

Good afternoon, church!

Next week will enter into the final, most sacred week in Christianity: Holy Week, when we will remember Christ's entry into Jerusalem, the Last Supper, His crucifixion, and burial.

To begin, this Sunday we will come together as one church for a combined service at 11am to wave palms, shout Hosanna, and worship as our choir leads us in a Cantata. I encourage you to bring a friend and a dish to share, as we will fellowship in the FWC for a potluck together immediately following the service.

Don't forget our Easter Egg Hunt THIS SATURDAY from 2-4pm. If you are able to come early to help get things ready, please contact myself or the church office.

Gratefully,  
Pastor Caitlin

## WEEKLY E-NEWS

### **Easter Egg Hunt Volunteers**

If you are able to help with the Easter egg hunt this Saturday, please report to the church at 12:30pm.

### **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. A potluck will follow in the Family Life Center. Bring a friend and a dish to share!

*Hickory Grove UMC*

# PALM SUNDAY

**Sunday March 29**

**Combined Service Easter Cantata  
at 11am (waving of palms)**

**Potluck following the service  
Bring a dish to share**

6401 Hickory Grove Rd.  
Charlotte, NC 28215  
hickorygroveumc.com

### **Good Friday Tenebrae Service**

You are invited to a collaborative Good Friday service of Tenebrae at Cokesbury UMC at 7pm on Friday April 3. If anyone would like to be part of the joint choir, rehearsals are on Mondays at 7pm and Thursday at 2pm at Cokesbury UMC, as well as Tuesdays at 2pm at Hickory Grove UMC. All are welcome!

### **Easter Sunday**

Celebrate Christ's resurrection at 7am with a sunrise service in the HGUMC courtyard or our combined service with Holy Communion at 11am in the Sanctuary!

### **Easter Sunrise Breakfast**

Please join us after the Easter sunrise service for a breakfast with the church family. There will be breakfast casseroles, fruit, juice and coffee.

### **Financial Secretary Opening**

HGUMC is looking for a part-time Financial Secretary as Patrice moves on to pursue her accounting career. If you or someone you know may be interested, please contact Mary English-Tri at [maryalison.english@gmail.com](mailto:maryalison.english@gmail.com) or 843-862-3603.

### **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.

### **WNCC Young Adult Retreat**

United Methodist Young Adults Ages 18-25 are invited to retreat together May 29-30th in Huntersville, NC! Lodging and meals are included for just a \$25 registration fee.

Come for a time of connection, reflection, and imagination:  
<https://wnc-reg.brtaapp.com/WNCCUMCYoungAdultRetreat>



### **Bishop Carter announces new Metro DS**

Bishop Kenneth H. Carter, Jr. has announced a leadership transition within the Appointive Cabinet. Beginning July 1, 2026, Rev. David Hockett will be appointed as the

Metro District Superintendent. Rev. Dr. Dan Pezet, who has served as Metro District Superintendent since 2021, will return to local church ministry. See the full announcement at this link:

<https://www.wnccumc.org/newsdetail/bishop-carter-announces-upcoming-cabinet-changes-19647635>

### **Climate Summit: “For Such a Time as This”**

Bishop Carter invites all clergy and laity for the Bishop’s Climate Summit on Saturday April 18 from 9am-4pm at Maple Springs UMC in Winston Salem. This summit will explore how the Church can respond faithfully to the challenges of climate change through scripture, theology, and practical action in our local churches and communities. You may register at this link:

<https://www.wnccumc.org/newsdetail/youre-invited-to-the-bishops-climate-summit-april-18-19652443>

### **A Faithful Public Witness**

Nearly 1,000 United Methodists from across Western North Carolina are offering a public witness on behalf of people harmed by current immigration enforcement policies. Those who have signed do so as individual United Methodists, offering a shared witness of faith and conscience. This statement does not speak for all United Methodists or for The United Methodist Church as a whole. You may read the statement and if you feel so led, add your signature **here**:

### **Dahlia Grove Golf Tournament**

Monday April 27th at Olde Sycamore Golf Club. The tournament has sponsorship opportunities. Get your friends together, play some golf, and support a good cause. Email [Corrie@dahliagrove.org](mailto:Corrie@dahliagrove.org) for more information.

### **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. They are in need of boxes of teabags, coffee, and cake mix. Anything you can give is appreciated!

### **2026 Metro District Lay Servant Training**

Basic and Advanced Lay Servant trainings will take place on Saturday March 28 from 9am-4pm and Sunday March 29 from 2pm-6pm at Pineville UMC. Lunch will be provided. The cost is \$15 and you will need to purchase the book on your own. You can find more information and register at this link:

<https://wnc-reg.brtaapp.com/2026MetroDistrictLayServantTraining717171>

### **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 sixth chapter before our next session on April 1st.

### **SNACK Pack**

Please consider making a financial donation to the SNACK pack program to help 48 Hickory Grove Elementary School students. We are also in need of regular sized plastic bags/grocery bags. If you have any questions, please call Jennifer Stribling at 704-617-2520.

### **New Giving Options**

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