

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, August 23

6:00AM to 2:00PM	St. Mary Ethiopian Church	Chapel
8:00AM to 5:00PM	Restoration Community Church	Gym MP
2:00PM to 4:00PM	Back to School Jamboree	Gym, Gym Kitchen
7:00PM to 8:00PM	Alcoholics Anonymous	Epworth Building

Monday, August 24

Tuesday, August 25

2:00PM to 3:00PM	Chancel Choir Practice	Choir Room
5:00PM to 8:30PM	Quilting Ministry	Wesley Rooms 205-206
6:30PM to 8:30PM	ESL Class CPCC	Parlors
7:00PM to 8:00PM	Admin Council Meeting	Zoom

Wednesday, August 26

6:00PM to 8:00PM	Girl Scouts	Wesley Building
7:00PM to 8:00PM	Knowing Who We Are Study	Trinity Room
8:00PM to 9:00PM	Candlelight - Narcotics Anonymous	Epworth Building

Thursday, August 27

5:00PM to 9:00PM	Quilting Ministry	Wesley Rooms 205-206
5:30PM to 8:30PM	Community Sports Night	Gym
6:30PM to 8:30PM	ESL Class CPCC	Parlors
7:00PM to 8:00PM	Therapy of the Soul Band Rehearsal	FWC

Friday, August 28

6:00PM to 7:00PM	Fast And Prayer	Epworth Building
7:00PM to 9:00PM	Historias que Transforman Vidas	Trinity Room

Saturday, August 29

8:00AM to 5:00PM	Quilting Ministry	Wesley Rooms 205-206
9:00AM to 1:00PM	African Venue Basketball	Gym
10:00AM to 2:00PM	Girl Scouts	Epworth
12:00PM to 4:00PM	UWF Unit Meeting	Trinity Room
12:00PM to 1:00PM	African Ministry Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
12:00PM to 9:00PM	St. Mary Ethiopian Church	Chapel
1:00PM to 3:00PM	Girl Scouts	Susanna Wesley Bldg.

Sunday, August 30

6:00AM to 2:00PM	St. Mary Ethiopian Church	Chapel
8:00AM to 5:00PM	Restoration Community Church	Gym MP
7:00PM to 8:00PM	Alcoholics Anonymous	Epworth Building

UWF Annual Celebration

Saturday, September 12 - WNCC UWFaith Annual Celebration at St. Luke's UMC, Hickory, NC. Online registration is now open. Check out the Western North Carolina Conference United Women in Faith website for details and registration.

August 23, 2026
13th Sunday after Pentecost

Hickory Grove

United Methodist Church



A Multicultural United Methodist Church Spreading the Branches of God's Love

6401 Hickory Grove Road ♦ Charlotte, North Carolina 28215

Office: 704-537-4686

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30am - 12:15pm

www.hickorygroveumc.com

Facebook: Hickory Grove UMC

Welcome! If you are new or visiting, please fill out a Connection Card located in the back of the pew or chair and place it in the offering plate or give it to an usher so we can connect!

This Order of Worship is subject to change at the direction of THE HOLY SPIRIT!

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Traditional Service: 9:00 AM (Sanctuary)

Sunday School for all Ages: 10:00 AM (FLC and Education Bldg.)

Contemporary Service: 11:00 AM (Family Worship Center)

African Service: 11:00 AM (Sanctuary)

Afternoon Adult Bible Study (Spanish) : 1:00 PM (FLC 2nd Floor- 203)

Latino Service: 2:00 PM (Family Worship Center)

Church Staff

Rev. Caitlin Lai

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Daily Scripture Readings

Mon., Aug. 24: Psalm 8	Thurs., Aug. 27: Psalm 105 1-6, 23-26
Tues., Aug. 25: Exodus 2:11-15a	Fri., Aug. 28: Exodus 3:16-22
Wed., Aug. 26: Matthew 26:6-13	Sat., Aug. 29: Matthew 8:14-17

Prayer

God who brings all life into being, we thank you for all the good that you bring into this world. Even when we fear scarcity and death, we know that your abundance is coming. Amen.

August 16, 2026

Total Worship Attendance: 139

Sunday School Attendance: 34

Offering: \$14,644.76

Please scan the QR code for online giving



Prayer Requests

Church Family

Jean Long
Hayne Baucom
Desmond Turner
Jennifer Scoggins
Brenda and Ray Cathey
Sandy and Ronnie Oaten
Kathleen Robinson
Chap Tuttle
Gary Little
Mary Martin
Don and Linda Wigley
Sam and Rita Leggett
Claudia Waddell
Pete and Nancy Scercy
Shem Logan
Margaret Norwood
Ron, Sr. and Ron, Jr. Spivey

***Bold lettering: Prayer Request**

Family and Friends

The Family and Friends of Rick Frye (Brother of Sandy Oaten)
Donna and Bill Benson
(Aunt and Uncle of Jennifer Stribling, Great Aunt and Uncle of Elizabeth and Jocelyn Stribling)
Ed Beaver (Rick Beaver's brother)
Carol Garrett (Rev. Elinor Heerman's Sister)
Lila Dye (Dianne Horton's mother)

Additional Announcements

Request from Finance Chair, Randy Bunnell

Hello friends, Once again, we have had unexpected expenses arise. We have an older facility and as all homeowners know, the components do not last a lifetime. We now have had to replace the AC units in the Epworth Building and the Multi Purpose Room in the Gym. In addition, one of our commercial ice makers has had to be replaced. The total cost of these three items total approximately \$27,000. We are asking you, our faithful congregation, to do what you can to assist in the payment of these unanticipated expenses. Anything you can provide would be greatly appreciated! Please note these donations to the "Building Repair and Maintenance" fund. If you desire, you can also note the donation is for AC units and Ice maker. God bless you and thank you again for all you do for Hickory Grove United Methodist Church.

Snack Pack

It may be summer, but your monetary donations are welcome year-round for our Snack pack program. We always like to be ready right after Labor Day to send over our first set of bags. Thanks to all who help keep this ministry going.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Book Study: "Knowing Who We Are: The Wesleyan Way of Grace"

Join Pastor Caitlin and friends on Wednesday nights at 7pm in the Trinity room to study "Knowing Who We Are: The Wesleyan Way of Grace" by Lacey Warner. Participants are expected to read the second chapter before our next session.

Back to School Jamboree

Please join the African Ministries, in collaboration with LIBAC (Liberian Community Association in Charlotte) TODAY from 2pm to 4pm for a Back to School Jamboree. There will be music, school supplies, games, and prayer. Join Us!

UWF Craft Day

You are invited to an afternoon of fellowship and crafts. On Saturday, August 29 from 1-3pm in the Trinity Room, a group will meet to make about 20 "prayer quilts" as Christmas gifts for Hickory Grove's shut-ins and any others you feel would like to have one. The prayer quilts are about 5 by 5 inches and you hold it while you pray. We will have sewing machines and if you have some thread or cloth you want to bring and a pair of scissors, any of those could be used. Even if you are not skilled at sewing, we will come together to see what each of us can do to help complete this project!

Serve at WeCare

Grow in the spiritual discipline of service by volunteering at our WeCare Food Pantry & Clothing closet on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month from 10am -12pm. **Please make sure your donations are non-perishable.** They are in need of green beans, corn, jelly, carrots, pork n beans, all types of other beans, and cake mix. Anything you can give is appreciated!

Back To School Drive for HGES

The Back To School Drive is about to begin. We are in need of sneakers (small kid's sizes 11-13 & 1-3), uniforms (blue or khaki pants/white or blue short sleeve shirts (Sizes 4 - 10 most needed), Play-Doh, and belts (small sizes). Please put donations in the teal bins in the church office or FWC lobby.

S. T. Nagbe UMC Distant Members Gathering for 2026

The African Ministries warmly welcomes our sisters and brothers of the S. T. Nagbe Distant Members Fellowship in the Americas and Other Regions to HGUMC for their Fellowship Gathering, September 4-6, 2026. The weekend's activities will begin on Friday with assisting with the WeCare ministry from 9:00am to 10:30am. The day will conclude with an evening of praise and worship in the FWC from 7:00-10:30 p.m. On Saturday, the Fellowship will hold its business session and election of officers, followed by an evening banquet. The celebration will come to a climax on Sunday with a divine worship service at 11:00 a.m.

9:00 AM TRADITIONAL SERVICE

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Caitlin Lai

*Call to Worship

Karen Lowery

From Psalm 138

Leader: We give thanks to God with our whole heart.

Congregation: We give thanks for God's steadfast love and faithfulness!

Leader: Though high above all things, God sees the lowly.

Congregation: Even when we are in deep trouble, God makes us live again. The love of God lasts forever!

*Opening Prayer

*Opening Hymn

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

UMH#400

*Passing of the Peace

Joys And Concerns

Call to Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Colston Morris

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering of Ourselves and Our Gifts

*Doxology

UMH#95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Anthem

Choir

Scripture

Matthew 16: 13-20

Message

Closing Hymn

"My Hope is Built"

Rev. Caitlin Lai

Benediction

UMH#368

Postlude

Rev. Caitlin Lai

*please stand as you are able, in body and spirit

11:00 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

*Songs "I Know A Name"
"One Step Closer" Rev. Caitlin Lai

Welcome and Announcements

*Passing of the Peace

*Song "Made For More"

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Caitlin Lai

The Lord's Prayer
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Song "The Lord Will Provide"

Scripture Matthew 16: 13-20

Message Rev. Caitlin Lai

*Song "Firm Foundation"

Benediction

*Dismissal with Blessing

*Please stand as you are able, in body or spirit

You are invited to respond to God financially by giving back to God a portion of what God has given to you. Please place your offering in the plate by the FWC entrance and talk to a pastor on how you can serve. Blank Offering Envelopes are available in the foyer.

2:00 PM LATINO SERVICE

Bienvenida y Anuncios

Salmo

*Alabanza y Adoración

Escritura

Sermon y Invitación a Cristo Rev. Candido Albino

Ofrenda

*Benedición

11:00 AM AFRICAN SERVICE

Lighting of the Candles

Prelude Hassan Sankary

Liturgist Scarlett Nimley

Praise Song Praise Team

Welcome Pastor Morris

*Opening Prayer/Call to Worship Bonice Teeta Cooper

Leader: Beloved, Jesus asks us the question that reaches beyond the crowds, beyond tradition, and beyond what others say: "Who do you say that I am?"

People: We come today to confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God!

Leader: Some may call Him a teacher, a prophet, or a miracle worker. But who do you say Jesus is?

People: He is our Savior, our Redeemer, our Lord, and our King!

Leader: Jesus is the One who meets us in our brokenness, strengthens us in our weakness, and calls us to follow Him.

People: We declare that Jesus is the Christ, and we place our faith in Him!

Leader: Church, let us worship the One who is the foundation of our faith and the hope of the world.

People: With joyful hearts and surrendered lives, we worship Jesus Christ!

All: Jesus, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God! We know who You are, and we choose to follow You. Be glorified in our worship today. Amen.

*Opening Hymn "I am Thine, O Lord" UMH#419

*Joys and Concerns Scarlett Nimley

Call to Prayer/Prayers of the People Pastor Morris

*Passing of the Peace

Offering

*Doxology UMH#95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Offertory Prayer

Praise & Worship

Scripture Lesson Matthew 16:13-20

Selection

Sermon "Who Do You Say Jesus Is?" Arlette Nimley

Call to Christian Discipleship Praise Team

Announcements/Community Concerns Colnik Morris

Closing Song Choir

*Dismissal with Blessing Jon-Alex Kwiagaye

Postlude Precious Gibson

Hassan Sankary Praise Team

*please stand as you are able, in body and spirit

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