

Director of Music: **Ledford Wilson** Organist: **Betty Winslow**
 Church Secretary: **Susan Coard** Contemporary Worship Leader: **Ryan Kight**
 Directors of Youth: **Andy Barnard & Ginny Owens** Nursery Worker: **Mary Fenno**
 Director of Children's Ministry: **Cindy Williams & Doris Carawan** Sexton: **Michael Colbert**
 Acolyte: 8:30 **Kamryn Strosnider** 11:00 **Dylan Manning**
 Next Week: 8:30 **Grace Williams** 11:00 **Jessica Rosser**
 Children's Church: 8:30 **Cheryl Cooper** 11:00 **Tess Bechthold**
 Next Week: 8:30 **Lois Thomas** 11:00 **Lynn Jordan**
 Offering Counters: **Kim Schorr & Ann Tasker**
 Next Week: **Gale Bryant & Sharon Magyar**

Report of Stewardship for November 25, 2018

Attendance	159		
Weekly Budget	\$ 7,786.00	Budget to Date	\$ 365,942.00
General Offering	\$ 4,713.00	Received to Date	\$ 331,342.37
Tanzania Well Project	\$17,627.09		

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday	2:30 pm	Town Hall Meeting
	3:00-5:30	Youth
	4:30 pm	Choir Practice
	5:30-7:00 pm	God's Kids
	6:00 pm	"The Hickory" service
Monday	7:00 pm	Administrative Council Meeting
Tuesday	6:00 pm	Mature Men's Basketball
	6:30 pm	Staff-Parish Committee Meeting
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Unshakable Hope Bible Study
Thursday	10:00 am	Unshakable Hope Bible Study

CAST: January 2-9, 2019

NEST: March 20-27, 2019

The pastor is available in his office on Wednesday and Friday mornings subject to emergencies. Please feel free to call the Pastor at any time on his cell phone (287-8420) or the church office (421-2778) and an appointment can be arranged.

PASTORAL TRANSITION TEAM:

Cheryl Cooper – Chair, Staff Parish (373-5457) cherylwm94@yahoo.com	Steve Barnes (406-1474) jesikar@cox.net
Cindy Bryan (240-0464) cfeldman@verizon.net	Linda Calhoun (547-2652, 759-1110) crabbycalhoun@verizon.net
Ed Hughes (482-3635) edhughes9945@gmail.com	Marty Hutto (621-6432) mchutto@cox.net
Sabrina Leist (418-0231) sabrinaleist@cox.net	Teresa Mizell (323-2932) teresakmizell@gmail.com
Tim Schorr (618-3258) tim.schorr@yahoo.com	Celia White (421-2756, 403-7365) etceliawhite@yahoo.com
Don Brewer – Lay Leader (410-2139) djbrew@comcast.net	Greg Moyer (421-7263, 377-1866) pseudogreg@cox.net
Donna Mishler, Associate Lay Leader (421-7963, 469-0632) suthernsky1@aol.com	Cindy Williams (373-4835) cynscott@gmail.com
Susan McKee- Administrative Council President (846-1033) snoozin63@cox.net	Clyde Harrell (421-2631) ch.chassoc@gmail.com

Hickory United Methodist Church Mission Statement:

“To live and proclaim the Gospel, seeking, encouraging and equipping all to become disciples of Jesus Christ.”

Hickory United Methodist Church

2708 Battlefield Boulevard, South, Chesapeake, Virginia 23322

Thomas L. Mercer, Sr., Pastor

Church 421-2778 - Parsonage 421-2777 - Cellular 287-8420

Worship Services: 8:30 & 11:00 am, 6 pm - Sunday School 10:00 am

First Sunday of Advent - December 2, 2018



Welcome to Hickory United Methodist Church! We hope today is a blessing and invite you to worship with us again soon. The Pastor, Staff and people of Hickory will be glad to share with you about opportunities for Christian growth. Please call the church office for more info. You may also email the church at office@hickoryumc.org or visit our website at www.hickoryumc.org. On Facebook: www.facebook.com/hickoryunitedmethodistchurch.

If you need help hearing today's service, hearing aids are available. Please see an usher.

The flowers on the altar are given by the Eck Family in memory of Dave & Cathy Eck.

Our District Superintendent, Wayne Snead, and the Hickory Staff Parish Relations Committee need your input as Hickory Church looks toward a pastoral change in 2019. There will be a Town Hall Meeting with the DS to explain the process, answer questions and receive your input. The second Town Hall Meeting will be TODAY, at 2:30 pm. You are encouraged to attend this meeting. Members of the Pastoral Transition Team are listed on the back of the bulletin.

A Christmas Gift (Love Offering) is being collected today through Sun., Dec. 23rd, for Pastor Tom and family. Please place your gifts in the plate on the piano or in the narthex.

Pecans: Pecans are on sale in the Welcome Center between services.

Christmas Poinsettias: Please see the order forms in the bulletin. Today is the last day to order.

Christmas Cantata: Sunday, Dec. 16th, 6 pm, followed by Cantata Dinner. Christmas Cantata dinner tickets will be on sale between services. Adults \$7, children 8 & under \$5.

You can now donate to HUMC Online! Through our new online system, you can now send in your donations or tithes wherever you are. You can even specify the area where you would like your money to be used or set up recurring payments so you never have to bother with tithe checks again! Just go to and click the “Donate Now” button to get started.

Youth Fundraiser: 2019 Calendars are for sale between services. \$8.00. Make your checks payable to HUMC Youth. All proceeds go to the Youth Mission Trip.

Nursery: The nursery is in need of a flat screen TV and DVD player. If you would like to donate one of these items, please see Pastor Tom.

Offering Counters: Help is needed on our Counter Team. If you are interested in helping to count the offering on Sundays after the 11 am service, please contact Gale Bryant (719-2246 or 547-0501). Thank you.

The Flower Chart for 2018 is in the Welcome Center. Payment is due when you sign up. Please make your check FOR ALTAR FLOWERS ONLY payable to HUMW and put it in the UMW box in the Choir Room or give your check to a member of the UMW. Please do not put your check in the offering plate. PIANO OR ORGAN FLOWERS: you will be responsible for these; see additional information on the Flower Chart.

Our Chancel Choir needs you! The choir is looking for new members and it's okay if you can't be here every Sunday because we are flexible. There is a one hour practice on Sundays at 4:30 pm. If you are interested or need information, please call Ledford Wilson at 252-775-1866.

Youth: Fundraiser: Selling Calendars - \$8.
For more information, contact Ginny Owens (621-8135).

Chesapeake Community Messiah Production: Fri., Dec. 14th, 7 pm. First Rehearsal is Oct. 15th. If you are interested in participating, see the flyers on the bulletin board in the Welcome Center.

Cleaning Kits - UMCOR: Buckets and instructions for cleaning kits are in the Welcome Center. Kits will be sent to staging warehouses for distribution to flood victims. PLEASE READ the instructions, check off each item and return the list with the bucket. A donation of \$2 per bucket will defray the cost of shipping. Questions: Clyde Harrell, Disaster Coordinator, HUMC, (757)421-2631 or email:ch.chassoc@gmail.com.

Salvation Army Angel Tree Outreach



All gifts are due back TODAY. Please bring your gifts to the Church foyer, with the tags attached. Your gifts are a blessing in a less fortunate families life this holiday season! Thank you for your participation. Korin Lester – cell 635-4086

CAST News: The Chesapeake Area Shelter Team has started and our church will be hosting the week of January 2nd - 9th, 2019. We are already gearing up for this great ministry and the sign-up sheets are on the table in the Welcome Center. If you have any questions please contact Teresa Mizell at 757-323-2932. Matthew 25:35

Prayer Requests for a Praying Church

New Requests for Members

Robin Gronemus Jimmy Calhoun Janet Manning

New Requests Beyond our Congregation

Members with Continued Concerns

Brendan Best			
Marty Hutto	Bob Snow	CS Curling	Ruth Gometz
Mike McKee	Lynn Marable	Bob Snow	Connie Robertson
Grace McKee	Todd Perdue	Sharon Etzell	Elaine Hutto
Ruth Ann Rummel	Chuck Fryer	Bill Furlough	Bill Reed
Andy Barnard	Carolyn Harrell	Alice Jarman	Stephanie Stahler

Continued Concerns Beyond our Congregation

Eddie & Renee Etheridge		Emory Ewell	Jill Jessup
Michelle Hall Louk	Cindy Hughes	Henry Storm	Julia Wenzel
Russell Heath, Jr.	Joel Hughes	Eva Delfenthal	Larry & Shirley Resel
City of Hope	Brittany Bishop	Ginny Moritz	Barry Hathaway
Nancy Ewell	Bill Wright	Marvourneen Bryan	Tom Weston
Joseph Gates	Bobby Old	Pearl Zajack	Betty Kelly
Katlyn Hughes	Martin Oliver	Judy Matkins	Frank & Deborah Sullivan
Nadine Neidermeier	Henry Thrasher	Junior Ivey	Patricia Gayle
Tim Craig	Vivian Hodges	Al Antaki	Bobby Lockett
Al Napier – Deborah Pallett's friend		Jason Moore – Jayne Moore's grandson	
Paige Nix – Phyllis Nix's granddaughter		Mahrya Lenort – Dennis McCall's daughter	
Ann Stoudenmire – Marty Hutto's niece		Chris Grant – Kathy Moyer's brother	
George Fortner – Gerald Shupe's friend		Ralph Munsey – Cindy Feldman's friend	
Kim Moyer – Alan & Jennifer Foster's friend		Laura Machak – Margaret Norfleet's friend	
Shirley Walston Grimes – Celia White's mother		Jonathan Krispel – Margaret Norfleet's friend	
Dr. Robert Brown – Bev Warburton's brother		Patricia Bechthold – Cheryl McCall's mother	
Alvah Grimes – Celia White's stepfather		Ruth Vierra – Lindsay Eck's mother	
Nicole Shultz – Marge Barnes' friend	Kenny Morgan, Sr. – CS & Carol Curling's son-in-law		
Marie Edmonds – Eva Delfenthal's niece	Nick & Marla Smith – Lynn Hughes' friends		
Marianne Morris Jones – Steve Jones' mother	Betty Eure – Gerald Shupe's friend		
Don Erickson – Bill Reed's friend	James Boyce – Heather Brewer's brother-in-law		
Donna Ward – Stephanie Stahler's cousin	Sharon Ivey – Gary and Carolyn Everton's niece		

Our Deployed Military -Send a note of thanks to military overseas, go to www.lets saythanks.com .

Our Friends in Continued Care

Nina Curling – Autumn Care Autumn Care Residents Marilyn Pratt – Chesapeake Healthcare

Our congregation hears all prayer requests during Sunday services. Please feel free to voice your request during the service. Please indicate your request on the Prayer Request cards found in the pews or call the church office (421-2778). On the Prayer Card, please list the person's name you would like to add to our Prayer List, their relationship to you, and the prayer concern. Place the card in the offering plate or the Prayer Request box on the organ. Names will remain on the List for 4 weeks unless otherwise requested.

Order of Worship

+++++ 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. +++++

THE PIANO AND ORGAN PRELUDE

THE WELCOME OF VISITORS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BRINGING IN OF THE LIGHT

THE CHORAL INTROIT **“I Love You, Lord”** **Acolyte**
Chancel Choir

*HYMN **“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”** **No. 196**

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP & LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned,

FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN, TO US A SON IS GIVEN, AND THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ON HIS SHOULDERS. AND HE WILL BE CALLED WONDERFUL COUNSELOR, MIGHTY GOD, EVERLASTING FATHER, PRINCE OF PEACE.

This morning we light our first candle on the Advent wreath. The light of the flame symbolizes the illumination of Jesus Christ in our lives.

THIS ADVENT SEASON, LET THE LIGHT OF JESUS CHRIST SHINE OUT OF DARKNESS, LET CHRIST’S LIGHT SHINE IN OUR HEARTS SO THAT WE MAY HAVE THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE GLORY OF GOD.

Let us pray: **GRACIOUS LORD, MAY YOUR MIGHTY BLESSINGS BE UPON ALL OF US THIS ADVENT SEASON. MAY YOUR LIGHT SHINE UPON OUR LIVES REMOVING THE DARKNESS ABOUT US. MAY THE JOYFUL GOOD NEWS OF JESUS AND HIS COMING CHANGE OUR LIVES AND GIVE US HOPE FOR WHEN CHRIST COMES AGAIN IN POWER. AMEN**

*THE HYMN OF PRAISE **“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”** **No. 211**

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH **“Affirmation from I Corinthians 15:1-6 and Colossians 1:15-20”** **No. 888**

THE ORGAN INTERLUDE

Please register your attendance by using the form found in the red folder on each pew at the middle aisle.

Visitors are asked to please include your complete address and phone number. **Please print.**

THE SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS OF OUR CONGREGATION

THE PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

“On Eagle’s Wings”

And God will raise you up on eagle’s wings, bear you on the breath of dawn.

Make you to shine like the sun, And hold you in the palm of His hand.

ANTHEM **“Who Will Welcome Him?”** **Chancel Choir**

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

(In addition to your offering, the person on the center aisle is asked to hand the attendance sheet from their row to the usher. Thank You.)

The Organ Offertory

*The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

THE CHILDREN’S MESSAGE **Pastor**

(During the singing of the hymn, children, preschool-2nd grade may go to Children’s Church.)

PLEASE PICK UP YOUR CHILD(REN) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE WORSHIP SERVICE IN THE CLASSROOM(S) BEHIND THE SANCTUARY.

*HYMN **“O Come, All Ye Faithful”** **No. 234**

THE SCRIPTURE READING **Luke 1:5-25**

In blue pew Bibles page 1012

THE MESSAGE **“The Hope of Christmas”** **Pastor**

*THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION AND COMMITMENT **No. 246**

“Joy to the World”

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE CHORAL RESPONSE **“Oh, How He Loves You and Me”** **All**

Oh, how He loves you and me, Oh, how He loves you and me.

He gave His life, what more could He give?

Oh, how He loves you; Oh, how He loves me; Oh, how He loves you and me.

*THE TAKING OF THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD **Acolyte**

*THE ORGAN POSTLUDE

*Denotes the Congregation Standing

Memory Verse:

God’s Presence

Matthew 1:23 (NIV)

1:23 "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"—which means, "God with us."