WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, November 8		
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
Monday, November 9		
2:00PM to 3:00PM	Group Lydia Meeting	Trinity Room
6:00PM to 7:00PM	Charge Conference	Virual
Tuesday, November 10		
2:00PM to 3:00PM	Chancel Choir Practice	Choir Room
5:00PM to 8:30PM	Quilting Ministry	Wesley Rooms 205-206
6:00PM to 8:00PM	Girl Scout Meck 7 District Meeting	Epworth Building
6:30PM to 8:30PM	ESL Class CPCC	Parlors
Wednesday, November 11	***Church Office and Preschool Closed***	
10:00AM to 12:00PM	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Parlors
6:00PM to 8:00PM	Girl Scouts	Wesley Building
8:00PM to 9:00PM	Candlelight - Narcotics Anonymous	Epworth Building
Thursday, November 12		
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, November 13		
9:00AM to 11:30AM	Preschool: Fit Kids	Trinity Room
7:00PM to 9:00PM	Latino Men's Meeting	Trinity Room
Saturday, November 14		
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 1:00PM	African Ministry Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
12:00PM to 9:00PM	St. Mary Ethiopian Church	Chapel
1:00PM to 3:00PM	Girl Scouts	Susanna Wesley Bldg.
Sunday, November 15		
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

November 8, 2026

24th 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., Nov. 9: Psalm 78
Tues., Nov. 10:1 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Wed., Nov. 11: Matthew 24:29-35
Thurs., Nov. 12: Psalm 123
Fri., Nov. 13: Judges 2:16-23
Sat., Nov. 14: Matthew 12:43-45

Prayer

O God, you are gracious and forgiving. Give us the guts to be as forgiving as you are, the vulnerability to reconcile with everyone we can, and the courage to leave when situations are too dangerous. We know you want the best for each of us. Amen.

November 1, 2026

Total Worship Attendance:145
Sunday School Attendance: 31
Offering: $7, 681.00

Please scan the QR code for online giving

Prayer Requests

Church Family

Jim Barker
Sandy and Ronnie Oaten
Royce Williams
Jean Long
Desmond Turner
Brenda and Ray Cathey
Kathleen Robinson
Chap Tuttle
Gary Little
Mary Martin
Don and Linda Wigley
Claudia Waddell
Shem Logan
Margaret Norwood
Ron, Sr. and Ron, Jr. Spivey

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

Family and Friends

Ed Beaver (Rick Beaver's brother)
Carol Garrett (Rev. Elinor Heerman's Sister)
Lila Dye (Dianne Horton's mother)

Additional Announcements

Advent Study: Heaven and Earth

This Advent, come and wait, wonder, and prepare with us in the Trinity Room at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday nights as we use Will Willimon's book *Heaven and Earth: Advent and the Incarnation* as our guide. You do not need to purchase the book to participate. Everyone is welcome, whether you join us for one evening or all four.

Focus Scriptures:
Nov. 18: Mark 13:24-37
Dec. 2: Mark 1:1-8
Dec. 9: John 1:6-8, 19-28
Dec. 16: Luke 1:26-55

Spirit Seeker/Pathfinder Sunday School Classes Pie Sale

The Spirit Seeker/Pathfinders is taking orders for homemade pies in the FLC or on the church website. The last day to order online is 11/18. Pick up will be Saturday November 21 at 5:30pm or Sunday November 22 in the FLC lobby. Pie types are Pecan($15), Pumpkin($10), Apple($15), Sweet Potato($10), and Coconut($10). Make checks payable to Pathfinders Class.

Announcements

Church Office Closure
The church office will be closed Wednesday, November 11th in observance of Veteran's Day.

Children and Youth Announcements.
There will be no youth on November 29th,in light of the Thanksgiving holiday weekend. The next children and youth lunch event will be Sunday December 6th from 12pm-2pm.

WeCare Christmas Packing
You are invited to volunteer at WeCare to pack Christmas boxes!
WeCare will be open for packing from November 9 to December 3: Monday 6:30-8pm, Tuesday 1-3 pm, Wednesday 3-5 pm, Saturday 10am-12pm. All packing is done at the Hyland house (6315 Market Street) down at the garage. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

WeCare Angel Tree
The WeCare Angel Tree is up in the lobby for the FWC. Please take an angel or angels and help put a smile on a child's face this Christmas. Additionally, some angels have been added to Signup Genius on the church website for those who like to shop online. Use the QR code to access the Angel Tree page on the church website. Instructions explain how to get your gift(s) to WeCare. Select your angel at: Care And Support: WeCare: WeCare Angels 2026. All gifts are due to WeCare by November 29.

Charge Conference: Monday 11/9 at 6pm
Join us for our annual Charge Conference, held virtually. All are welcome to attend, and voting is limited to Administrative Council members. Please contact the church office for the meeting link.

Decorate the Church for Advent!
Help "hang the greens" Sunday November 22 between 12pm to 2pm in the FLC & Sanctuary.

Honey Baked Ham
The annual fundraiser for Honey Baked Ham gift cards is here! PLEASE contact your neighbors, friends or relatives and sell them a card OR buy some yourself! They make great gifts! The options of gift cards are $10, $25, $35 and $50 cards. The United Women in Faith will receive *20%* of the sales! The cards will be sold today in the FLC. The cards will be handed out at church on Nov 15.

Update from Finance Chair, Randy Bunnell
I wanted to keep the church posted on where we stand with our payment of unexpected expenses this year. We have replaced windows @ the parsonage, the HVAC control board, 2 AC units, a commercial ice maker and a refrigerator. Those expenses total ~ $80,000. You have graciously designated ~$50,000 towards those needs. Thank you so much - thank you so much! I can't thank you enough. However, the simple math tells us we are still ~$30,000 short of the goal. Anything you can do to assist in minimizing this deficit would be greatly appreciated. Please note these donations to the "Building Repair and Maintenance" fund. God bless you and thank you again for all you do for Hickory Grove United Methodist Church.

9:00 AM Traditional Service

Prelude
Welcome and Announcements — Rev. Caitlin Lai
*Call to Worship — Fred Parker
From Psalm 70
Leader: Rejoice and be glad!
Congregation: For God is our salvation.
Leader: Rejoice and be glad!
Congregation: For God is great..
*Opening Prayer
*Opening Hymn — "Savior Like A Shepherd Lead Us" — UMH#381
*Passing of the Peace
Blessing of the Quilts — Kim Bucklin
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 25: 1-13
Message — Rev. Caitlin Lai
*Closing Hymn — "Grace Greater Than Our Sin" — UMH#365
*Benediction — Rev. Caitlin Lai
Postlude

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

11:00 AM Contemporary Service

*Songs "Even So Come"
"Ever Be"
Welcome and Announcements
*Passing of the Peace
*Song "Build My Life"
Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer
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 "Evidence"
Scripture Matthew 25: 1-13
Message Rev. Caitlin Lai
*Song "I Walk By Faith"
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 Musu Badio
Praise Song Praise Team
Welcome Rev. Colston Morris
*Opening Prayer/Call to Worship Lily Kamara

From Joshua 24:1–3, 14–25

Leader: God has been faithful to us throughout every generation. Let us remember the goodness of the Lord!
People: We will serve the Lord, for God has guided, provided for, and sustained us.
Leader: Choose this day whom you will serve!
People: As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord!
Leader: Let us worship God with faithful hearts and willing spirits.
All: We come to worship, ready to renew our commitment and serve the Lord! Amen.

*Opening Hymn "Blessed Assurance" UMH#369
Call to Prayer/Prayers of the People Daudu Rahman
*Passing of the Peace
Offering

"Lord, I may not have much, but what I have, I give to You. Take it, bless it, break it, and use it for Your glory."

*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 Joshua 24:1-3, 14-25 Moses Levine
Selection Choir
Sermon "The Choice Is Yours…" Rev. Colston Wuor-Gabie Morris
Call to Christian Discipleship Rev. Colston Morris

Announcements/Community Concerns Musu Badio

Closing Song

*Dismissal with Blessing

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

You are invited to respond to God financially by giving back to God a portion of what God has given to us. Blank Offering Envelopes are available in the Narthex.