



SEPTEMBER 2026

Randall by the River: A United Methodist Community

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sep 6: Kayaking and Paddle-boarding at 8 am; Lake Church Worship at 9:00 am

Sep 13: Quarterly Men's Breakfast at Piney Point Clubhouse at 7 am; Kayaking and Paddle-boarding at 8 am; Lake Church Worship at 9:00 am; Youth and Jr. Youth at 5:30-7:00

Sep 16: Faith Community Nurse Office Hours from 4-6 pm

Sep 19: Girlfriends and Grace at 10 am will meet at the church to travel to Starworks

Sep 20: Kayaking and Paddle-boarding at 8 am; Lake Church Worship at 9:00 am; Youth and Jr. Youth at Central from 5:30-7 pm

Sep 27: Kayaking and Paddle-boarding at 8 am; Lake Church Worship at 9:00 am; Youth and Jr. Youth at Central from 5:30-7 pm

Sep 30: Blood Drive at First Norwood UMC from 2-6:30 pm

Oct 3: BBQ and music on the lawn fellowship meal at 5 pm at the church

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

As we step into a new season, there is so much to be grateful for in the life of our church. This summer has been full of worship, fellowship, outreach, and opportunities to grow together. Through it all, we have seen the many ways God continues to work through the people of Randall.

Fall brings a change of rhythm. We'll return to the sanctuary, our ministries will settle back into their regular routines, and new opportunities to gather and serve will begin. My hope is that we enter this season not simply returning to what is familiar, but asking where God might be leading us next.

There is a place for each of us in the life and ministry of this church. So this fall, I encourage you to show up, invite someone along, find a way to serve, and continue helping us build a community where all people can experience the love and grace of Christ.

I'm grateful for all we have shared and excited for what is ahead!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Hanna Barlow (980-356-2705)

QUARTERLY MEN'S BREAKFAST

All men are invited to join us for our quarterly men's gathering on Sunday, September 13 at 7:00 a.m. at Piney Point. We'll gather around the table for a good breakfast, conversation, and a chance to enjoy fellowship with one another. These quarterly gatherings are a great opportunity to connect, catch up, and strengthen relationships with other men in our church community. Whether you've joined us before or this will be your first time, we hope you'll come out and start your Sunday morning with us!

GIRLFRIENDS AND GRACE

Girlfriends & Grace is heading out for a fun fall adventure! Join the women's group on Saturday, September 19 at 10:00 a.m. for a trip to Starworks to see the beautiful Glass Pumpkin Patch. Come enjoy a morning of fellowship, creativity, and a little fall fun together! Contact Beverly Little if you would like to join or need more information.



BBQ AND MUSIC FELLOWSHIP MEAL



There's nothing better than good food, good music, and time spent together! Join us on Saturday, October 3 at 5:00 p.m. for a special evening of fellowship on the church lawn. We'll share BBQ, enjoy music, and simply spend time together as a church family. It will be a wonderful chance to celebrate all the memories and ministry we've shared by the lake this summer while looking forward to returning to our sanctuary for worship on Sunday, October 4. Bring a chair, bring your appetite, and come enjoy an evening with your Randall family—we'd love to have you there!

RETURN TO THE SANCTUARY!



After a wonderful summer of worship by the lake, it's time to come home! On Sunday, October 4 at 9:00 a.m., we will return to worship in the sanctuary at Randall by the River. We are so grateful for another beautiful season of Lake Church—for mornings spent by the water, familiar faces gathered together, new friends who joined us along the way, and all the ways God has been at work in our church and community throughout the summer.

As we move back indoors, we hope you'll join us for this new season of worship and ministry together. Whether you have been with us every Sunday at the lake, joined us a few times this summer, haven't been to church in a while, or are looking for a church community to call home, there is a place for you at Randall. Returning to the sanctuary gives us a wonderful opportunity to reconnect, settle back into familiar rhythms, and continue growing together in faith.

So mark your calendar for October 4 at 9:00 a.m., invite a friend or neighbor, and come worship with us. We can't think of a better way to begin this next season than gathered together as a church family. There's a seat waiting for you, and we would love to see you there!

FROM THE NURSE'S DESK

Every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood. It is essential for surgeries, cancer treatment, chronic illnesses, and traumatic injuries. Whether a patient receives whole blood, red cells, platelets or plasma, this life saving care starts with one person making a generous donation. Help save lives. Give Blood.

FACTS ABOUT BLOOD NEEDS

- Every 2 seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood and/or platelets.
- Approximately 29,000 units of red blood cells are needed every day in the U.S.
- Nearly 5,000 units of platelets and 6,500 units of plasma are needed daily in the U.S.
- Nearly 16 million blood components are transfused each year in the U.S.
- Sickle Cell disease affects 90,000 to 100,000 people in the U.S. About 1,000 babies are born with the disease each year. Sickle cell patients can require blood transfusions throughout their lives.
- The average red blood cell transfusion is approximately 3 units.
- A single car accident victim can require as many as 100 units of blood.
- Blood and platelets cannot be manufactured; they can only come from volunteer donors.
- The blood type most often requested by hospitals is type O.
- One donation can help save more than one life.
- According to the American Cancer Society, more than 1.9 million people were expected to be diagnosed with cancer in 2023. Many of them would need blood, sometimes daily, during their chemotherapy treatment.

BLOOD SUPPLY STATISTICS

The Red Cross provides about 40% of our nation's blood and blood components, all from generous volunteer donors. But supply can't always meet demand because only about 3% of age-eligible people donate blood yearly. Each new donor helps us meet patient needs.

- Each year, an estimated 6.8 million people in the U.S. donate blood.
- 13.6 million units of whole blood and red blood cells are collected in the U.S. in a year.
- About 45% of people in the U.S. have Group O (positive or negative) blood; the proportion is higher among Hispanics (57%) and African Americans (51%).
- Type O negative red cells can be given to patients of all blood types. Because only 7% of people in the U.S. are type O negative, it's always in great demand and often in short supply
- Type AB plasma can be transfused to patients of all blood types. Since only 4% of people in the U.S. have type AB blood, this plasma is usually in short supply
- Red blood cells must be used within 42 days (or less).
- Platelets must be used within just 5 days.

READY TO DONATE?

Contact: Shirley LeHue, RN

704-238-7923

Blood Drive

Wednesday, September 30, 2026

2:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

First United Methodist Church of Norwood

Fellowship Hall

208 Pee Dee Avenue

Norwood, NC 28128

Credit: American Red Cross