

Good afternoon, church!

THANK YOU for the hands that prepared and served our meal this past Sunday. And thanks to your generosity we were able to raise over \$1000 towards our air conditioning repairs! We are stronger when we come together - in body, mind, and Spirit in worship of our Lord, and in support of this church and community. This Sunday our worship services will be held at their usual times and we will celebrate Holy Communion together.

I hope to see you this Sunday!

Gratefully,
Pastor Caitlin

WEEKLY E-NEWS

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!

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.

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.

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. If you have any questions, please call Jennifer Stribling at 704-617-2520.

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 Conference Hospitality Volunteer!

The WNCC Leadership Development Team is seeking hospitality volunteers to serve during the BEYOND conference being held at University City UMC on October 3rd and 4th. Volunteers can sign up for one or more of the three shifts each day. Volunteers will have the opportunity to attend one of two training sessions. An in-person training will be held at University City UMC on Sunday, September 14 at 2pm and an on-line training via Zoom on Tuesday, September 16 at 7pm. During the training, volunteers will receive assignments and instructions on their duties during their shift(s). Free childcare will be provided for volunteers during their service time. Please contact Kristi Miller at caklmiller90@gmail.com with questions or for more information. Here is the link to sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0544A9AA2DA1FB6-57788237-beyond#/>

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](#)