



# Tranquil Tidings

*Sharing the Peace and Love of Christ in our Community since 1820.*



You will be  
blessed when you  
come in  
And blessed when  
you go out.  
Deuteronomy 28:6



## Shalom שלום

Many of us recognize this word as ‘peace’ in the Hebrew language. It is used as a greeting and parting as *Aloha* is used in *Hawaiian*. Both are very similar in meaning and spirit. There is a richness to *shalom* which takes additional English words to appreciate its complexity.

Peace is its surface meaning but it includes a peace that is not dependent upon tranquility in our environment or within. *Shalom* exists even in the presence of conflict and stress. This stability comes from a relationship with God. Other meanings included in *Shalom* are well being, wholeness/completeness, salvation/relationship with God, health, prosperity, satisfaction, restoration of harmony, and alignment with God’s will, to mention a few.

To bid someone *Shalom* is to desire that they have all of the above. This is like the fullness/completeness of life that Jesus promised in John 10:10. My seminary Old Testament professor used to end each class with a “*Shalom*”. He was giving us a blessing even though some did not realize it.

*Shalom* is an active word meaning it is not the passive kind of peace that sometimes we think. It restores the brokenness of our world and relationships. Justice that renews and reconnects is another meaning of it. This is not justice as a euphemism for revenge but a restoration in line with God’s will.

So remember all of its meanings as I bid you *Shalom*.

Greg

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## September 20th is Member/Guest Sunday

On this Sunday we are asking that you as a member bring a guest to church. Maybe you know of someone who has no church home, is in search of a new church home/family or even more, there may be someone who is a member and has not been here in a while. Either way, we are inviting you to help grow the church. Gift cards will be the incentive for bringing the most number of people to church on this special Sunday.

## STEWARDSHIP

### August Offerings

Yearly Budget received to date: \$ 88,782.00  
(as of 8-23-2026)

| Attendance | SS | Worship |
|------------|----|---------|
| August 2   | 19 | 30      |
| August 9   | 23 | 38      |
| August 16  | 18 | 48      |
| August 23  | 20 | 32      |
| August 30  | 21 | 33      |

*Giving is Worship*

*Giving back to the One who gave*

## SERVING

### September Trustee of the Month

Steve Durham  
(C)864-200-6633 (H)864-227-9780

### September Counters:

|    |                |
|----|----------------|
| 8  | Janet Robinson |
| 14 | Linda Goldman  |
| 21 | Martha Vincent |
| 28 | Patsy Anderson |

### Altar Guild Volunteer for September:

Sherry Bayne

### Usher for September:

Cindy Davis

## ALTAR FLOWERS

### September Altar Flowers

- 6 *To the Glory of God*
- 13 In honor of Justin's birthday  
By Richard and Ann Coker
- 20 In memory of Martha W. Moore  
By Robert "Bobby" Moore
- 27 In honor of Bubba and Cindy Davis  
By Sherry Bayne and Conner Powelson

Why flowers? Flowers are symbols of hope, love, purity and resurrection. They bring a sense of beauty, joy, and reverence to the church environment. They symbolize the presence of God and reflect the beauty of His creation. Flowers can also serve as a reminder of the presence of God and the promise of salvation through Jesus Christ.

So by using flowers in our worship and church decorations, we honor God's creation and enhance our spiritual experience.

## LECTIONARY READINGS

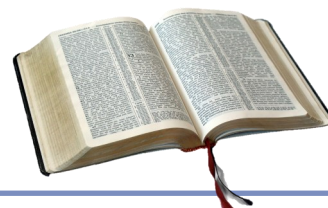
September 6 Exod 12:1-14  
Ps 149 or Ps 148 (UMH 861)  
Rom 13:8-14  
Matt 18:15-20

September 13 Exod 14:19-31  
Exod 15:1b-11, 20-21  
(UMH 135)  
Rom 14:1-12  
Matt 18:21-35

September 20 Exod 16:2-15  
Ps 105:1-6, 37-45 or  
Ps 78 (UMH 799)  
Phil 1:21-30  
Matt 20:1-16

September 27 Exod 17:1-7  
Ps 78: 1-4, 12-16 (UMH 799)  
Phil 2:1-13  
Matt 21:23-32

*Reading the Bible is not just a good habit—it is the very means by which God speaks to us, guides our steps, and transforms our hearts.*



## Announcements

|             |                  |
|-------------|------------------|
| September 6 | Jo Ann Purkerson |
| 13          | Martha Vincent   |
| 20          | Jo Ann Purkerson |
| 27          | Martha Vincent   |

# Meetings & Practices



WORSHIP

BE PRESENT

## CHOIR PRACTICE

2:00 p.m.

Brockwell Classroom

## BOBBIE WILEY BIBLE STUDY

Mondays

10:00 a.m. - Fellowship Hall

Meeting dates this month are:

Sept. 7 and 28 ONLY!

## S/PPRC MEETING

Monday, September 14, 2026

3:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

## CHARGE CONFERENCE

Will meet Nov. 1st at Main  
Street UMC- 4 p.m.

## Pauline Botts Circle

Monday, September 21, 2026

Noon—Montague's

## Tranquility Circle

Monday, September 21, 2026

6:00 p.m.—Fellowship Hall

## Spelling Bee

Greenwood District 50  
Performing Arts Center

Thursday, Sept. 24

6-8 p.m.



TRANQUIL COLLECTED  
APPROXIMATELY 37 LBS.  
OF FOOD FOR THE  
FOOD BANK OF  
GREENWOOD COUNTY.



## AUGUST Donations

to the Food Bank  
of Greenwood  
County



Thank you!

## September

### Birthdays

5 Linda Goldman, Dolores Purdue  
7 Clarence Giles, Jimmy Simpson  
11 Joe Langley  
13 Michael Buist, Ariel Mathis  
14 Leslie Stevenson  
15 Twiler Beverly, Mike Byrd, Sr.  
16 Carol Langley, Tim McKinney  
17 Susan Davenport  
18 Ericka Adams, Dianne Collins,  
Braydyn Dorn Cornelsen  
19 Jamie Purvis  
20 Evan Mikeal  
24 Mary N. Long  
29 Darren Ferry  
30 Lauren Greene, Sandy Shaffer,  
Janice Sumner

*Happy Birthday!*

### Anniversary



14 Richard and Ann Coker

*Happy Anniversary!*

*Happy  
Grandparents Day*

September 13, 2026

## Sept I'll Just Laugh



*What does the Bible say about laughter?*

*Laughter is an amazing ability that God gave us all. Laughter helps us cope with sadness and life. Yet there is a time to laugh and a time not to laugh. Ecclesiastes 3:4*

**What do they call Pastors in Germany?** German Shepherds

**Which area of Palestine was especially wealthy?** The area around Jordan.  
The banks were always overflowing.

**What did the squirrel say to his friend in September?** "Nuts to see you!"

**Why was the football team cool?** "Because they had a fan in every seat!"

**CHURCH SIGN:**

"Life has no remote, get up and change it yourself!"

## In Honor

In honor of Martha Alewine

By the following:

Jerrel and Linda Goldman

Aster



Be joyful always,  
Pray continually,  
Give thanks in all  
Circumstances for  
This is God's will for  
You in Christ Jesus.  
*1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18*

*Tranquil greatly appreciates the gifts that  
have been made in honor and in memory.*

The name **Aster** derives from the Ancient Greek word *astér*, which literally means "star". This term was later Latinized as *aster* and became associated with the genus of flowering plants known for their star-shaped blooms



# Congratulations Phillip!

PC School of Pharmacy welcomes Class of 2030  
at White Coat Ceremony



Congratulations to Phillip Byrd, who grew up at Tranquil and has now embarked on a journey into becoming a Pharmacist.

Phillip graduated in [August 2026](#) with a bachelors degree in biology from PC and is beginning his graduate studies in pharmacy also at PC. The pharmacy school recently held a ceremony on August 17th to present each future pharmacist with their white pharmacy coat. It was a very special day for Phillip and his family and we, the Tranquil church family, are also so proud of Phillip's accomplishments.

Proud grandparents are Michael, Sr. and Jean Byrd and Jerrel and Linda Goldman.



Pictured L-r with Phillip is his brother Andrew and mother Jennifer.

# Prayer Requests



Alfrieda Foster  
Ashley  
Ashton  
Austin  
Benzie Witt  
Billy and Brenda Fuller  
Bob Coman  
Bonnie  
Carson  
Claudette McKinney  
Cody  
Channing  
Dave Brinkerhoff  
Debbie  
Dianne  
Dolly  
Eddie Porter  
Emma  
Family of Don Wu

Fulmer Family  
Gaines  
Helen  
Gracen  
Harper-Reese  
Israel  
James Poore  
Janet, Glenda, & Christopher  
Jeff Channing  
Jeff Sobonya  
Jeanne Purvis  
Jessica  
Jim Hagan  
Jim Rainey  
Joyce and David  
Justin

Karen  
Lawrence Daniel  
Linda Sanders  
Lois  
Lori  
Marcia  
Margaret Simpson  
Matt  
Military  
Phyllis  
Poole Family  
Richard Coker  
Ronnie and Twiler  
Rosie  
Sean Cornelsen  
Sonny Meadows  
Sonny Tharpe  
Tranquil  
Unspoken  
Wayne

Prayer requests can be submitted by calling or emailing the church office at 864-223-5333, [tranquilumc@wctel.net](mailto:tranquilumc@wctel.net) or by accessing the church website at [www.thetranquillife.org](http://www.thetranquillife.org).

**LOAD'EM UP! SPREAD 'EM OUT!  
THAT'S WHAT FALL IS ALL ABOUT.**

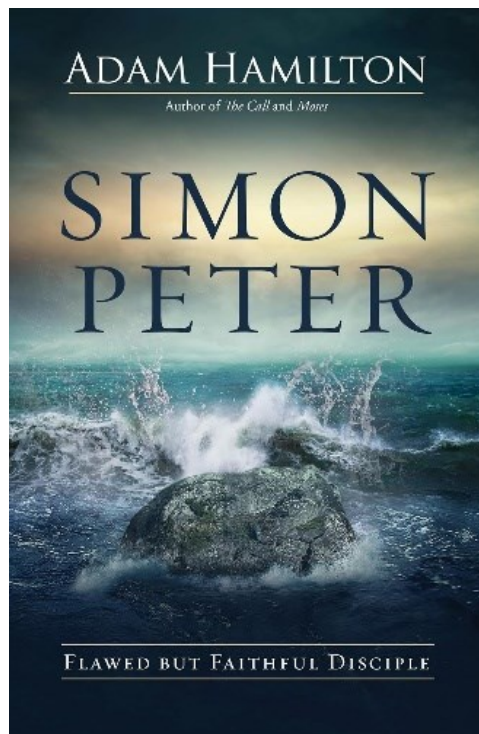
**PURPLE, YELLOW, RED, AND GOLD!  
SUCH COLORS TO BEHOLD.**

**PUMPKINS BIG, PUMPKINS SMALL.  
THERE IS ONE FOR EACH AND ALL.**

**FALL IS HERE AND LEAVES COME DOWN.  
COOLER WEATHER IS ALL AROUND.**



# Bible Study



The Bobbie Wiley Bible Study Group will finish our study of the Gospel of Matthew in mid-September. We will then have a six-week study using Adam Hamilton's *Simon Peter: Flawed But Faithful Disciple*. This is a six chapter/session book with accompanying DVD segments presented by Adam Hamilton.

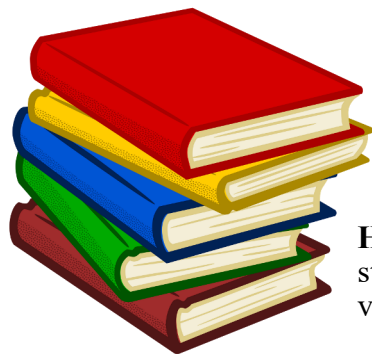
Once we complete this study, we will return to the Bible and study I and II Peter. We decided to learn more about the person of Peter before tackling his writings.

All of this may take us to the end of 2026. We are hopeful that we can then return to *The Chosen* for season 6.

We are a small group and are always looking for others to join us. We welcome anyone! We meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10am on Mondays. If you wish to join the study of

Simon Peter, please let Sandy know so she can be sure to have a book for you before we begin.

*Sandy Shaffer (864-980-8496)*



## Healthy Learners

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2026

6:00 — 8:00 P.M.

Greenwood 50 Performing Arts Center  
at Greenwood High School

**Healthy Learners of Greenwood** steps in and provides public school students who qualify in Greenwood School Districts 50, 51, and 52 with free vision, hearing, and dental services.

Healthy Learners is funded largely by donations that support **The Healthy Learners Adult Spelling Bee**. At last year's event alone, \$48,190.00 was raised. All money raised stays in Greenwood County.

# Thank you for your support!



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

# September



|                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                         |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
|                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1                                                                                                                       | 2  |
| 6<br><b>COMMUNION SERVICE</b><br><br><b>Worship</b> —11: 00 a.m.<br><br><b>CHOIR PRACTICE</b><br>2:00 p.m.—Brockwell Classroom                                                          | 7<br><br><b>Bobbie Wiley Bible Study</b><br>10:00 a.m.—Fellowship Hall                           | 8                                                                                                                       | 9  |
| 13 <b>STILLWELL CLASS BREAKFAST</b><br>7:30-10:45 a.m.<br><b>EPWORTH WORK DAY OFFERING</b><br><b>Worship</b> —11: 00 a.m.<br><br><b>CHOIR PRACTICE</b><br>2:00 p.m.—Brockwell Classroom | 14<br><b>Bobbie Wiley Bible Study</b><br>Will NOT meet today!<br><br><b>S/PPRC MEETING</b><br>3:00 p.m.—Fellowship Hall                                                           | 15                                                                                                                      | 16 |
| 20 <b>MEMBER/GUEST SUNDAY</b><br><br><b>Worship</b> —11: 00 a.m.<br><br><b>CHOIR PRACTICE</b><br>2:00 p.m.—Brockwell Classroom                                                          | 21 <b>Bobbie Wiley Bible Study</b><br>Will NOT meet today!<br><b>Pauline Botts Circle</b><br>Noon—Montague's Restaurant<br><b>Tranquility Circle</b><br>6:00 p.m.—Fellowship Hall | 22 <b>FIRST DAY OF FALL</b><br><br> | 23 |
| 27<br><br><b>Worship</b> —11: 00 a.m.<br><br><b>CHOIR PRACTICE</b><br>2:00 p.m.—Brockwell Classroom                                                                                     | 28<br><br><b>Bobbie Wiley Bible Study</b><br>10:00 a.m.—Fellowship Hall                                                                                                           | 29                                                                                                                      | 30 |

Worship Services are available on Facebook, You Tube and our Website  
[www.the.tranquillife.org](http://www.the.tranquillife.org).

"Autumn shows us  
 how beautiful it is to  
 let things go."  
 unknown

3

4

5

10

11



12

17

18

19

24

  
**Spelling Bee**  
 6-8 p.m.  
 Gwd. 50 Performing Arts  
 Center

25

26

## *Fall*

Is a gentle reminder that  
 change can be  
*beautiful,*  
 growth can be  
*quiet,*  
 and every season has  
 something to be  
*Thankful* for.



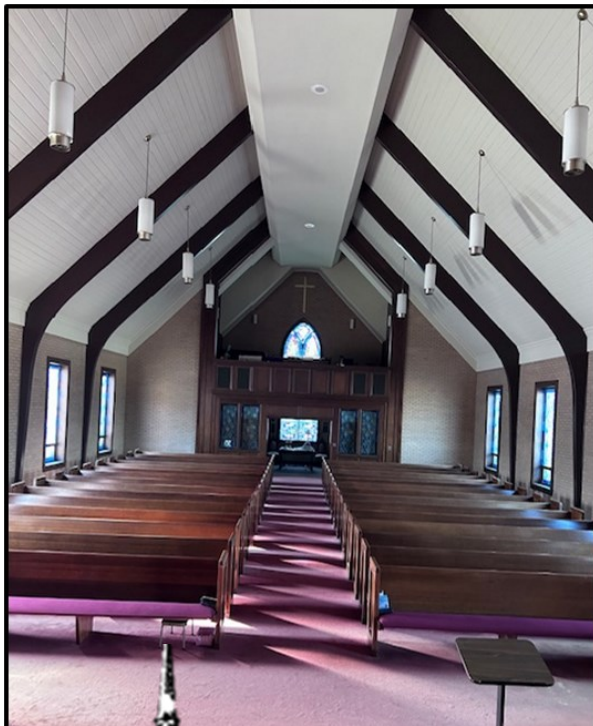
**THANKFUL**  
*for*  
 the relocation  
 of the mailbox!  
 It is greatly  
 appreciated!



## HOW TO RESPOND TO DIFFICULT SITUATIONS WITH GOD'S WISDOM

1. **Trust God** in every circumstance—Proverbs 3:5-6
2. **Pray** instead of worrying—Philippians 4:6
3. Be **strong** and **courageous**—Joshua 1:9
4. Wait **patiently** on the Lord—Psalm 27:14
5. Do not be easily **angered**—Ecclesiastes 7:9
6. Speak the **truth** in **Love**—Ephesians 4:15
7. **Forgive** as Christ forgave you—Colossians 3:13
8. Seek God's **kingdom** first—Matthew 6:33
9. Walk by **Faith**, not by sight—2 Corinthians 5:7
10. Be **kind** and **compassionate**—Ephesians 4:32
11. Cast your **cares** on the Lord—1 Peter 5:7
12. Remain **Humble** before God—James 4:10
13. Do not grow **weary** in doing good—Galatians 6:9
14. Let God's **peace** rule your heart—Colossians 3:15
15. Be **thankful** in all circumstances—1 Thessalonians 5:18
16. Seek **wisdom** from above—James 1:5
17. **Encourage** one another—Hebrews 10:24-25
18. **Stand firm** in the faith—1 Corinthians 16:13
19. Keep your **mind** on God's **truth**—Isaiah 26:3
20. **Delight** yourself in the Lord—Psalm 37:4
21. Do not **fear** tomorrow—Matthew 6:34
22. Let your **light** shine—Matthew 5:16
23. Be filled with God's **word**—Colossians 3:16
24. **Persevere** through trials—James 1:12
25. Give **glory** to God in everything—1 Corinthians 10:31

*I was glad when they said  
unto me,  
Let us go into the house of the  
LORD.  
Psalm 122:1*



## SYMPATHY



Sympathy is extended to Lawrence (Ann) Daniel and family in the recent passing of his 1st cousin, Dr. Jackie Daniel, on August 22, 2026 in Columbia, S.C.

Sympathy is extended to Jackie Hall and her family in the recent passing of her 1st cousin, Mr. Sandy Moore, who passed away on Monday, August 24, 2026 in Hartwell, Georgia.

*Wishing you peace to bring comfort, courage  
to face the days ahead and loving memories  
to forever hold in your heart.*



## Epworth Children's Home Workday Offering Sunday, September 13, 2026

The Epworth Work Day Offering is an annual event held to support children and families served by Epworth.

This event is a time for congregations to gather and contribute to the ministry of Epworth, which provides care and support for children and families in need. A \$6 minimum donation per member is encouraged and appreciated.

Envelopes are provided and inserted in church bulletins and located in the church office.

## A Safe, Nurturing Home for Anya

Last summer an emergency shelter contacted Epworth about Anya, a 12-year-old girl with autism who was nearing the shelter's 21-day stay limit. She and her mom had fled a domestic abuser and years of trauma in another state. They lived in a motel until their meager funds ran out, then Anya and her mom were separated into two different homeless shelters. Anya's mom applied for subsidized housing but the process was expected to take a year or more.

The shelter that housed Anya asked if Epworth could accept her as a private admission until her mom could find stable housing. In private admissions, young people are not referred by a state agency but rather by individuals, families, churches and other organizations.

Epworth welcomed Anya.

When she arrived, her hair was matted and she recoiled if anyone tried to help her brush it. For weeks, she barely said a word to the staff or her cottage mates, instead burying herself in electronic games. She refused to follow a daily schedule, take showers and do chores.

However, as the months went by, Anya relaxed into the rhythm of daily life. She came to trust her house parents and made friends with the other girls. She chose to care for her hygiene, get ready for school and do her chores without reminders. She learned how to cook simple meals and do her own laundry. She excelled in her middle school courses. She found excursions like skating and swimming exhilarating. She had never experienced a Christmas the way Epworth celebrates the season. She offered to lead the prayer at her weekly Bible study. As Anya emerged from her shell, staff and cottage mates began seeing a compassionate, kind and sensitive young woman.

Anya and her mom have since been reunited and are happy being together once again. The silent, broken young woman who first entered Epworth is now more mature, self-sufficient and excited about her future.

Your kind support allowed Epworth to be there for Anya when she needed a safe, nurturing haven. God bless you for all you do.

### Did you know?

**1,306**

**Number of children served through our residential, foster care, and kinship programs in 2025**

**2, 230**

**Number of children and families served by all Epworth programs in 2025**

**100%**

**Of your Work Day offering provides comprehensive care for the children at Epworth.**



***Tranquil United Methodist Church***  
***1702 McCormick Highway***  
***Greenwood, SC 29646***

*Sharing the Peace and Love of Christ  
in our community since 1820*



The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of  
our God endures forever. Isaiah 40:8

## ***Tranquil Tidings***

A monthly publication connecting members  
and friends at Tranquil United Methodist Church.

**Tranquil United Methodist Church**

1702 McCormick Highway

Greenwood, SC 29646

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E-mail: [tranquillumc@wctel.net](mailto:tranquillumc@wctel.net)

Website: [www.thetranquillife.org](http://www.thetranquillife.org)

Have you visited Tranquil's Web Page? You can access Worship Information, the Monthly Newsletter, Online Worship, the Thought for the Day, Current Church Ministries, Contact and Staff information and so much more! Prayer requests can also be submitted. CHECK IT OUT!!!! [www.thetranquillife.org](http://www.thetranquillife.org)

Office Hours: Monday 8am-5pm—Tues/Wed 8am-Noon

Rev. Greg Thompson, Pastor (864) 547-2116 Jane Roper, Administrative Assistant  
( 864-305-9380)

Sherry Bayne, Sound Technician