

Star Press

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF STARMOUNT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



September 2025



We have two exciting events coming up in the life of the church that you will not want to miss. The first is our Reconnect Sunday on **Sept. 7th at 10:00am**. We will worship together in one unified service in the sanctuary. Both the liturgy for the service as well as the musical offerings will be a blend of styles from our Chapel and Sanctuary services. Following the service, we will gather for a picnic lunch on the grounds. Folks will be invited to pick up a simple sandwich lunch from the chapel and then proceed outside (weather permitting) to gather with friends and eat. Please bring a camp or beach chair with you and be sure to dress comfortably. There will be a special emphasis on the work of our Missions Ministry on this Sunday, and so please bring an offering of canned goods that can be donated to one of our mission partners, Greensboro Urban Ministries.

We will kick-off a new sermon series on this Sunday called "**Cultivating Compassion.**" It is based on a new book written by our colleague and friend, Jill Duffield who is currently the pastor of First Presbyterian here in Greensboro. The series will focus on a scripture from Philippians 4:8 in which Paul reminds us, "Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."

Each Sunday we will focus on an aspect listed in this scripture and reflect on the ways that God calls us to cultivate our compassion towards each other.

Finally, I want to let you know about an exciting opportunity coming up soon to help shape the future of our congregation. You may remember from our sermon series back in May that the Session has been working to strengthen our outreach efforts and connection with the community. In order to move this effort forward we need your input and your commitment. Therefore, I would like to invite you all to attend our Fall Retreat this year which will be called "*Starmount Reaching Out*," It will be held on **Saturday, Oct. 18th** here at the church. During this event we will be seeking ideas from the congregation for how we can further our outreach efforts in the community. We will engage in a brainstorming exercise that will help folks share the issues that they care about and how we might address them. This exercise will also attempt to match the talents and interests of congregation members with possible projects so that everyone can be involved in bringing these new projects to life.

The Connections Ministry will cap off the event with a time of fun and fellowship by hosting a hotdog supper and bingo night. We will provide more specific details in the coming weeks, but please mark your calendars and make plans to attend this important event.

In Christ,
Charlie Lee

Inspiring Faith in God



**RECONNECT
SUNDAY
BLEND OF 8:45AM &
10 AM MUSIC &
LITURGY**

Join us on **September 7** at **10am** for **Reconnect Sunday**. We will hold one unified worship service in the sanctuary, followed by a picnic lunch on the grounds. **Bring a chair**. Our service will be blended, incorporating music and liturgy from both the 8:45am and 10am services! **We will be accepting canned food for GUM food drive.**

Starting September 7th

"Cultivating Compassion"

Author is friend and neighbor, Jill Duffield

Sermon Series

The series will focus on a scripture from **Philippians 4:8** in which **Paul** reminds us,

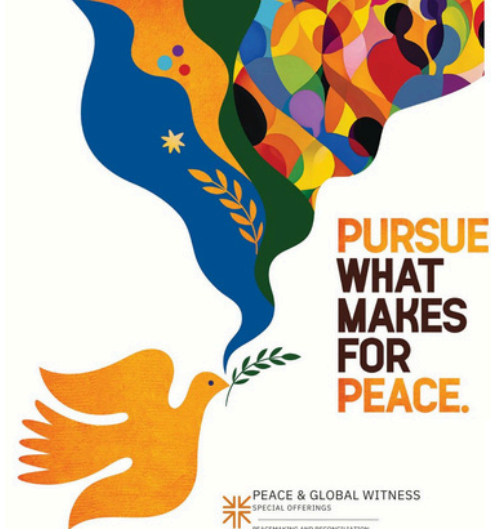
"Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



Follow Us!



September 7-October 5, 2025

Support peacemaking, reconciliation and global witness.

Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world.

- 25% retained by Starmount to support peacemaking efforts in our local community
- 25% retained by mid councils to support peacemaking efforts at the regional level.
- 50% supports peacemaking, reconciliation and global witness.

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION



CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSALS
BEGINS SEPT. 3
6:30-8PM

STARMOUNT RINGERS
REHEARSALS
BEGINS SEPT. 10
5:30PM



YOGA CLASS

These classes will be canceled in September.

September 2 10am & 11:30am	September 8, 11, 12 all classes
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Sharing Hope Through Service



**LITTER
CLEANUP**

*Gloves, neon vests and
trash bags are provided

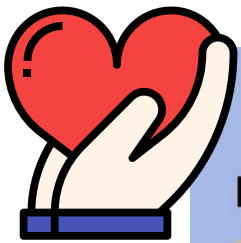
Big Sweep
Sept. 6
9am

GREENSBORO
Beautiful

Click **HERE** to join our
Starmount Team!

Questions: csingram@gmail.com

Each Fall, Greensboro Beautiful volunteers get litter out of our waterways, off our streets, and out of our neighborhoods! For the second year, Starmount is forming a team to do just that on Saturday, September 6 at 9am to pick up litter along Lindell Street between W. Market and Friendly Ave. Trash bags, grabbers, gloves and neon vests are provided. To sign up for the team, sign up at the welcome desk in the narthex. Questions? Contact Cathy Ingram 336-706-8979 or csingram@gmail.com.



Mission Ministry Activities

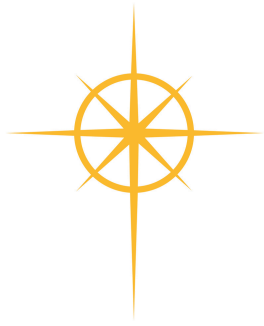
Backpack Beginnings



Habitat Work Days



Summer 2025



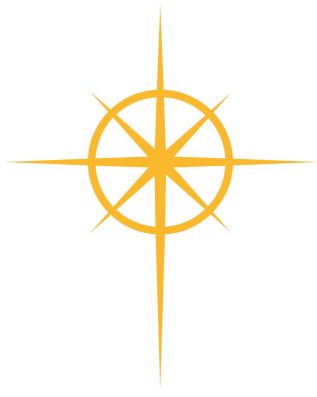
Sharing Hope Through Service

What does the MISSION MINISTRY Do?

Have you been wondering what the Mission Ministry actually does? We want to share with you some of the great things that our dedicated team has accomplished over the late spring and this summer!

- **Interactive Resource Center:** (Linda Anderson/Liaison) Volunteers have made **95** sandwiches every other month for the IRC clients. This also includes chips and fruit added to each bag. Some of our volunteers got to tour the facility when they delivered the meals.
- **Earth Care Team:** (Cathy Ingram/Liaison) Cathy is in charge of our plastic bag collections. She has also spearheaded proposals in conjunction with our Property Management team for Styrofoam Collections and possible Solar Panels being placed at Starmount.
- **BackPack Beginnings:** (Cilie Sutton/Liaison) **4** of our Youth volunteered in June under the leadership of Pastor Laura, to make **200** special tags for boy's Back Packs. In June, we donated **\$250** to BackPack Beginnings "Bust the Bus" Food Drive..
- **Brooks Global:** Starmount has now become a "Partner " of this school under the leadership of Pastor Charlie and Pastor Laura . At the end of the school year this past May, volunteers participated in their International Festival. Starmount had an information table there and also handed out **700** cookies to the attendees!
- **World Refugee Day :** **8** volunteers filled tote bags with hygiene items in June. This was held at Congregational United Church of Christ in Greensboro.
- **Greensboro Urban Ministries:** (Evelyn Garrison/Liaison) Volunteers in August sorted produce for the Food Pantry. Those who qualify are able to shop in the Pantry on certain days at no cost to them. This Food Pantry serves hundreds of families per week!
- **Habitat for Humanity:** (Mary Cuadras/Liaison) **6** volunteers, along with two future homeowners, worked on construction of a home in Greensboro in May. The Habitat Construction team was there to instruct and support us.
- **Montagnard Association of Greensboro NC:** In May we donated **\$500** to purchase 25 Refugee Welcome Kits. Currently in August , we have collected several new items requested for donations to a family in Thomasville that is in dire need.

This is only some of the agencies we work with in the area as we continue to strive to make a positive impact in the lives of those in need. Please watch for upcoming opportunities to volunteer in the near future, including the **GUM Crop Walk October 5th and their Food Drive October 24th and 25th!**



Building Loving Connections

Back to School

Yes, I know most of you are not tied to the annual ritual of the summer ending back to school calendar. But much of our world does revolve around this ritual. We have to adjust our expectations with changing commuting times to avoid school bus slow-downs, expecting stores to be crowded with parents frantically trying to outfit their children, finding our church parking lot filled with preschool parents twice a day.



Even if you are not closely involved in the back to school shift in seasons, I imagine that your own body clock is aware that the days are shortening, the humid air is moving toward those lovely clear and crisp autumn days, and you are beginning to look ahead to Fall wardrobe changes and holidays arriving.

One thing that I greatly appreciate about the Fall season is that the cooler weather allows me to escape the house and enjoy the outdoors. Summer usually has me running from air-conditioned house to car to destination and the same in reverse. Fall invites walks in the Arboretum or the Bog Garden. If you've been sedentary this summer, please accept this invitation to embrace nature in this refreshing season. Studies have shown that a walk in nature reduces stress, blood pressure, and can reduce your resting heart rate.

One of my favorite places to walk is the Tanger Bicentennial Garden on Hobbs Road. I hope to see you there!

For more information about yoga classes at Starmount, contact Jennifer Dowler at jennifer@drachrom.com or call or text my cell at 336-312-9589 to learn more.



Thank you for the abundant cards and prayers . I am grateful and appreciative of this wonderful church family.
Bruce Pugh



JUST LUNCH

Join us following worship on
Sunday, Sept. 21,
for lunch at K&W Cafeteria.
Visitors are welcome as our
guest. Children are welcome
as well!

September BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Ash Gustafson
- 2 Caroline Porter
- 3 Bryan Burton
- David Dorner
- Emily Johnson
- 4 Megan Brouillard
- 5 Annette Black
- Lila Tunstall
- 9 Mayot Ayuel
- Elsa Kontangonda
- Elvice Kontangonda
- Nancy Wallace
- 11 Libbi Gundaker
- 13 Ellie Chandler
- 19 Chris Kattmann
- 21 Paige Greeson
- 22 Meghan Lee
- 29 Kevin Kattmann

PRAYGROUND

The Prayground is a space for children to learn the "how" and "why" behind our worship. Families are invited to learn and worship together in this space! These Sundays will have multiple children's conversations throughout the service as well as music that is more accessible to children.

The Prayground will be set up on September 7



5 WAYS YOU CAN HELP THE PRESCHOOL!

01 Shop at Harris Teeter?
Ask to link your VIC card so the preschool can earn money back!

VIC #: 6257

03 Donate to Our Enrichment Fund!
The money in this fund is used to pay for monthly experiences such as Spanish, creature teacher, and more for the kids.



02 Donate to the Susan White Helping Hands Fund!
The money in this fund is used to help provide scholarships to families in need that attend our program.



04 Donate Items from Our Amazon Wish List



05 Other Needed Items:

- White Cardstock
- Glue Dots
- Laminating Thermal Pouches
- K-Cups (Med Roast)
- Tissue Paper (Any Colors)
- Copy Paper
- Clorox Wipes
- Assorted Colored Sharpies

Any Questions Please Contact Cindy Lee
cindy@starmountpres.org
(336)299-3564 ext.124



Family Consignment Sale





We need your help.....

Wednesday, September 17th
7:00pm - 9:00pm

Friday, September 19th
9:00am - 7:00pm

• Consigning items

Thursday, September 18th
7:00pm - 9:00pm

Saturday, September 20th
8:00am - 12:00pm

Contact information:
starmountpreschoolsale@gmail.com



YOUTH
YOUTH
YOUTH
YOUTH
YOUTH
YOUTH

SPY upcoming events

SEPTEMBER

Burrito Buddies
6:30 - 7:30pm
Meet for dinner at the Moe's on Battleground

2

Grimsley Football Tailgate
4:30 - 6:30pm
Stop by and grab food on your way into the game! Text Laura for location.

5

Ozzie's Icecream
5:00pm
Icecream is on us! Invite a friend!

14

Youth Lunch
after 10am service
Come eat lunch on us!

28

Contact laura@starmountpres.org

Church Staff

Pastor and Head of Staff

Reverend Dr. Charlie Lee

Ext. 116 charlie@starmountpres.org

Pastoral Associate

Laura Roberson Hadas

Ext. 115 laura@starmountpres.org

Director of Music

Sarah Downey

Ext. 120 sarah@starmountpres.org

Pianist/Organist

Michael Parker

mparker.piano@gmail.com

Contemporary Worship Leader

Rhett McAllister

rhett@starmountpres.org

Preschool Director & Director of Children's Ministry

Cindy Lee

Ext. 124 cindy@starmountpres.org

Church Business Administrator

Lynne Kirsch

Ext. 111 lynne@starmountpres.org

Administration & Operations Manager

Wanda Krystyn

Ext. 110 wanda@starmountpres.org

Administrative Assistant

Annette Black

Ext. 117 annette@starmountpres.org

Volunteer Church Librarian & Historian

Mary Jane Conger

mjcreading@hotmail.com

Custodian

Y' Mem

Monthly Session and Ministry Minutes

If you are interested in viewing the monthly Session minutes or monthly ministry minutes you can call the church office to request a copy.

3501 West Market Street

Gso. NC 27403

336-299-8131

2025 Ministry Chairs & Leadership

Children & Youth -

Debbie Stubbs & **Leslie Webb**, co-chairs

Congregational Engagement & Growth -

Evelyn Nadler & **Parks Williams**, co-chairs

Connections -

Art Fitchett, Chair - **Elvice Kotangonda**, **Karen Smith**

Finance -

Kris Kattmann, Chair - **Frances Kallam**, **Howard Williams**

Inspire Faith -

Frank Burton, Chair

Mission -

Mary Cuadras & **Greg Rehtin**, co-chairs

Personnel -

Jan Epps-Dawson, chair - **Kaye Brassfield**

Property -

Paul Tiedeman, chair - **Gary Anderson**, **Haywood Ingram**

Names in bold are current Session members

Starmount Financials

2025 GENERAL FUND PLEDGES BUDGET vs RECEIVED

Month	Budgeted Pledges	Pledges Received	Difference Over/(Under)
January	\$ 36,962	\$ 39,613	\$ 2,651
February	\$ 40,162	\$ 37,070	\$ (3,092)
March	\$ 41,640	\$ 47,216	\$ 5,576
April	\$ 25,962	\$ 26,534	\$ 572
May	\$ 33,962	\$ 30,726	\$ (3,236)
June	\$ 63,640	\$ 62,770	\$ (870)
July	\$ 26,272	\$ 35,023	\$ 8,751
2025 Total	\$ 268,600	\$ 278,951	\$ 10,351

Generous living is about approaching each day with an open heart, an open mind, and an open hand. What can you do today to live more generously? What generous living choices can you make today that will make a difference in the future?

Contact Lynne for more information about Legacy Giving to Starmount