

Welcome to Randall by the River

September 13th, 2026

Pastor Hanna Barlow

980-356-2705

9:00 am Every recorded Sunday Services are posted to "Randall by the River" on Facebook

Randall by the River is a Lighthouse Congregation of The Western North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church, in partnership with The United Methodist Collective of the Western NC Conference.

Centering Words

We come together as people who have received abundant grace, yet we know that living together is not always easy.

God calls us to become people of grace for one another.

Grace does not ask us to ignore what is broken or pretend that hurt does not matter.

Grace gives us courage to seek healing, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

When forgiveness is difficult and the way forward is uncertain, Christ meets us with mercy enough for the next faithful step.

We receive God's grace so that we might extend grace to others.

As we worship, may God teach us to forgive, repair what can be repaired, and trust God with what we cannot control.

God, form us into people who lead with courage, compassion, and abundant grace. Amen.

Opening Prayer

Opening Song- "O How I Love Jesus"

Prayers of the People

We come together as a community to pray for and with one another. What joys and what concerns do we have this day?

"To that we all say, Amen!"

Close with the Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Scripture Lesson- Exodus 14:19-20, 26-31 and Matthew 18:21-35

19 The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. 20 It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

26 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." 27 So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. 28 The

waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. 29 But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. 30 Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. 31 Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

21 Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. 23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, 25 and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Message- "Grace"

As part of our "Lessons in Leadership" Sermon Series

Musical Response- "Amazing Grace"

Response to the Word

This is an opportunity to respond to the Word as you feel led. We invite you to remember your baptism, listen to the music, give your offering, and pray.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Closing Song- "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

Benediction

Call to Action

- Our mission box is going to Truth In Nature!
- For the month of September we will be canned beans and soups!
- In order to prepare your heart for worship, you are invited to kayak or paddleboard before church. If you do not have one and would like to take this invitation, let Pastor Hanna know and she would be happy to help.
- Faith Community Health Office Hours will be on **September 16th from 4-6 pm** with Chris Vaughn, RN.

- On **Saturday, September 19 at 10 am**, Girlfriends and Grace will travel to Starworks to see the glass pumpkin patch. Contact Beverly Little if you would like to join or need more information on this fun event!
- On **September 30th**, our church will be partnering with First Norwood UMC to host a blood drive. The drive will be from 2-6:30 pm. Please let Shirley LeHue know if you would like to participate (704-238-7923)!
- On **October 3rd**, at 5 pm we will have a fellowship meal at the church! We will have BBQ and music on the lawn of the church. This is a great opportunity to celebrate the summer of ministry we have had together and kick-off our time of worship indoors on October 4th.
- On **November 7th from 10 am- 12 pm**, there will be an Oyster Shell Decoupage Class in the Branch. The class is \$25 a person and you will leave with three large oyster shell ornaments. To register, please contact Pastor Hanna at 980-356-2705.
- This year, on **November 26th**, our congregation will host a two mile Turkey Trot around the "circle." The race will begin at 8 am at the church. Bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the food pantry. There will be refreshments available. There is no registration required! It is just a fun day to kick-off your Thanksgiving Day!
- Team Spotlight: **Worship Team**- These disciples work with Pastor Hanna to select worship teams and services. This group also plans and prepares for the liturgical seasons, like Lent and Advent, and plans seasonal altarscapes.

Financial Stewards: Bob Brannan and Thomas Hahn

Nursery Attendants: Chris Vaughn and Jane McNeil

Mission Statement: "Our mission is to be a spirited, vibrant church planted by God's grace, growing in Christ's love, and living as fruitful neighbors within our community as we answer God's call to make disciples of Jesus Christ."

O How I Love Jesus

1. There is a name I love to hear,
I love to sing its worth;
it sounds like music in my ear,
the sweetest name on earth.

Refrain:

O how I love Jesus,
O how I love Jesus,
O how I love Jesus,
because he first loved me!

2. It tells me of a Savior's love,
who died to set me free;
it tells me of his precious blood,
the sinner's perfect plea. [Refrain]

3. It tells of one whose loving heart
can feel my deepest woe;
who in each sorrow bears a part
that none can bear below. [Refrain]

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more;
feed me till I want no more.

2. Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.