

Good afternoon, church!

This Sunday our rhythm of worship shifts. We will have a combined service at 11am in the Family Life Center! Please stay for our fundraiser lunch following the service in the Trinity Room, which will help cover the costs of our air conditioning repairs. Take out boxes will be provided for those of you who cannot stay.

I hope to see you this Sunday!

Gratefully,  
Pastor Caitlin

## **WEEKLY E-NEWS**

### **5th Sunday Service**

Our next 5th Sunday Combined service will be held this Sunday at 11am in the Family Life Center! After the service, we will have a fundraiser lunch in the FLC to help cover the costs of our air conditioning repairs. We will be serving baked chicken and rice, dessert, and drinks. We are asking for a minimum \$10 donation per person and take out is an option if you are unable to join us for lunch!

### **Church Office Closed**

The church office will be closed Monday, September 1st in observance of Labor Day.

### **September Youth Lunch**

Our next youth lunch meeting will take place on Sunday September 14 from 12:30pm-1:30pm in the Parlors. See Lori Kodikara if you have any questions. Hope to see you there!

### **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!

### **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.

### **Save the Date: Fall Festival!**

Fall Festival is BACK! Mark your calendars for Saturday October 25th from 11am-3pm in the church parking lot. If it rains, no worries! We'll move it indoors to the FLC. Come for games, crafts, music, and ultimately...fellowship with God and one another!

### **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.



**Giving made easy!**

Download our Connect app today.

- one click
- 24/7/365
- track all gifts
- recurring
- pledges
- special offerings

Let's get connected.

Realm Connect

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

### **WNCCUMC Equip & Connect Recordings available**

The conference webinars for lay leadership are available on youtube. Please click [HERE](#) to access the recordings.

### **Join Bishop Carter and Friends for a One-Year Journey Through Luke and Acts**

Start off 2025 joining Bishop Carter and other leaders from our Conference and denomination on a transformative journey through two of the most impactful books of the New Testament—Luke and Acts. Click [here](#) to learn more and sign up to receive the weekly discussion guides via email.

### **WECARE: Food Needs**

Please help us restock the shelves at WeCare: peas, green beans, corn . Our WeCare Food Pantry and Clothing Closet will be open on Saturday September 13th from 10am-12pm.

### **Snack Pack**

School started August 25 and Snack Pack is gearing up for another school year. Your donations keep this ministry alive. Monetary or cans of kid friendly soup or pasta. We would also like to collect some items to help the teachers at HGE. They have requested play dough, copier paper, basic wired head phones, pencils and dry erase markers. Please leave any donations in the red snack pack bins located in the FLC or outside the church office. If you have any questions, please call Jennifer Stribling at 704-617-2520.

**UWF School Uniform Request**

United Women in Faith are seeking school uniform donations for Hickory Grove Elementary School. The items requested are navy blue, baby blue or white unisex polo shirts (nothing with ruffles) and navy blue and khaki pants or shorts (no skirts or dresses) sizes 4 through 10 are preferred but any will be appreciated! Please leave donations in the red snack pack bins located in the church office and FLC.

**Ways to Help: WNCCUMC Disaster Response**

For the latest update on how you can help respond to Hurricane Helene victims can be found on the WNCCUMC website [HERE](#).

**BEYOND a Conference** is an opportunity for all to be inspired, educated, and motivated to move beyond the division, the despair, and the uncertainty TO a future where the Church is reclaiming and renewing its origins as a vibrant and compelling community that is for all people. This conference will train leaders to look beyond to a church full of revival, innovation, and passion for a strategy that is both deeply evangelical and unapologetically inclusive. The Gathering UMC in St. Louis is bringing the conference to University UMC in Charlotte on October 3-4, 2025. WNC leaders (laity and clergy) can attend both days (2 meals included) for \$99! Register for the early-bird rate and use the code WNCC. See details and register here: [BEYOND 2025](#)