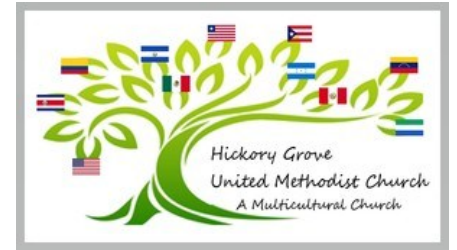


The Grove Echoes

June 2025



HICKORY GROVE UMC

Friends,

I hope you will join me, Pastor Colston, and Pastor Candido at our 11am Combined service on June 8th! Not only will it be Pentecost Sunday (the birthday of the church!) and Graduation Sunday, but it will also be Confirmation Sunday when our youth will be professing their faith in Jesus Christ and becoming members of our church. I hope you will plan to be there in prayer and support of our young people!

I am also writing to share news that our worship schedule will be slightly different in the month of June. Since we will be coming together for a Combined service on Sunday June 8th, we will have a REGULAR SCHEDULE on Sunday June 29th (no combined service). An additional change to our schedule: we will be having a hymnsing service during the 9am Traditional service on Sunday June 22nd and there will be NO 10:45am Contemporary service that day. If you usually attend the 10:45am service, please plan to attend our 9am Traditional, 11am African, or 2pm Latino services instead!

Later this month, I will be attending the Western North Carolina UMC Annual Conference at Lake Junaluska. Our lay delegates are: Abraham Karva, Liliana Molina, and Jennifer Stribling. A piece of legislation regarding Regionalization will be discussed and voted on at this session of Annual Conference. Regionalization means that instead of "Jurisdictional" (US only) and "Central" (everyone else) conferences, everyone will become Regional conferences. At this present time what is agreed upon at General Conference is applied in the US, whereas Central Conferences have the option to adapt contextually. If approved, Regionalization will allow for all United Methodist conferences to adapt the Book of Discipline to their local contexts. There is an abundance of information on the wnccumc.org home page about Regionalization. If you have any questions, please reach out to any of our Pastors or lay delegates.

Lastly, we understand that not all of our participants in worship have checks to write their tithes and offerings and would rather give to the church by card. We have been working hard to meet this need and invite you to give electronically through our online platform, Realm! You can also set up giving to the church through your bank via Bill Pay. Please see the information on our website and in the bulletin, or call the church office to inquire more if you have any questions on how to give to the church in these ways.



Hickory Grove United Methodist Church

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

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30am - 12:15pm

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)

Church Staff

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African Ministry

Greetings Hickory Grove family,

I am excited and grateful to God for allowing us to enter the middle of the year, the month of June. This month has a very special place in my heart because my parents, Mr. Charles and Mrs. Yalama Morris brought me into this world some 58 years ago. Like June, I am also thrilled to be a middle child, the fifth of ten children of my mom. June ushers in the summer hot weather and lots of getaways for so many people. As you travel this year, please remember your church with your prayers, and your treasure. So, I join the many people who will be celebrating the uniqueness of the month of June.

As we think about the excitement of this month, Rhema and I are glad to wish those of you who are celebrating your birthdays and anniversaries with longevity and God's blessings.

For those of who are delegates both laity and clergy of the Western North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church will be gathering at Lake Junaluska June 19-22, 2025 for the business of the conference. Please keep us in your prayers.

I am grateful to the women in the African Ministries, Naomi Circle for a successful Mother's Day celebration. Many thanks to all the men who assisted with the cookout, helping in various ways from grilling, prepping the food, setting up and serving the food.

Many thanks to all of you and we ask God's blessings and guidance on you during this summer season.

Grace and peace,
Rev. Colston Wuor-Gabie Morris





Latino Ministry

The changes in our weather aren't the only seasons that we experience in our life. In fact, King Solomon wrote in Ecclesiastes that "for everything there is a season." Here are a few examples: our life in its entirety is but a season in the greater concept of time. There is a planting season and a harvest season, times of sadness and times of laughter, seasons to save and store, and there are times to spend and give.

For many of us, the warmer weather isn't the only change of season happening right now. At the end of his list of seasons in Ecclesiastes 3, Solomon says that this is the business God has given to mankind and that He has made everything beautiful in its time. You know, these kinds of changes are often wonderful, but there are also changing seasons that are painful and filled with sorrow. Sometimes changes in our life cause fear. By nature, we don't always like change. If that's you, whether you're graduating from high school or college, getting married or having a baby, moving or retiring, remember that God is in control, He's good to you, and He'll take care of you, so enjoy whatever God has in store for your next season of life!

In Christ,
Rev. Candido Albino



Preschool News

Thank you so much for your support of the preschool ministry at HGUMC during our 65th school year! We finished our year on May 23 and on May 16 we had 8 PreK students that graduated and are now ready for kindergarten. We are thankful to each of you who have prayed for us through this year. We are so grateful to God for his constant goodness. We will be back in September with a new group of students.

Enjoy the summer!

Sharon Freeze

Preschool Director

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES



Memorials and Honorariums

(received in the office by May 20th).

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

Memorials:

Dorothy Carbone

General Fund: Katherine Sistrunk, Vincent and Lucy Esminio, Cokesbury/Epworth Sunday School Class

Honorarium:

Ron Spivey

General Fund: Cokesbury/ Epworth Sunday School Class



Snack Pack Announcement

School is coming to an end June 10 and snack pack is winding down for this school year.

Thank you so much to Kathy Coates, Deborah Parker, the Wednesday morning bible study ladies and Sharon Freeze and the preschool teachers. Also, Randy Bunnell for delivering our bags to the school every week. All your help has been so appreciated!

Also thank you to all who have donated to our cause. We could not continue this mission to support 48 kids every week at HGE. Please keep those donations coming even over the summer so we are ready to go when school starts back in August.

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

June Worship Schedule:

June 1 - Regular schedule with Holy Communion

June 8 - Combined service at 11am (Sanctuary)

June 15 - Regular Schedule

June 22 - No 10:45am service (all are invited to a hymnsing service at 9am in the Sanctuary). We will only have the 9am, 11am, and 2pm services.

June 29 - Regular Schedule (NO 5th Sunday combined service)

-African Ministry Father's Day Celebration service at 11



Congratulations to the Class of 2025!



Chenise N. Kwiagaye

Cox Mill High School

Will be attending: Rowan-Cabarrus

Community College to obtain an Associates Degree

Parents: Jon-Alex and Deborah Kwiagaye



Cole Scoggins

Queen's Grant High School

Will be attending: Mars Hill University

Major: Biology with concentration in

Ecology and Wildlife Conservation

Parents: Jennifer and Sean Scoggins



Henron G. Wonasue

Charlotte Country Day School

Will be attending: The Parsons School of

Design at The New School

Major: Strategic Design and Management.

Parent: Ralphetta Flowers