

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, October 4

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, October 6

Tuesday, October 7

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
5:00PM to 9:00PM	CLT Rising Stars	Gym

Wednesday, October 8

10:00AM to 12:00PM	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Parlors
5:45PM to 6:45PM	HGUMC Land Coalition Meeting	Trinity Room
6:00PM to 8:00PM	Girl Scouts	Wesley Building
7:00PM to 8:00PM	Defying Gravity Study	Trinity Room
8:00PM to 9:00PM	Candlelight - Narcotics Anonymous	Epworth Building

Thursday, October 9

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, October 10

5:00PM to 9:00PM	CLT Rising Stars	Gym
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Saturday, October 11

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
10:00AM to 12:00PM	WeCare Food Pantry	WeCare House
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, October 12

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

October 4, 2026
19th 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

Senior Pastor
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Patrice Wesley

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Daily Scripture Readings

Mon., Oct. 5: Psalm 119:49-56 Thurs., Oct. 8: Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Tues., Oct. 6: Deuteronomy 5:22-6:3 Fri., Oct. 9: Exodus 24:9-11
Wed., Oct. 7: John 11:45-57 Sat., Oct. 10: Mark 2:18-22

Prayer

O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

September 27, 2026

Total Worship Attendance: 82

Sunday School Attendance: 30

Offering: \$5,332.00

Please scan the QR code for online giving



Prayer Requests

Church Family

The Family and Friends of Hayne Baucom
Jean Long
Desmond Turner
Brenda and Ray Cathey
Sandy and Ronnie Oaten
Kathleen Robinson
Chap Tuttle
Gary Little
Mary Martin
Don and Linda Wigley
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

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)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Snack Pack

Hickory Grove Elementary started back to school! SNACK Pack needs your HELP! Please prayerfully consider donating to SNACK pack. You will be serving our neighbors and community kids. If you have any questions or would like to donate your time to help, call or text Jennifer Stribling at 704-617-2520.

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

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.

Fall Festival

Mark your calendars for our annual Fall Festival! It will take place on Saturday October 17th from 12pm-3pm. **We need volunteers!** If you can help, please sign up on the sign up sheets located in the Narthex and on the table in the FWC. We are also in need of pop up tents and candy donations. Please drop your donations off at the church office.

October Series: Defying Gravity

This October is Stewardship Month and we will be using now-Bishop Tom Berlin's book Defying Gravity: Break Free from the Culture of More as our guide. In addition to Sunday worship, we'll gather in the Trinity Room on Wednesday nights at 7pm to discuss each book chapter which will correspond with the Sunday message from October 7-28. You will also be receiving a letter from the church along with an invitation to make a financial pledge to God through Hickory Grove UMC for 2027. Please reach out to Randy Bunnell (Finance Chair) or Patrice Wesley (Financial Secretary) if you have any questions!

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.

9:00 AM TRADITIONAL SERVICE

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Caitlin Lai

*Call to Worship

Susan Beaver

From Phil. 3 and Matt. 21

Leader: Whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ.

Congregation: I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

Leader: As the Scriptures promise: the stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

Congregation: This is the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes!

*Opening Prayer

*Opening Hymn

"The Church's One Foundation"

UMH#545

Joys and Concerns

Call to Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Colston Morris

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 19:16-26

Message

Discovering Gravity

Rev. Caitlin Lai

Holy Communion

UMH#12-14

Invitation, Confession and Pardon

*Passing of the Peace

The Great Thanksgiving

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.

Breaking the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this Holy Mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of Your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Closing Hymn

"My Hope Is Built"

UMH#545

Benediction

Rev. Caitlin Lai

Postlude

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

11:00 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

*Songs	"Even So Come" "Corner Stone"	
Welcome and Announcements		Rev. Caitlin Lai
*Song	"What A Beautiful Name"	
Joys and Concerns		
Pastoral Prayer		Rev. Caitlin Lai
Scripture	Matthew 19:16-26	
Message	Discovering Gravity	Rev. Caitlin Lai
Holy Communion		
Invitation, Confession and Pardon		
*Passing of the Peace		
The Great Thanksgiving		
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.	
Breaking the Bread	"I Lift My Hands"	
Giving the Bread and Cup		
*Song	"I Speak Jesus"	
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
Holy Communion	
Ofrenda	
*Benedición	

11:00 AM AFRICAN SERVICE

Lighting of the Candles	
Prelude	Hassan Sankary
Liturgist	Alex-Jon Kwiagaye
Praise Song	Praise Team
Welcome	Rev. Colston Morris
*Opening Prayer/ Call to Worship	Colnik Morris
	<i>From Matthew 19:16-26</i>
Leader:	Come, let us worship the God who reminds us that our lives are worth more than our possessions.
People:	We come with grateful hearts, recognizing that everything we have comes from God.
Leader:	Jesus said, "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor."
People:	Lord, help us to examine our hearts and release anything that keeps us from following You.
Leader:	Sometimes we own our possessions, and sometimes our possessions begin to own us.
People:	Teach us not to place our trust in wealth, status, or material things, but to trust in You.
Leader:	Jesus reminds us that what seems impossible for us is possible with God.
People:	With God, all things are possible!
Leader:	Let us worship the One who is greater than everything we possess.
All:	Lord, take first place in our hearts. Help us to use what You have given us for Your glory and for the blessing of others. We surrender ourselves and all that we have to You. In Jesus' name, Amen.
*Opening Hymn	"The Church's One Foundation" UMH#545
Call to Prayer/Pastoral Prayer	Alex-Jon Kwiagaye
*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	Josee Nimley
Praise & Worship	Praise Team
Scripture Lesson	Matthew 19:16-26
Selection	Herbert Dennis Choir
Sermon	"When Your Possessions Possess You" Rev. Colston Wuor-Gabie Morris
Holy Communion	UMH#12-15
Call to Christian Discipleship	Rev. Colston Morris
Announcements/Community Concerns	Precious Gibson
Closing Song	
*Dismissal with Blessing	