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## Holleman's Bequest

Due to the generosity and forethought of Ruth Holleman, Apex United Methodist Church received a bequest of \$100,000 for missions - specifically for the Simple Gifts Community Garden, Apex Immigration Services, Refugee Care, and Strategic Missions. Her bequest is a fitting tribute to a woman who was an avid gardener and advocate for immigrants and refugees.



## Ruth Warren Holleman

JUNE 10, 1924 — MAY 16, 2011

### *Excerpts from Ruth Holleman Obituary -*

Ruth was born June 10, 1924 in Sampson County, NC. She was preceded in death by her husband, Carl Holleman.

A graduate of Westbrook High School, Mary Elizabeth Hospital School of Nursing, and the Nurse Anesthesia Program, Bowman Gray School of Medicine/North Carolina Baptist Hospital. Ruth served as chair of Rex Hospital's Department of Anesthesia and later as nurse anesthetist for Dorothea Dix Hospital. She also provided volunteer anesthesia services for St. Agnes Hospital, Central Prison, and Butner Hospital.

Ruth provided leadership and service in many civic, cultural, and church activities. While Chair of the Wake County Library Commission (1994-2004), the county constructed eight new libraries, renovated three others, put bookmobiles back in service for children with limited access to libraries, upgraded to computerized cataloging, installed personal computers for the public, and established the audio book collection.

Ruth served as President of the Democratic Women of Wake County, the Apex Women's Club, and the PTA, and as Director of the North Carolina University Women's Club Foreign Student English Conversation program. She served as a docent for the North Carolina Museum of Art and on the boards of Wake County Legal Aid, Wake County Historical Society, Friends of the College, and Raleigh Boys Choir. She was a long-time Sunday school teacher and Cub Scout Den Mother.

Ruth was a pioneer for women, creating a path for those seeking careers and positions of leadership.

Ruth joined the church triumphant on May 16, 2011. She set up her estate so that her generosity would benefit organizations over time and we are grateful to be a part of her legacy.

-Laura Katherine Stern  
Senior Pastor

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**Open!**

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## [MISSION TRIP](#)

June 22 - 29

## [AOSP WEEK](#)

July 14-20, 2024

### **THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATION**

#### **Children's Choir Musical**

On Sunday our children's choirs shared a musical with us about being made in God's image, created to create and care for creation. We are so proud of the hours they dedicated to learning the music and their lines! What a gift to be led closer to the heart of God by the children of our church! Please help us express our gratitude to Cathy Turner and Margaret Dickinson, who led the Kindergarten-1st grade choir all year. Also, a big thank you to Mandy Bien and Todd Arant for their excellent leadership of the 2nd-5th grade choir.



-Laura Johnson  
Teaching Pastor

### **MISSION UPDATE**

#### **Family Promise of the Triangle**

Family Promise of the Triangle has gone through a lot of changes since the pandemic, leaving many of our supporters and faith community partners asking if we've been able to serve as many families as we used to under our old model. We're happy to report that in 2022, Family Promise served a record-breaking 119 families! Last year, we had to close our Emergency Shelter units for two months for renovations. While we were happy to see these old apartments get much-needed repairs, we were concerned that it would have a negative impact on the amount of families we would be able to serve in 2023. However, we surpassed our expectations and set a new record by serving 127 families! In the coming weeks, we will be sending our supporters our annual report that will go into more detail about our impact in

2023. In the meantime, we wanted to thank you for your support for Family Promise of the Triangle. Without your donations, participation in our meal rotation, and regular volunteering, our families wouldn't have been able to thrive the way they have in the last year. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a presentation for your congregation or any other group, please email Jeff, our Development and Communications Director at [jeff.babajtis@familypromisetriangle.org](mailto:jeff.babajtis@familypromisetriangle.org).



Thanks again, The Family Promise of the Triangle Team

## GENERAL

### **UMC GENERAL CONFERENCE 2024**

The General Conference (postponed from 2020) is being held in Charlotte, NC April 23 – May 4, 2024. The conference resource website [here](#) provides conference information, resources, prayer guide, livestream links and more. You can watch a helpful video put out by our delegation [here](#).

### **CONTEMPORARY GREETERS ARE NEEDED**

The hospitality team is looking for some friendly faces to help us greet at the contemporary services on Sunday mornings. If you are interested in being a greeter on Sunday morning at the 9:35 a.m. or 11:00 contemporary service, please email [Hailey Burroughs](#) for more information.

### **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! More info [here](#).

### **YOUTH SUNDAY - MAY 5**

Everyone is invited to join us in worship on May 5 for Youth Sunday! This year, our theme is *God 24/7*. Our student speakers will teach from the Old & New Testament where people like Moses & the disciples had life-changing encounters with God. We can't wait to see everyone there and hear how you experience God 24/7!

### **YOU'RE INVITED!**

Join us for a baby shower given by Henri, Nicole and Kinsey on behalf of the Youth Ministry for Hailey & Nicholas Burroughs on May 5, 2024 from 2-4 p.m. in Crossroads. Baby Burroughs registry is online and you can view the items they have requested [here](#).

### **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.

### **GRADUATION SUNDAY - JUNE 2**

We are so excited to celebrate our high school & college graduates on Sunday, June 2nd! Please complete [this form](#) on Church Center by May 23 to help us recognize your graduate.

### **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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### **UNITED METHODIST MEN'S ANNUAL BBQ**

Join us Friday, May 3, 2024 for lunch or dinner at the United Methodist Men's annual fundraiser from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.! \$14/plate for dine-in at the CLC Gym or drive-thru pick up on Elm Street. Each plate includes BBQ pork or 1/2 chicken, boiled potatoes, coleslaw & hush puppies. Drinks and desserts will be served inside. All proceeds go to support local, national, and international missions of Apex UMC United Methodist Men. Please [invite](#) friends, family and neighbors!

### **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](#).

### **REACHING OUT: Three Movements of the Spiritual Life (a Zoom class)**

Join Rev. Kara Matthews for this study of Henri Nouwen's timeless book entitled Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life. Thursdays, June 6-27 at 7 p.m. In this 4-week Zoom study, you'll learn to move from loneliness to solitude, from hostility to hospitality, and from illusion to prayer, all the while growing in your relationship with God. [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. We have **Evening openings for current kindergarten through 4th grade**. Register for [Evening VBS](#) June 23, 24, and 26 dinner at 5:30 p.m., VBS 6-8 p.m. We have **Daytime openings for preschool**. Register for [Daytime VBS](#) June 24 - 27 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Registration will close on June 9th. A waitlist is available. 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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### **BLOOD DRIVE SATURDAY**

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!

### **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).

### **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.

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We still need adult and youth volunteers for Daytime VBS. **Adults needed** for elem. craft leader, elem. Kid Vid leader, and snack leaders. **Youth are needed** (5th through 12th grade) as snack leaders, Kid Vid leaders, and Bible Adventure leaders. **Large Group Media Volunteers** are needed for Evening VBS. Volunteer's children are guaranteed acceptance. Nursery is available for younger children of VBS volunteers with [nursery registration](#). Register for [Daytime VBS](#) June 24 - 27 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Contact [norma.wallace@apexumc.org](mailto:norma.wallace@apexumc.org) or [ellen.griffin@apexumc.org](mailto:ellen.griffin@apexumc.org) for more information.

### **CREATION CARE GROUP**

We've recently started a Creation Care group here at Apex UMC. Many of us have become oblivious to how our actions may be harmful to other human beings, creatures, plants, and even non-living parts of the earth. We thought it might be helpful if we made a weekly suggestion in Crosspoints about something simple each one of us might do to improve our health and the well-being of others on this planet. We are in a PEAK planting time of year. For those of us who haven't already done some planting and will be buying plants soon, our Earth Care suggestion for this week is to purchase NATIVE PLANTS for your yard. Our yards, our neighbors, and the earth will be healthier if we start to move away from grass, lawn mowing, fertilizers, and pesticides and return to plants that belong here. Check out Genesis 1:29. If you want suggestions for where to get native plants, please contact Mary Danforth, [m19danforth44@gmail.com](mailto:m19danforth44@gmail.com).

### **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 Tingen 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](#).

### **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!

## 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/>

## FEED 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.

# GIVE

## 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 – March 31, 2024

- General Fund Offerings: \$1,397,248
- Other Income: \$41,947
- Total Expenses: (\$1,486,670)
- Difference: (\$47,475)

\$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 \$1,509,734 have allowed us to repay the lender the total balance of the deferred amounts plus an additional \$556,458. This reduces our total debt to \$3.67 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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