



August 2018

The Grove Echoes

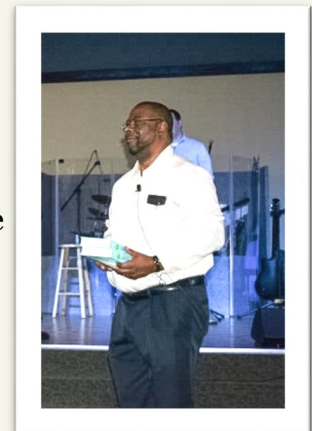
HICKORY GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR SAM

Dr. Samuel (Sam) Moore, Jr.
Senior Pastor

From a Christian perspective, we define grace as God's unmerited favor. As United Methodist, we define grace as prevenient, justifying, and sanctifying. We have another opportunity to experience God's grace in our community.

I shared in last month's newsletter that Sylvia Sekle-Dueh was celebrated as a Deaconess at Annual Conference and Bishop Leeland assigned her to Hickory Grove UMC. Sylvia's passion and gifts are in the area of Health Ministries. The grace, the power of God which manifest itself in God's unmerited favor is that Sylvia and her ministry are available to us. She will be assisting me in some pastoral care ministry. She continues to receive training in this area and I will become one of her mentors. She will grow in the process and we will be blessed by her ministry. Therefore, I am asking that as Sylvia makes her rounds and grows in her ministry, please allow her to practice ministry with you. I invite you to allow her to care for you and to be a vessel of God's grace.



Last year, Sylvia and some members of our Program Council offered a Health Fair to the community. It was not well received. Sylvia and her team will be providing us with a survey. The purpose of it will be to ascertain where we have needs and ways that the team may partner with us so that our health needs are met. When the survey is given, please respond.

As I perceive and experience the movement of God in our community, I understand it as grace. God gives us God's blessings, God's power, God's presence, and God's growth, not because we deserve them. God gives them to us because God is good. I celebrate God's goodness and I accept it with the understanding that God is blessing us so that we may bless others. I invite you to receive the gifts God is giving to us. I also invite you to pass along these blessings to others.

*Blessings,
Sam*

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<http://www.hickorygroveumc.com>

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30am-4:00pm and Friday 8:30am - Noon

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The August United Methodist Men's meeting will be held on Monday, August 27 at 7:00 PM in the FLC Trinity Room. Their program will be planning for the 2018 Bluegrass Festival.

Save the Date!
12th Annual Bluegrass Festival
September 8, 2018 at 4:00 pm

WeCare August needs: grits, oatmeal and jelly
We Care Dates: Saturdays, August 11 and 25
Thanks for helping us feed our neighbors in need.

Trivia Night ~ Saturday, August 18, 2018
5:00 pm in the Trinity Room

School Supplies for Hickory Grove Elementary

We are still collecting the following items: backpacks, pencils, used children's books, Lysol wipes, folders, notebooks, markers, lined paper, Kleenex, hand sanitizer, crayons and construction paper. Please leave your donations in the bins marked for Hickory Grove Elementary in the FLC and church hallway.

There is also a need for school uniforms, sizes 4, 5, 8, and 10. They need navy blue, baby blue or white shirts/polos, navy blue and khaki pants. The uniform items (shirts and pants) can be found at Wal-Mart, Target, Famous Mart etc. They do not have any type of emblem on them. The items are plain shirts/polos and pants.

Sunday Morning Worship Services:

Traditional Worship: 9:15 am, in Sanctuary

Sunday School: 10:20 am, in Various Classrooms

Contemporary Worship: 11:11 am, in Family Worship Center

Mini Church: 11:30 am, in Learning Center

African Ministry Worship: 11:11 am, in Sanctuary

Servicio Hispano: 11:11 am, in Chapel

Nursery is provided in the Preschool Area every Sunday
from 9:15 am - 12:30 pm for children 4 years of age and younger.

The Grove Echoes is a monthly publication of Hickory Grove United Methodist Church.

Minister Precious Wilson

Assistant Minister and African Venue Administrator

Precious was born in Liberia, West Africa. He was reared by his aunt, an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church. He has been married to his lovely wife, Loretta for eighteen years. They have two beautiful children, Elijah and Faith.

Precious and Loretta are both registered nurses. Precious holds a dual master degree in Business Administration and Health Care Management. Recently, Precious graduated with a Master of Divinity degree. However, it is the degree in religion that brings about fulfillment, contentment and desire to serve God. It is the studying and living the Word of God that continues to transform our lives.

Precious and his family are Christians who have made Jesus the Lord and Savior of their lives. Precious believes that serving God and humanity is paramount in his walk with God. "All that I am and all that I surrender to God, because all belongs to God."



C H R I S T I A N E D U C A T I O N

Abbi Williams

Director of Christian Education

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for supporting the Youth in their Mission Trip to Hayesville. You'll find some pictures from our trip in this issue of



Grove Echoes! We had a wonderful time. We also enjoyed sharing with you in all of the services on July 15 ,as well as, with United Methodist Men and Prayer Breakfast. We covet your prayers, monetary support and words of encouragement. Every sandwich you purchased, every pie you ate, every cup of soup - you made it possible for us to go on this trip!



On Friday, July 20 we had a Family Movie Drive-In out in the church parking lot. We had 74 in attendance! Families from our community joined us for a night of popcorn, candy and "Coco!" Stay tuned for our next family event.

Vacation Bible School is quickly coming upon us and will be here so very soon! We will be learning about God's promises during Splash Canyon from August 5-9 in the gym. Be sure to register your children online or drop by the church office to fill out a paper form. This week of fun is for children ages 3 years old through rising 6th grade. We will be having VBS nightly from 6-8:30 PM.

As always, may God be with you!
Abbi





2018 Youth Mission Trip



The United Methodist Women have set four mission priority issues for 2016-2020. They are: Economic Inequality, Climate Justice, Mass Incarceration and Criminalization of Communities of Color and Maternal and Child Health. As members, we have been learning about these issues in various ways.

As the Hickory Grove UMW Unit, we are focusing this year on Criminalization of Communities of Color. In July, several of us took part in a webinar about interrupting the school to prison pipeline. Our district and unit Social Action Coordinator, Sylvia Sekle-Dueh, brings us information about this topic at meetings and via email.

United Methodist Women make a difference! We are strong advocates for women, children and youth here at home, as well as, around the world. Why don't you join us?

Jatana Royster HGUMW Co-President

Sylvia Sekle-Dueh was consecrated as a Deaconess with the United Methodist Church in May at the United Methodist Women's Assembly in Ohio. She was commissioned by Bishop Paul Leeland at our Western North Carolina Annual Conference in June. Deaconesses are lay women who have been called to a lifetime ministry of love, justice and service.

This was a four year process for Sylvia and we are very proud of her! Our unit presented Sylvia with a Special Mission Recognition pin in July.



		<u>Fifth Sunday</u>				
<u>Giving</u>		<u>July 1</u>	<u>July 8</u>	<u>July 15</u>	<u>July 22</u>	<u>July 29</u>
Received - General Fund		\$10,285.71	\$17,805.90	\$6,596.54	\$7,996.61	\$6,492.90
Received - Building fund		\$2,217.00	\$2032.00	\$1,302.00	\$3,122.50	\$1,412.50
Received - Special		\$855.00	\$432.00	\$1,202.00	\$432.00	\$212.00
Received - Apportionments		\$420.00	\$25.00	\$0	\$0	\$395.00
Total Received		\$13,777.71	\$20,294.90	\$9,100.54	\$11,551.11	\$8,512.40
Needed for General Budget (per week)		\$11,250.00	\$11,250.00	\$11,250.00	\$11,250.00	\$11,250.00
Needed for Building Budget (per week)		\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
<u>Attendance</u>		<u>Fifth Sunday</u>				
9:15 Traditional		102	109	100	106	86
11:11 Contemporary		54	45	57	45	150
African		62	84	89	78	
Latino	Retreat	27	38	38		
Mini Church		11	7	4	2	
Total		229	272	288	269	236
Sunday School		103	87	192	99	70

The Memorials and Honorariums are printed on the next page.

Dear Church Family,

Blessings to you and your family. We want you to know how grateful we are for all the support you give to Hickory Grove United Methodist Church. We have been amazed at how well we have adapted to the changes of the past few years - God is good all the time. We are coming to you today to lift up our building fund giving. The monthly giving is not supporting the mortgage. This means that we are using funds that are in reserve. We need our reserves because we will need to renew our mortgage in 2019. We anticipate that the mortgage will then be over one million dollars. We would like to make a substantial payment on this anticipated balance. We will also need to show that we can support our monthly payments. We are hoping that these strategies will place us in a position in which we can pay the mortgage off as soon as possible. Our staff and trustees are doing wonderful jobs of keeping our expenses low so that even though we are not meeting our general fund giving budget, we are getting by. Please do all you can to support our building fund giving on a continuous basis.

God is with us, our love for God, and the missions that we support are the real reason we exist. Thank you for your continuous prayers and for all you do to support Hickory Grove United Methodist Church.

*Peace in Christ,
Finance Team*

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

MEMORIALS

Doug Little

Snack Pack: Jean Long
General: Tony Russell
General: Bill, Mary and Will Magee
Snack Pack: Ray and Cheryl Sage
Snack Pack: Donald and Jacqueline Cureton
Snack Pack: Betty Nunn
General: Floyd and Katherine Sistrunk
Snack Pack: Mary Wyant
Snack Pack: Pathfinders Class
Building Fund: Donald and Linda Cashion-Wisley
General: Epworth Class
Snack Pack: Gary Little
General: William and Janice Hinson
WeCare: Denny and Becky Baldwin

Joe Knotts

General: Mary Marshall and Jamie Berrier
General: Epworth Class
General: William and Janice Hinson
General: Mary Martin
General: John and Ruby Wood Kelly
Cemetery Fund: Leon and Anne (Dulin) Joyner
WeCare: Denny and Becky Baldwin
Building: Joyce Dulin
General: Floyd and Katherine Sistrunk
General: Jean Long
General: Tony Russell
Building: Don and Linda Wigley

Tom and Martha Dulin

David M. Dulin

Doris Sifford

Cemetery Fund: Leon and Anne (Dulin) Joyner
Cemetery Fund: Leon and Anne (Dulin) Joyner
General: Debbie, Michael and Josie Culpepper
General: Betty Nunn
Building: Joyce Dulin
Building: Don and Linda Wigley

HONORARIUMS

Randy Bunnell

Sara Purser

Ruth Hicks

Chap Tuttle

Sunday Ndoh

General: Sarah and Andrew Guess
General: Epworth Class
General: Epworth Class
General: Epworth Class
General: Epworth Class

Sharon Freeze Preschool Director



The staff and I are gearing up for another great Preschool year. When school begins Tuesday, September 4, the Preschool will be opening its doors to begin our **60th year** of operation. HGUMC should be proud to have offered such a wonderful preschool ministry to our community for 60 years! While the preschool operates with its own budget, it certainly could not offer an affordable program without the support of the church. We are offering a much needed service in our community. Thank you HGUMC for this ministry!

Last month, we had Summer Fun Camp for the 5th consecutive summer. 23 children, 3 staff and 2 volunteers came together for a week of music, arts and crafts, learning, and a whole lot of sun! Our themes were I Scream for Ice Cream, Wild, Wild West, Bugs and Critters, Water Fun, and See How They Grow.

We would love to have any who are available and able to come out and help us spread mulch on the playgrounds on Tuesday, August 21 at 6:30. Many hands make light work and we certainly appreciate all who can volunteer! We need wheelbarrows, shovels, gravel rakes, and work gloves, so please bring any of these items with you. (Our rainout date will be Thursday, 8/23).

The Preschool will hold its Annual Open House for parents and preschoolers the morning of Thursday August 30 at 11:00. Please feel free to stop by during this time and take a look at all that is happening in the children's wing of the Susanna Wesley building.

Sharon Freeze, Preschool Director



Wednesday, August 1...Weekly Wednesday Activities

6:00 pm Champions in Motion, Self Defense (Gym)*

Thursday, August 2...Weekly Thursday Activities**Friday, August 3**

6:00 pm Latino Venue Meeting (Trinity Room)

Saturday, August 4...Weekly Saturday Activities

9:00 am VBS Set Up (Gym)

9:00 am Quilting Ministry, Block of the Month (Trinity Room)

Sunday, August 5...Weekly Sunday Activities

12:30 pm Trustees' Meeting (Parlor B)

6:00 pm Vacation Bible School (Gym)

8:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Epworth Bldg.)*

Monday, August 6

10:00 am Sign Language Class (FLC)*

6:00 pm Vacation Bible School (Gym)

6:00 pm Sign Language Evening Class (FLC)*

Tuesday, August 7...Weekly Tuesday Activities

6:00 pm Vacation Bible School (Gym)

6:00 pm American Legion Meeting Post 400 (Epworth Bldg.)

Wednesday, August 8

6:00 pm Vacation Bible School (Gym)

Thursday, August 9...Weekly Thursday Activities

6:00 pm Vacation Bible School (Gym)

Friday, August 10...Weekly Friday Activities

7:30 pm Latino Prayer Night (Chapel)

Saturday, August 11...Weekly Saturday Activities

8:00 am Quilting Ministry (Trinity Room)

9:00 am Evangelism Team (Parlor)

10:00 am WeCare Food Pantry (WeCare House)

12:00 pm African Venue: Family Reunion (Gym)*

Sunday, August 12...Weekly Sunday Activities

5:00 pm African Venue (Chapel)

6:00 pm Program Council (Parlor)

8:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Epworth Bldg.)*

Monday, August 13

10:00 am Sign Language Class (FLC)*

2:00 pm Group Lydia (Parlor A)

6:00 pm Sign Language Evening Class (FLC)*

6:00pm Champions in Motion, Cheerleading (Gym)*

6:30 pm Group Tabitha (Trinity Room)

Tuesday, August 14...Weekly Tuesday Activities

6:00 pm Quilting Ministry (Trinity Room)

7:00 pm Latino Worship Practice (Chapel)

Wednesday, August 15...Weekly Wednesday Activities

6:00 pm Champions in Motion, Self Defense (Gym)*

Thursday, August 16...Weekly Thursday Activities**Friday, August 17...Weekly Friday Activities****Grove Echoes Deadline**

10:00 am Queens Grant Graduation (FWC)

Saturday, August 18...Weekly Saturday Activities

9:00 am Set up for Trivia Night (Family Life Center)

5:00 pm Trivia Night (Family Life Center)

Sunday, August 19...Weekly Sunday Activities

1:00 pm Group Naomi (Bride's Room)

5:00 pm African Venue Program (Chapel)

8:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Epworth Bldg.)*

Monday, August 20

10:00 am Sign Language Class (FLC)*

6:00 pm Sign Language Evening Class (FLC)*

6:00 pm Champions in Motion, Cheerleading (Gym)*

Tuesday, August 21...Weekly Tuesday Activities

7:00 pm Latino Worship Practice (Chapel)

Wednesday, August 22...Weekly Wednesday Activities

6:00 pm Champions in Motion, Self Defense (Gym)*

Thursday, August 23...Weekly Thursday Activities**Friday, August 24...Weekly Friday Activities****Saturday, August 25...Weekly Saturday Activities**

10:00 am WeCare Food Pantry (WeCare House)

Sunday, August 26...Weekly Sunday Activities

8:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Epworth Bldg.)*

Monday, August 27

10:00 am Sign Language Class (FLC)*

6:00 pm Sign Language Evening Class (FLC)*

6:00 pm Champions in Motion, Cheerleading (Gym)*

7:00 pm United Methodist Men (Trinity Room)

Tuesday, August 28...Weekly Tuesday Activities

6:00 pm Quilting Ministry (Trinity Room)

7:00 pm Latino Worship Practice (Chapel)

Wednesday, August 29...Weekly Wednesday Activities

6:00 pm Champions in Motion, Self Defense (Gym)*

Thursday, August 30...Weekly Thursday Activities

1:00 pm Preschool Open House

Friday, August 31...Weekly Friday Activities

7:30 pm Latino Bible Study (Chapel)

*Non-HGUMC Event

Weekly Sunday Activities

9:15 am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

10:00 am Latino Bible Study (Parlor)

10:20 am Sunday School

11:11 am Contemporary Worship (FWC)

11:30 am Mini Church (Learning Center)

11:11 am African Ministry Worship (Sanctuary)

11:11 am Servicio Hispano: (Chapel)

5:00 pm Youth (Youth Room/Trinity Room)

St. Gabriel Worship (Epworth Bldg.)

Weekly Tuesday Activities

7:00 am Prayer Breakfast (Epworth Bldg.)

8:30 am Arts & Crafts (Epworth Bldg.)

3:30 pm Staff Meeting (Conference Room)

6:00 pm Girl Scouts (Room 212)

7:00 pm Latino Worship Practice (Chapel)

Weekly Thursday Activities

7:00 pm Praise Band Practice (Family Life Center)

7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

7:00 pm African Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Weekly Saturday Activities

10:00 am African Ministry Basketball (Gym)

4:00 pm St. Gabriel Worship Set Up (Epworth Bldg.)

5:00 pm African Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)