



Welcome to Hampstead United Methodist Church

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

September 7, 2025

"Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

Order of Worship
10:00 in the Morning

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE & BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

"Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken"
Arranged by Larry Shackley

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, for the feast is prepared!

God's invitation is for us all.

Come, even if the road has been long and your spirit is weary.

Christ welcomes the weak, the strong, the lost, and the found.

Come, ready to count the cost—

And ready to celebrate the joy of discipleship.

This is the day the Lord has made!

We will rejoice and be glad in it!

*OPENING WORSHIP HYMN

"Come, We That Love the Lord"

#732

*OPENING PRAYER

God of the great banquet,

**You invite us to the feast of life, and you call us not just to show up—
but to follow, to learn, to carry the cross.**

Give us courage today to say yes, not only with our lips but with our lives.

**Open our ears to hear your Word, our hearts to receive your grace,
and our hands to serve with joy.**

Through Christ our host and Savior, we pray, Amen.

*SECOND WORSHIP HYMNSONG

"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

#402

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

PSALTER LESSON

Psalm 139:1-18

#854

O Lord, you have searched me and known me!

You know when I sit down and when I rise up: You discern my thoughts from afar.

You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it altogether.

You pursue me behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain it.

Whither shall I go from your spirit?

Or whither shall I flee from your presence?

If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!

**Congregation please stand as able.*

If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

If I say, "Let only darkness cover me, and the light about me be night,"

**Even the darkness is not dark to you, the night is bright as the day;
for darkness is a light with you.**

For it was you who formed my inward parts,
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you, for you are fearful and wonderful.

Wonderful are your works!

You know me very well;

my frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately wrought in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes beheld my unformed substance;

**in your book were written the days that were formed for me, every day,
before they came into being.**

How profound to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

If I would count them, they are more than the sand. When I awake, I am still with you.

ANTHEM

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

Chancel Choir

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

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 14: 25-33

SERMON

"Great Idea to Have a Party! I'm on My Way!"

Rev. Dr. Debbie Matthis

WE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF GOD

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord Jesus, you call us to follow you with willing hearts.

Through your grace, **help us to follow you.**

When discipleship feels costly, give us courage and strength.

Through your grace, **help us to follow you.**

For your church in every place, that we may be faithful witnesses of your love.

Through your grace, **help us to follow you.**

For the leaders of nations, that they may seek peace and justice.

Through your grace, **help us to follow you..**

For all who are poor, hungry, or hurting—those who carry heavy burdens today.

Through your grace, **help us to follow you..**

For our families, neighbors, and community, that love may guide our homes and our streets.

Through your grace, **help us to follow you.**

For the sick, the grieving, and the lonely, that they may know your comfort

Through your grace, **help us to follow you.**

And when we grow weary on the road, remind us of your cross and your joy.

Through your grace, **help us to follow you.**

We offer these prayers Christ's holy name, **Amen.**

INVITATION

....So therefore, let us repent of our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION

Lord Jesus, we confess that we do not always follow you.

We hesitate when discipleship is costly.

We cling to comfort and convenience instead of your call.

**We make excuses instead of saying yes to your invitation.
Forgive us, renew us, and give us courage to follow you faithfully.
Hear the good news, Christ died while we were yet sinners;
That proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Glory to God. Amen.**

THE PEACE

WE CELEBRATE AT THE TABLE OF GOD

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *The following or the one on UMH 9 may be used*

Lift up your heads / **We lift them up to God**
Lift up your hearts / **We lift them up to the Lord**
Lift up your hands
We dedicate our heads, our hearts, and our hands to the worship of God.

Loving God, you are the One who formed us from the dust of the earth...
....and all the company of heaven, we 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.**

Blessed be the name of the Lord Jesus Christ...
...proclaim the mystery of our faith:

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

Holy God, pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here.....
....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.
"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Eternal God, thank you for feeding us at your banquet table.
As we rise from this meal, send us out to be your hands and feet—
ready to love boldly, forgive freely, and follow Jesus with joy.
Amen.**

WE DEPART TO SERVE GOD

*CLOSING WORSHIP HYMN

"O How I Love Jesus"

#170

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

"Thou Art Worthy"
By Pauline Mills; Arranged by Fred Bock

Hampstead United Methodist Church



Sunday, September 7, 2025

10:00 AM Worship Service

15395 Hwy 17 N • Hampstead, NC 28443 • (910) 270-4648

www.hampsteadumc.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.

SPECIAL OFFERING TODAY 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 are available in the narthex or from an usher. Write your name and "Griggs Fund" on the envelope. You may give online by credit/debit card:
<https://app.clovergive.com/app/giving/hamp7048570>.

HUMC Pumpkin Patch!! Join us on **Saturday, September 27th at 9:00 AM** for our annual Pumpkin Patch "Pumpkin Toss". Volunteers are needed to help unload the pumpkins. Many hands make light work! Come be a part of our giant assembly line and help this worthy cause! This can also be counted towards any volunteer community service hours. Free pizza and drinks will be provided. Save the date for **October 18th** when we will have a second load of pumpkins! Questions? Contact our Youth Director Brooks Anderson, 304-690-4660 or email brooks.n.anderson@gmail.com.

Pumpkin Patch Clean-Up Day! Help us prepare the Pumpkin Patch on **Saturday, September 20th**! We'll start at **9:00 AM**. Bring a rake and some gloves!

United Women In Faith We will meet **Tuesday, September 9th at 10:00 AM** in room 5/6. All women of the church are invited to attend!

Finance Committee **Tuesday, September 9th, 5:30 PM, room 5/6.**

Divorce Care **Tuesday, September 9th at 6:00 PM** in room 9.

Meals On Wheels Join us in the FLC kitchen for our Meals On Wheels program. Meals will be prepped on **Friday, September 12th at 10:00 AM**, with packing and delivery beginning at **8:00 AM** on **Saturday, September 13th**.

AV Volunteers Needed! We are still in need of volunteers to help run the AV during Sunday worship services! Our coordinator is retiring at the end of September. If you are interested or know someone who might be, contact the church office or see Pastor Debbie.

Church Council **Tuesday, September 16th at 6:30 PM** in the sanctuary.

Trustees Meeting **September 25th at 6:30 PM** in room 9.

Charge Conference Date Our 2025 Charge Conference is **Thursday, October 30th, at 6:00 PM** at **Wesleyan Chapel UMC** (10255 US Hwy 17 N, Wilmington, 28411).

Altar Flowers Needed!

September: 14, 21
October: 12, 19, 26
November: 9, 30
December: 7

We still need Volunteer Sponsors!

Flowers are on a first come-first served basis. Each arrangement is \$45. Contact the church office to sign up! (office@hampsteadumc.org)

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar today are given by Ute Wolf...

"In honor of all my family's September Birthdays."

~Prayer Requests~



Angie Bolin	Vicki Russell
Sally Jo Capozio	Conne Schwarz
Dot Cotman	Dasha Sharp
Chris Gibson	Emily Skinner
Judy Harrelson	Karen Smith
John Harris	Carolyn Southerland
Gavin Johnson	Dee Stolk
Laura Kiyabu	Costas Tchouros
Fred Phillips	Jane Tchouros
Milo Pickett	Hiram Williams
Buddy Rogers	Jean Withers
Peggy Rose	Brian Wright
Bill Russell	

Online Giving Made Simple:

We're excited to offer a new way to give! You can now support our church by scanning the QR code below with your smartphone or tablet's camera. It will take you directly to our secure online giving page.



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

~Calendar of Events~

September 7, 2025—September 14, 2025

Sunday—9/7

10:00 AM Worship Service
 4:00 PM Power Kids (FLC)
 5:00 PM Jr./Sr. High Youth (FLC)

Monday—9/8

8:30 AM ROMEOs (Library)

Tuesday—9/9

9:00 AM Prayer Team (Library)
 5:30 PM Finance Committee (Rm. 5/6)
 6:00 PM Divorce Care (Rm. 9)

Wednesday—9/10

6:20 PM Bible Study Fellowship (Rms.2, 3, 5/6, 9)

Thursday—9/11

9:00 AM Bible Study "Luke in the Land" (Rm. 5/6)

Friday—9/12

10:00 AM Meals On Wheels Prep (FLC Kitchen)

Saturday—9/13

7:30 AM Emmaus Men's Training (FLC)
 8:00 AM Meals On Wheels (FLC Kitchen)

Sunday—9/14

10:00 AM Worship Service
 4:00 PM Power Kids (FLC)
 5:00 PM Jr./Sr. High Youth (FLC)

Calendar Note:

The administrative assistant will be out of the office September 9th through September 11th. The office may not be open all day, every day. Call or Email Pastor Debbie.