

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### Sunday, September 14

6:00AM to 2:00PM	St. Mary Ethiopian Church	Chapel
8:00AM to 5:00PM	Restoration Community Church	Gym
9:45AM to 10:30AM	Sunday School	FLC/Ed. Bldg.
12:30PM to 1:30PM	Youth Lunch	Parlors
7:00PM to 8:00PM	Alcoholics Anonymous	Epworth Building

### Monday, September 15

5:00PM to 8:00PM	CLT Rising Stars	Gym
7:00PM to 8:00PM	Chancel Choir Practice	Choir Room
7:00PM to 9:00PM	Latino Dance Group Practice	Youth Room

### Tuesday, September 16

5:00PM to 8:30PM	Quilting Ministry	Wesley Rooms 205-206
6:30PM to 8:30PM	ESL Class CPCC	Parlors
7:00PM to 9:00PM	Latino Dance Group Practice	Youth Room

### Wednesday, September 17

9:00AM to 11:30AM	Preschool: Fit Kids	Trinity Room
6:00PM to 8:00PM	Girl Scouts	Wesley Bldg.
8:00PM to 9:00PM	Candlelight - Narcotics Anonymous	Epworth Building

### Thursday, September 18

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 8:30PM	Therapy of the Soul Rehearsal	FWC

### Friday, September 19

5:00PM to 8:00PM	CLT Rising Stars Basketball	Gym
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### Saturday, September 20 *Grove Echoes Deadline*

8:00AM to 5:00PM	Quilting Ministry	Wesley Rooms 205-206
8:00AM to 10:00PM	Private Party	Gym
10:00AM to 2:00PM	Girl Scouts	Epworth
12:00AM 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, September 21

6:00AM to 2:00PM	St. Mary Ethiopian Church	Chapel
7:00PM to 8:00PM	Alcoholics Anonymous	Epworth Building

**September 14, 2025**  
Fourteenth 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 - 12:30pm**

**[www.hickorygroveumc.com](http://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)  
Afternoon Children's Bible Study: 1:00 PM (Asbury 2nd Floor—205)  
Afternoon Youth Bible Study: 1:00 PM (Asbury 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor - 209)  
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*  
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704-537-4658

### **Elizabeth Stribling**

*Office Administrator*  
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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., Sept. 15: Psalm 94      Thurs., Sept. 18: Psalm 79:1-9  
Tues., Sept. 16: Jeremiah 5:18-31      Fri., Sept. 19 : Jeremiah 8:1-13  
Wed., Sept. 17: Luke 22:31-33, 54-62      Sat., Sept. 20: Mark 12:41-44

## **Prayer**

God of Love, open my eyes so I can see each of your children from your perspective. Fill me with your compassion so I can love my enemies as you love them. Amen.

## **September 7th, 2025**

Total Worship Service Attendance: 134  
Sunday School Attendance: 33  
Offering: \$6263.95 Online Giving: \$267.33  
*Please scan the QR code for online giving*



## **Prayer Requests**

### **Church Family**

Gary Little  
Mary Martin  
Scott Bucklin  
Don and Linda Wigley  
The Family of Jill Hagler  
Sam and Rita Leggett  
Kathleen Robinson  
Brenda Cathey  
Claudia Waddell  
Pete and Nancy Scercy  
Shem Logan  
Bill and Mary MaGee  
Margaret Norwood  
Ronnie Oaten  
Ron, Sr. and Ron, Jr. Spivey  
Patty Marks  
Lana Freeman

### **Family and Friends**

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

## **Pastoral Challenge:**

*We encourage you to pause at 6:40 AM and 6:40 PM each day to pray from wherever you are. This time of prayer is inspired by our church address, and it is our way of uniting as a church family in prayer, no matter our location.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### New Giving Options

Text to Give - text HGUMCGIVE to 73256 or use the Online giving from HGUMC website. Go to hickorygroveumc.com/give and complete the online giving form. All transactions are secure.

### WeCare Food Needs:

Peanut butter, corn, green beans. The next pantry date will be September 27th from 10am-12pm.

### SNACK Pack

Support students at Hickory Grove Elementary School! Monetary or cans of kid friendly soup or pasta is needed at this time. If you have any questions, please call Jennifer Stribling at 704-617-2520.

### Wednesday Night Bible Study

All are invited to join us on Wednesday nights for Bible study and reflection on Zoom @ 7:30 pm. We are studying the book of Revelation. Please read chapter 2:1-7. The Zoom meeting ID# 81541770673 and Passcode: 522533.

### September Youth Lunch

Our next youth lunch meeting will take place today from 12:30pm-1:30pm in the Parlors. See Lori Kodikara if you have any questions. Hope to see you there!

### September Fall Festival Planning

Our next fall festival meeting will take place on Wednesday September 24th at 7pm in the Trinity Room. If you can't make it in person, let Pastor Caitlin know. A virtual option may be available to loop you in.

### Fall Festival Candy Donations

To make Fall Festival a success, candy donations are needed. Stores already have Halloween candy on sale and we are accepting donations via the bins located in the Sanctuary narthex and at the Family Worship Center entrance.

### Yard Sale Fundraiser

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 11 starting at 7am for a church-wide yard sale. More details to come!

## 9:00 AM TRADITIONAL SERVICE

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Caitlin Lai

\*Call to Worship

Rick Beaver

**Leader:** Rejoice with me, people of God.

**Congregation:** God has gathered us in from the wilderness.

**Leader:** Rejoice with me, people of God.

**Congregation:** God has swept away the darkness of the night.

**Leader:** Rejoice with me, people of God.

**Congregation:** Today, there is joy in the presence of the angels.

\*Opening Prayer

\*Passing of the Peace

You are invited to stand as you are able and greet one another with signs and words of God's peace.

\*Opening Hymn "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

UMH#103

Joys and Concerns

Call to Prayer

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.

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

Scripture

Luke 15: 1-10

Message

\*Closing Hymn

"To God Be The Glory"

Rev. Caitlin Lai

UMH#98

\*Dismissal with Blessing

Postlude

\*Please stand as you are able

## 11:00 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

*Song	"The Way"	
*Song	"Evidence"	
Announcements		
*Passing of the Peace		
*Song	"Good, Good Father"	
Joys and Concerns		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture	Luke 15: 1-10	
Message		Rev. Caitlin Lai
*Song	"Yes I Will"	
*Dismissal with Blessing		

\*Please stand as you are able.

***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.***

### Contemporary Service Task Force

**Pastor Caitlin is looking for partners in ministry to dream, offer input or feedback, and try new things for our 11am contemporary worship service. Is God calling you to serve our church in this way? Please reach out to Pastor Caitlin if you feel God's nudge!**

## 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
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Liturgist	Musu Badio
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Praise Song	Praise Team
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Welcome

*Opening Prayer and Call to Worship	Musu Badio
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**Leader:** Rejoice with me, people of God.

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**Leader:** Rejoice with me, people of God.

**Congregation:** Today, there is joy in the presence of the angels.

*Opening Hymn	"Blessed Assurance"	UMH#369
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Joys And Concerns

Call to Prayer/Prayer for the People	Victor Teclar
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Offering

*Doxology	UMH#95
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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	Musu Badio
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Praise & Worship	Praise Team
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Scripture Lesson	1 Timothy 1:12-17	Mya Roberts
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Selection	Choir
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Sermon	"Redeemed, for Service!"	Rev. Colston Wuor-Gabie Morris
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Call to Christian Discipleship	Pastor Morris
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Announcements/Community Concerns	Precious Gibson
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Closing Song	Praise Team
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\*Dismissal with Blessing

Postlude	Hassan Sankary
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\*please stand as you are able