



Groce UMC's "The Messenger"

VOLUME 37; ISSUE 5; MAY 1, 2024

FROM ROCKY REDD,

Many Blessings

You probably know that I manage our Blessing Box. With your generous donations each month I stock it and clean it out three times a week. People in our community also bring food items to our Blessing Box. I often meet people who come because they are in need. I talk with them and get to know what they need and try to provide those things. I also invite them to our Welcome Table for a free meal on Thursdays.

Several weeks ago I met a man, Mr. Jones, who drove into our parking lot just as I was finishing. Thinking he was waiting to go to the box I spoke to him and we talked. He told me he used to be a member here at Groce and told me about how much our church meant to him and his family.

He said they moved to the Beverly Hills community in 1956 and began coming to Groce Methodist church. He told me he served as acolyte and sat next to Rev. Groce in the chancel when Rev. Groce came to preach. He said he was confirmed here, attended Sunday School and other programs here. He told me he loved this church. He asked about the Asbury addition because it wasn't here when they were here. He and his family moved away in 1964 but he has always thought about our church. We shared things going on now and things that went on back when he was here. This was only the second time he's been able to come back to visit.

He and his wife live outside Washington, DC now. They had been on vacation in Florida but he really wanted to drive through Asheville so he could come by and see if the church was still here. They were continuing their drive back to DC that day or he would have come to service the next day. I told him about our on-line streaming and archived worship services and he said he would definitely check it out. I thanked him for coming by and for sharing his memories and love for our church. What a blessing it was for him and for me.

I have been coming to Groce United Methodist Church for 20 years since I first came to Asheville in April 2004.. I have participated in many events, programs, Welcome Table, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, choir and Blessing Box. I have loved my experiences here and look forward to many more in the future. I look forward to our Roundtable gatherings in the next weeks. With everyone's help we can love our neighbors and bring more people to Christ as we are called to do. I hope you will plan to attend with an open heart, open mind and perhaps with ideas that will help shape our future here at Groce United Methodist Church.

Finances

Your Leadership Committee, through the work of our Finance Team, is pleased to share our first Quarter (January 1, 2024 ~ March 31, 2024) financial results.

Here is a summary of the financial information:

1st Quarter: January 1, 2024 ~ March 21, 2024

Chart 1: Restricted Fund Balances

Chart 2: Actual Financial Results compared to Operating Budget

Chart 3: Pie Chart - depicting Revenues

Chart 4: Pie Chart - depicting Expenditures

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of the following:

True Morse; TL3 Chairperson; 743.999.1769; truemorse@gmail.com

John Smith; Finance Chairperson; 828.299.3993; jsmith@aol.com

Jim Ariail; Financial Secretary; 828.778.8355; jimariail@yahoo.com

Date: 1st Qtr Jan 1st - Mar 31st

As of: 4/29/2024

Restricted Fund Accounts: Balance

Funds that can only be used for the stated purpose

AV Equipment	\$4,784
Agape Class (Sunday School Class)	\$1,106
Air Filtration System	\$360
Bell Tower Repairs	(\$1,064)
Bible Study	\$910
Church Bus	\$1,153
Endowment*	\$33,283
Epworth - Apartments	\$3,498
Facilities, Maintenance & Improvements	\$59,571
Handbells	\$1,720
LED Lights	\$367

Restricted Fund Accounts: Balance

Funds that can only be used for the stated purpose

Outreach / Mission	\$4,173
Pastor's Discretionary	\$2,315
Picnic Pavilion	\$5,000
Playground	\$303
Pumpkin Patch	\$3,786
Staff Love Offering	\$690
UMCOR Special Offerings	\$3,445
United Women In Faith	\$9,630
United Methodist Men	\$2,722
Welcome Table	\$7,964
Youth Missions	\$8,935

*See Groce UMC website under Giving

The Endowment Fund of Groce UMC was established for the purpose of providing members and friends the opportunity to make charitable gifts to Groce that will become a permanent endowment of financial support. More specifically, the investment income from the endowment fund gifts is used to support the ministry and purpose of Groce. The principle remains intact permanently.

Groce United Methodist Church
Operations Financial Summary - Statement of Activities
1st Qtr Results (Jan - Mar 2024)

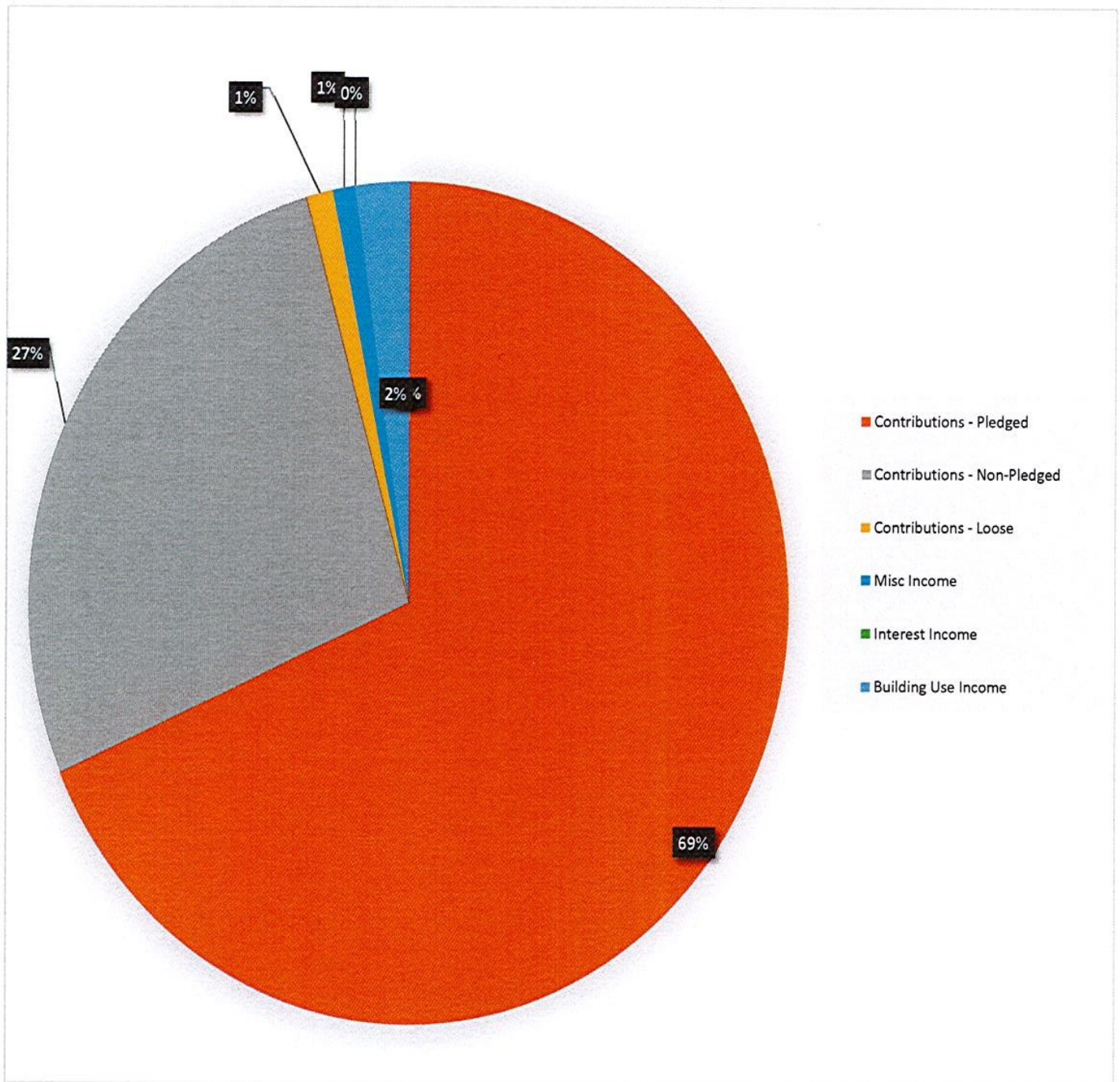
As of: 4/24/2024

	Jan-Mar 2024 Actual	Jan-Mar 2024 Budget	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	
Total Income	100,796	105,725	(4,929)	-5%
Total Expenses	89,995	105,875	15,881	18%
Net Operating Income (Loss)	10,801	(150)		

	Actual Amount	Budget Amount	Variance Fav (Unfav)	
Revenues Summary				
Contributions	5,400	0	5,400	
Contributions - Pledged	70,651	72,299	(1,648)	
Contributions - Non-Pledged	21,011	28,795	(7,785)	
Contributions - Loose	1,351	1,181	170	
Misc Income	566	999	(433)	
Interest Income	0	0	(0)	
Building Use Income	1,817	2,450	(633)	
Other	0	0	0	
Total:	100,796	105,725	(4,929)	-5%

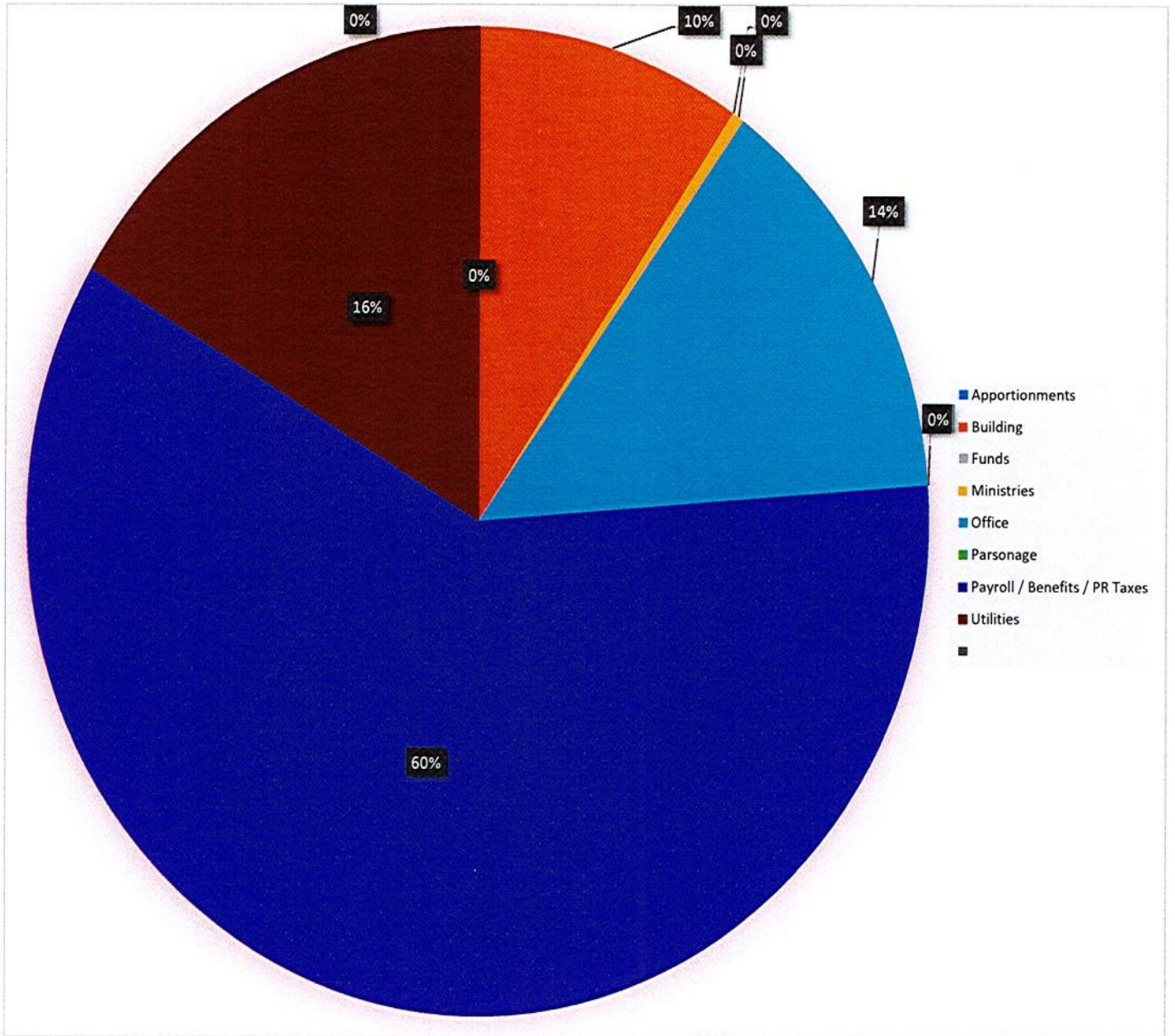
	Actual Amount	Budget Amount	Variance Fav (Unfav)	
Expenditure Summary				
Apportionments	0	8,355	8,355	
Building	8,561	13,325	4,764	
Funds	0	0	0	
Ministries	383	722	339	
Office	12,466	15,575	3,109	
Parsonage	0	700	700	
Payroll / Benefits / PR Taxes	53,763	54,973	1,210	
Utilities	14,821	12,225	(2,596)	
Other	0	0	0	
Total:	89,995	105,875	15,881	18%

Operations - Revenue Summary - 1st Qtr (January - March)



Revenues Summary	Actual		Budget		
	Amount		Amount		
Contributions - Pledged	70,651	70%	72,299	68%	(1,648)
Contributions - Non-Pledged	26,411	26%	28,795	27%	(2,384)
Contributions - Loose	1,351	1%	1,181	1%	170
Misc Income	566	1%	1,000	1%	(434)
Building Use Income	1,817	2%	2,450	2%	(633)
Other	0	0%	0	0%	0
Total:	100,796	100%	105,725	100%	(4,929)

Operations - Expenditure Summary - 1st Qtr (January - March)



Expenditure Summary	Actual		Budget		Variance Fav (Unfav)
	Amount		Amount		
Apportionments	0	0%	8,355	8%	8,355
Building	8,561	10%	13,325	13%	4,764
Funds	0	0%	0	0%	0
Ministries	383	0%	722	1%	339
Office	12,466	14%	15,575	15%	3,109
Parsonage	0	0%	700	1%	700
Payroll / Benefits / PR Taxes	53,763	60%	54,973	52%	1,210
Utilities	14,821	16%	12,225	12%	(2,596)
Other	0	0%	0	0%	0
Total:	89,995	100%	105,875	100%	15,880

Trustee Tidbits

Material Donations

Groce is a loving, generous church. Many people have donated furniture, medical supplies, etc. We really appreciate your contributions but we have reached the saturation point. As a result, we are implementing a new policy.

Effective immediately, please do not drop off material donations without first calling the church secretary and validating our need. This will ensure that we do not simply function as a warehouse. We only want to store items that we know will benefit the mission of our church and within a reasonable period of time.

On a side but related note, stay tuned for information on a large, church-wide cleanup effort in the future.

~ Submitted by Will Troxell (Trustees Chairperson)

Communications

In an effort to streamline communication and avoid any confusions, the following actions will be taken into affect effective immediately:

- Any Bulletin Board advertisements (including the church-wide calendar) will be taken down by the person who posted it.
- Any church space usage by a church member or outside organization must confirm date, time, and nature of the event with Veronica no less than three weeks prior to the said event. If there is a last minute request, there will be no guarantees that the requested space, date, or time will be available.
- The church office is no longer a “drop-off” zone. If you would like to leave something for another church member, please use the provided table outside the back Sanctuary door.

We thank you for your understanding and look forward to better communication with you!

~Submitted by the Communications Team

Address Change

Jan D’Amico
Fair Haven Forest City Assisted Living
Room 18
830 Bethany Church Rd.
Forest City, NC, 28043

Homebound

We are looking for volunteers to take Communion to our Homebound members! How it works: a team of two members would take Communion to a designated Homebound member once every quarter. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Gail Sherman: 828.231.6355

Adults \$12 per plate
(in advance)
\$14 at the door
Kids Under 10 \$6 per plate
Family Rate \$30

GROCE UMC'S

Italian Dinner

Organized by the United Methodist Men with
proceeds to benefit missional outreach.

Seating at 6 & 6:20
Take Outs at 6:30
Talent Show at 7

Please Call the
Church Office for
Reservations:
(828)298-7647



Saturday, May 11

Includes:

Spaghetti, Marinara, Meatballs or Roasted Vegetables, Salad,
Brownie with Ice Cream, French or Italian Bread, Coffee & Tea

*There is a vegetarian option available.

Groce United Methodist Church
954 Tunnel Rd, Asheville, 28805



ANNUAL

TALENT SHOW

GROCE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

5.11.2024
6:45PM

CONTACT THE
CHURCH OFFICE
TO SIGN UP WITH
YOUR TALENT!



GROCE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

HELP SHAPE OUR FUTURE!

A roundtable discussion in four parts.

Join one or all as we discuss the future of our church and how YOUR voice makes a difference!

SESSION ONE:



DATE
MAY 18, 2024



TIME
2 – 6PM

***SESSION TWO:**



DATE
MAY 19, 2024



TIME
1:30 – 4:30PM

*Lunch will be provided following the 11 o'clock worship service at 12:30pm in Asbury Hall.



**ALL
CONGREGATION
VOICES
WELCOME!**



GROCE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



HELP SHAPE OUR FUTURE!

A roundtable discussion in four parts.

Join one or all as we discuss the future of our church and how YOUR voice makes a difference!



**SESSION THREE
& FOUR:**



DATE
JUNE 1, 2024



TIME
9AM - NOON

Lunch will be provided from noon to 1pm.



TIME
1PM - 4PM



**ALL
CONGREGATION
VOICES
WELCOME!**

Italian Dinner Fundraiser

Saturday, May 11

(Organized by the United Methodist Men with proceeds to benefit missional outreach.)

Seating at 6:00pm and 6:15pm; Take Out at 6:30pm; Talent Show at 6:45pm

Adults: \$12 (in advance), \$14 on the day; Kids under 10: \$6; Family Rate: \$30

Name: _____

Number: _____ Adults _____ Kids Under 10 _____ Family Rate

Birthdays & Anniversaries

05/01 Sharon Haberfield
Maro Slaughter

05/04 Tim Kilmer
Kelley Woehl

05/05 Judy Arnold
Bob Briggs

05/06 Ryan Moore

05/07 Christy Goforth
Liz Ream

05/08 Mary Pisano
Sara Werling

05/09 Pam Butler

05/12 Caroline Morris

05/13 Ari Moore

05/17 Brittany Luckadoo

05/19 Neysa Hurt

05/23 Chance Towery

05/25 Annette Coleman

05/28 Sarah Taylor

05/29 JoAnn McGough
Nancy Saxman

05/30 Natalie Taylor

05/31 Andie Jackson

05/27 Margaret & Tom Kuhn (46)

05/31 Max & Ruth Phillips (65)




Spring



May

Take time each day to pray for members of your church family.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Worship - 8:30 & 11a AGAPE - 9:45am Youth - 5pm	6 Balance - 10am Handbells - 5pm Beekeepers - 7pm	7 Parkin.Group - 10am Tai Chi - 1:30pm Leadership - 6pm SMBB - 7pm	8 RetiredTeach - 10a UMM@VRO - 4pm Choir - 6pm AA Meeting - 6pm	9 Isaac Group - 10:30a Tai Chi - 1:30pm WelcomeTable - 5pm	10 Tailgate Market - 3-6pm	11 Italian Dinner - 6pm
12 Mother's Day Worship - 8:30 & 11a AGAPE - 9:45am	13 Balance - 10am Guitar League - 6pm	14 Tai Chi - 1:30pm SMBB - 7pm Bey.Hills - 7pm	15 SarahCircle - 2:30p Choir - 6pm AA Meeting - 6pm	16 BLTeam - 10:30a Isaac Group - 10:30a Tai Chi - 1:30pm WelcomeTable - 5pm	17 Tailgate Market - 3-6pm	18 Roundtable 1 - 2pm
19 Worship - 8:30 & 11a AGAPE - 9:45am Roundtable 2 - 1:30pm	20 Balance - 10am	21 Tai Chi - 1:30pm Miriam Circle - 3pm Leadership - 6pm SMBB Concert - 7pm	22 BCAE - 4pm Choir - 6pm AA Meeting - 6pm	23 Isaac Group - 10:30a Tai Chi - 1:30pm WelcomeTable - 5pm	24 Tailgate Market - 3-6pm	25 
26 Worship - 8:30 & 11a AGAPE - 9:45am	27 Memorial Day Office Closed	28 Tai Chi - 1:30pm SMBB - 7pm	29 Choir - 6pm AA Meeting - 6pm	30 Isaac Group - 10:30a Tai Chi - 1:30pm WelcomeTable - 5pm	31 Tailgate Market - 3-6pm	

Warrior Canine Connection-

Mon. - Fri. from 8am to 5pm

*Dates are subject to change.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month - A rather broad term, Asian/Pacific encompasses all of the Asian

continent and the Pacific islands of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia. The month of May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese people to the United States on May 7, 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. The majority of the workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants.