

October 2026

Tranquil United Methodist Church



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



Forgiveness

Forgiveness: the safest revenge known to humans

Jesus: forgive up to 70 times 7, Matthew 18:22.

I want to share with you some thoughts about forgiveness. Most of us have been taught to forgive and forget. This is partly true and I'll explain what I mean. Forgiveness is a way that we can reflect God's action in our lives and we are to do likewise. Consider this: we can hold on to our grudge, thinking and hoping it hurts the one who took advantage of us. This is pure fantasy that rarely if ever happens. Most of the time we, the offended, wind up suffering more and needlessly. Eleanor Roosevelt wisely reminded us that we need someone's permission to make them feel inferior. This goes for making them suffer because we do not forgive them. We only wind up hurting ourselves. The only person we hurt by not forgiving is ourselves.

Too often forgiveness is considered weakness and being a doormat for others. This can happen but here's where the 'forget' part comes in. We are to learn from the experience and incorporate its lesson for our growth. For example, we had a bad feeling in our gut when we were working with someone but we ignored it. This is a way the spirit can guide us if we listen. Yet, we didn't and found ourselves in a mess. We were tricked or by some way of offense we felt anger toward the person. One thing we can learn is to listen to our gut feelings even if they aren't convenient. Even when these mess up our plans, we can grow into new levels of faith.

This is a way that God slowly but surely renews our lives. If we forget the circumstances that caused the injury, we can't learn from it as quickly. The best way to tell when we've completed the forgiveness process is when we no longer have anger or desire to make them 'pay' emotionally for their actions. Here's where the 70 times 7 part appears. Forgiveness is a process which means we have to forgive again and again...until we have released the desire for revenge. We think we have the best way to get even with someone but God has the superior method in the works. He has ways that we probably never thought of.

Think on these things, Pastor Greg

STEWARDSHIP

September Offerings

Yearly Budget received to date: \$ 98,443.80

Attendance	SS	Worship
September 6	18	37
September 13	23	32
September 20	15	46
September 27	23	39

Giving is Worship

Giving back to the One who gave

SERVING

October Trustee of the Month

Jerrel Goldman

(C)864-554-6118 (H)864-223-6087

October Counters:

5	Sandy Shaffer
13	Cindy Davis
19	Evelyn/ Jack Cauley
26	Helen Watson

Altar Guild Volunteer for October

Ann Coker

Usher for October

Bubba Davis

ALTAR FLOWERS

October Altar Flowers

- 4 In memory of Yancy Harling
By Angie, Libby, and Janet
- 11 In honor of Tra' Baynes birthday
By Melvin and Sherry Bayne
- 18 In honor of Clarice Moore
By Robert "Bobby" Moore
- 27 In memory of Earle Purkerson
By Jo Ann Purkerson

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

19th Sunday after Pentecost

World Communion Sunday

Exod 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Ps 19 (UMH 750)

Phil 3:4b-14

Matt 21:33-46

20th Sunday after Pentecost

Children's Sabbath

Exod 32:1-14

Ps 106:1-6, 19-23 (UMH 829)

Phil 4:1-9

Matt 22:1-14

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Laity Sunday

Exod 33:12-23

Ps 99 (UMH 819)

1 Thess 1:1-10

Matt 22:15-22

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Reformation Sunday

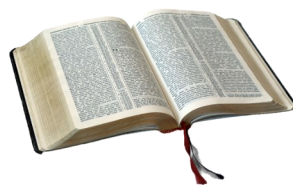
Deut 34:1-12

Ps 90:1-6, 13-17 (UMH 809)

1 Thess 2:1-8

Matt 22:34-46

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

October	4	Martha Vincent
	11	Jo Ann Purkerson
	18	Jo Ann Purkerson
	25	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

WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, Oct. 1st

2 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING

Monday, October 5, 2026

3:00 p.m.

Brockwell Classroom

JOINT CIRCLE MEETING

Sunday, Oct. 18,

3:15 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

CHARGE CONFERENCE

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

THE PUMPKIN PRAYER (poem)

Dear Jesus,

As I carve my pumpkin, help me pray this prayer:

Open my mind so that I can learn about YOU; (cut the
top off the pumpkin)

Take all my sin and forgive the wrong that I do. (clean
out the inside)

Open my eyes so Your love I will see: (cut eyes shaped
like hearts)

I'm sorry for times I've turned up my nose at what
You've give to me. (cut a nose in the shape of a cross)

Open my ears so Your word I will hear: (cut ears shaped like a
Bible)

Open my mouth to tell others You're near. (cut the mouth in the
shape of a fish)

Let Your light shine in all I say and do! (place candle inside and
light it)



Birthstone: Opal

CELEBRATIONS

Flower: Marigold



Birthdays

Anniversaries

- 3 Justin Buist, Ashley Trotman
- 4 Julie Trammell, Peyton Greene
- 8 Lynn Lyons
- 9 Samuel Troublefield
- 11 Samuel Sumner
- 13 Brenda Minor
- 15 Tra' Bayne
- 18 Julia Kate M. Akers
- 23 James Long, Claire Sproch,
Roger Stevenson
- 25 Brooke Coster
- 28 Matthew Hall
- 30 Nancy Buchanan



- 3 Roger and Leslie Stevenson
- 10 Matthew and Angela Yingling
- 14 Frank and Derrelyn Weeks
- 21 Todd and Karen Minter
- Chris and Angela Wu

October

Be present.

Listen up! Someone's
having a birthday!



Let the day flow with grace.
Expect joy. Be positive.
Serve with compassion.
Speak only kindness.
Impart only love.
Never forget you're not alone.
Give thanks for everything.
See goodness in others.

In Honor and In Memory

In honor of Phillip Byrd

By the following:

Jerrel and Linda Goldman

In honor of Janice and Ernie Sumner

By Ronnie and Twiler Beverly

In memory of Jackie Daniel

By the following:

Jerrel and Linda Goldman

In memory of Sandy Moore

By the following:

Jerrel and Linda Goldman

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



October so!



- WHAT DID THE PUMPKIN SAY TO THE PUMPKIN CARVER?
Cut it out!!!!
- HOW DO MONSTERS TELL THEIR FUTURE? They read their *horror-scope*!
- WHY DID THE VAMPIRE SUBSCRIBE TO THE WALL STREET JOURNAL? He heard it had great circulation!
- WHAT DO SKELETON'S SAY BEFORE EATING? *Bone*' appetite
- WHERE DO GHOSTS GO SWIMMING? *The Dead Sea*

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

CHURCH SIGN:

**A CHURCH IS A GIFT FROM GOD.
ASSEMBLY REQUIRED.**

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
 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
 Those deployed
 Tranquil
 Unspoken
 Wayne

Prayer requests can be submitted by calling or emailing the church office at 864-223-5333, tranquilumc@wctel.net or by accessing the church website at www.thetranquillife.org.

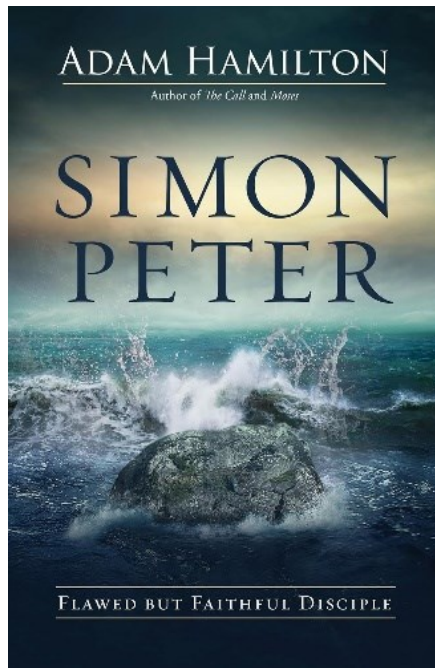
“Every leaf falling reminds us that endings are beginnings too.” _____ A reflection on the cyclical nature of life and growth.

“I hope I can be the autumn leaf, who looked at the sky and lived. And when it was time to leave, gracefully it knew life was a gift.”

Dodinsky



Bible Study



The Bobbie Wiley Bible Study Group will finish our study of the Gospel of Matthew in late-October. 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



Healthy Learners Adult Spelling Bee

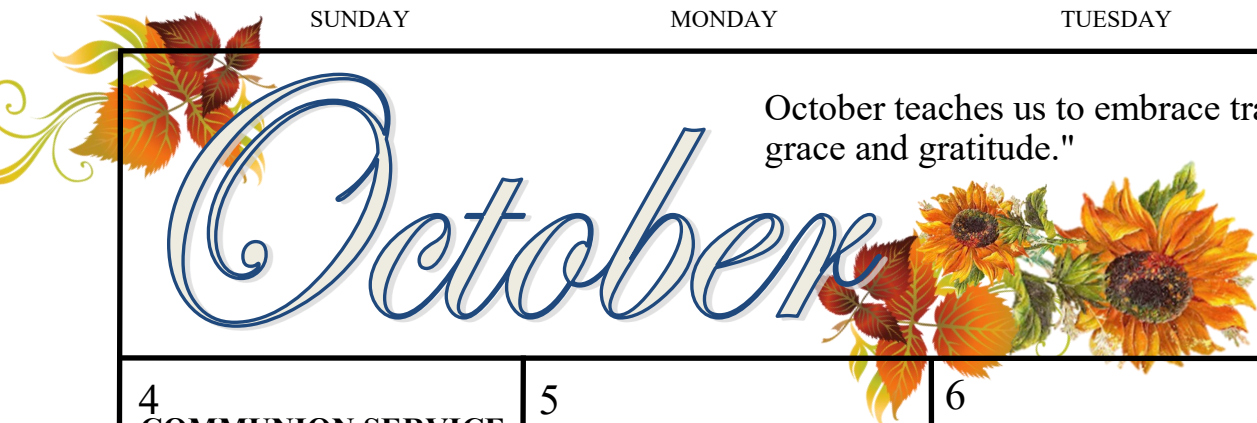
Tranquil may be small in number, but we are big at heart. In true Tranquil fashion, we donated \$1000 to Healthy Learners of Greenwood.

Our \$1000 donation will provide:

- 8 eye exams and 8 pairs of glasses
- 40 antibiotic prescriptions for toothaches, infections, and eye conditions
- 11 dental extractions
- 7 hearing evaluations

Thank you, thank you, thank you for being part of the village that these children need.

Thank you for your support!

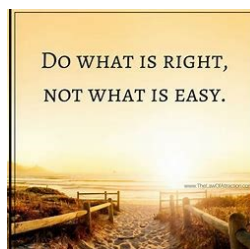


October

October teaches us to embrace transformation with grace and gratitude."

4 COMMUNION SERVICE Worship —11: 00 a.m. CHOIR PRACTICE 2:00 p.m.—Brockwell Classroom	5 Bobbie Wiley Bible Study 10:00 a.m.—Fellowship Hall ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING 3:00 p.m.—Brockwell Class	6	7
11 STILLWELL CLASS BREAKFAST 7:30-10:45 a.m. Worship —11: 00 a.m. CHOIR PRACTICE 2:00 p.m.—Brockwell Classroom	12 COLUMBUS DAY Bobbie Wiley Bible Study 10:00 a.m.—Fellowship Hall	13	14
18 Worship —11: 00 a.m. CHOIR PRACTICE 2:00 p.m.—Brockwell Classroom JOINT CIRCLE MEETING 3:15 P.M.—	19 Bobbie Wiley Bible Study 10:00 a.m.—Fellowship Hall	20	21
25 Worship —11: 00 a.m. CHOIR PRACTICE 2:00 p.m.—Brockwell Classroom	26 Bobbie Wiley Bible Study 10:00 a.m.—Fellowship Hall	27	28

Worship Services are available on Facebook, You Tube and our Website
www.the.tranquillife.org



THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1
**WORSHIP COMMITTEE
 MEETING**
 2 P.M.
 Fellowship Hall

2

3

8

9

10

15

16

17

22

23

24

**OLD FASHIONED
 FUN DAY**
 2-4 P.M.
 Fellowship Hall

29

30

31

 *happy
halloween*



2026



October gave a party;
The leaves by hundreds
came -
The Chestnuts, Oaks, and
Maples,
And leaves of every name.
The Sunshine spread a
carpet,
And everything was grand,
Miss Weather led the
dancing,
Professor Wind the band.

George Cooper



BEING A CHRISTIAN IS LIKE BEING A **PUMPKIN**. GOD **PICKS YOU** FROM THE PATCH, BRINGS YOU IN, AND **WASHES OFF** ALL THE DIRT. THEN HE CUTS THE TOP AND **SCOOPS OUT** ALL THE YUCKY STUFF. HE **REMOVES** THE SEEDS OF DOUBT, HATE, AND GREED.

LAST, HE **CARVES YOU** A NEW SMILING FACE AND **PUTS HIS** LIGHT INSIDE OF YOU TO SHINE FOR ALL THE WORLD TO SEE!



The Greatest Man



Greatest man in history named **JESUS**, had **no servants**, yet they called Him **Master**. Had **no degree**, yet they called Him **Teacher**. Had **no medicines**, yet they called Him **Healer**. He had **no army**, yet kings **feared Him**. He won **no military** battles, yet He **conquered** the world. He committed **no crime** yet they **crucified Him**. He was **buried** in a tomb, yet **He lives today**.

Operation Christmas Child

Shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse are located in the Narthex and the Brockwell Classroom. Please get yours, fill it up, and bring it back to the church by November 9th.

See below for how you can participate!

Thank you!

JoAnn Purkerson

HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE:

1 Get a standard-size shoebox to pack for a boy or girl. If you need a shoebox see JoAnn Purkerson.

2 "WOW" Item: Select a quality "wow" toy such as those listed below.

3 Then select from the other gift items on the list.

4 Pray: Pray for the child who will receive your gift. You can include a personal note and a photo to delight the child.

5 DONATE \$10 PER BOX:

A donation of \$10 per box is critical to cover shipping and other project costs.

6 DEADLINE: Sunday, November 9th.

DID YOU KNOW?

Many boys and girls who receive shoeboxes are invited to participate in our follow-up discipleship program, The Greatest Journey. Through 12 exciting lessons, taught by trained volunteer teachers, the children learn how to faithfully follow Jesus and tell others about Him.

SHOEBOX GIFT IDEAS

"WOW" ITEM

- Soccer ball with pump
- Doll
- Stuffed animal
- Shoes

TOYS

- Toy cars
- Jump ropes
- Yo-yos
- Toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries)



PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Toothbrushes
- Washcloths
- Combs
- Hairbrushes

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Pens, pencils, sharpeners, crayons, and markers
- Notebooks and paper
- Coloring and picture books
- Solar calculators

ACCESSORIES

- Socks
- Sunglasses
- Jewelry and watches
- Flashlights (with extra batteries)

For additional gift suggestions and more, visit SAMARITANSPURSE.ORG/OCC

DO NOT INCLUDE: Candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; scary or war-related items; seeds; food; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items or glass containers; aerosol cans. Thank you!



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

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Greenwood, SC 29646

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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

Pastor, Rev. Greg Thompson—(864-547-2116 or (864) 305-9380 Ofc. hours—Monday 8am-5pm/ Wednesday 8am-12pm

Administrative Assistant—Jane Roper Office Hours: Monday 8am-5pm—Tues/Wed 8am-Noon

Sound Technician—Sherry Bayne

Videographer—Steve Durham