

Spirit of UNITED

NEWSLETTER August 2026



From the Pastor's Desk:

What a blessing and joy it is to bring back our Spirit of United Newsletter! And special thanks to our Communication Ministry. We have missed this positive and inspirational connection for our church family. Over the years, this newsletter has helped us celebrate the great work that has made United a strong presence in this community over the last 96 years. We thank God for His great faithfulness in allowing us to continue the work of ministry those that have gone before us started. And we're believing in God's promise "that no eye has seen, nor ear heard, neither has it entered into the hearts of men what God has prepared for those that love Him!"

Since the start of 2026, we've been in a series about "Our Time to Thrive!" The purpose has been to remind us of what Jesus said, "... but I have come that you might have life and that you might have it more abundantly!" So, we would learn to trust God to accomplish every plan He has for our lives, that we may experience that abundance and fullness in every way. Let's trust God's promises and commit ourselves to experience God's absolute best!

Last of all, I want to give God praise for 31 years of Pastor and People loving, serving and growing together as a church family. My wife and I have truly been blessed to be a part of United through the years. We have raised our family here, and God has helped us raise a new generation of disciples here to move us forward for years to come. Thank you United for your ceaseless prayers, steadfast love and enduring support. And with God's help I'm excited about what remains ahead for this great family of God!

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Freeman

Men's Ministry Bowling Event

The United Men's Ministry reorganized earlier this year and now meets monthly on the third Saturday. Meetings are held both on-site at the church and occasionally off-site for fellowship breakfasts.

On June 13, the men enjoyed an afternoon of fellowship at Triad Lanes Bowling Center, where members gathered for fun and fellowship. Attending Men were Deacon Newton, Deacon Turner, Bro. Gregory, Brother(s) Dent (father & son) and Bro. Mullins - 2026-27 U.I.B.C. Man of the Year, Bro. Lacy Joyner and Deacon Leroy Johnson.

The ministry's current Bible study and discussion series focuses on "What Baptists Believe," providing opportunities for spiritual growth, meaningful conversation, and Christian fellowship.

Interested in becoming part of the ministry, contact Rev. James McMillan for more information, upcoming meeting schedule and locations.



YOUTH Ministry



Welcome Back! I'm so glad to update you on all of the activities we've been a part of and what we look forward to in the near future! Your kids are some of the most active and lively for the Lord and we just need to celebrate them and help them stay active and eager in the Lord. So, what has been happening this season? I'm glad you asked:

JUNE | We had an excellent **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** this year. The Theme was **"Hooked: Reeled in to Serve God"** and we were able to share what it means to be hooked on the Lord Jesus Christ. Games were played, lessons were taught, meals were fed to our kids and even some in the community that showed up.

o In June we also had our Annual **GRADUATE RECOGNITION SERVICE**. Approximately 13 kids from Kindergarten, Elementary School, Middle School, High School and Secondary were recognized. We are so proud of all our youth and their success in academia!

LOOKING FORWARD TOO...

o This year, we have our Annual **OPERATION COLLECTION**. 4 bins to donate school supplies such as paper, pens, pencils, backpacks are located in the upstairs lobby area. This will run for the entire month of August. Any donations will be greatly appreciated.

August | Our Annual **YOUTH EXPLOSION** was held **PRAISE IN THE PARK August 22nd at Bur Mil Park | Shelter #3**. Participants enjoyed games, food, fun, and worship!

o In addition to these major activities, our youth leaders are excited for what's coming down the pipeline for the rest of the Year. We will continue to have weekly **Kid's Corner (Sunday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.)** and **Teen Bible Studies (Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.)**, & monthly **Youth Church** will also return in the Fall. We're also excited about all the events that take place across all of United's Youth Auxiliaries such as the Scouts, Joybells, and Young Adult Ministries. Please contact any Youth Leader if you are interested in helping in any way.

God bless,
Rev. Montrel R. Caldwell, Sr.
Youth Pastor

DEACONESS Ministry



On Sunday, June 28, 2026 United welcomed 2 new Deaconess to the ministry. The Consecration of **Sis. Danielle Jackson** and **Sis. QuaNesha Bennett** took place during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Deaconess Veronica Johnson led the Litany of Consecration during the Laying of Hands and Deaconess Sarah Patterson, Deaconess Chairperson, covered them in prayer during the Altar Prayer. The sermon, **"Standing in the Gap,"** was from **Exodus 1:15-21** by **Pastor Freeman**.

The call of the Deaconess is to partner with the pastor and deacons in service with the spiritual growth of the church. Deaconess also serve by visiting the sick, preparation of communion for service & attending to candidates for baptism. We, the congregation, family and friends joined in prayer and thanksgiving over their answer to the call of serving the Lord and body of Christ through the Deaconess Ministry to bring glory to God and Jesus Christ our Lord.

Girl - Boy SCOUTS



We are readying for our 26-27 Girl Scout year! Last season, we saw a record number of new girls joining our troop at the beginning of the year! We were very excited to have gained a new troop leader, Tolisha Dent, our UIBC 2025 Woman of the Year, who was a great asset to our troop leadership! In addition, our 2 young adult volunteers, Ms. Kallie James, our very own 2026 UIBC Woman of the Year, and Ms. Kamdyn Morton, who recently graduated for NC A&T State University in May 2026, were very instrumental in assisting with Girl Scout activities throughout the season!

Girl - Boy SCOUTS *Continued...*

The girls enjoyed a weekend-long camping trip to Camp Keyauwee in October 2025, where we tried our hand at archery, canoeing, wall climbing, and roasting s'mores! In addition, the girls participated in the World Thinking event and Cookie Rally with our Service Unit troops as well as the Rise event with our UIBC Boy Scout troop, where we packed dry packets of food for underserved countries around the world. We also assisted Ward 3/6 in packing Christmas boxes to assist local families with food in the home during the holidays!

Cookie Season is always a busy time. Our girls steadily sold cookies throughout January - March, earned badges, and even walked in the MLK Day Parade on January 19, 2026 to promote Girl Scouts and cookie season, an activity we haven't participated in since before COVID! It was amazing to see so many community members get excited to see our Girl Scout troop present and active!

We finalized our troop season with a trip to Carowinds, along with our UIBC Boy Scouts, on June 6, 2026! The scouts had an amazing time and we are thankful for the parents that participated to help chaperone.

We are thrilled about our upcoming 26-27 year! We are already preparing for another upcoming camping trip and look forward to more community service participation as well as additional collaboration events with our Service Unit troops as well as and our UIBC Boy Scouts.

If you have a girl that is interested in joining our Girl Scout troop, we accept ages Kindergarten - 12th grade, or would like to join our our Troop Leadership or volunteer for the upcoming season please reach out to Audrey Anderson at 336-908-6792 or Melissa Randleman.

The Boy Scout troop will host Open House Saturday, September 5, 2026. **Meetings will be held** 1st & 3rd Saturday's, 10:00 a.m. - 12 noon. Contact Karseem Dent at 803-546-0062 or Lacy Joyner at 336-215-1781 with any questions.

10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

John 10:10

MISSIONARY Ministry

The Missionaries of U.I.B.C., serving under the Rowan Baptist Association, are committed to supporting our community with compassion and action. Our ministry partners with local organizations—such as Greensboro Urban Ministries, the Interactive Resource Center, and Pathways Family Shelter—to provide essential services and uplift individuals and families in need. We also extend support to members of our congregation facing challenging seasons.

What We Do

Support Local Food Pantries: We collect and deliver canned and nonperishable food items from the lobby donation boxes to community food pantries throughout the area.

Engage in

Community Outreach: Our ministry participates in Guilford County and Rowan area prayer breakfasts, meetings, and service projects that strengthen fellowship and community ties. **Collaborate Across Ministries:** We work alongside other UIBC ministries to coordinate blanket and warmth drives, prepare shelter meals, and assemble toiletry packs for those experiencing hardship.

Get Involved!

The Missions Ministry meets every 4th Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

New projects are underway, and we welcome anyone with a heart for service to join us. Your hands, your ideas, and your compassion can make a meaningful difference.



2026 Statewide General Election | November 3, 2026



This Election is also known as the “midterm election” as it is held midway through a president’s four-year term. Midterm elections can have a significant impact on the direction of government,

policy, and national stability. This election primarily determines Congressional and House control, influencing the legislative agenda and checks and balances. Historically, the party of the sitting president tends to lose seats during the midterm election. The ballot is usually lengthy because it includes federal, state, and local races.

As Christians, we are called to be the salt and light of the world, influencing our society with Biblical values and principles. One crucial way we can exercise this influence is by casting our votes in the political process. The act of voting is not only a civil responsibility, but it is also a spiritual one that can make a significant impact on the social and moral issues that shape our communities. Prayer is an essential component of the Christian faith and should play a vital role in the voting process.

Before casting your vote, it is important to seek God’s guidance and ask for wisdom in making the right decision. Prayer helps to align our hearts and minds with God’s will and purposes, and it enables us to make decisions that reflect His values and priorities. **The deadline to register to vote in the General Election is October 9, 2026 by 5p.m.** If you have moved within Guilford County since you registered it is a violation of the state law to return to your old precinct to vote if you have moved more than 30 days, have changed your name or want to change your party affiliation. Any changes must be postmarked at least 25 days prior to election and must be received no later than 5p.m. on the 25th day prior to election. You may also go to the Guilford County Board of Elections to make changes within this period.

Other dates to remember: October 15, 2026 in person Early Voting begins, and you may also register if you are unregistered. Absentee Ballot request must be received by 5p.m. on or before **October 20, 2026**. In person **Early Voting ends at 3p.m. on October 31, 2026**. **All Absentee Ballots must be returned and received by 7:30p.m. on Election Day, November 3, 2026**

SAVE the DATE

September | 2026

- 12th | Boy Scouts Open House
- 20th | Pastoral Anniversary
- 19th | Boy Scouts Car Wash

OCTOBER | 2026

- 18th | Church Homecoming

NOVEMBER | 2026

- 26th | Operation Turkey



United Institutional
Baptist Church

Memory Gallery

