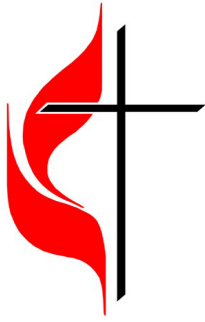


2025



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November Script Shores

Hampstead United Methodist Church

From the Pastor's Desk

"A Year of Rebuilding and Renewal"

As we begin to move through November and into a season of gratitude, I want to share with you a brief summary of the Report of Pastoral Ministry that I recently submitted to our Conference in preparation for Charge Conference on October 30. This report is something every United Methodist pastor completes each year — a way of reflecting on how God has been at work through our shared ministry.

This has been a year of rebuilding and renewal at Hampstead United Methodist Church. In the wake of so many transitions, we are finding our footing again — rediscovering who we are, who God is calling us to be, and how we can serve our neighbors with joy and hope. Worship attendance has been rising, with new families, baptisms, and professions of faith reminding us that the Holy Spirit is still moving among us.

Since last year's Charge Conference, **seven children and youth have been baptized**, and **twelve adults have joined as professing members** — one adult was baptized, seven adults joined by profession of faith and five by transfer from other churches. At the same time, **thirty-seven members** were removed from the rolls through withdrawal, transfer, or death, reflecting both the ongoing effects of denominational realignment and the natural rhythms of life in a changing congregation. Even so, these new faces, new commitments, and renewed energies point toward growth that is both spiritual and relational — a deepening of our identity as the Body of Christ here in Hampstead.

Our ministries are growing stronger because of the faithful laity who give their time, gifts, and prayers. This year, many of you have



Notes From the Pastor Continued...

stepped forward to serve as greeters, ushers, and scripture readers. Others have found new ways to serve through our Pumpkin Patch, Meals on Wheels, or the Share the Table partnership. Still others are leading in music, children's ministry, and community outreach. Truly, this is a church where everyone's gifts matter.

Through the Connect Church grant project, we will soon begin an intergenerational outreach ministry for children in the YMCA after-school program. This will give adults in our congregation the opportunity to mentor, create, and simply spend time with children who need to know they are loved and valued. It's a beautiful example of what it means to live out our faith together. Administratively, we've taken steps to strengthen our systems and finances for the long haul. The 40-month lease with the YMCA now covers the Family Life Center mortgage, ensuring stability while keeping our space open for ministry. Through your generosity and careful stewardship, our church remains faithful in paying **100% of our apportionments** — a tangible sign that we're still connected to the wider United Methodist family.

When I look back over this first full year as your pastor, I see God's hand in countless ways — in worship and laughter, in new faces and steady friendships, in quiet prayers and bold hopes for the future. We are not just surviving; we are **reviving**.

Thank you for being part of this journey of faith, for believing in what God is doing here, and for offering your hearts and hands in service. As we move toward Thanksgiving and Advent, may we continue to give thanks for what God has done and look forward — together — to what God will do next.

Grace and peace,

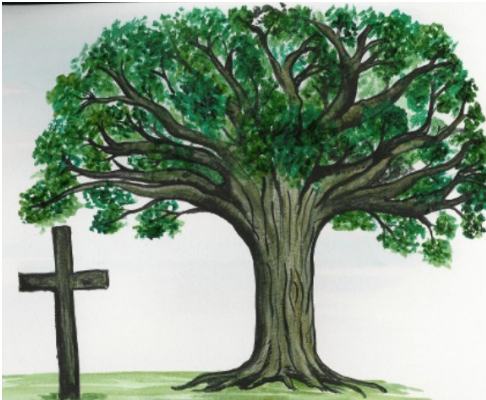
Rev. Dr. Debbie Matthis

Pastor, Hampstead United Methodist Church

2025 Charge Conference

HUMC's 2025 Charge Conference will be held Thursday, October 30th, at 6:00 PM at Wesleyan Chapel UMC, 10255 US Hwy 17 N, Wilmington, 28411.

2025 Membership Summary

Category	Number	Details
Baptized Members	7	Anne Marie Bates, Reid Jay Williams, Grace Bibby, Mira Ann Shukla, Anne Marie Bibby, Maren Shukla, Lilly Jo Zsadanyi
Professing Members	12	7 by Profession/Restoration (inc. 1 Adult Baptism) Judy Webster Clemmons, Leslie Rhodes, Andrew Bibby, Robert Patrick, Donna Walker, Ashley Vnger Shukla, Nancy Zsadanyi, 2 by transfer from UMC: Dianne McKagan, Kathryn Bates 3 from other denominations: Drew Rhodes, Dominique Bates, Laura Bibby
Total Received	19	(7 Baptized + 12 Professing)
Withdrawals	4	<p>Even with membership losses tied to transitions and denominational issues, Hampstead UMC continues to welcome new life and faith—a sign of God’s Spirit moving among us.</p>
Transfers to UMC	3	
Transfer to Non UM Churches	24	
Deaths	6	
Total Removed	37	
Net Change	-18	
At a Glance:		
Baptisms	7	
New Professing Members	12	
Removed	37	
Net	-18	



HUMC Youth: Pumpkin Patch & What's Next!

Fall in Hampstead wouldn't be complete without our Pumpkin Patch! We are filled with gratitude for the energy that's made this fundraiser such a success. This is about more than pumpkins—it's about growing faith, community, and service in our youth, and you've helped make it happen.

To our volunteers: You're the heart of this event! From unloading trucks in the rain, to staffing the sales table, providing warm cider, your time and enthusiasm created lasting memories for everyone.

Thank you to our church family for your prayers, your hands-on help with setup, and the way you keep showing up for us—like the United Women in Faith Bake Sale treats that sweetened one special Saturday. You've shown our youth what servant-hearted love looks like in action. A huge thank-you to every volunteer at the Patch, especially Hope Gibson and Ginny Cockrum, who were there for our kids week after week, giving their time with such steady, dependable hearts.

And to our community: Neighbors, local businesses, and friends—your purchases, donations, and word-of-mouth brought us together. A special nod to the few classroom groups who visited and to every donor whose gifts fuel our youth missions and retreats.

As of October 28, we've sold \$44,928 worth of pumpkins—amazing! But we've got a couple of days left, and we're aiming to finish strong on Halloween, October 31st. If you haven't grabbed your perfect pumpkin yet (or if one more pie sounds irresistible), swing by one last time! Let's make these closing hours unforgettable. Your participation doesn't just fill our patch; it fills our souls and equips our young people to carry God's light into the world.

The HUMC Youth are excited to return to Pilgrimage November 7th-9th! If your youth would like to join us next weekend, register at the following address:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdpedVWsMRt5Hbkf1utZ8Z2dKnRkqYYUmOh3Oy3vuC9k-u44A/viewform>

We can't wait for this weekend filled with fellowship and community building with youth from all over North Carolina!

HUM Women In Faith News



A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO BAKED GOODIES FOR OUR BAKE SALE ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18TH.

We had a great turn out and sold lots of goodies for the Youth/Power Kids. We made over \$600.00 dollars!!!

We had a great speaker from Lower Cape Fear Life Care, Michele Bennett, M.A, speak with us about their services. Our next meeting will be November 11th, at 10 a.m. in Room 5/6. Sylvia Waterston will provide the program and Kathy McKinnon will provide the Devotion/Prayer. This meeting is open to all women of the church. Hope you can join us.

Please call or text, Cheryle Shaffer, Interim Chairperson, at 910-620-5904 for any questions.

Blessings,

Cheryle Shaffer

HUMC Preschool News

Touch-a-Truck Volunteers Needed!

Our HUMC Preschool will host a Touch-a-Truck event on Wednesday, November 13 at 11am— and we'd love your help!



If you (or someone you know) have a truck, tractor, construction vehicle, emergency vehicle, or any other fun "big rig" and would be willing to bring it for our preschoolers to explore, please let us know! This is a highlight of the year for our little ones, and we'd love to showcase some amazing vehicles from our church community.

To volunteer or learn more, please contact the Preschool Office at 910-270-3388 or email Tara Robinson at t.robinson@hampsteadumc.org.

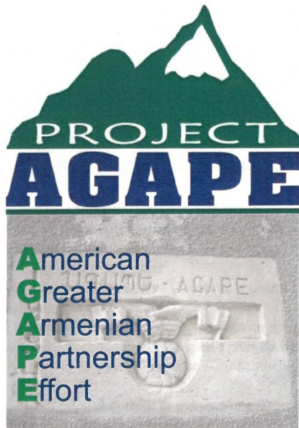


United Methodist Men

All men of the church are invited to our next gathering on Saturday, November 1st in the Family Life Center (FLC) at 8:00 AM. Join us for breakfast and fellowship!

New Bible Study

Beginning **November 13th**, Jennipher Burns will hold a new Bible study "War Room", every Thursday at 9:00 AM in room 5/6. Books will be \$7.00. For more info: jennipherlove09@gmail.com.



Armenia Project AGAPE Work Team

From October 9-24, 2025, Project AGAPE Armenia was once again blessed to welcome a mission team from North Carolina, led by Wanda Watts. The group of four, Sue Robb, Kim Swindle, and Tom Sutton, dedicated themselves fully to improving the infrastructure in Vayk.



Upon arrival, the team quickly became part of our AGAPE family. Their first task was to construct a new pathway through the garden, which now allows teachers and students at the Vocational School to move safely and comfortably between buildings. Their teamwork transformed what was once a rough patch of ground into a beautiful walkway that will serve the community for years to come. With the same commitment, the team also began building a protective wall in the Vocational School yard, designed to ensure safety for cars and pedestrians alike.

If you'd like more information go to the N. C. Conference United Methodist Church web-site NCCUMC.org.

MUNCH—BackPack Meals Program



Let's see. This is the November report. November? Are we really this far along in 2025? I must have missed something or else something missed me.

Anyway, things are fine with MUNCH. As I wrote last month, we expect the numbers to increase as the MUNCH word circulates in the community.

We wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Let's all of us try to be more considerate of each other and less controversial. We're coming up on the season when we give thanks for our many blessings.

Backpack Meal Items:

- Cheerios, Oatmeal, or other low sugar cereals
- Canned Pasta Sauce and dry Pasta
- Canned Vegetables & Fruits, Individual Fruit Containers (low sugar/no refrigeration)
- Plastic Jars of Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Individual Packages of Peanut Butter Crackers and Cheese Crackers
- Tuna and Chicken Helpers or store brand
- Canned Tuna and Canned Chicken (to pair with item above)
- Chunky Soups & Stews, Macaroni & Cheese
- Canned Pastas (Spaghetti-O's, Ravioli-O's, etc.) store brand is fine
- 100% Fruit Juice (**small** cans or plastic bottles) "Reduced Sugar" and "Lower Sodium" are best! Please, **NO glass containers.**

Thank you for your continued support!

—Chip Davis, MUNCH Coordinator

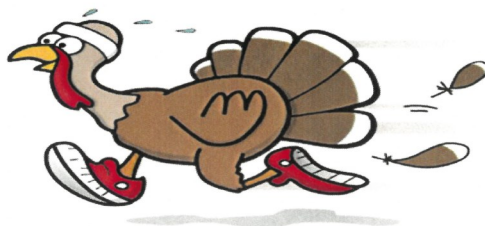
Shall We Dance?

If anyone would like to know more about or view a live ballroom dance demonstration, please contact Nancy Davis (very beginner student) with your questions and/or interest. Partner not required; professional instructor demonstration. Social dances to view or learn: Waltz, Tango, Viennese Waltz, Foxtrot, and Quickstep. Latin dances to view or learn: Cha Cha, Samba, Rumba, Salsa, Mambo, Merengue, and Bachata. Also dances such as Hustle, East Coast and West Coast Swing are popular. Line Dancing referrals are available.

—Nancy Davis

nancyd2855@gmail.com; 609-805-5934





15th Annual
Hampstead Kiwanis Park
Turkey Trot
8K, 2-Mile and 1/2-Mile Kids Sprint Races

Register to run online at

Its-Go-Time.com



Pre-Race Packet Pickup
Surf City Brewing Company
402 Alston Blvd. Ext., Hampstead
Friday, November 21, 4 to 6 p.m.

For more info about sponsoring the Race call Race Director Patricia Homa 910/616-5195

Thank you to our Sponsors!

Platinum: Food Lion, Wilmington Health (Hampstead),
 Pierpan Family Dentistry, Attorney Patricia M. Homa,
 The Hampstead Women's Club, Dale and Laura Holbrook, Surf City Crab,
 Surf City Brewing Company, GUGO (Get Up Get Out), The Hampstead Hams,
 Pender-Topsail Post & Voice, Pender County Parks and Recreation,
 Belvedere Property Owners Association, The Kiwanis Club of Hampstead

Gold: The Daily Grind, Italian Bistro

Silver: Darden Insurance Agency, Woodmen Life Travis L. Horrell,
 Shaka Taco, Sawmill Grill, Pleasant Air, Inc., Mike Winesette, Hilltop Grocery,
 Topsail Chiropractic, Mancini Orthodontics,
 Alchemy Massage and Wellness Spa, Kinetico Water Systems

Bronze: Bagel Bakery, Express Tech Hampstead, Johnson Drug and Medical,
 Topsail Animal Hospital, Express Tech Hampstead

All proceeds from the race go to improving the Park

Anniversaries...



Bob Patrick & Donna Walker	November 1
Raymond & Jaime Alberti	November 06
Tony & Sally Jo Capozio	November 19
Shram & Ashley Shukla	November 23
John & Ginny Cockrum	November 29

Birthdays...

Phillip Davis	November 01
Pat Skipper	November 01
Tim Smals	November 01
Susan Forbes	November 02
Becky Alberti	November 04
Ryan O'Janpa	November 04
Tony King	November 06
Emma Martin	November 09
Terrie Tracy	November 09
Kathy Williams	November 09
Marjorie Mallard	November 10
Dal Tomlinson	November 10
Mal Myers	November 11
Ed Pullen	November 13
Maren Shukla	November 15
Thaya Walker	November 15
Cody Carlson	November 17
Bert Meiggs	November 17
Ginny Cockrum	November 21
Elizabeth Mershon	November 21
Ed Dunn	November 22
Sandy VanNess	November 22
Dottie Webb	November 22
David Grigg	November 25
Caryn Sutton	November 26
Halley Bellamy	November 29
Linda Carlsen	November 30
Steven Culp	November 30

Altar Flowers...



Date	Dedication
November 2	Robert Patrick & Donna Walker... <i>"In celebration of our wedding on November 1, 2025."</i>
November 9	Hiram & Kathy Williams... <i>"To honor Francis Daniel and his wife Gail, in gratitude for their love and service to HUMC."</i>
November 9	Judy Carter... <i>"In celebration of Terrie and Sherrie's birthdays."</i>
November 16	Tony & Sally Jo Capozio... <i>"In celebration of our 9th wedding anniversary."</i>
November 16	Elaine Myers... <i>"In celebration of Mal's birthday on November 11th."</i>
November 23	Linda Dunn... <i>"In celebration of Ed's birthday on November 22nd."</i>
November 30	Judy Clemmons... <i>"In loving memory of my husband Tommie on our 55th wedding anniversary."</i>

