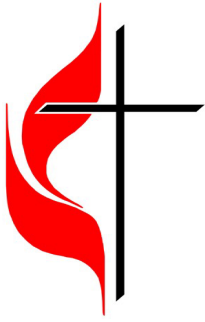


2025



September Script Shores

Hampstead United Methodist Church

Debbie's Details

Dear Church Family,

In many of the churches I've served, summer was a season to catch our breath—slower schedules, lighter programming, a chance to re-group and prepare for the fall. But that has not been the case here at Hampstead UMC in my very first full summer with you!

Instead of slowing down, it felt like we pressed the accelerator. We had two major staff positions to fill, important YMCA lease negotiations to work through, and of course—our huge Vacation Bible School, which filled this building with children, laughter, and God's love. It has been a busy and joy-filled season.

Now, as Labor Day approaches, our ministries are gearing up once again. Power Kids and Youth will be cranking up soon. Just last week, over twenty children (along with a few educators and even a principal) came forward with their backpacks for our Back-to-School Blessing. What a wonderful sight!

We're also celebrating some exciting staff news. After prayerful searching, we believe we have found the right people to step into the roles of Associate Pastor for Family Ministries and Music Director. You've already received their bios in a recent Missive, and I know you'll join me in welcoming them with open hearts as they begin their work among us.

On the business side, our Church Council approved a more comprehensive lease agreement with the YMCA. This new partnership will be a financial blessing for our church and allow us to be good stewards of the resources God has entrusted to us.

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Debbie's Details Continued...

And worship this summer has been a joy. Whether hearing from our guest speakers while I was away or gathering for special Sundays, I've been grateful for the Spirit's presence in our sanctuary. We've enjoyed singing old favorites from the Cokesbury Hymnal and had not one but two services where the congregation chose every hymn. For now, we will continue with one Sunday service at 10:00 a.m. until our new Music Director has had time to build up a strong volunteer base that can support two distinct styles of worship. Once our attendance consistently averages 140 or more in worship, we will prayerfully revisit moving back to two services.

Of course, worship isn't the only place where we've been blessed this summer. Our Ice Cream Social and Game Night was a huge hit—tables filled with children, youth, and adults simply enjoying one another's company. These are just a few of the ongoing activities that remind us how much joy there is in being the body of Christ together.

Looking ahead, pumpkins are right around the corner! The first truckload will arrive on **September 27**, so go ahead and mark your calendars. We will need many volunteers to help unload and then to staff the Pumpkin Patch in the weeks that follow. It's always a wonderful way to meet our neighbors and raise funds for ministry.

I also want to share some exciting news from our work with Connect Church. This group has been participating in coaching sessions once or twice a month focused on Asset Based Community Development (ABCD)—a way of looking at the strengths and gifts of our church and community, and how they can connect for God's work in the world. Not only has this process helped us reflect on who we are, but it will result in Hampstead UMC receiving a **\$10,000 grant** to support a community project in 2026. You'll be hearing much more about this in the coming months.

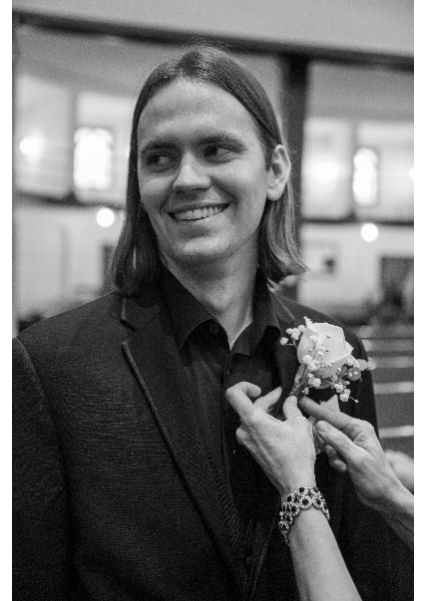
Friends, if this summer is any indication, God is doing something wonderful and exciting among us. We don't know exactly what the fall will bring, but I believe it will be full of opportunities for growth, service, and joy. I'm grateful to be on this journey with you.

With excitement and hope,
Pastor Debbie

Welcome to HUMC!

Associate Pastor for Family Ministries, Brooks Anderson

Please welcome one of our new staff members at HUMC, Pastor Brooks Anderson. Brooks will be taking on the role of Associate Pastor for Family Ministries, which includes many of the duties that Director Jamie Alberti has performed with the Youth and Children ministries. Brooks is a recent graduate of Candler School of theology and a commissioned deacon from West Virginia with a love of chess, books, and other rowdy pursuits like quiet evenings watching reality TV with his wife, Kat. He is excited to continue his ministry journey with us and encourages members and visitors alike to chat or just to say hi.



Director of Music Ministries, Sue Modlin



Sue Modlin is a native Annapolitan, who has made North Carolina her home since 1990. She began taking piano lessons at the age of 4 and quickly discovered that music was going to be a passion in her life forever. She grew up studying and performing within the Music Educators of Greater Annapolis. She holds a Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees in Piano Pedagogy from East Carolina University.

From her early years in MEGA, and throughout her 30+ year professional career, Sue has earned many top honors and awards. She has performed numerous times across the country, and is a sought-after clinician and adjudicator for auditions, festivals, and competitions. She has a true passion for music, and teaches others that music is not simply ink printed on a piece of paper, but is a life form when it is given breath. Sue gives all of the glory to God for the talent that He gave her, and is excited to be at Hampstead United Methodist Church doing a bit of His Kingdom work. She is humbled by the opportunities she has had to give back a small portion of the uncountable gifts through serving Him.

MUNCH—BackPack Meals Program



By the time you read this Script Shores article, school is back in full swing! Seems like the young folks just got out for the summer!

It takes a couple of weeks to get the program restarted at the beginning of each school year. The process includes evaluating the potential recipients and getting the numbers squared-away with the individual school's administration. Serving 3 elementary schools and 2 middle schools plus a snack program for the high school takes planning and resources!

I'll let you know the numbers being served as soon as I get them. Thanks for your support!

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

Project Agape

Shoe Boxes are due Sunday, September 21st so that they can be dedicated prior to shipping to Armenia. Having trouble finding gloves or a toboggan cap or any other listed item, bring your gifts anyway and we may have some of these items to complete your box. (\$5.00 donation for shipping can be given by a check made out to HUMC memo line "Agape Shoe Boxes"). Thank you to all who are participating..



Coastal Carolina Walk to Emmaus

The Emmaus website has been updated. Here is the link: <https://ccemmaus.org/walk-to-emmaus/>

Who Should Attend:

Adult Christians who desire to grow spiritually, renew their faith, or live more fully as disciples of Jesus.

The application may be completed on the website and also the Sponsorship application form if you do not wish to use the paper forms. See Pastor Debbie Matthis, or John Harris to identify a sponsor prior to filling out the application.

Retreat Dates:

Men's Walk #123: October 9–12, 2025

Women's Walk #124: October 23–26, 2025

HUM Women In Faith News

The Hampstead United Methodist Women In Faith will be meeting on September 9th at 10 a.m. in Room 5/6. We are looking forward to our first meeting of the fall. Judy Clemmons has the program and Carolyn Taylor will present the Devotion and Prayer. All women of the church are invited to join us. For any questions or more information, please call or text Cheryle Shaffer 910-620-5904.

United Methodist Men

All men of the church are invited to our next gathering on Saturday, September 6th in the Family Life Center (FLC) at 8:00 AM. Join us for breakfast and fellowship!

New Bible Study

Beginning **Thursday, September 11th** Jennipher Burns will begin a 7-week Bible study, "Luke in the Land", at **9:00 AM** in **room 5/6**. Books are \$25.00 and are available at the first meeting. Contact Jennipher, 910-206-1903; or jennipherlove09@gmail.com **for more information.**

September Special Offering

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL OFFERING SUNDAY (9/7) will benefit our Preschool Griggs Scholarship Fund. Established in memory of Joe and Kathleen Griggs, funds will assist those families for whom preschool tuition at HUMC is too great a burden. No child has ever been turned away because of inability of the family to pay. Please keep the Preschool in your prayers during this time as they begin another challenging year of 'training up' God's children and giving them a strong love of learning and an educational foundation for kindergarten. If you wish to give to this offering, make your check payable to "HUMC" and write "Griggs Fund" in the memo line. If giving by cash, envelopes will be available in the narthex. Write your name and "Griggs Fund" on the envelope.

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2025

HAMPSTEAD UMC

POWER KIDS & YOUTH

We are super excited about kicking off the new year of Power Kids & Youth this month. Hope you all had a fabulous Summer Break! You have been missed! Join us on Sept 7th & meet our new Associate Pastor for Family Ministries, Brooks Anderson!



We're Back!!!

THE PUMPKINS ARE COMING!

PUMPKIN TOSS DATES:

9/27 9AM

10/11 9AM

September 7th

Power Kids (K-5th Grade) 4pm-6pm
Youth (6th-12th Grade) 5pm-7pm
HUMC - Family Life Center

September 14 th

Power Kids (K-5th Grade) 4pm-6pm
Youth (6th-12th Grade) 5pm-7pm
HUMC - Family Life Center

September 20th-21st

Saturday @ 10am - Patch workday 1
Sunday @ 4pm - Patch workday 2,
followed by Power Kids & Youth!

September 28th

Party in the Park @ Northern Regional
Park in Castle Hayne 3pm-7pm
To Carpool Meet @ HUMC 2:15 pm

Work Days in the Patch - September 20-21st.
Help us prepare the patch for the arrival of the pumpkins.

Pumpkin Toss 1 - September 27. Unload Pumpkins in giant assembly line 9am-Lunch. Pizza & Drinks will be provided. Invite your friends! This is great opportunity for volunteer hours!

Pumpkin Patch Opens - September 27-October 31st. Volunteers are needed to help us manage the patch & sell pumpkins! This is our largest fundraiser of the year. Proceeds benefit our youth program as well as a designated local charity of our choice.

Party & Picnic in the Park - September 28th - Bring your discs for disc golf, pickleball paddles, kickball, basketball, walking shoes!

Pilgrimage - Save the Dates! - November 7-9, Rocky Mount, NC! Open to all youth 6th-12th grade.

Anniversaries...

Tom & Pat Skipper	September 03
Mal & Elaine Myers	September 06
Paul & Karen Saari	September 10
Alex & Melody Doyle	September 16
Henry & Beverly Batton	September 16
Roger & Jody Pooch	September 22
Jerry & Jane Smals	September 24



Birthdays...

Alyssa McBride	September 03
Danielle Spain	September 03
John James	September 04
Lori Walker	September 04
Kyle Carlson	September 05
Patti Rouse	September 05
Al Smith	September 07
Eric Tracy	September 08
Tom McLamb	September 11
Bob Wells	September 12
Kylie Emmett	September 13
Judy Lane	September 15
Liza Martin	September 16
Vicki Russell	September 16
Liam Olson	September 18
Ray Thompson	September 19
Linda Dunn	September 20
Sylvia Waterston	September 20
Ginger Wells	September 20
CJ Britt	September 23
Nicholas Kingman	September 25
Olivia Kingman	September 25
Lillian Malinowski	September 28

Altar Flowers...

Date Dedication

September 7	Ute Wolf...
	<i>"In honor of all my family's September birthdays."</i>
September 29	Robin Williams...
	<i>"In loving memory of Jim and Kay Williams."</i>

Altar Flower Sign-Ups

We still have several available Sundays for altar flower sponsorships. Arrangements are \$45 and are on a first come, first serve basis. Dates available are:

September: 14, 21

October: 12, 19, 26

November: 9, 30

December: 7

Contact the church office to reserve a date
(office@hampsteadumc.org, 910-270-4648).