every four years and has its roots in the conferences that John Wesley called together for clergy to gather and make decisions for the future of the Methodist movement. Years later, lay delegates would become an essential part of General Conference with both a voice and a vote.

The Annual Conference meets yearly and includes every pastor and at least one lay person from every church in that region. The North Carolina Conference covers everything east of Elon, Mt. Gilead, and Rockingham. The Western NC Conference covers west of Greensboro. There are 129 Annual Conferences worldwide that send lay and clergy delegates to General Conference, according to the size of each Annual Conference. The structure is like the House of Representatives, in which the number of elected officials vary by population.

One of the things I am most looking forward to is witnessing firsthand the joy of what we call "the connection." When we say that we are connectional, we are referencing our commitment to partner with other United Methodist churches around the world in mission and ministry. United Methodists are connectional because we believe that Jesus' command in Matthew 28 to make disciples of all nations was not a metaphor or sug-

gestion. We are commanded, not just invited, to be a connectional people. For the local church to bear witness to Christ in the world, it must tend to the needs of its location but also look to the needs of our sisters and brothers around the world.

In our over 200-year history, the UMC and its predecessors have never delayed General Conference by more than one year. Because of COVID-19, it has been delayed by four years. The biggest reason for this delay was our commitment to full representation of the United Methodist Church and for the health and well-being of all delegates. Because we are all part of the body of Christ, we do not put one people group above another. We believe that faithful discussion and decision-making can only happen when everyone has a place at the table and the resources to get to the table.

In the coming weeks, you may see information about General Conference on social media or in the news. When that happens, I ask that you refer to umnews.org or nccumc.org/gc for the most accurate and up-to-date information. Please also reach out to me if you have questions or concerns about General Conference. I'm more than happy to talk with you about it.

CHILDREN & YOUTH



Marty Johnson,
Minister of Children & Youth
336-402-5000

Sunday School

At our last Education/Sunday School Team meeting we decided that we would continue with Youth and Children's Sunday School until the end of May.

We will continue with our curriculum - *Discipleship Journey for Children*. Then we will take a break for the summer. During this break, we are going to have a breakfast on the fourth Sunday of each month from 9:00-10:00 am for all of the Winstead family. These will be Breakfast Blessings @ Winstead. So rise and shine and come be a part of Breakfast Blessings @ Winstead. The Education Team will be asking different groups to host these breakfasts. The breakfast will be served at 9 am and will conclude at 10 am so that we have time to clean up and get ready for worship. The committee's hope and prayer is this will be a great time of fellowship and food as well as an awesome opportunity for you to invite friends to come and have breakfast, then worship with us. More infor-

Marty Johnson, Director of Youth Ministries
Office hours
Tuesdays, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm and
Thursdays, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
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mation about this will be forthcoming as the time gets closer.

We want to thank all those who help provide Sunday School for the adults as well as children and youth. We at Winstead UMC believe that we are in partnership with our children's parents and grandparents in being a part of a team that shares our experience with Christ so that we might help our children grow to be disciples that make disciples.

Please keep our teachers and their helpers in your prayers. Winstead Church, you are very important to what God wants our church to be and do! So without your PRAYERS, we have no divine power and that makes all the difference!!

Parents Night Out

Our next Parents Night Out will be on Friday, May 10 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The cost is \$5 per family. We are planning a great time with games, veggie tales, snacks and crafts. You will be able to sign up online or call Gretchen at the church office.

Youth Lock-In

The youth had a great time at their lock-in on Friday, March 1. Thanks so much to the West Nash UMC youth group for coming and joining us. We had a great time playing games, eating snacks, playing 9 Square, and Gaga ball.

Also a very big thanks to both our youth groups for helping put back all the chairs and having the room ready for worship!!

(Continued on page 3)

CHILDREN & YOUTH (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 2)

Community Eggstravaganza

Thank you so much to everyone who made our community extravaganza a success and a great blessing!! We had just over 80 people involved in our outreach through the Easter Egg Hunt and Lighthouse Ministry. Thank you so much to the Wilson Police canine department for coming out and sharing.

There are just too many names to mention for fear of missing someone who helped make this a great success. Whoever played the Easter Bunny did a fabulous job. And thanks so very much to Nancy and Malory Joyner for cooking our hot dogs.

If you missed this event, you missed a real blessing. There were so many community families who came to join us in celebrating Easter and our community.

Thank you to Priscilla Morello who steered us for planning inside events due to the weather! Again, thank you to everyone who was involved in helping as we reach out to our community in Christ's love.



ECHO YOUTH SCHEDULE

Essential Connection

- April 7
6:00–7:30 pm God's Word
- April 14
6:00–7:30 pm Music
- April 21
6:00–7:30 pm Friends
- April 28
6:00–7:30 pm Parents

Women of Winstead

by Sanda Hight

WOW (Women of Winstead) met on Saturday, March 16 at 10:00 am in the church foyer. At that meeting, final plans and decisions for the WOW chicken salad sale were made. The chicken salad will be prepared and made available for sale to



our congregation and the community on April 25-27. See below for information of the details about placing orders, price, donating chicken, deadlines, pick-up, etc. Announcements and order forms will also be available on Sunday mornings prior to

worship and on the church's Facebook & webpage. Proceeds from this sale will go toward projects and ministries that support the mission of our church. If you have questions, you may contact Karen Rowley, WOW president.

There will be no regularly scheduled WOW meeting in April. Time spent on further planning, preparing, and distribution of the chicken salad will provide for service and fellowship during the month of April. Plans for a time of celebration and fellowship in May will be announced later.

Chicken Salad Sale

Women of Winstead's famous chicken salad will be available April 25-27.

But first we need donations of two cooked chickens cut into small cubes will be greatly appreciated. Bring your cubed chickens to the church kitchen by Thursday, April 25 at 10:00 am.

Order forms will be in the bulletin and online from the church webpage (winsteadumc.org). You may also call Sanda Hight (252-289-0784) or Karen Rowley (252-245-1307) to place your order.

Orders must be placed by Monday, April 22.

Orders will be available for pickup at the church kitchen on:

- Thursday, April 25 from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
- Friday, April 26 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
- Saturday, April 27 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm during the Community Festival

The cost is \$8 per pound container and is payable at pickup.

Thank you for supporting Women of Winstead.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

by Peggie Shultz

Wilson County and the City of Wilson will sponsor an oil and gas recycling event on Saturday, April 13 from 9:00 am to noon at PL Woodard, 108 Barnes St. This event is open to Wilson city and county residents. They will accept oil, oil filters, gas, gas mix and diesel. Now's your chance to get rid of these hard to dispose of items.



Thanks to all who have used the recycling bins at the church and the peanut building.

Did you know you should recycle water and soda bottles with the cap on? It's even printed on the cap - all be it in teeny, tiny print. And who would ever think to look there anyway.

WINSTEAD HISTORY CORNER

By Sanda Hight

After Winstead Methodist Church was established in 1949, the members began to set up committees, programs, and elements that helped the church grow and serve the community in Christian life. Following is a list of "firsts" that became traditions within the church and the community.

- On January 10, 1950, Misses Clee and Zell Winstead organized the first women's group of the church: the Woman's Society of Christian Service (later known as Winstead United Methodist Women).
- The first Vacation Bible School was held during the last week of June in 1950, under the direction of Miss Clee Winstead. Eight adult workers and 27 children participated. Offerings from the week were used to purchase the first pulpit Bible for the church.
- On July 30, 1950, a Communion Service Dedication was held. The Communion Service was presented by the Wesleyan Service Guild of the First Methodist Church in Wilson.
- The first revival service was held in the fall of 1950, with the Reverend Daniel Boone serving as revival preacher.
- The first Methodist Youth Fellowship was organized by Mrs. Lawrence Green and Mrs. John Rosser on June 20, 1951.
- A bell for the church steeple was donated by Mrs. James Durham, Jr. Spotlights for the front of the church were donated by Mrs. Opie Ellen in 1957.
- Boy Scout Troup 89 was established at the church in 1959.
- The Methodist Men unit was chartered in February 1959.
- In 1968, the church officially became Winstead United Methodist Church as the result of a merger of the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren.
- In 1970 the church had its first Lay Witness Mission. Also in 1970, the first Christmas Tree was decorated, and that tradition has continued each year since.

Other traditions and programs were established as the church grew, added new buildings, and continued to be a center of Christian education, worship, outreach, and service to the community.

Next month, the history focus will be the buildings that have been added since the church was established in 1949.

Pastor Rachel is in the office Tuesday - Thursday 9:30-12:00.
She works remotely on Mondays but can be contacted if needed.
Fridays are her Sabbath.

Email: rkwashe@nccumc.org

Cell phone: 252-408-3894



Hand in Hand Ministry

By Sanda Hight

The Hand in Hand Prayer Partners at Vick continue to love and appreciate the cards and birthday wishes from our congregation each month. Cards for April will be available for signing on April 14-21.

Read Across America was celebrated at Vick on March 7. Peggie Shultz and Sanda Hight were among approximately 20 volunteers that read to the Vick students in their classrooms. All the readers at the celebration spoke to the students about the importance of reading and how it opens up new worlds to them. Many of the volunteers, fire fighters and police officers and others, were dressed in their work uniforms as they read and served as role models to the students. What a great day it was! We are always glad to be a part of such a celebration and to spread our congregation's love to the community.



The Hand in Hand Committee did not provide the traditional potato bar for a staff lunch this year, since another organization had recently treated the staff for a lunch. We look forward to providing this special treat again next year.

The spring book fair at Vick will be held during the first week after the students return from spring break. We have been asked to send two volunteers to help with the book fair on April 11. We are always glad to help students select books

and to encourage reading as the basis for learning in all subjects.

The next Hand in Hand meeting will be held on April 2 at 2:00 at the home of Sanda Hight, at which time we will plan activities for the last weeks of this school year.

Please continue to keep the students and staff at Vick Elementary School in prayer.



April Birthdays

Sonya Griffin	4
Dilyn Jenkins.....	22
Jeff Creech.....	23
Gabe Ruotolo	26
Sandy Lamm.....	28
Mike Morello.....	28
Karen Rowley.....	30

April Anniversaries

Randy & Pam Marshburn.....	21
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The Upper Room
daily devotional guides
are available in the narthex.

NEW INITIATIVES GRANT

By Priscilla Morello

As shared at the recent luncheon at church, here are the ministries in the grant for which we have been approved.

- WELLNESS PROGRAM FOR SENIOR ADULTS Held in Apr-May (8 wks), Jun-Jul (8 wks), and Aug-Sept (8 wks)
- LIGHTHOUSE FRIENDS on, Thur-Jan 18, Sat-Mar 23, Thur-Sep 19 and Thur-Nov 21
- SATURDAY OF SERVICE on Sat-May 4, Sat-Jun 8 -and Sat-Oct 5
- 4.) PARENTS' NIGHT OUT on Fri-Feb 9— Fri-May 10—Fri-Sep 13— Fri-Nov 8
- 5.) COMMUNITY MEAL & PROGRAM Sun-Mar 17 -- Sat-Jun 22— Sat. Sep 28
- 6.) WINSTEAD SPRING + FALL FESTIVALS on Sat.-April 27 and Sat-October 26

One change from what was presented on March 17th is that the next Parent's Night Out has been moved to Friday, May 10th so that we can concentrate on the upcoming Spring Festival.

APRIL 2, 2024 WINSTEAD WELLNESS


Winstead United Methodist Church presents..

Winstead Wellness
A health and fitness ministry for senior adults

1851 Airport Blvd.

Classes will be led by Emmy Isbell on Tuesdays 10:00-11:00 am for 8 weeks of sit + be fit classes starting April 2, 2024

Scan the QR Code to Register



We have about 10 participants signed up so far for the Fitness Class with Emmy Isbell. There are

waiver forms at church which will need to be filled out and turned in to Emmy before you can participate in the class.

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, April 2nd at 10 am!



WINSTEAD UMC's
Spring Festival
Sat. April 27
10:00 - 2:00

- Women Of Winstead Chicken Salad Sale
Advance orders only
- Maggie Society and adoptive puppies
- Blessing of Your Pets
- Wilson County Bookmobile
- Inflatables for the kids!
- Cornhole Tournament
- Food Trucks & more...

Yard Sale & Vendors
Limited spots available
\$20 registration fee
must register in advance
Call 252-236-8673

LOCATED AT
1851 AIRPORT BLVD.

APRIL 27, 2024 WINSTEAD SPRING FESTIVAL

We are excited to present our first annual Spring Festival. This will be yet another way for our neighbors to meet us and for us to meet them.

We will have several events going on this day and will need volunteers to help with various aspects of the day. Please speak to Priscilla if you can help on Saturday, April 27th

We'll need help to set up at 9:00 –Also help with parking, staffing the inflatables, helping Marty with the Blessing of Your Pets service, helping with the Cornhole Tournament, guiding the Yard Sale vendors to their designated spot, etc.

It should be a great day for the community and for Winstead.

OUTREACH

By Priscilla Morello

The Outreach Committee has recently made funds available to the Playground Fund for our future church playground. The committee also gave a donation to help purchase shirts and ties for the Gentlemen's Agreement groups in Wilson County Schools. Vick Elementary was one of those groups, shown here.



The next Outreach Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 16th at 4:00 pm at church.

SATURDAY OF SERVICE ~ SATURDAY, MAY 4, 9:00-12:00 NOON

Because SATURDAY OF SERVICE is on the first Saturday in May, I wanted to give you some information now about this new ministry.

For each scheduled Saturday, we will list about four non-profits that could use assistance from community volunteers. You and your family will choose ahead of time which non-profit you want

to help, pre-register online, and then show up at that non-profit where you will be greeted and shown what volunteer duties you will complete for that day.

It will give you a chance to see the work of some non-profits that you may not be familiar with and also enable you to meet new people from the community who are also interested in serving.

BE ON THE LOOK-OUT LATER IN APRIL FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THIS NEW COMMUNITY-BASED OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE OTHERS.

Sunday, April 14
11:30 am
Under the portico

DRIVE IN

FOOD DRIVE

We will continue our Drive-in Food Collection on Sunday, April 14 directly after worship. Thank you for bringing food items to help those in need as distributed by our partner church Barnes Chapel.



*Sandy Pittman, Minister of Music
music@winsteadumc.org*

Musical Interlude **by Sandy Pittman**

A couple of weeks ago, I was approached by Becky Holland - Children's Choir Director extraordinaire - and she informed me that she was planning on retiring as Children's Choir Director. After much discussion, and little begging on my part, I felt that I needed to support Becky in her decision. Becky has been a faithful director of children's music since 2010 when she and Wayne joined Winstead United Methodist Church. The Joyful Noisemakers, under Becky's direction, not only sang, but they also played rhythm instruments and chimes. The choir presented a beautiful musical called "I Can Only Imagine" with Becky and Debbie Williams as co-

directors. The children presented a Christmas musical, "Joy to the World" in 2021.

Becky's unending love for music and children has been evident for more than 14 years of ministry. Her dedication to this ministry is greatly appreciated and I know that the children will miss working with her.

Becky states...."my favorite parts were doing the musicals and teaching rhythm instruments and chimes, probably because the children loved them and therefore more fun to teach. I enjoyed having the same children for several years to see how much they grew in spirituality and knowledge of the Bible."

Thank you Becky for your time, talents and dedication. We Love You!!!



Spring Festival Yard Sale

Dear Congregation—some time ago we asked members to save their household items, etc. for a yard sale. Well, the time has come! As part of the Spring Festival on Saturday, April 27 there will be a general yard sale and Winstead will have a booth.

The Planning Committee asks that you bring your items to church starting the second week of April. We will put items under the picnic shelter and cover with tarps to protect from the weather. Please—no large furniture. Most sought after items are household items, kitchen items, décor, collectables and clothing/shoes.

Nancy Elliott has agreed to help coordinate the sorting and pricing of items. On the day of the event, we will need several volunteers to help set up, monitor our booth, act as cashier, and people to help break down/clean up. Please speak to Linda, Nancy Elliott, or Priscilla if you have questions about the yard sale or want to volunteer on Saturday, April 27th.

APRIL AT WINSTEAD

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

Monday, April 1

Office Closed

Tuesday, April 2

10:00 am Winstead Wellness Class
2:00 pm Bible Study (Williams home)
2:00 pm Hand in Hand (pg. 5)

Wednesday, April 3

1:00 pm SPRC
5:30 pm Grace Notes Rehearsal
7:00 pm Choir Practice

Sunday, April 7

9:00 am Men's Ensemble & True Tones Practice
9:30 am Sunday School for All
10:15 am Fellowship Time
10:30 am Worship
6:00 pm ECHO Youth

Tuesday, April 8

10:00 am Winstead Wellness Class
2:00 pm Bible Study (Williams home)

Wednesday, April 10

7:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, April 11

9:30 am Bible Study (at the church)

Sunday, April 14

9:00 am Men's Ensemble & True Tones Practice
9:30 am Sunday School for All
10:15 am Fellowship Time
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Drive-in Food Drive
6:00 pm ECHO Youth

Tuesday, April 16

10:00 am Winstead Wellness Class
2:00 pm Bible Study (Williams home)
4:00 pm Outreach Committee

Wednesday, April 17

5:30 pm Grace Notes Rehearsal
7:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, April 18

9:30 am Bible Study (Wolfe home)

Sunday, April 21

9:00 am Men's Ensemble & True Tones Practice
9:30 am Sunday School for All
10:15 am Fellowship Time
10:30 am Worship
6:00 pm ECHO Youth

Tuesday, April 23

10:00 am Winstead Wellness Class
2:00 pm Bible Study (Williams home)

Wednesday, April 24

5:30 pm Grace Notes Rehearsal
7:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, April 25

Newsletter Deadline

9:30 am Bible Study (Wolfe home)
5:00-7:00 pm
Pick Up WOW Chicken Salad Orders

Friday, April 26

9:00 am-1:00 pm
Pick Up WOW Chicken Salad Orders

Saturday, April 27

10:00 am Community Celebration
10:00 am-2:00 pm
Pick Up WOW Chicken Salad Orders

Sunday, April 28

9:00 am Men's Ensemble & True Tones Practice
9:30 am Sunday School for All
10:15 am Fellowship Time
10:30 am Worship
6:00 pm ECHO Youth

Tuesday, April 30

10:00 am Winstead Wellness Class
2:00 pm Bible Study (Williams home)

Coming Up

Saturday, May 4

9:00 am Saturday of Service

Friday, May 10

6:00 pm Parents Night Out



1851 Airport Blvd. W
Wilson, NC 27893

Pastor Rev. Rachel Kwashe
Minister of Children & Youth
Marty Johnson
Minister of Music
Sandy Pittman
Handbell Choir Director
Joyce Wolfe
Church Musician
Faye Jones
Office Administrator
Gretchen Hunt
Lay Leader
Sandy Lamm

Come, grow closer to God with us!

The Winstead Connection

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1851 Airport Blvd.
Wilson, NC 27893
252-237-3709

WinsteadUMC@gmail.com
www.WinsteadUMC.org

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Sunday Schedule

9:30 am Sunday School for all
10:15 am Fellowship Time
10:30 am Worship
6:00 pm ECHO Youth

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



Thank you, Becky, for your service!

