



Welcome to Hampstead United Methodist Church
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost *September 6, 2026*
“Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

10:00 in the Morning

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE & BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: In the beginning, God spoke, and creation came to be.

People: And God saw that it was good.

Leader: God made us in God’s image and blessed us.

People: We come to receive the gifts of God’s grace.

Leader: Come, let us worship the God from whose fullness we receive—

People: Grace upon grace.

***OPENING WORSHIP HYMN**

#92

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

***OPENING PRAYER**

Gracious Creator,

you have given us life and breath,

a world of beauty and abundance,

and one another for companionship and care.

Open our eyes to the goodness that surrounds us,

our hearts to the grace we have already received,

and our lives to your presence among us.

As we worship, draw us more deeply into communion

with you, with one another, and with all that you have made;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMNSONG**

#152

“I Sing the Almighty Power of God”

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

SERIES INTRODUCTION: GRACE UPON GRACE – THE STORY WE FIND IN SCRIPTURE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 1 – 2:3 Abbreviated

ANTHEM

TIME WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES *(At this time, all children may leave for Children’s Church.)*

**Congregation please stand as able.*

GOSPEL LESSON

John 1:1-5, 14, 16

SERMON

“Grace in a Material World”

Rev. Dr. Debbie Matthis

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

INVITATION

....let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION

Gracious God,

Gracious God,

you give us life as gift

and surround us with signs of your goodness.

Yet we confess that we often fail to notice.

We hurry past beauty,

take your gifts for granted,

measure our worth by what we accomplish,

and forget that we belong first of all to you.

Forgive us.

Teach us again to receive life with gratitude,

to delight in what you have made,

and to live as people blessed by your grace.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Leader:

In the name of Jesus Christ,

you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ,

you are forgiven.

All: Glory to God. Amen.

THE PEACE

WE CELEBRATE AT THE TABLE OF GOD

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,....

....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the Highest Blessed is he

who comes in the name of the Lord

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ....
....as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ has risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit
....all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Please bring your offering to the front when you come to receive the bread and wine.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Eternal God,
we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.
You have fed us with bread from the earth
and the cup of your grace.
Having received again from your abundance,
send us into your good creation
to live with gratitude,
to share your blessing,
and to bear witness to your grace upon grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

WE DEPART TO SERVE GOD

***CLOSING WORSHIP HYMN**

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

#89

***DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE**



September 6, 2026
10:00 AM Worship Service

15395 Hwy 17 N • Hampstead, NC 28443 • (910) 270-4648
www.hampsteadumc.org

~Prayer Requests~



Dot Cotman
Darlene David
Judy Harrelson
John Harris
John Haverkamp
Gavin Johnson
Laura Kiyabu
Joanne Pearson
Glen Pettygrove
Fred Phillips
Buddy Rogers
Bill Russell
Vicki Russell
Bill Shaffer
Dasha Sharp
Jane Smals
Karen Smith
Carolyn Southerland
Dennis Southerland
Dee Stolk
Jane Tchouros
Ann Todd
Rodger Wyland

~Calendar of Events~

September 6, 2026 — September 13, 2026

Sunday—9/6

10:00 AM Worship Service

Monday—9/7

8:00 AM ROMEOs (Library)

Tuesday—9/8

9:00 AM Prayer Team (Library)

10:00 AM United Women In Faith (Rm. 5/6)

7:00 PM Al-Anon/Al-Ateen (FLC)

Thursday—9/10

9:00 AM Bible Study “God Won’t Lever You There”
(Rm. 5/6)

3:15 PM Connect Club (FLC)

7:00 PM Chancel Choir Practice (Sanc)

Sunday—9/13

10:00 AM Worship Service

HUMC Online Giving Made Simple:

You can now support our church by scanning the QR code below with your smartphone or tablet’s camera.



If you need help, our greeters or office staff are happy to assist you. Thank you for your generosity!

~ Contact Information~

Pastor Rev. Dr. Debbie Matthis
Phone: 910-578-5905
Email: Debbie.Matthis@nccumc.org

~Announcements~

First Time & Frequent Visitors, we welcome you!

For information about Hampstead UMC, please see our greeters in the Narthex (lobby). If this is your first worship experience here, please let the ushers or greeters know, so we can better assist you!

A nursery is provided for worship services, located in the main building—see an usher for assistance.

If you wish to receive additional weekly updates or be contacted, please print your contact information in the red attendance pew pads or you may email the church office at office@hampsteadumc.org.

United Women In Faith Our first yearly meeting of HUMWIF will be held **Tuesday, September 8th, at 10:00 AM in room 5/6.**

Judy Cummings will present the program, prayer and devotion. The circle is open to all women of the Church and we would love to have you join us. For any questions, please call or text Cheryle Shaffer at 910-620-5904.

Connect Club Our first gathering with the YMCA and HUMC Connect Club will be **Thursday, September 10th, at 3:15 PM** in the FLC. You are welcome to join us as we work with these amazing kids doing various activities.

Pumpkin Patch Cleanup Date Join us on **Saturday, September 18th** as we prepare the Pumpkin Patch for the first Pumpkin Toss! We’ll start at **9:00 AM**, setting up the pallets and clearing any debris in the patch to make room. Volunteers of all ages and groups are welcome and appreciated!

AGAPE Project – Shoebox Ministry Shopping lists are still available in the narthex on the bulletin board. Take a sheet for a boy or a girl, purchase new items according to the list, and pack them into a 6-quart plastic shoebox. A \$5 donation per box helps cover shipping costs. **All boxes must be returned to the Library by Sunday, September 20th.**

Pumpkin Patch Pumpkin Toss Our first Pumpkin Toss will be **Saturday, September 26th at 9:00 AM.** Volunteers are needed to help with the unloading of the pumpkins. Come be a part of our giant assembly line and help this worthy cause! Once the pumpkins are unloaded the Patch is open for business!

Christmas Cantata 2026:

“Noel, Jesus Is Born”

This Christmas season, the HUMC Choir will present “Noel, Jesus Is Born” on **Sunday, December 13th at 4:00 PM, at Wesleyan Chapel United Methodist Church. We're partnering with Wesleyan and Faith Harbor to put on a fantastic cantata this year!**

Join us for an afternoon of Christmas music as we celebrate the joy, wonder, and hope of Christ’s birth.

Choir Rehearsal Schedule:

Sunday rehearsals will be held immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service, with **lunch provided** and rehearsal from **12:45–2:00 PM.**

- September 20
- October 18
- November 15
- December 6

Dress Rehearsal: Saturday, December 12 at 10:00 AM.

Christmas Presentation: Sunday, December 13 at 4:00 PM.

Interested in singing with us? This is a wonderful opportunity to be part of HUMC’s Christmas music ministry. Speak with Johnathan (or email at j.miller@hampsteadumc.org, or call 910-789-9179) for more information about joining the choir for *Noel, Jesus Is Born*.

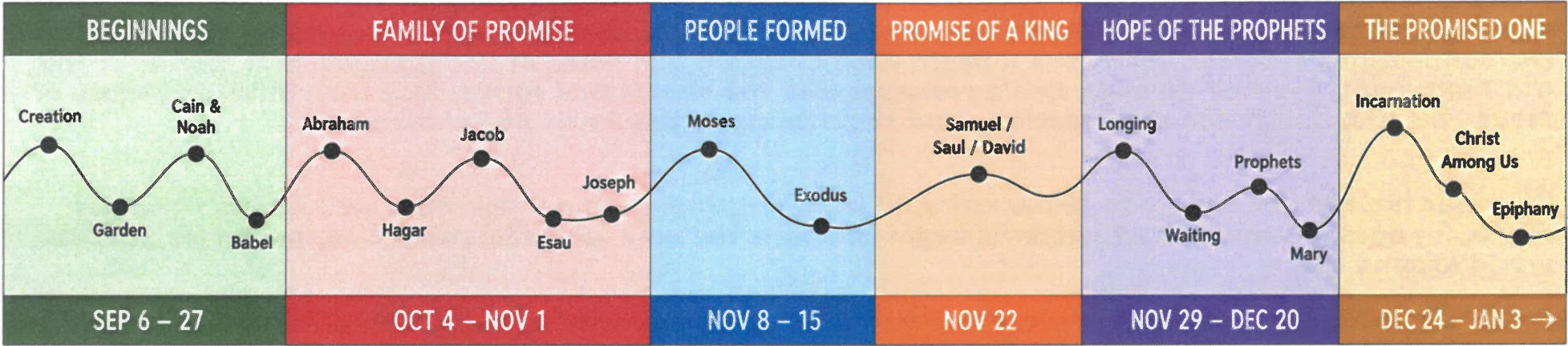
Altar Flowers

Today’s altar flowers are given by

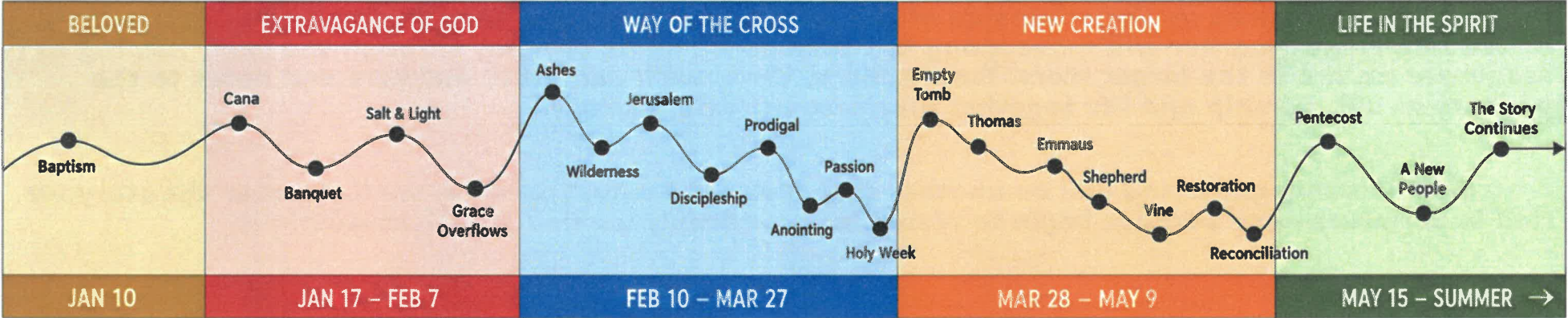
Twila Jones...

*“Happy birthday to Alyssa and Jen, and
happy anniversary to my daughter
and son-in-law.”*

GRACE UPON GRACE: THE STORY WE FIND IN SCRIPTURE | 2026



GRACE UPON GRACE: THE STORY WE FIND IN SCRIPTURE | 2027



GRACE UPON GRACE

The Story We Find in Scripture

Over the coming year, we'll follow the great movements of the biblical story and begin noticing the connections between them. We'll begin with Creation and some of the foundational stories of the Old Testament, journey through God's promises and the people God forms, and then enter the story of Jesus—his life, death and resurrection—and the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost.

Our hope is not simply to know more Bible stories, but to know the story well enough that its words, images, promises, and patterns begin to shape the way we understand God, ourselves, and the world around us.

Along the way, we'll listen for the echoes: the ways later stories remember earlier ones, old promises take on new meaning, and grace keeps appearing in places we might not expect.

The two timelines on the other side of this card will also become large banners in our sanctuary. A "WE ARE HERE" marker will move along the path as we make our way through the year, helping us see where we are in the larger story. From time to time, we'll add other markers and notes to the banners as our worship and life together intersect with the journey.

Each worship gathering will be another stop along the way. Together, we'll discover the story we find in Scripture—and perhaps begin to recognize how deeply we find ourselves within it.