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## Apex Outreach Service Project 2024 25th Anniversary



As we enter Spring, our Youth Ministry looks forward to a whole host of events, retreats, and mission trips. One of the most long standing missions of Apex UMC is the Apex Outreach Service Project!

Over the past several months, our Leadership Team has been hard at work as we prepare for AOSP 2024 this July 14-20, 2024. During the past 25 years, AOSP has thrived in making homes in our community warmer, safer, and drier because of the incredible commitment of the students & adult volunteers.

Parents, students, and volunteers have the best view to see all of the ways that God is working at AOSP and beyond! Hear from some of our participants about their experience at AOSP.



### **Why AOSP...**

"AOSP changed my life. I remember before my first AOSP begging my mom not to sign me up - little did I know how much I'd love it. Going into my 11th AOSP this year, I cannot wait to serve my community, my brothers and sisters in Christ and the Lord Jesus. Without AOSP I don't know if I would have seen the importance of walking through life with Jesus the way I know now. This week is a great representation of what being good disciples looks like and it is inspiring to me to live for Jesus every week out of the year. If you haven't already, don't wait, sign up for AOSP!"

**-Jacob Ford (Participant → College Leader → Team Leader, 2013-Present)**



"I signed up for AOSP because I saw a community of people hard at work being the hands and feet of God. I saw my peers and people who I looked up to walking a path towards a Godly life through AOSP. I also signed up because I felt a calling to that path of service.

AOSP is something everyone should experience, the friendships and relationships built are really like no other. I keep coming back because it's the highlight of my summer!

Sign up for AOSP and you will have a week like no other while getting closer to each other and getting closer to God"

**- Kaycee (12th Grade Student, Participant 2022-Present)**



"AOSP quickly became our son, Myalls', favorite week of the year. It's hard to pick one highlight of the week as it's such a powerful experience. As a member of the photography crew, I was lucky enough to witness all of the teams coming together so earnestly & with so much love to genuinely make a difference in the lives of others. The days were long & the weather was hot but the kids always had smiles on their faces & high fives to share. Witnessing new friendships being made, kids finding purpose in community service & teams lifting each other up was how I saw God that week. It was incredibly moving."

**- Juliet Andes (Parent of 10th & 8th Grade Boys)**

### **Ways to Get Involved...**

Be on the lookout for more information & stories about AOSP! To get the full AOSP Hype Week experience (next week!), make sure you are following us on Facebook & Instagram for stories, videos, and a whole lot more:

Youth [Facebook](#), Youth [Instagram](#), Sign Up for Youth [Newsletter](#), Learn more about AOSP [online](#) and [register](#) for a Full Week Adult Leader, Student or One Time Volunteer Role!

### **Registration closes on May 5th!**

Got Questions about AOSP? Contact Tanner Johnson at [tanner.johnson@apexumc.org](mailto:tanner.johnson@apexumc.org). We'd love to fill you in on one of the best weeks of the summer!

-Tanner Johnson & Hailey Burroughs  
Youth Ministry Staff

### [AOSP REGISTRATION](#)

**Open!**

### [VACATION BIBLE](#)

### [SCHOOL REGISTRATION](#)

**Open!**

### [IMPACT FOR KIDS](#)

**April 12**

### **[SHEILA CELEBRATION](#)**

### **[& SPRING GIFT GROUPS](#)**

**April 14**

### [ENCORE LUNCH BUNCH](#)

**April 18**

[CHILDREN'S  
CHOIR MUSICAL](#)

**April 21**

[BLOOD DRIVE](#)

**April 27**

[APEX HOUSING FAIR](#)

**April 27**

[APEX UMC BBQ](#)

**May 3**

[ENCORE TRIP TO](#)

[DUKE GARDENS](#)

**May 16**

[CHURCH WORKDAY](#)

**May 18**

[SIMPLE GIFTS](#)

[COMMUNITY GARDEN](#)

**May 18**

[MONDAY MORNING](#)

[BIBLE STUDY](#)

**Thru May 20**

[PARABLES IN](#)

[THE VINEYARD](#)

**May 28-June 18**

[EL SALVADOR](#)

[MISSION TRIP](#)

**June 22 - 29**

[AOSP WEEK](#)

**July 14-20, 2024**

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## **THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATION**

### **April's New Member Class**

On Sunday, April 7th, we hosted a new member class where five families attended to learn all about Apex UMC! During class we had the chance to go over the history, values and ministries that make our church such a special place. We had a great time sharing the stories that brought us to Apex UMC, the reason we were interested in becoming members and all the things in between. We are also looking forward to celebrating with 5 families who are joining in membership the last two weeks of this month; we could not be more thrilled to welcome these new members to our church family!



-Hailey Burroughs  
Connections Coordinator

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## GENERAL

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### **CELEBRATING PASTOR SHEILA**

You are invited to celebrate Pastor Sheila's retirement and five years of ministry at Apex UMC with a drop-in reception on Sunday, April 14 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. in Crossroads. Cards and notes of appreciation are welcome.

### **CHILDREN'S CHOIR MUSICAL**

On Sunday, April 21, our Apex UMC Children's Choirs will present the musical "In the Image" at 9:35 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services in the CLC. Join us in worship as our children remind us that we are created in the image of a loving God and encouraged to see the beauty of God in all creation. Note: The 11:00 a.m. Traditional and Contemporary Services will be combined in the CLC this day, so no service will be offered in the sanctuary at the 11:00am hour.

### **CHARGE CONFERENCE**

We will hold a charge conference on April 22 at 7 p.m. to approve compensation for the Pastor of Missions and Congregational Care. The charge conference will occur in Rm 407 and our District Superintendent will join us by zoom.

### **APEX 2024 HOUSING FAIR**

Help us spread the word about this opportunity to learn about all things related to housing, such as preparing for homeownership, available resources for first-time homebuyers, affordable rental housing options, home rehabilitation programs, housing policy, fair housing, homelessness and more! Saturday, April 27, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Apex Senior Center, 63 Hunter Street. Participants will include Rebuilding Together of the Triangle, Resources for Seniors, NC Housing Finance Agency, Wake County Housing Affordability and Community Revitalization Dept., Town of Apex, Habitat Wake, and more!

### **TOBY WHITE SCHOLARSHIP**

The mission of the Toby White Youth Scholarship is to encourage, nurture, recognize, and assist graduating seniors actively involved at Apex United Methodist Church who exhibit a personal commitment to Jesus Christ. Annually, up to two high school seniors who have been active in the church and faithful in their service to Jesus Christ will be considered for the award of a \$1,500 scholarship. *Who is Eligible:* Any graduating high school senior who is planning to attend or has already been accepted to an institution of higher education (college, university, trade, technical or vocational school) AND has been active in the ministries of Apex United Methodist Church. See full details and application online at [www.apexumc.org/tobywhitescholarship](http://www.apexumc.org/tobywhitescholarship).

Application due by May 5, 2024.

### **REQUEST FOR AOSP Pictures & Videos for 25th Anniversary!**

We are on the hunt for all of your AOSP Pictures and Videos from the past 25 years of service in our community! Please reach out to Tanner Johnson, Youth Ministry Director, at [tanner.johnson@apexumc.org](mailto:tanner.johnson@apexumc.org) for more information.

### **ALTAR FLOWERS - 2024**

Donate altar flowers for Sunday services in the sanctuary in 2024. Sign up [online](#) to choose date and view details about how to place your order. Dates Available: 5/5, 6/2, 6/16, 7/28, 8/11, 8/18, 9/1, 9/15, 9/22, 9/29, 10/27, 11/17. Questions? Contact Jennifer Higdon at [jennifer.harper89@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.harper89@gmail.com).

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## CONNECT

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### **SPRING G.I.F.T. (Growing in Faith Together) GROUPS**

Looking for ways to connect with your church family while deepening your relationship with Jesus Join one of our weekly spring GIFT Groups beginning the week of April 14 as we explore the previous Sunday's sermon and Scripture together. Only 6 sessions -- you can do it! There are two GIFT Group options including a Tuesday morning group and a Thursday afternoon group. [Register here.](#)

### **ENCORE APRIL LUNCH BUNCH**

Join Encore (55 & up) for lunch at Olive Garden (107 Grand Hill Pl, Holly Springs) on Thursday, April 18 at 11:30 a.m. Please [RSVP online](#) by April 15.

### **ENCORE TRIP TO DUKE GARDENS & CHAPEL**

Join Encore (55 & up) on May 16 for a day trip to Durham by chartered bus, where we'll enjoy lunch at Bullock's BBQ, an afternoon at the Duke Gardens, and a visit to Duke Chapel. The cost for the trip is \$25 per person, not including lunch costs. [Register online.](#)

### **PARABLES IN THE VINEYARD WITH PASTOR LAURA**

Join Pastor Laura Johnson at Cloer Vineyards (8624 Castleberry Rd, Apex, NC 27523) for a Bible study that will dig into the theological depths of Jesus' parables on vineyards and farming. Tuesdays, May 28 - June 18, from 5-6:30 pm. [Register online.](#)

### **VBS REGISTRATION IS OPEN**

Start the Party VBS teaches kids about: Friendship, Belonging, Forgiveness, Abundant life, and Purpose. Jesus gives us the most amazing reason to party. Preschool and craft leaders needed! Registration is open! ([Evening VBS](#) June 23, 24, and 26 | [Daytime VBS](#) June 24 - 27). Volunteer's children are guaranteed acceptance. Nursery is available for younger children of VBS volunteers with [nursery registration](#). Registration closes on June 9th. Capacity is limited and a waitlist is available. Register on Church Center. Contact [norma.wallace@pexumc.org](mailto:norma.wallace@pexumc.org) or [ellengriffin@apexumc.org](mailto:ellengriffin@apexumc.org) for more information.

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## SERVE

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### **WESTERN WAKE CRISIS MINISTRY (WWCM)**

*WWCM is running extremely low on their inventory of all non-perishable food items for the food pantry.* The number of families using the WWCM pantry has increased from around 250/month 1Q 2023 to around 400 families/month for the 1Q 2024. WWCM needs canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned meats (tuna, chicken, etc.), soups & ramen, pasta, pasta sauce, canned tomato products, cereals, rice, beans, macaroni & cheese, side items, peanut butter & jelly, crackers, etc. Please

consider picking up some items when you go shopping this week to help stock the pantry shelves. Any and all donations are appreciated! Place your donations in the bins marked WWCM outside in the Crossroads traffic circle. Your year-round support of our neighbors in need through your donations to WWCM is greatly appreciated! [www.wwcm.org/donate](http://www.wwcm.org/donate).

### **NURSERY HELPERS NEEDED!**

If you are looking for a place to serve and like to snuggle with infants, play with trains or love to dress up and have tea parties, then the nursery is the place for you! We are hoping to grow our ministry so that volunteers serve approximately one worship hour a quarter. Please contact Deborah Wade at [nursery@apexumc.org](mailto:nursery@apexumc.org) or 919-924-1659. Thank you!

### **SIMPLE GIFTS COMMUNITY GARDEN**

Come join us to grow healthy organic produce for ourselves and our neighbors in need! Open Saturdays 9 a.m. - Noon and Tuesdays 5 - 7 p.m. at 3109 Tingin Road, just a few minutes from the church. No special knowledge required. Wear weather appropriate clothing and closed toed shoes, bring drinking water and gloves. For more information, contact Anne Harrison at 919-616-6659 or [anneh21@gmail.com](mailto:anneh21@gmail.com) or visit our [website](#).

### **BLOOD DRIVE**

HELP US SAVE LIVES! Your AUMC Red Cross Team in partnership with the American Red Cross is hosting a blood drive on Saturday, April 27, 2024, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Please join us and donate a unit of your life saving blood! The need for blood is constant and current supplies are dangerously low! Please pray on this if you are reluctant to donate. Hospital patients need our help now! We need your help! Don't delay. Please sign up at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org). Thank you for helping us make a difference! Help us make this drive the best ever!

### **Creation Care Training with the Fairway District**

Earth Day 2024 is coming up! All clergy and interested laity in the Capital and Fairway Districts are invited to attend an information session being held on Saturday, April 20, 2024 regarding the Creation Care resolution adopted this past year at Annual Conference. The session will be held at Apex UMC, from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM. Rev. Jarrod Davis, Creation Ministries Coordinator for both NC conferences, will be leading the session. Topics that will be covered include the theological basis for a creation care ministry; practical tips for getting started with or ways to grow a creation care ministry team in the local church; and resources available for helping with the process. There will be an opportunity for questions following the presentation. For those attending in-person, light refreshments will be served and ice water will be provided for refilling reusable water bottles. **If you are interested in attending, please sign up [HERE](#)**, or contact Mary Danforth at [m19danforth44@gmail.com](mailto:m19danforth44@gmail.com), if you need help.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - APEX UMC BBQ**

The Annual Apex UMC BBQ will be Friday, May 3, 2024. Volunteers are needed for BBQ cooker setup on Elm St., coleslaw making, CLC dining room setup, pork processing, hush puppy, beans and potatoes cooking in the Elm St. tent, take-away meal assembly, CLC drink table serving, CLC buffet line operating, dish bussing and dishwashing, and cleanup of the kitchen, outside cook areas, and CLC dining room. Please use this [sign-up genius](#) to volunteer!

### **DESSERTS NEEDED - APEX UMC BBQ**

Calling all bakers! We need 800-1,000 individually wrapped nut-free desserts for the church BBQ on May 3, 2024. Desserts should be labeled and placed in baggies or on wrapped plates. Please deliver your baked goods to the Christian Life Center on Thursday, May 2.

### **CHURCH WORKDAY**

Please join us for a church workday on May 18 to beautify our campus for the Spring and Summer. We will start at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday morning, and be done by 12:00 p.m. There will be mulch to spread and weeds to pull, plus summer annuals to plant. We will have wheelbarrows, shovels, rakes, and pruners, or you can bring your favorite tools from home. There will be tasks for all ages. Come join us and see your efforts rewarded in a more beautiful campus. Please plan to park in the Senior lot or on Hughes. Please join the Church Workday group in [Church Center](#) to let us know you are coming. Email Anne Helm [helm2nc@gmail.com](mailto:helm2nc@gmail.com) or Jeff Portzer [jeff@portzer.com](mailto:jeff@portzer.com) with any questions.

### **EL SALVADOR MISSION TRIP**

Apex UMC will be taking a team to El Salvador this summer. The trip dates are June 22 through June

29. Please feel free to contact Bob Lempp at [BLempp@gmail.com](mailto:BLempp@gmail.com).

### **AOSP REGISTRATION OPEN**

This summer is our "25th Anniversary" of Apex Outreach Service Project! Sign ups are now open for all roles. Join us in making our community warmer, safer, and drier. For more information & registration visit: <https://aosp2024.mailchimpsites.com/>

### **FEEED THE KIDS**

FTK provides weekend meal bags for over 200 students in 11 local schools each week. They are currently in need of individually packaged breakfasts, snacks, ramen, and canned meat. You can leave donations in the bin marked Feed the Kids in the traffic circle. If you would like to volunteer with Feed the Kids or for more information, please visit the website: [feedthekidsnc.org](http://feedthekidsnc.org)! Thanks so much for your continued support.

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## GIVE

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### **UMCOR DONATIONS**

[UMCOR](#) (The United Methodist Committee on Relief) is always one of the first organizations to arrive and one of the last to leave when natural disasters occur. UMCOR also works with other nonprofit agencies to provide water, food, medications, and additional items to those in need. Please mark your donation UMCOR or choose from the menu when donating [online](#). Thank you for caring for our neighbors in need.

### **GIVING TO APEX UMC**

Your offerings help AUMC offer spaces that welcome, ways to love, and people that serve. Our collective offerings allow us to live out AUMC's mission to Welcome All. Love All. Serve All. You can set up a recurring gift online, place your offering in the offertory plate during worship, or you can text the dollar amount to 84321 and choose Apex UMC as the recipient. To find out more, [visit our website](#). Questions? Contact our [finance office](#).

### **GENERAL FUND OFFERINGS: July 1, 2023 – February 29, 2024**

- General Fund Offerings: \$1,187,879
- Other Income: \$36,747
- Total Expenses: (\$1,300,724)
- Difference: (\$76,098)

\$185,546 of excess revenues from the prior two fiscal years are available to fund the current operations in fiscal year 2023-24.

### **Deferred mortgage payments NOT included above.**

As of February 2024, early payments to the Forward Capital Campaign totaling \$1,425,162 have allowed us to repay the lender the total balance of the deferred amounts plus an additional \$485,368. This reduces our total debt to \$3.75 million which remains due by February 2035.

Please visit our [website](#) for more detailed information.

**GIVE NOW**

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To connect with Fiesta Cristiana please [visit their website](#).



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Welcome All. Love All.



Serve All.

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