



KINGSWOOD

a church for the community

6810 University Parkway • Rural Hall, NC 27045

THE MESSENGER – SEPTEMBER 2026



From the Pastor's Desk

"The Beauty Of Holiness"

In just a few days I will be heading to South Africa, to join Global Methodists from around the world for an important General Conference. From August 30 through September 5, the Global Methodist Church will gather at the Sandton Convention Centre in Johannesburg, South Africa, for its 2026 General Conference. Under the theme **"The Beauty of Holiness,"** clergy and lay delegates from around the world will worship, pray, discern, and make decisions that will help shape the future of our growing denomination. This will be the first Global Methodist General Conference held on the African continent, a fitting sign of a church that is becoming more visibly global. The GMC now includes more than 7,000 congregations around the world.

More than 800 people are expected to participate in the gathering, including 422 voting delegates, 142 alternate delegates, as well as bishops, support staff, and volunteers. North Carolina will be represented by 24 delegates, equally divided between clergy and laity. They will join sisters and brothers from many nations, languages, and cultures, united around one mission: **"to make disciples of Jesus Christ and spread scriptural holiness across the globe."**

That mission helps explain why the conference theme matters. **"The Beauty of Holiness" is more than a conference theme. It reaches into the heart of our Wesleyan identity.** We believe the grace of God doesn't

just pardon us; grace changes us. God's grace goes before us, awakening us to His presence. It convinces us of our need, brings us to repentance, justifies us through faith in Jesus Christ, and continues working within us through the Holy Spirit so that we grow in holiness and love.

John Wesley taught that salvation is the gracious work of God from beginning to end. Grace seeks us before we know to seek God. Grace reconciles us through Christ. Grace reshapes our lives until the character of Jesus becomes increasingly visible in us. And grace points us toward the day when God's saving work will be complete.

That is why the General Conference in Johannesburg, South Africa is so important. General Conference is certainly a place for legislation and decision-making, but it is also an opportunity for the church to seek the mind of Christ together. **Our greatest hope is not simply that good decisions will be made. It is that God will deepen our unity, renew our witness, and make us a holier people for the sake of a hurting world.**

As our delegates travel to South Africa, let us surround them with prayer. Pray for wisdom, humility, courage, and spiritual discernment. Pray that the Holy Spirit will guide every conversation and decision. And pray that **"The Beauty of Holiness" will become more than something we discuss in Johannesburg. May it become something the world can see in us.**

To learn more, and to stay informed about the Global Methodist Church and news from the North Carolina Conference, subscribe to the conference's weekly newsletter at: <https://ncglobalmethodist.org/get-our-newsletter/>

Prayer Shield

As Kingswood Church prayerfully discerns who God is calling to serve as our next pastor, there is something every one of us can begin doing right now: **pray**.

Copies of **Prayer Shield: A Seven-Day Guide to Praying for Your Pastor**, written by John Frank and Kari Howard, are available **free of charge on the table outside the church office**. You are encouraged to pick up a copy and use it as a simple daily guide for surrounding our pastor in prayer.

Each day focuses on an important area of pastoral life and ministry:

- **Sunday:** Pray for our pastor's ministry, preaching, and fruitfulness.
- **Monday:** Pray for our pastor's relationship with the Lord.
- **Tuesday:** Pray for healthy relationships with our congregation and community.
- **Wednesday:** Pray for our pastor's wisdom, courage, leadership, and God's direction.
- **Thursday:** Pray for protection, health, strength, and wholeness.
- **Friday:** Pray for faithful stewardship of time, gifts, priorities, and resources.
- **Saturday:** Pray for our pastor's family, friendships, and closest relationships.

We don't have to know the name of Kingswood's next pastor to begin praying now. **We can pray for our next pastor before we ever meet our next pastor!**

Pick up a copy of *Prayer Shield* and join us in asking God to prepare our next pastor, prepare our church, and prepare us for all that God has ahead.



Little Italy Night

Tues., Sept. 1st, 5:00-8:00pm

FOR LITTLE ITALY NIGHT: A ROOM RESERVED FOR US!
We will have a room reserved for our fellowship.

Just mention Kingswood when you order, either dine in or take out; a portion of the proceeds will go to our Preschool program.



Congregational Care Ministry

Monday, Sept. 14th

Thanks to our dedicated Congregational Care Team, residents at two nearby retirement communities have the opportunity to participate in holy communion each month.

We visit Arbor Ridge in Stanleyville at 10:30 am and Priddy Manor in King @ 1:00 pm for a devotional along with communion, followed by fun conversation as Kingswood members share the love and grace of Christ.

Interested in being part of this outreach each month? Contact Janice Wall at 336-602-7647.



Thursday, Sept. 17th @ 11:00 am

The September meeting will be held Thursday, September 17 at 11:00 a.m. in the Parlor. We will discuss, "Growing Closer to God." Prayer requests and praises will be taken. We will conclude our meeting with a fellowship meal at Sylvia's Restaurant. All ladies are invited to join us for this great time of fellowship.



As the newly appointed Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator at Kingswood, I pray that every child in our faith-based activities will meet Jesus and grow to love Him as He loves them. May all of our new and returning students, whether preschoolers or college students, feel the prayers being said on their behalf by our church family as this new school year begins.

We love having children at Kingswood and we LOVE hearing and seeing them in the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings. If you prefer to keep your children upstairs, we offer children's worship bags in the narthex for them to use during the service.

We also provide a nursery on the lower level of the church, which provides for play time as well as Bible stories and songs, hugging, rocking and loving. Watch for more details about our expanding Children's Program!

We are in need of Nursery volunteers! Please contact Becky French (336-808-386-1706) or Carolyn Cooke (336-413-3631).

Mallory Brammer



The Youth will be sponsoring the preparation of shoeboxes for Samaritan Purse's Operation Christmas Child this fall. A list of items needed will be in the bulletin and posted around church. Collection bins will be in the Narthex and outside the Fellowship Hall from August 30-November 6. Partnering with us will be our Preschool families and members of the community. This ministry has provided love and essential needs to children all over the world for years and we are pleased to be a part of this outreach effort.

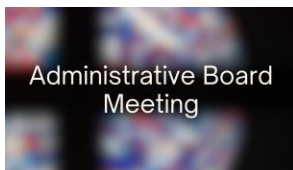


We are excited to announce that the Kingswood Church website is undergoing revisions that will make it more informative and timely.

Take a look at www.kingswoodchurch.org. Recently included is the weekly bulletin, sermon notes, the Messenger and our Google calendar among other news items of interest to the congregation and community. Check it out!



The start of a new school year is always exciting for our preschool. This year is especially exciting as we celebrate our 50th year. Our preschool began as Kingswood Playschool in 1976. There was one classroom with two teachers, Miss Sheran and Miss Theresa. Fifty years later, Kingswood Christian Preschool will have six classrooms, eleven staff members, and approximately 75-plus students. We are grateful for the privilege of nurturing and teaching our young children for five decades. Join us in praying for a safe and prosperous 50th year!



Administrative Board – Council on Ministries

The Administrative Board-Council on Ministries held a well-attended and productive meeting on Thursday, August 13 at the church. These two combined committees have joined together to administer the church's current business and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. Special thanks to Pastor John Frank for his attendance and sharing his vast experience and insight with the church's leadership team.

The next Administrative Board-Council on Ministries meeting will be held in October. The date and time of the meeting will be announced in the very near future. Thanks to the members of the Administrative Board-Council on Ministries for their leadership and commitment to Kingswood Church, and to John Cox for heading up this combined team.

MUSIC ON THE FRONT LAWN – MORE TO COME!

The weather cooperated, and it was such fun! Grant Beard and Brett Beardsley promise there will be more of these to come.



College Students Away at School Would Love to Hear From Us!

We have two congregation members who have just left for college: Cooper Couch and Sydney Patterson. Plus ... we have more than a dozen grandchildren and other family members in college who would appreciate hearing from us. Watch for a display with information on these students – plus, we're creating a printed list with addresses and birthdays.

Check in the narthex for names and addresses of those we're aware of. Several have September birthdays!

Have a family member away at college? Contact Jo Hunter (hunterjo830@yahoo.com) or call her at 336-408-7458.

Blessed by Youth Serving as Leaders ...

We were blessed at the August 9 worship service with three wonderful young people who shared their special thoughts and gifts with us. Thank you, Cooper Couch, the son of members Eric and Emma Couch and the grandson of Mary Kiger, for reminding us of how meaningful our congregation's love and support since his babyhood have been to him. As he enjoys the next chapter of his life at the University of Alabama, may he remember that he will always belong to us!

Thank you also to Hazel Crompton, the granddaughter of John and Trudy Cox and a freshman at Reynolds High School, and her friend, Larkin Rucker, a junior at Reynolds, who sang and played "You and You Alone" as our anthem. We hope they will all come back!



Income from Bazaar & Chicken Pies Makes a Big Difference!

It may seem like a small thing, but it's not! Each time you bake a cake or make a casserole or a craft for our fall bazaar, or help with chicken pie making, you make a difference. A big difference. The People of Kingswood fund from those activities helps cover the cost of unexpected repairs and replacements, such as the recent replacement of our commercial ice maker – a \$4,000 expense that didn't have to come out of our church fund. Wow!

Thanks to all who helped make that possible. Let's support those chicken pie makings and begin planning for ways to make this year's bazaar the BIGGEST AND BEST EVER!

Next chicken pie making is this Saturday, August 22, at 9 a.m.

Fall Bazaar is November 21 – always the Saturday before Thanksgiving



Our Kingswood congregation sees a need and they donate to meet that need. Based on our church's generosity, Rural Hall Elementary and Kingswood Preschool have backpacks and school supplies for the students for the year!

We have such gratitude for all the members who shopped and bought items from the list to provide for the students. A huge "Thank You" for each of you.

Since you have provided a bounty of items we will expand these gifts to Germanton Elementary and Speas Global Elementary. We shall continue to collect until the end of August.

Diann Holland
Local Missions



Hats off and a big thanks to Billy Walker!

Many people may not know how our church sign along the road in front of the church gets updated.

The magician and dedicated worker who makes it happen is Billy Walker. Often, he's asked to change the wording to promote upcoming events, and sometimes there is little advance notice.

Billy gets it done.

Letters are carefully stored in the church office, and it can take a bit of time to remove them, then put up new wording, letter by letter. The

need is year-round, in heat and cold, sunshine and rain.

A special thanks for a recent Saturday night event, our singing on the front lawn. After the event, Billy quietly went to the sign and, in the dark, removed that message and added a new one for the next day.

Please take a moment to thank him for this gift of love and service.



- Sept. 6 - John & Jo Hunter
- Sept. 13 - open
- Sept. 20 - open
- Sept. 27 - open

If you would like to place flowers on the altar on a Sunday morning, please sign up on the flower calendar near the church office.



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| Sept. 6 | Becky French & Ann Burton |
| Sept. 13 | Jo Hunter & Trudy Cox |
| Sept. 20 | Mallory & Keigan Brammer |
| Sept. 27 | Lisa Poe & Emma Couch |



Barbara Grubbs	5
Sydney Patterson	6
Dale Holland	13
Mary Lou Shouse	18
Cooper Couch	20
Gary Thomas	20
Emma Couch	25
Mary Kay Thomas	26
Darle Shouse	27
Greg Kiser	29
Tommy Griggs	30

Finances

Jan. - July

Giving \$183,841

Expenses \$157,664

Debit/Credit \$ 26,177

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please remember to share any news with our church office by the 15th of each month if you'd like it posted in the upcoming newsletter.

IF YOU'RE NOT ALREADY CONNECTED IN A SMALL GROUP, NOW IS THE TIME!!!

Faith Seekers SS Small Group:

Sundays 10am

Celebration SS Small Group:

Sundays 10am

Women's Bible Study:

Resuming Sept. 14

Mondays 7:00 pm

Kingswood Sisterhood:

Monthly Women's Small Group

Rotating Dates & Times

Seniors Keeping Young:

Next Date to Come

*Save
the Date*

Saturday, October 24th – Fall Festival

Friday, Nov. 20th – Bazaar drop-off

Saturday, November 21st – Bazaar

Sunday, Nov. 22nd – Giving Tree Begins

Saturday, Nov. 28th – Decorate for Christmas

Sunday, Nov. 29th – Tree Lighting



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Church Phone: 336-969-5437

Church E-mail: kingswood@triad.twcbc.org

Website: kingswoodchurch.org

Sunday 10am Sunday School

Sunday 11am Worship

OUR MISSION

*"to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ and to Spread
Scriptural Holiness Across the globe"*