

GROCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH // ISSUE 8 // VOLUME 39//AUGUST 2026

THE MESSENGER



IN THIS ISSUE

Campus
Improvements

Reports and
Upcoming Events

August Birthdays
and Anniversaries

August Calendar

Spaces Renewed, Spirits Lifted:

Inside Our Recent Campus Upgrades

Submitted by True Morse



Blessing Box Refresh

Many thanks to **Julianne Arnall** for adding a new roof and **Tim and Terri Kilmer** for giving the box a fresh coat of paint.

The original Blessing Box was built by the Groce youth group during their Asheville based pandemic year youth trip in 2021.

Playground Improvements

A two phase project to improve Groce's playground by adding underground drainage lines, and deeper mulch around the main play structure to cushion falls, was completed on Saturday, 7/12, just in time for the Music Camp children.

The first phase happened June 17th through June 20th. It added 100 foot plus underground drainage lines along the front of the Epworth building, through the playground, to attach to the roof downspouts and collect water using drainage basins to eliminate the ponding water in the playground during rains. **Loring McIntyre's** backhoe and skid steer made the work a lot easier though **Loring, Joe Early, Bob Briggs** and **True Morse** definitely worked off some pounds on this project.



Playground Improvements, Cont.



The second phase happened July 9th through July 11th. Donated utility poles were cut and hauled from Bee Tree Road in Swannanoa by **Loring and True**, again using **Loring's** equipment. The poles were donated by **Phil McDowell** and his brother-in-law. **Loring, True, Joe, John Bold** and **Bill Ross** cut the poles to length, miter cut the corners and drilled holes through the poles to pin them to the ground using rebar. On Friday the 10th the Mulching Methodists (**Jill, Julieanne Arnall, Jim Creel, Brad Ledbetter, Tom Kuhn, Gary Brockway, Bill Ross, Joe**) made short work of spreading 40 cubic yards of certified wood playground mulch.



Governors View Road Property Edge is No Longer a Jungle

A three phase project has been completed to clear and grass the back corner of the property along Governors View Road. The first phase was a couple work days by **Joe Early, Michael Garner, Loring McIntyre and True Morse** in April using **Loring's** equipment to remove trees and a borrowed chipper to chip them.



In June **Loring** and **True** hauled off the debris that could not be chipped.

On July 20th and 21st the mighty Groce youth group of **Penelope, Addie, Caroline, Ely, Skylar, Maya** and **Kelly** along with **Stan Boyd, Jill, True Morse,** and **Jodie Hamrick** cleaned up the remaining vegetation and debris, smoothed the soil, and spread seed and straw. Only a few of us are itching from poison ivy!



Colossians 3:23-24: "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters... It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

SUMMER MUSIC *camp!*

We had an amazing week at Summer Music Camp! Thank you so much to all of our wonderful volunteers, staff, parents, and children for making it possible. We spent the week crafting, playing, eating, singing, and strengthening our faith. The Friday night performance of Down by the Creek Bank was a testament to everyone's hard work.

If you missed it, don't worry, Christmas Mini Camp is happening December 4-6. Stay tuned for more information!



“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.”

1 PETER 4:10



“For we are what He has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.”

EPHESIANS 2:10

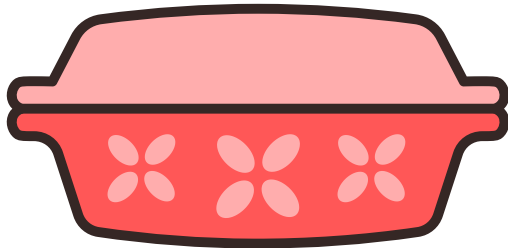
MIRIAM CIRCLE FUNDRAISER

Submitted by Michelle Troxell

The ladies of Miriam Circle will be selling chicken casseroles in September as a fundraiser for their group. These homemade casseroles will be sold frozen, in 8x8 pans, enough for 4-6 hearty servings. This will make an easy and delicious meal you can just pop in the oven! Heating instructions will be provided. Price is \$20 each, cash or check only. Checks can be made payable to Groce UMC, with Miriam Circle on the memo line.

Only 20 casseroles will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis. Payment must be made in advance at the time of reservation, and they will be available for pick-up after the September 27th worship service.

Contact Mariah (secretary@groceumc.org or 828-298-7647) to reserve yours. Don't delay! These will go fast and once they are sold, they are gone!



Pumpkin Patch Time!

Submitted by Jane Williams

Groce Pumpkin Patch committee will meet 8/18/26 at 4pm in the Jack Bass room. We will make sure we have all our pumpkins in a row for another successful fun fundraiser in October.

If you are interested in joining our committee, please call **Jane Williams** at 828-400-3928, for details. We especially need to create a new spreadsheet to organize and assign tasks. In addition, if you have any ideas or suggestions to pass on to the committee without attending, call Jane to discuss before the meeting.



REMINDER

THE FOLLOWING
GROUPS WILL NOT BE
MEETING IN AUGUST:

- CHANCEL CHOIR
- MEN'S CHOIR
- HANDBELLS
- PARKINSONS
SUPPORT
- CUB SCOUTS
- GIRL SCOUTS

UPCOMING DATES FOR TABLE OF 16:

- AUGUST 12
- SEPTEMBER 23
- OCTOBER 14
- NOVEMBER 4
- DECEMBER 16

MEETS MONTHLY -
11:30 AM AT LONGHORN
STEAKHOUSE OFF
TUNNEL ROAD
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Project AGAPE supports the ministry to our brothers and sisters in Armenia. Donations of Christmas boxes will be collected at Groce UMC Sept 21-24.



The directions for packing and items to put in the boxes for male and female children are on the bulletin boards in front of the office, and in Asbury Hall.

Humanitarian Donations are as follows:
(ALL DONATIONS MUST BE NEW ITEMS)

- A. Shoes for all ages, male and female
- B. Toiletry items such as shampoo, soap, hair conditioner, deodorant, toothbrushes (no toothpaste)
- C. Clothing for infants, boys, girls, men and women.
- D. Kitchenware, including pots and pans, serving utensils, non-breakable plates, cups and sauces, tableware.
(Please note that kitchenware is especially needed, so please try to contribute this if possible)
- E. Sewing supplies, fabric, needles, thimbles, etc.
- F. Coats, gloves, mittens, hats for male and female of all ages
- G. Bedding including - bedspreads, sheets, mattress covers, pillows and pillow cases
- H. Bath towels, hand towels, washcloths, kitchen towels

TABLE OF 16

Table of Sixteen met again in July to break bread and share in fellowship. We love seeing our Groce Church Family connect and build relationships!



See the sidebar on page 6 for upcoming dates to join this fun group.

For more information, contact **Linda Lankton** (lanktonlinda53@gmail.com).

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

08/01 Jim Ariail
Zane Walston
08/02 Michelle Troxell
08/05 Laura Jones
08/06 Brenda Guilfoyle
08/09 Carolyn Barcafer
08/10 Geri Ingram
08/11 Brody Powell
08/12 Pam Rogalski
08/13 Vickie France
08/16 Lynda Haynes
08/21 Joan Cauble
Nancy Creel
08/25 Louise Holden
Fran Shuler



AUGUST ANNIVERSERIES

08/02 Kathryn & Loring
McIntyre (46)
Alyssa & Eddie
Taylor (23)
08/05 Harry & Sharon
Gibbs (59)
08/16 John & Tina
Stovall (62)
08/20 Donnell & Stan
Boyd (25) ★
08/27 Phillip & Sandra
Crouch (66)

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

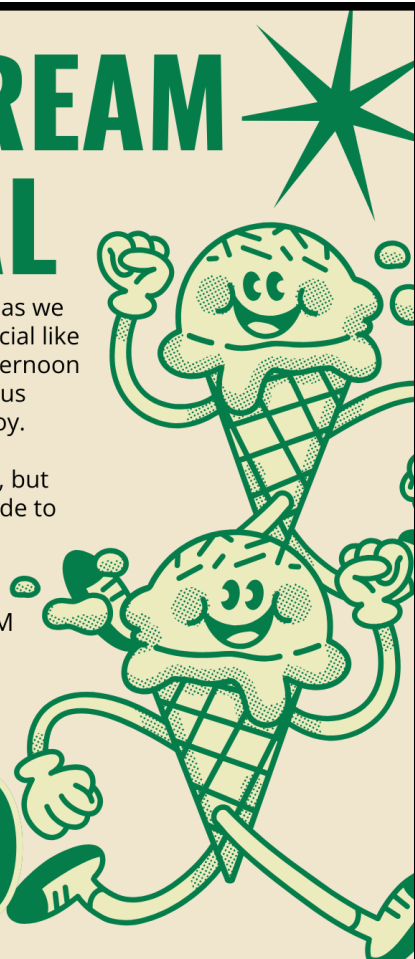
Get ready for a great time as we bring you an Ice Cream Social like no other! Join us for an afternoon filled with laughter, delicious flavors, and a sprinkle of joy.

Ice cream will be provided, but feel free to bring homemade to share!

 SUNDAY
AUGUST 16 AT 3PM

 GROCE UMC
ASBURY HALL

LET'S MAKE IT A
SCOOP-TACULAR DAY!



FAITH at Work

SAVE LIVES. **EARN REWARDS.** DONATE TODAY.

TBC REWARDS = TBC REWARD POINTS AWARDED IN DONOR PORTAL. REDEEMABLE FOR GIFT CARD(S).

Groce United Methodist Church

954 Tunnel Rd
Asheville, NC 28805

08/26/2026
10:00 AM-03:00 PM

Sponsor Code 24GY

\$30
IN REWARDS*

\$500 grant giveback for every 30 completed donations



THE BLOOD[®] CONNECTION
Your Community Blood Center


thebloodconnection.org

The Blood Connection is a non-profit organization. Blood can be donated every 56 days. Donors must be 16 years or older and weigh 110 lbs. or more. Written parental consent required for 16 year olds in SC, VA and GA. No AB 17 year olds in NC. Before you donate blood, make sure that you are not plenty of water and eat a healthy meal. 100 Screen ID Card provided on photo ID required to donate. Blood will be tested for HIV, Hepatitis B and C, and other 100 days. ©2026 THE BLOOD CONNECTION® All Rights Reserved.

SEWING CLASSES AT DRESS UP, SUIT UP

A Free Boutique & Community Sew Space

*Open House Saturday Aug 8 12-2pm 404 Governor's View Rd (Groce UMC)

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

- **Weekly Classes:** Mondays at 4:00 PM / Tuesdays at 10:00 AM
- **Open Sew Sessions:** Wednesdays at 4:00 PM / Thursdays at 10:00 AM
- **Friday Fun(draiser) Factory:** Fridays at 10:30 AM

SPECIALIST WORKSHOPS & GUEST TEACHERS

August

- **Aug 10 & 11:** Upcycled T-Shirt Skirts with *Marsha*
- **Aug 24 & 25:** Hand Embroidery with *Shelley*

September

- **Sept 14 & 15:** Zippers, Buttons, & Pockets with *Michelle*
- **Sept 21 & 22:** Corset Backs with *Susie*
- **Sept 28 & 29:** Universal dress alterations with *Cori*

INVESTMENT & REGISTRATION

- **Cost:** Sliding scale suggested donation \$20 – \$50
- **Sign Up:** Email dressupsuitup4free@gmail.com for details/registration

COMING SOON!

Groce UMC is having a rummage sale on September 12 to benefit the congregation. And we need YOUR stuff to make it happen.

Donations will be collected the week prior to the sale.

We will be accepting home decor, dishes, sporting goods, toys, books, small furniture and appliances, and more!

Please donate only gently used, clean, and working items.

To ensure a successful sale, please no computers, mattresses, recalled items, or heavily damaged goods.

NO CLOTHES PLEASE!

More information about drop-off dates, times, and locations to follow, but go ahead and mark your calendar. And start setting your best treasures aside now!

August 2026



"Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer". - Romans 12:12

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 9:00 Agape (CH) 10:30 Worship (S)	3 10:00 Rummage Sale Mtg. 11:00 Prayer Group (PR) 1:00 Canasta (AH) 7:00 Beekeepers (AH)	4 10:30 Crafters (CH) 11:00 Care & Share Mtg (JB) 1:30 Tai Chi (CH) 7:00 SMBB (AH)	5 4:00 Nurture (JB) 6:00 AA Meeting	6 10:30 Isaac Group (JB) 1:30 Tai Chi (CH) 5:00 Welcome Table (AH) 6:30 UMM Meeting (JB)	7 3:00 Tailgate Market	1 8 12:00 Dress Up, Suit Up Open House (Epworth)
9 9:00 Agape (CH) 10:30 Worship (S)	10 11:00 Prayer Group (PR) 6:00 Guitar League (AH)	11 10:30 Crafters (CH) 11:00 Staff Meeting (JB) 1:30 Tai Chi (CH) 7:00 BH Exec Meeting (JB) 7:00 SMBB (AH)	12 11:30 Table of 16 (offsite) 5:15 UMM @ VRQ 6:00 AA Meeting	13 10:30 Isaac Group (JB) 1:30 Tai Chi (CH) 5:00 Welcome Table (AH)	14 3:00 Tailgate Market	15
16 9:00 Agape (CH) 10:30 Worship (S) 3:00 Ice Cream Social (AH)	17 11:00 Prayer Group (PR) 1:00 Canasta (AH) 6:00 TL3 (JB)	18 10:30 Crafters (CH) 1:30 Tai Chi (CH) 3:00 Miriam Circle (AL) 4:00 Pumpkin Meeting (JB) 7:00 HCCA Green (CH) 7:00 SMBB (AH)	19 10:00 Sarah Circle (AL) 6:00 AA Meeting 4:30 Stephen Ministry (CH) 7:00 HCCA Board (JB)	20 10:30 Isaac Group (JB) 1:30 Tai Chi (CH) 5:00 Welcome Table (AH)	21 3:00 Tailgate Market	22 10:00 Guitar League (AH/CH)
23 9:00 Agape (CH) 10:30 Worship (S) 3:00 Quintet Concert (S)	24 11:00 Prayer Group (PR)	25 10:30 Crafters (CH) 1:30 Tai Chi (CH) 6:00 Basket Guild (CH) 7:00 SMBB (AH)	26 10:00 Blood Drive (AH) 5:30 Choir Potluck (AH) 6:00 AA Meeting	27 10:30 Isaac Group (JB) 1:30 Tai Chi (CH) 5:00 Welcome Table (AH)	28 3:00 Tailgate Market	29
30 9:00 Agape (CH) 10:30 Worship (S)	31 11:00 Prayer Group (PR)					AH - Asbury Hall AL - Asbury Lobby CH - Charter Hall JB - Jack Bass Room PR - Prayer Room S - Sanctuary