

ROOTS& BRANCHES

OCTOBER 2022



PLEASANT GREEN UMC PLAYGROUND RENOVATIONS

It's time for some upgrades! Did you know some of our playground equipment is over 30 years old?

PLAYSET REPAIR & RENOVATIONS

Our plan is to disassemble broken equipment and repurpose salvageable wood and accessories. Save the slides, handles, swings, etc. and any wood that isn't rotten to repair sets and even use the extra wood to line our hiking trails!

PURCHASE A NEW PLAYSET

We are working with Woodplay of the Carolinas to design and install new playground equipment.
www.woodplaync.com/outback

FENCE REPAIR AND EXPANSION

We'll repair bent poles, remove middle fence section and expand fenced area to enclose the back playground and add a wide gate near the driveway to allow space for mulch delivery.



Max Mitchell, John Link, Ronnie Brown, Phil Ray, Van McCay, Steven Collins, Kelly & Anna Brown

Steven Collins, Ronnie Brown, Phil Ray & John Link

Steven Collins & Van McCay

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT THE ENO



WE APPRECIATE YOU, PASTOR LAURA!

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

Worship Service
Sunday's 10:30 am
IN PERSON / [LIVE STREAM](#)

Children's Church
During Worship, Old Sanctuary
[Volunteer here!](#)

Clyde Walker Sunday School Class
9:15 am, In-Person or [ZOOM](#)

NEW Sunday School Class
9:45 am, In-Person– Seekers room #217. All ages welcome.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

2022 Unified Budget	335,441.48
YTD Total Income to Operating Fund	183,911.56
TTD Operating Expenses	226,973.00
YTD Operating Fund Balance	-43,061.44
2021 Operating Fund Balance Forward	26,386.05
2022 Current Actual Operating Fund Balance	(16,675.39)
Current Building Mortgage Balance	159,535.62

***Please consider donations to our Discretionary Fund so that we may continue to help others in need! Thank you!**

NEW ONLINE PGUMC CALENDAR!

<http://www.pleasantgreenumc.org/calendar.html>

2022 PGUMC ONLINE AUCTION

We're LIVE! Continue to get your bids in through Saturday, October 8, 8 pm!

Last year was a huge success and we raised more than \$11,000! Let's aim even higher this year! We are so grateful for your part in helping the United Women in Faith raise funds for our missions!

www.32auctions.com/pgumc2022

Click the link, create an account (if you don't already have one from last year) and browse. New items will be uploaded as we receive them.

Thank you for your support!
UWF of Pleasant Green United Methodist Church

****CHANGE OF DATE****

Charge Conference has been changed to Sunday, November 6th at 7 pm! (at the request of the DS)

Monday, Oct 3, 6 pm: Halloween at PG Planning Mtg

**Tuesday, Oct 4, 6:30 pm: Read & Seed, Parlor
6:30 pm: Worship Comm. Mtg, Fellowship Hall**

Sunday, Oct 9, 10:30 am: Homecoming
With Rev. Pastor Larry Bowden & covered dish lunch to follow service.

Sunday, Oct 23, 3-5 pm: Fall Retreat
Please join us in the Fellowship Hal for the Fall Retreat sponsored by the Administrative Council. Childcare will be provided. The event will be a "Be Self" workshop where we will explore the interrelated nature of the four aspects of self, how to effectively exercise the physical, mental, spiritual, and emotional, and how all of this ties into PGUMC being its best self.

Sunday, Oct 30, 4-6 pm: Halloween at Pleasant Green
Dress in your best halloween costume & come out to enjoy a spooky time. More details to come!

Saturday's in Oct, 10 am - 5 pm: The Witch's Haunted Barn!
FireFly Farm-5911 Hunt Road Hillsborough, NC. Tickets: \$10 per person (2 years and under free). Please visit <https://www.fireflyfarmnc.com/hauntedbarn> to purchase ticket and for more information!

Saturday, Nov 5: Fall Stew
Selling by the quart, to go. Place your order now by emailing pgumc@ncrrbiz.com or call 919.383.5764. Volunteers Needed to help cook!

Wednesday, November 16: Blood Drive
10 am-3 pm, To sign up, email pgumc@ncrrbiz.com, call 919.383.5764 or or go to redcrossblood.org (sponsor code: Pleasant Green)

2022-2023
PLEASANT GREEN AFTERSCHOOL

Links below for information:
[Afterschool Application](#)
[Afterschool Manual](#)
[Afterschool Calendar](#)

If you would be interested in volunteering for our homework support program at Afterschool (Mon-Thurs, 4:30-5pm), please email Susan at susan_adams2@hotmail.com. Thank you!

GLOBAL FRIENDS ESL PROGRAM

Friday classes at PGUMC, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Snack donations needed!

Please consider contributing the following items: juice boxes, 8 oz. water bottles, boxes of individual tea bags (green tea, flavored tea, etc.), animal crackers, Annie’s Organic Bunny Fruit snacks, individually wrapped snacks such as Pepperidge Farm cookies, Biscotti, Belvita cookies, Biscoff cookies, etc. Drop off in the Narthex!

Volunteers needed!

Come help set-up/cleanup Church area, transport families to/from Pleasant Green, provide snacks, assist with childcare and ESL classes.

Volunteer Registration Form: bit.ly/GFESLv01

The Global Friends ESL program is a collaborative effort of The Church at Spring Forest, Durham Home Church Network, and PGUMC. We work in partnership with World Relief. Our certified ESL teachers and program volunteers are passionate about welcoming our newest global neighbors and supporting English language acquisition as a major part of companioning refugees in rebuilding their lives here in the US. We welcome all people without discrimination, based on race, gender, religion, or sexuality. While the Global Friends ESL program is grounded in the Christian practice of hospitality, we are ecumenical and do not proselytize volunteers or students.

Contact Wendy Anderson for questions
919.630.1939 / wen_a@nc.rr.com.

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

We have been engaging with a curriculum called *Simply Loved* which starts from the beginning of the Bible to teach children about the amazing love of God. The children love gathering together during worship to sing, dance, act out Bible stories, and applying them through games and crafts. Please consider volunteering for children’s church to see child like faith in action and play! [Sign up here!](#)

LEADING BIBLE STUDY

Ever had the desire to teach a Bible Study but unsure of how to do it? Or maybe you just never considered yourself "a teacher"?

The Center for Leadership Excellence AND Lay Servant Ministries is offering a four-session virtual course for laity - Leading Bible Study. This is a great opportunity for us - as a church - to equip more leaders for the work of ministry.

Thursdays, October 6, 13, & 20 6:30-8:30pm, Zoom

Registration - \$25 *(If you are interested and would like the church to cover this cost, email Laura).*



**SUPPORT UMCOR'S
COFFEE & CHOCOLATE
PROJECT**

Fair trade provides opportunities for churches to support a system that nurtures rather than diminishes God’s vision of abundant life. UMCOR’s partner is the employee owned fair trade organization called Equal Exchange.

For sale in the Parlor

12 oz Ground Coffee Bags, \$8

Mind Body Soul Regular

Organic Chocolate bars, \$2.50

Dark Chocolate Caramel Crunch & sea salt

Dark Chocolate Mint Crunch (67%)

Very Dark Chocolate (71%)

Milk Chocolate

Milk Chocolate Caramel Crunch & sea salt

Chocolate with Coconut Milk (55%)

MUSIC AT PGUMC

Save the Date!

The combined choirs of Bethany United Methodist Church and Pleasant Green United Methodist Church will perform

Have You Heard?

By Joel Raney

Narrated by Rev. Belton Joyner

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2022

11:00 am at Bethany UMC
2809 Guess Rd,
Durham, NC 27705

3:00 pm at Pleasant Green UMC
3005 Pleasant Green Road,
Durham, NC 27705

A freewill offering will be collected at both performances.



**If you would like to join us for the performances we will begin rehearsals on Wednesday October 5, 2022 at 7:30 pm. The cantata will be practiced at the beginning of rehearsals and go until 8:15 pm at the latest. We look forward to seeing anyone who would like to sing.*



IN MEMORY OF FANNY BREEZE

The Durham Circuit conference minutes for the year 1888, gives the white membership of the circuit at 488 and the negro membership as 1. Fannie Breeze joined Pleasant Green Church before the Civil War and remained a faithful and devoted member until her death about 1913. She, her husband (Stanford) and daughter (Harriet) are buried in Pleasant Green’s cemetery. Many of the people of the church and community were brought into the world with Fannie’s assistance. Rev. J.B. Thompson used to say that when ministering to the congregation here at Pleasant Green he could always find inspiration by looking into “Aunt” Fannie’s face, radiant with the joy of the Lord.

On September 19th members of the community honored Fanny Breeze on a hike to the unveiling of her own informational display near the remnants of her family homesite on the Eno River. Fanny Breeze is an important historical figure for the Eno River Valley. Formerly enslaved, Fanny Breeze was a pillar of the community, she was a spiritual advocate for the Black Community and was instrumental in the formation of Mount Gilead Missionary Baptist Church. She helped bring many children into this world as the community’s primary Midwife.

“The discerning sets his face towards wisdom...” Proverbs 17:24

“Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true) and try to discern what is pleasing to God.” Ephesians 5: 8b-10

“And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and discernment.” Philippians 1:9

PRAYING FOR DISCERNMENT

Janice, a prayer ministry member, shared a book with me called *Prayer Prompts for Prayer Groups: Biblical Prayer Patterns for Pastors and Prayer Leaders*, written by Dr. J. Chris Shofield of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. The book is small, powerful, idea-filled, and based on scripture about different ways of praying. We’ll use one of the methods here, in preparation for the work and decision-making our church needs to do in the coming months about issues confronting the United Methodist Church.

Keeping the need for discernment in mind, as the scripture references indicate, the best way to prepare for discernment is to pray for it. The word discern and its derivatives are translations of the Greek word *anakrino* in the New Testament. It means “to distinguish, to separate out by diligent search, to examine.” Discernment is the ability to properly discriminate or make determinations. It is related to wisdom. The Word of God itself is said to discern the thoughts and intentions of one’s heart (Hebrews 4:12). <https://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-discernment.html>

How do we get there? How do we become discerning? There are many ways; but for today, let us use Acts 4: 23-33 as our basis. Praying the scripture is one of the methods in the Prayer Prompts Book, page 16. These verses support my firm beliefs that God is the Creator of all, full of grace, and desiring the followers of His Son to be of one mind out of His abundant love. This foundation opens us to discernment because our hearts are fully prepared to receive the direction of the Holy Spirit.

The Prayer Ministry meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 6:30 pm in person or by free telephone conference. The next meeting is Wednesday, October 19th at 6:30 pm. You may also contact Gail at pruettg4mh@gmail.com. Please join us! We would love to share God’s love with you as we pray for people and situations in need of God’s healing grace.

Let us pray these ideas.

Vs. 23-26: Lord, God, help us unite and praise you as Creator and sustainer of all things.

Vs. 27-28: Thank you for your foresight, paving the way, making provisions for us as we strive to live your Son’s way in this troubled and turbulent world.

Vs. 29: Help us to have a Holy Boldness as we share our faith in you with those who do not believe.

Vs. 30: May Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, be validated through changed hearts and minds.

Vs. 31: May we who follow Him be filled with the Holy Spirit; preparing us for discernment and decision making that is pleasing to you.

Vs. 32-33: May we have a unified congregation, with the focus being on the love, compassion, and wisdom of our resurrected Lord.

Vs. 33: And may you pour your abundant grace today and into the future on your church.

Yes, we pray these things with trusting and expectant hearts in His name, our Lord, and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

MENTAL HEALTH CORNER

October 3 – 7: The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI.org) recognizes the first full week in October as Mental Illness Awareness Week (MIAW).

The theme is, “What I Wish I Had Known,” where NAMI will focus on the power of lived experience. Each day throughout the week, stories of people with lived experience will be highlighted. These representative voices will include the components of recovery where they learned something that could have helped them sooner.

The topics include What I Wish I’d Known About...

- Mon Oct. 3: Stigma
- Tues Oct 4: Medication
- Wed Oct. 5: Therapy
- Thurs Oct. 6: Disclosing & Depression Screening Day
- Fri Oct. 7: Caregiving

Currently there are 3 videos posted: What I wish I had known about....Anxiety, Bipolar Disorder & Borderline Personality Disorder

Become an advocate for a better mental health system: [Champion Mental Health for All](#)

October 4: [National Day of Prayer for Mental Illness Recovery and Understanding](#). This is always the Tuesday of Mental Illness Awareness Week.

October 4: *Registration now open!* The 2022 NAMI North Carolina Annual Conference will be held on October 4, 2022 at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh, NC. Join us for a day of learning, sharing, and caring as we display our first in-person annual conference in 2 years! The Covid-19 pandemic highlighted many mental health adversities within our communities—many of which were further exacerbated by national shutdowns. This year’s conference focuses on getting #BackToTheBasics of educating, empowering, and encouraging members of our communities that are affected by mental illness. [Learn More and Register Here!](#)

October 6: National Depression Screening Day. To take an anonymous, confidential depression screening and to learn more about depression, go to: [Mental Health America](#).

October 10: World Mental Health Day has the focus of mental health and well-being for all as a global priority. Learn more at: [World Mental Health Day](#)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS TO THE CHRISTMAS IN JULY PROJECT!

Dear Circle of Faith friends,

Thank you so much for all the supplies. You were all so generous. My kids and I are very lucky to have you all supporting our classroom.

Much love,

Jackie Beaver

Dear Pleasant Green UMC,

On behalf of the students and staff of Orange Middle School, we thank you for the school supplies and remain grateful for your ongoing support to our school!

Thanks,

Callie McBroom (School Social Worker)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS TO THE NC DIAPER BANK

We collected 641 diapers, 900 baby wipes, and 90 adult incontinence pads for the Diaper Bank of NC.



Pleasant Green

United Methodist Church

3005 Pleasant Green Road, Durham, NC 27705



PleasantGreenUMC.org | pgumc@ncrrbiz.com | 919.383.5764

Pastor

Rev. Laura Thompson
lthompson@nccumc.org

Director of Family Ministries

Emily Robbian
emily.robbian@duke.edu

Duke Intern

Trevor Warren
trevor.warren@duke.edu

Ways to give

We know and believe that part of being a follower of Christ is being generous with our money. We also recognize that the world is changing, the church is changing, and giving trends are changing with new generations. Thank you for your generosity!

Online *www.PleasantGreenUMC.org*

Smartphone *Text "PleasantGreen" To: 77977*

Envelope *Mail or slip under office door*

Amazon Smile Support PGUMC when you purchase through amazon smile. They donate 0.5% of your purchase price on eligible items to the "Pleasant Green United Methodist Church" charitable organization. We hope you'll consider this as we continue to find creative and generous ways to share resources together. Already have an Amazon Prime account?

Go to smile.amazon.com and use your existing login.
Pleasant Green's unique charity link:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/56-1152936>



Blood Drive

November 16th at PGUMC
10 am-3 pm

To sign up, contact the Church office at 919.383.5764 or pgumc@ncrrbiz.com or go to redcrossblood.org (sponsor code: Pleasant Green)

PLEASE
RECYCLE