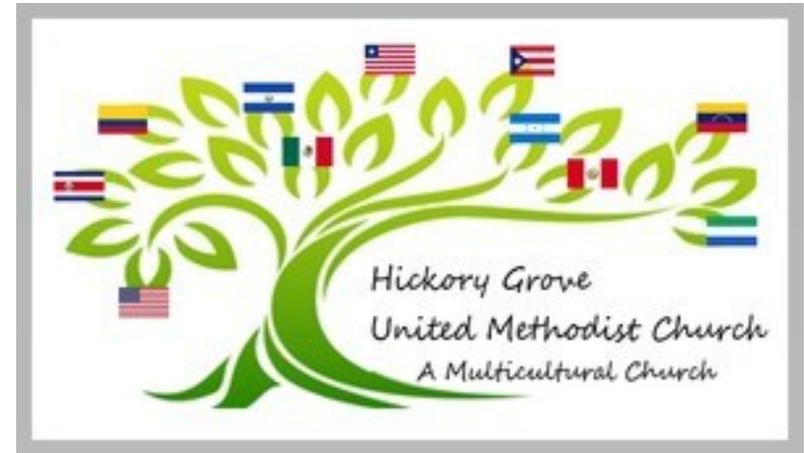


## WEEKLY CALENDAR

**March 22, 2026**  
5th Sunday in Lent

# Hickory Grove United Methodist Church



### Sunday, March 22

6:00AM to 2:00PM	St. Mary Ethiopian Church	Chapel
8:00AM to 5:00PM	Restoration Community Church	Gym MP
9:45AM to 10:30AM	Sunday School	FLC/Ed. Bldg.
12:00PM to 1:00PM	Contemporary Service Task Force	Trinity Room
12:30PM to 1:45PM	Children and Youth Lunch	Parlors
5:00PM to 9:00PM	CLT Rising Stars	Gym
7:00PM to 8:00PM	Alcoholics Anonymous	Epworth Building

### Monday, March 23

### Tuesday, March 24

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

### Wednesday, March 25

9:30AM to 11:30AM	Preschool: Music	Trinity Room
10:00AM to 12:00PM	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Parlors
12:00PM to 1:00PM	Midday Mercies	Sanctuary
6:00PM to 8:00PM	Girl Scouts	Wesley Bldg.
5:00PM to 9:00PM	CLT Rising Stars Basketball	Gym
7:00PM to 8:00PM	Lenten Study	Trinity Room
8:00PM to 9:00PM	Candlelight - Narcotics Anonymous	Epworth Building

### Thursday, March 26

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

### Friday, March 27

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

### Saturday, March 28

8:00AM to 5:00PM	Quilting Ministry	Wesley Rooms 205-206
10:00AM to 12:00PM	WeCare Pantry	WeCare House
10:00AM to 2:00PM	Girl Scouts	Epworth
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.
2:00PM to 4:00PM	Easter Egg Hunt	Courtyard

### Sunday, March 29

6:00AM to 2:00PM	St. Mary Ethiopian Church	Chapel
8:00AM to 5:00PM	Restoration Community Church	Gym MP
12:00PM to 2:00PM	Palm Sunday Potluck	FWC
5:00PM to 8:00PM	Private Event	Gym
7:00PM to 8:00PM	Alcoholics Anonymous	Epworth Building

## **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**  
*Senior Pastor*  
clai@hgumc.com  
704-954-8096

**Rev. Colston Wuor-Gabie Morris**  
*Associate & African Ministries Pastor*  
cmorris@hgumc.com  
704-904-8023

**Sharon Freeze**  
*Preschool Director*  
preschool@hgumc.com  
704-537-4658

**Elizabeth Stribling**  
*Office Administrator*  
estribling@hgumc.com  
704-537-4686

**Rev. Candido Albino**  
*Assistant & Latino Ministries Pastor*  
calbino@hgumc.com  
704-995-2302

**Hassan Sankary**  
*Director of Music & Organist*  
HSankary@hgumc.com  
704-517-1056

**Matthew Baucom**  
*Maintenance*  
maintenance@hgumc.com  
704-537-4686

**Patrice Wesley**  
*Financial Secretary*  
pwesley@hgumc.com  
704-537-4686

### Daily Scripture Readings

Mon., March 23: Psalm 143      Thurs., March 26: Psalm 31:9-16  
Tues., March 24: 2 Kings 4:18-37      Fri., March 27: Job 13:13-19  
Wed., March 25: Matthew 22:23-33      Sat., March 28 : Mark 10:32-34

### Prayer

God of new beginnings, help me to acknowledge, perhaps for the first time, the beliefs about my body that I have held for so long. Guide me in sorting which beliefs are helpful and which are harmful. Lead me back to you and to this body that you called good. Amen.

**March 15, 2026**

Total Worship Attendance: 142

Sunday School Attendance: 43

Offering: \$10,090.42

*Please scan the QR code for online giving*



### Prayer Requests

#### **Church Family**

##### **Sandy Oaten**

Chap and Nokie Tuttle  
Ronnie Oaten  
Sylvia Sekle-Dueh  
Gary Little  
Mary Martin  
Don and Linda Wigley  
Sam and Rita Leggett  
Kathleen Robinson  
Brenda Cathey  
Claudia Waddell  
Pete and Nancy Scercy  
Shem Logan  
Margaret Norwood  
Ron, Sr. and Ron, Jr. Spivey

**\*Bold lettering: Prayer Request added/updated this week.**

#### **Family and Friends**

Tyrone Davis  
(Stepfather of Lari and Rob  
Procnier's daughter-in-law)  
Barbara Frye  
(Mother of Sandy Oaten)  
Ryan Edwards  
(Son of Jennifer Stribling's friend,  
Elizabeth Edwards)  
Rick Frye  
(Brother of Sandy Oaten)  
Carol Garrett  
(Rev. Elinor Heerman's  
Sister)  
Lila Dye,  
(Dianne Horton's mother)

### **Holy Week and Easter Sunday Schedule**

March 29th– Combined Palm Sunday Service at 11:00am in the Sanctuary. Potluck to follow in the FWC.

April 3rd– East Charlotte UMC Good Friday Tenebrae Service at 7:00pm at Cokesbury United Methodist Church

April 5th– Easter Sunrise Service at 7am in the courtyard, breakfast to follow in Trinity Room, Combined service with Holy Communion at 11am in the Sanctuary.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Community-Wide Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday March 28 from 2-4pm in the church courtyard. Candy donations are due TODAY! Please place them in the boxes in the FLC foyer and Sanctuary narthex. Please contact Jennifer Stribling or Jennifer Scoggins to learn how you can help!

### Palm Sunday Cantata & Potluck

Come together as one church for a combined worship service at 11am on March 29th in the sanctuary as our choirs present a cantata for Palm/Passion Sunday! All are invited to join the choir for this special presentation. Choir practice is on Tuesdays at 2pm in the choir room. Talk to Hassan for details! A potluck will follow in the Family Life Center. Bring a friend and a dish to share!

### Contemporary Service Task Force Workshop

Stay after the contemporary service TODAY as we continue to dream and discern what future contemporary worship at HGUMC could look like! We will reflect on homework from previous sessions.

### PayPal Giving

As of March 9th, we will no longer be using PayPal as a giving service. Please switch your giving over to Realm or visit the church website to give online.

### Children and Youth Event

There will be a lunch event for children and youth held TODAY in the parlor from 12:30 to 1:45.

### Embracing the Uncertain: A Lenten Study for Unsteady Times (Feb 25-Apr 1)

Join Pastor Caitlin in the Trinity Room on Wednesday nights at 7pm in the Trinity Room. We are using Magrey DeVega's book "Embracing the Uncertain: A Lenten Study for Unsteady Times" as our guide. You are invited to purchase the book in advance via amazon, or contact the church office if you need assistance. Participants are expected to read the fifth chapter before our next session on March 25th.

### Midday Mercies

Join United Methodists around East Charlotte for Midday Mercies, a traveling 20-30 minute worship service that meets at different churches in our area each Wednesday throughout Lent. The service will begin at 12pm with a light lunch to follow. The schedule for the remainder of the season is as follows:  
March 25 - Hickory Grove UMC

### Serve at WeCare

Grow in the spiritual discipline of service by volunteering at our WeCare Food Pantry & Clothing closet throughout Lent on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month from 10am-12pm. During Lent, the next date is March 28. They are in need of boxes of teabags, coffee, and cake mix. Anything you can give is appreciated!

### Room Above (Room In the Inn) Thank You

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered their time and effort with Room Above! We could not do it without you!

## 9:00 AM TRADITIONAL SERVICE

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Caitlin Lai

\*Call to Worship

Deborah Parker

**Leader:** O mortal, can these bones live?

**Congregation: Only the Lord God knows**

**Leader:** O people, hope in the Lord.

**Congregation: With the Lord there is steadfast love and great power to redeem.**

\*Opening Prayer

\*Passing of the Peace

\*Opening Hymn

"My Jesus, I Love Thee"

UMH#172

Call to Prayer

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.

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

John 11: 1-45

Message

Rev. Caitlin Lai

Closing Hymn

"O How I Love Jesus"

UMH#170

Benediction

Postlude

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

## 11:00 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

*Songs	“Majestic” “Mighty To Save”	
Welcome and Announcements		
*Passing of the Peace		
*Song	“This Man”	
Joys and Concerns		
Pastoral Prayer		
*Song	“The Commission” John 11: 1-45	
Scripture		Rev. Caitlin Lai
Message		
*Song	“King of Kings”	
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 and Call to Worship		Arlette Nimley
<b>Leader:</b> O mortal, can these bones live?		
<b>Congregation: Only the Lord God knows</b>		
<b>Leader:</b> O people, hope in the Lord.		
<b>Congregation: With the Lord there is steadfast love and great power to redeem.</b>		
*Opening Hymn	“My Jesus I Love Thee”	UMH#172
Joys and Concerns		Scarlett Nimley
Call to Prayer/Prayers of the People		Rosee Nimley
*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		Scarlett Nimley
Praise & Worship		Praise Team
Scripture Lesson	Ezekiel 37:1-14	Nathalie Ejogu-Smart
Selection		Choir
Sermon	“Can These Bones Live Again”	Rev. Colston Wuor-Gabie Morris
Call to Christian Discipleship		Pastor Morris
Announcements/Community Concerns		Foday Dyer
Closing Song		Praise Team
*Dismissal with Blessing		
Postlude		Hassan Sankary
*please stand as you are able, in body and spirit		