



KINGSWOOD

a church for the community

6810 University Parkway • Rural Hall, NC 27045

THE MESSENGER: AUGUST 2026

From Pastor John Frank:

Receiving God's Grace for Kingswood's Next Chapter

Kingswood Church is moving through an important season of prayer, discernment, and preparation. During seasons like this, it helps to remember that God is already present in the chapter ahead. Our responsibility is to receive what God gives, release what God can use, and repeat those faithful steps each day.

(1) Have You Completed Your "Next Yes" Journey?

By now, we have completed 31 days of prayer and discernment for the next chapter in Kingswood's history. Each "Next Yes" daily devotion was designed to help us listen for God's direction and consider how each of us can participate in what God is preparing.

Were you able to read all 31 devotions? Perhaps you missed a day or discovered the series after it had already begun. You can check your email for any devotion you may have missed. The complete series is also available through the Kingswood Church Facebook page. Or the newly updated website; kingswoodchurch.org.

These devotions can continue to serve as a prayer guide in the weeks ahead. Read them again. Pray through them slowly. Ask God to show you where your faith, service, generosity, and witness can help Kingswood move faithfully into the future.

(2) Discerning Kingswood's Next Pastor

Your responses to the recent church survey have now been incorporated into the Kingswood Church Profile and submitted to the North Carolina Conference of the Global Methodist Church. Thank you to everyone who thoughtfully and prayerfully participated. You can read the survey results report in the email you received on July 14.

The pastoral discernment process will be fully underway by the beginning of August. Winston-Salem District Presiding Elder, Doug Miller, will guide the Kingswood Pastor Discernment Team through the process until a pastoral candidate has been secured.

The team includes members of the Administrative Board, the Staff Parish Relations Committee, and three at-large members who were nominated and elected by consensus.

Pastor Discernment Team Members:

Mallory Brammer,
Greg Cardwell,
Carolyn Cooke,
Eric Couch,
John Cox,
Debbie Cromer,
Mark Moorefield,
James Poe,
Sally Summey, chair,
Billy Walker,
Ed Wall,
Deborah Wilson

Please encourage these leaders and give them the time they need to listen carefully, communicate honestly, and seek God's direction together.

(3) Now...We Pray

Every member and friend of Kingswood has an important part in this process. Every person can pray.

James 1:5 reminds us, “Now if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God.” (a) Pray for wisdom for Doug Miller and the Pastor Discernment Team. (b) Pray for unity throughout the congregation. (c) Pray for the pastor whom God may already be preparing to serve Kingswood. (d) Pray that both the church and the candidate will recognize God’s direction with clarity and confidence.

Prayer is more than preparation for the discernment process. Prayer is participation in the process.

(4) Great Days Are Ahead

I believe Kingswood Church has great days ahead. God has given this congregation a meaningful history, a caring fellowship, and a continuing opportunity to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

As we **receive** God’s grace, **release** God’s love, and **repeat** those actions faithfully, we can enter the next chapter with hope. The same God who has been faithful in every previous season will remain faithful in the season ahead.

The next chapter has not been written yet, but we know the One who is already there. Now is the time to move toward it together, prayerfully, confidently, and faithfully.

It’s an honor to be your
Interim Pastor

John Frank Howard

PRAYERS / PRAISES

Church Family –Linda Allred, Steve Boyles, Sally Carpenter, Jeanenne Holcomb, Dale Holland, Greg Kiser, Peggy Marion, Joe Paschal, Mary Lea Shreve, Judy Wall, Bettie Jo Wilson

Other Family and Friends –Kevin Bryd (Natalie Grubbs’ cousin), Betty Ann Hicks & Florence Kidd (Michaels Saunders’ aunts), Russell Hinshaw, Kiera Messmer (Dale & Diann Holland’s granddaughter), Matt Messmer (Dale & Diann Holland’s son-in-law), Addison Reavis, Madeline Weaver, Megan Williams (friends of Diann Holland)

Other Concerns – 1st Responders, Police, Fire, Medical, Veterans, U.S. Service Men & Women, Peace among nations, the homeless, those struggling w/addiction, the depressed and lonely, those experiencing loss and grief, and all those serving Christ’s Church. Lord, in Your Mercy, hear our prayers.



Congregational Care Ministry

Monday, Aug. 3rd @ 10:30 am

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

In July, a total of 23 residents of Arbor Ridge in Stanleyville and Priddy Manor in King were on hand for a devotional by Pastor John Frank along with communion, followed by fun conversation as Kingswood members shared the love and grace of Christ.

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

See more photos of the group’s July visit on Kingswood’s Facebook page.

(Note: there are multiple churches with the Kingswood name. When you go to Facebook, be sure to search for Kingswood Church; you’ll see a photo of our bell tower and know you’ve got the right one. Then click on Follow.)



Hog Dog Lunch Following Worship August 9th

When you come into the Fellowship Hall for lunch, drop your name in the hat for a drawing. The prize? A prize-winning pound cake from Lois Hoots, famous for many blue ribbons at the fair for many years. (Rumor is, there may be two cakes given away! Many thanks, Lois!)

There's more! With a goal of getting to know each other through fellowship fun, you'll find a table designated for the month of your birthday. Each table will honor the oldest and youngest member among them and learn some interesting facts about each other.

Those who prefer to sit together with friends and family will of course have that option.

Many thanks to LuAnn Winfrey for organizing the food for this event!

Let her know if you can bring a dessert.



Little Italy Night

Tues., August 4th, 5:00-8:00pm

FOR LITTLE ITALY NIGHT: A ROOM RESERVED FOR US!

In July, the turnout for Little Italy Night was outstanding – some 40 people were there! The restaurant is reserving a room for us from 5-8 p.m., making it extra easy to chat and catch up with congregation members and friends.

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

A big thanks to Rural Hall Little Italy for all their support
to our church and our Preschool.

SPEAKING OF OUR PRESCHOOL ...

Registration continues for the 2026-2027 school year. There are some spaces available, so help spread the word in your neighborhood, at work and throughout the community.

Key dates:

Preschool Committee Meeting: August 27 at 7:00 p.m.

Preschool Open House: Tuesday, Sept. 8 and Wednesday, Sept. 9

First Days of Class: Thursday, Sept. 10 and Friday, Sept. 11

Did you know? Our Preschool program has an excellent reputation and is about to celebrate its 50th anniversary! Watch for features and special activities during the year.

******* STORY READERS NEEDED *******

The Preschool is in need of volunteers to come and read to our children.

We have a wonderful library that's full of books.

Interested? Please see LuAnn Winfrey.



KINGSWOOD SISTERHOOD

Thursday, August 20th @ 11:00 am

The July meeting of Kingswood Sisterhood met a week earlier than usual, Thursday July 9 due to a schedule conflict for our leader, Pat Shouns. Our discussion was Prayers of the Old Testament, examples were Genesis 32, 2 Kings 19:14 -19, and Daniel 9. As your time allows join in this month's reading.

The August 20 meeting will be in our parlor at 11:00 followed by group lunch, TBD.

Hope to see you then,



KINGSWOOD'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION – ONE FOR THE BOOKS

On the Sunday before July 4, Kingswood hosted a celebration of our nation's 250-year heritage, with emphasis on the important role faith played in its formation and will continue to play in shaping its future.

A huge thanks to the 42 Kingswood people who spent three weeks working long days laughing, sharing and preparing ... and to the 46 members, family members and friends who attended.

It was much fun, and it showed what Kingswood can do when we come together to accomplish good things for the Lord.

The opening and closing portions of the event and many photos are posted on YouTube.

A special thanks to Mallory Brammer, who helped spread the word through social media and even printed T-shirts at home with Kingswood's 250th anniversary logo.

She and her mom, retired history teacher Lori Redmond, have created ongoing displays plus a recent slide show in the narthex to help us know about nearby sites involved in the Revolutionary War.

IN THE WORKS: Mallory is also working with Kingswood member Renae Pellerin to enhance and expand our church website, and she continues to spread the word about Kingswood Church and our Preschool on Facebook and other social media.

**MANY THANKS TO HER - AND TO ALL
KINGSWOOD FOLKS
WHO ARE SO GENEROUSLY USING THEIR TIME
AND TALENTS
TO HELP US MOVE FORWARD!**



THE KINGSWOOD BLESSING BOX – Need Is Even Greater in the Summer

To most of us, it's a wooden and glass structure that stands beside Kingswood's lower driveway. Several years ago, it was a commitment by the youth of Kingswood to use their time and skills, aided by adult woodworkers in the congregation, to do something worthwhile in Jesus' name.

To people struggling to cover their expenses, it is truly a blessing. Here, they can find cans and boxes of nonperishable food to help provide nutritious meals -- especially during the summer when there are no school breakfasts or lunches, just hungry children at home all day.

Let's each step up our Blessing Box donations this coming month. Put a few items in a separate grocery bag in the car so it's easy to bring them to church on Sunday. Leave them in the narthex or place them directly into the Blessing Box ... and visualize the faces of grateful children and adults as they sit down to enjoy a meal and experience love from Kingswood.



Faith Seekers Sunday School Class

The Faith Seekers Sunday School Class welcomes anyone who is looking for a small group on Sunday mornings. We meet at 10 a.m. on the right at the end of the hall. Led by a rotating team of teachers, we use Cokesbury's Adult Bible Studies and are currently studying lessons from the book of Acts. The focus this quarter is on how the Holy Spirit enables us to face life's challenges with courage and hope. Expect heartfelt prayer, meaningful conversation, and occasional laughter as we learn from "the faith of patriarchs and matriarchs who faced and overcame the trials and tribulations of life in pursuit of advancing the kingdom of God on earth." (Spirit Boldness Opportunities, Summer 2026 quarterly). Hope to see you there!

Celebration Sunday School Class

What sort of imagery comes to mind when you think of the Book of Revelation? The Celebration Class is halfway through a study of the Book of Revelation and we would love to have you join us. Revelation is the only book in the Bible that promises a special blessing to those who read, hear and heed its word.



Aug. 2 Mary Kiger
 Aug. 9 Open
 Aug. 16 Open
 Aug. 23 Open
 Aug. 30 Open

NURSERY

Aug. 2 Becky French & Jack Cooke
 Aug. 9 Susan Busch & Carolyn Cooke
 Aug. 16 Debbie Cromer & Mary Kay Thomas
 Aug. 23 John & Trudy Cox
 Aug. 30 Jack & Carolyn Cooke



LuAnn Winfrey	1
Reid Couch	1
Judy Wall	2
Jerry Holcomb	2
Diann Holland	8
Debbie Cromer	9
Rekiko Foust	9
Robin Boger	10
May Lou Kogas	13
Ben Beardsley	19
Bernie Carpenter	20
Jeff Kiser	23
Ann Marshall	26
Keigan Brammer	30

Finances

Jan. - June

Giving	\$156,324
Expenses	<u>\$136,844</u>
Debit/Credit	\$ 19,480

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.

MUSIC MINISTRY

We'd like to thank Marcus Gipson and Arlene Stadler who continue to lead our choir. Thank you for your faithfulness to serve. You're a blessing to each of us and to Christ's Church.



PRACTICE RESUMES AUGUST 5

After a brief summer break, our adult choir will resume its weekly practice on Wednesday, August 5, at 7:00pm

If you enjoy singing, you are invited and encouraged to join them! Come through the main entrance, turn right and head down the hall, following the sounds of joyful conversation and praises to God.

SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

Be encouraged and reminded to connect in a small group for your own spiritual growth. It's important!!! The Apostle Paul writes to the Hebrews saying,

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:

Resumes in the fall

Kingswood Sisterhood:

Monthly Women's Small Group

Rotating Dates & Times



6840 University Pkwy.

PO Box 399 Rural Hall, NC 27045

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."

NEW FOR AUGUST