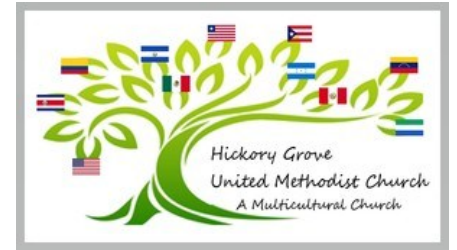


The Grove Echoes

April 2025



HICKORY GROVE UMC

Two of our core values are Nurturing and Growing in Christian Faith. You all have leaned into that invitation by not only engaging in your own Sunday School class or small group, but also to the next generation. I continue to celebrate the ways many of you have supported our young people with your gifts, your prayers, your service, your presence, and your witness! Because of you I was able to start the month of March at Mt. Shepherd in Asheboro, where seven of our youth participated in a Confirmation Retreat. We had more young people who were interested in attending but the retreat was at capacity (what a wonderful problem to have!). Our youth left the retreat deeper in their relationships with God and one another, and we will announce a combined service Confirmation Sunday to celebrate their commitment to God through the church at a later time. We are also currently in the process of planning a summer mission trip with our youth (details to be determined!).



For our children, we will host an Easter Egg hunt on Saturday April 19th from 2pm-4pm in the church courtyard. Bring your friends, neighbors, children, and grandchildren! We will also be hosting a Vacation Bible School Monday August 11th – Wednesday August 13th in the evenings. Be on the lookout for more information from the church on how you can get involved.

There's that saying "it takes a village to raise our children." I believe each of us have a purpose in nurturing our young people in the Christian faith and building relationships across generations. All of what we have experienced together is evidence that the Holy Spirit is certainly alive at Hickory Grove UMC.

I am grateful for you and for our church!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Caitlin



Hickory Grove United Methodist Church

6401 Hickory Grove Road ♦ Charlotte, NC 28215 ♦ 704-537-4686



Missions at HGUMC



Snack Pack Program

Please consider making a financial donation to the SNACK pack program to help 48 Hickory Grove Elementary School students. If you have any questions, please call Jennifer Stribling at 704-617-2520

Room in the Inn

Patrick Bryant is a barber at The Brink in Fort Mill, SC. This barber drove all the way from Fort Mill to provide haircuts for the men of Room in the Inn on February 27th.



Latino Ministry

Family, may the grace and mercy of God be with you. During this time, God has been good and has allowed us beautiful satisfactions in the Latino Ministry. We are seeing God's mercy in growing the ministry and bringing it outside the four walls of the temple. In February, we held our marriage workshop and in March we represented Hickory Grove and Latino ministry at the UniMujeres 2025 celebration which is NC's largest celebration of International Women's Day. One of the members of HGUMC Jackie Rodriguez was nominated for Woman of the Year. We celebrated our Prayer Cell in the family home of Igdalias and Anna. We are now entering our season of Lent. Lent is a time of reflection that calls us to convert and return to God; it is a proper time to purify ourselves from faults; it is a time to believe, that is, to receive God into our lives and allow him to "make his dwelling" in us. (John 14:23).

In Christ,
Rev. Candido Albino



UNIMUJERES 2025
MAESTROS DE CEREMONIAS

Gaby Garzon Ruth Villalta Candido Albino Juana Polanco

NUEVA DIRECCION: ST. ANDREW'S UMC
1901 ARCHDALE DRIVE, CHARLOTTE, NC 28210
EN EL GYM

MARZO 08
WWW.UNIMUJERES.APP

Preschool News

Spring is here and we are super excited! Our preschoolers will be celebrating Easter with parties on April 11 and will then be on Spring Break April 14-21. Our Three Year Olds and Pre-K classes will walk the campus looking for crosses which remind us that Jesus loves us. We just finished taking our spring individual pictures and anxiously await their return.

During the month of April we will enjoy the Butterfly Farm again! The children (and staff) will get to hold and feed the butterflies and learn interesting things about them. This is an amazing visit and we are so grateful for Mrs. Loretta Brady and her butterflies.

Our Bible Memory Verse for April is *"Love One Another" (John 15:17)* and we will learn about Queen Esther and how she was so brave to stand up to save her people.

I strongly encourage you to venture down the preschool hallways on Sundays to see all of the amazing artwork that our children create each week.

Hallelujah! He is Alive!
Sharon Freeze
Preschool Director



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Traditional Service: 9:00 AM (Sanctuary)

Sunday School for all Ages: 10:00 AM (FLC and Education Bldg.)

Contemporary Service: 10:45 AM (Family Worship Center)

African Service: 11:00 AM (Sanctuary)

Afternoon Adult Bible Study (Spanish) : 1:00 PM (Asbury 2nd Floor -212)

Afternoon Children's Bible Study: 1:00 PM (Asbury 2nd Floor—205)

Afternoon Youth Bible Study: 1:00 PM (Asbury 2nd Floor - 209)

Latino Service: 2:00 PM (Sanctuary)

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Memorials and Honorariums

(received in the office by March 20th).

If we receive your donation after that date, the Memorial/Honorarium will be listed in the April Grove Echoes.

Memorials:

Richard White

Preschool-Jeff and Channing Kirkpatrick

General-Shirley Harkey

General-Susan McGarty

General—Chris and Mary O'Connor

Snack Pack- Jamie and Diane Horton

General— Jerry and Patty Smith

Frank Carbone Sr.

Building— Lucy Esminio

Building— J. Mock

Honorarium:

Jim Barker

General— Cokesbury/Epworth Sunday School
Class

