

Good Afternoon,

Please see below for the Weekly E-News.

Prayer Requests

<u>Church Family</u>	<u>Family and Friends</u>
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.	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)

WEEKLY E-NEWS

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!

Support CMS Students

Want to volunteer your time working with kids of all ages? First you must renew or complete Your CMS Volunteer Profile. All new and returning volunteers must register or renew their profile annually through the cmsvolunteers.com Volunteer Portal by opening the renewal email or requesting renewal by sending an email to volunteers@cms.k12.nc.us.

Ways to Help:

- CMS nonprofit partner Heart Math Tutoring is currently looking for volunteer tutors to provide 1:1 tutoring to help students build foundational math skills and confidence! Sign up to volunteer at <https://heartmathtutoring.org/volunteers/become-a-volunteer/> and email volunteer@heartmathtutoring.org
- Augustine Literacy Project (ALP) is dedicated to improving the reading, writing, and spelling skills of young, aspiring readers in under-resourced communities. ALP provides students with free, long-term, one-on-one literacy instruction from trained tutors. ALP trains and supports volunteer tutors who deliver effective, research-based literacy instruction twice a week throughout the school year to the same student, either in person or remotely. If interested, visit alpcharlotte.org

Snack Pack

Hickory Grove Elementary is back to school! SNACK Pack needs your HELP! 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.

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.

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.

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.

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!

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.