

Good Afternoon,

Please see below for the Weekly E-News.

### Prayer Requests

<u>Church Family</u>	<u>Family and Friends</u>
Brenda and Ray Cathey	Ryan Edwards
Sandy and Ronnie Oaten	(Son of Jennifer Stribling's friend, Elizabeth Edwards)
Kathleen Robinson	Rick Frye
Family of Floyd Sistrunk	(Brother of Sandy Oaten)
Chap and Nokie Tuttle	Carol Garrett
Gary Little	(Rev. Elinor Heerman's Sister)
Mary Martin	Lila Dye,
Don and Linda Wigley	(Dianne Horton's mother)
Sam and Rita Leggett	
Claudia Waddell	
Pete and Nancy Scercy	
Shem Logan	
Margaret Norwood	
Ron, Sr. and Ron, Jr. Spivey	
<b>*Bold lettering: Prayer Request added/updated this week.</b>	

### **WEEKLY E-NEWS**

#### **Financial Need: Note from Finance Chair, Randy Bunnell**

Hi Friends, Unfortunately, we have had a couple of unexpected expenses arise. We had to replace the windows in the Parsonage. I know it seems like the house was built just a few years ago, but it was 1991. It was time to replace and not continue to repair. The cost to replace, it is \$29,985. In addition, we had to replace an AC unit in the preschool building. Again, time to replace and not repair. The cost is \$20,900. So now we could use some additional financial assistance. These were not anticipated expenses and they were not in our budget. If you can give a little extra to help, it 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 the Parsonage Windows or AC Unit. God bless you and thank you for all you do for HGUMC.

#### **Call to Action: Potential Data Center in East Charlotte**

American Tower Corporation, a multibillion-dollar real estate firm, wants to build a 50,000 sq ft data center off Hood Road in East Charlotte. Data centers are industrial projects that drive up utility bills, strain infrastructure, and pollute the surrounding neighborhood. As United Methodist Christians, we seek to protect God's good creation and seek the flourishing of all of our neighbors (Jer. 29:7). You can make your voice heard by joining the upcoming City Council zoning meeting to speak out against the data center at 5pm on Monday April 20th at the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center and/or sign the online petition [HERE](#).

### **Monthly Fasting & Prayer Gathering**

We are excited to announce the return of our Monthly Fasting and Prayer, hosted by the African Ministry. We warmly invite everyone to join us for this special time of seeking God together, beginning at midnight on 12:00 AM April 24, 2026 to 7PM. The fast will conclude with a powerful time of prayer and thanksgiving at 7:00 PM in the Epworth Building.

### **WNCC Pilgrimage to Cherokee**

There is a wonderful opportunity to experience a pilgrimage to Cherokee on June 5-7, 2026 that is being offered by the WNCC. You will be able to hear stories, narratives, and experiences of the Cherokee people, to hear about their reality, pain, and hope, and to honor them by listening to them. Registration deadline is April 30, but it will close when it reaches 50 people. So please register early. Learn more and register at the link: <https://www.wnccumc.org/newsdetail/register-wncc-pilgrimage-to-cherokee-june-5-7-19631588>

### **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.

### **VBS Planning Meeting**

The VBS Planning Meeting will be Tuesday April 21st at 7pm via Google Meet. If you need the link, please contact Pastor Caitlin.

### **Save the Date!**

Monday August 3 - Wednesday August 5 for Camp Firelight Vacation Bible School!

### **ESL Classes Openings!**



# CLASES DE INGLÉS

## EXAMEN DE NIVELACION

Esta es tu oportunidad para venir y aprender inglés. Primero debes tomar un examen para saber tu nivel, y después estarás listo para las clases.

## FECHAS

- ✓ Mayo 4 6pm-8:30pm
- ✓ Mayo 12 6pm-8:30pm



Comunicate con Gaby, sólo por WhatsApp

 **704-713-5234**

## Next Children & Youth Lunch

Mark your calendars for lunch on Sunday May 3 in the Parlors! Youth will be meeting with special guest Liz Holloway, the therapist that meets right here on our campus, for Mental Health Awareness Month. Children will have a separate lesson about emotions and feelings. Reach out to the church office or Lori Kodikara with any questions.

## 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>

### **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. Can’t play golf? Donate! Love is the most powerful force for change in the world. When you give, you are part of that love in action—walking alongside a woman coming off the street, celebrating with her as she moves into her first apartment, standing with her as she works to reunite with her children, and reminding her that her story is not over.

Donation link: <https://dahliagrove.kindful.com/>

### **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!

### **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.