

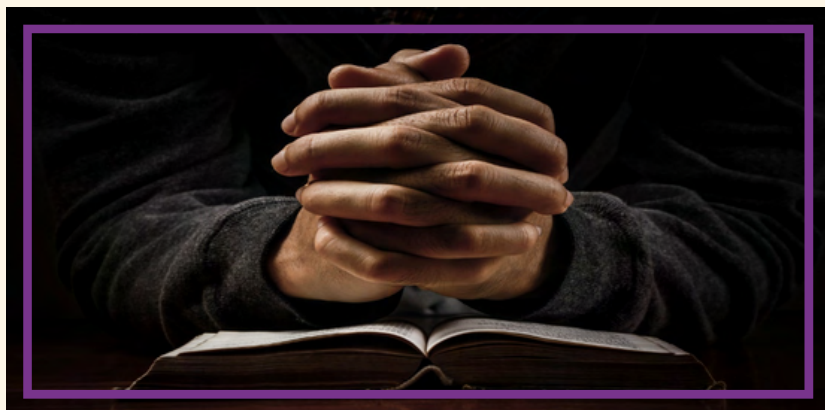


MARCH 2022

THE HICKORY MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER FROM HICKORY UNITED EPC

Pastor's Note



As we enter into the Lenten season, let us remember that a stubborn soul refuses to see the need to change. A person who is stubborn can certainly see areas where others need to change but will stop short of seeing the need for adjustment or conversion in him or herself. Today, I am asking for a change of heart – or better yet, a new heart. God has promised,

“I will give you a new heart, and put a new spirit within you. I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.” **Ezekiel 36:26**

So I pray:

Father,

Help us to be done with being stubborn and unwilling to see our need for change. Give to each of us a new heart. Put a right spirit within us. Take our hearts of stone and give us a heart of flesh. Speak to each of us today about the state of our hearts, and help us to listen, repent, and obey...

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Blessings, Pastor Dan

Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 am Contemporary | 11:00 am Traditional | 9:45 am Sunday School
Childcare Available | Worship Videos At: HickoryChurch.com & facebook.com/hickorychurch

Leading one another into growing relationships with Jesus Christ
by the power of the Holy Spirit all for the glory of God.

- Vision Statement

Reaching *upward* to God,
Growing *inward* with God,
Serving *outward* for God.

- Mission Statement



Stewardship

and Mission Ministry Team
Managing God's Gifts To Us

**Our Culture of
Thankfulness & Generosity**

First Sunday of Lent

March 6, 2022

Jesus answered the devil, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" Luke 4:4

Jesus' compassion for the poor and oppressed of his time is well documented in the Gospels. It's true, one doesn't live by bread alone, but if you're hungry, bread tastes pretty good! Lent is a perfect time for us to share our 'bread' with those who are hungry.

Second Sunday of Lent

March 13, 2022

Some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you."
Luke 13:21

We might want to remember what a brave man Jesus was. Stewards strive for bravery too, not to the extent of risking their lives, but sometimes in embracing people and ministries that may be out of the mainstream.

Third Sunday of Lent

March 20, 2022

The gardener said, "Sir, let it alone for one more year." Luke 13:8

In his parable of the barren fig tree, Jesus encourages patience. The lesson for us: people can realize their stewardship values at different times in life. Let's be open to discovering the many ways we can compassionately care for our world and its people.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 27, 2022

Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons." Luke 15:11

We immediately recognize this introduction to the parable of the prodigal son. It represents such an ordinary but complex situation... how to balance competing interests and values. Stewards always strive for balance, measuring how best to care for all the persons and situations they encounter.

Deacon's Corner



COMMUNION
SCHEDULE

MARCH 6th

Donations of cereal and pasta for the Fort Cherry Helping Hands program are collected Sundays when Communion is served. Thank you for giving generously to this program. Please place your items on the metal rack in the foyer of the main church entrance.

THIS MONTH'S COMMITTEE FOCUS: Card Committee

Committee Chair: Mary Jordan (maryj@hky.com)

Mary is responsible for sending birthday cards to golden-agers, new baby cards, sympathy cards to bereaved church members, thinking of you cards for our shut-ins, and get-well cards. Everyone appreciates being remembered with a card and a note, be it a happy or sad time. In addition, if requested, we will send church bulletins to shut-ins or those missing church services.

Please contact Mary if you know of anyone that we should include on the Deacons' card list.

KARA RUFFALO REPLENISHMENT BLOOD DRIVE

SATURDAY, MARCH 26TH

7:30 am-noon | Covenant Center

Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are recommended!

To schedule your lifesaving appointment, go to www.vitalant.org (Enter Our Group# Z0021154)

Kara is a mom to three kids, a beloved FFA teacher at Avella High School, and a blood recipient. Due to some unexpected medical issues, she has received 7 pints of blood to date and will probably need more. To help replenish the community blood supply, we are hosting this blood drive in Kara's honor. When you donate blood, you will help patients like Kara. Thank you for your generosity!

Easter Flowers



Order Envelopes for purchasing Easter flowers will be available on Sunday, March 13. The envelopes will be on the wood table near the entrance door in the welcome area. If you would like to place a flower in the church for Easter in memory of a loved one, fill out the attached form and include your payment in the envelope. The envelope can be placed in the offering plate or dropped off at the church office. The cost is \$9.00 per flower for Lilies and \$8.00 for Tulips and Daffodils. Please make checks payable to "Hickory United EPC" and note "Easter Flowers" on your check.

ORDERS MUST BE TURNED IN BY SUNDAY, APRIL 3RD

Please pick up your flowers after the 8:30 or 11:00 Easter Service. Any plants left after April 17 will be donated at the Deacons' discretion.

Hickory Christian Preschool

After a long, cold, snowy winter, I am anxiously awaiting the arrival of spring. In March, the snow starts to melt as the temperatures begin to rise. The barren ground and trees start to come back to life with the most beautiful colors. It is a time of new beginnings and a reminder that God keeps His promises.

- Maria Moore, Director



PRESCHOOL registration



Here in the preschool, we begin to think about the new school year that is quickly approaching. Registration for the 2022-2023 school year is underway, and classes are already filling up. We are currently accepting registrations for our two-days a week

Preschool class for children who are three years old and our three days a week Pre-K class for children who are four and five years old. Check out our website at www.HickoryChurch.com under the preschool tab, or contact Maria Moore for more information, 724-356-7337.

Hickory Christian Preschool's

Sarris Candies Fundraiser

TWO WAYS TO ORDER

- Brochure Order Form At The Church
- Online at SarrisCandiesFundraising.com



Please enter our GROUP ID# 10-1157.
Orders will be shipped directly to everyone who supports us online. ALL ORDERS DUE: March 9, 2022.
Brochure orders will be ready for pickup on April 6, 2022. Thank you for supporting our school!

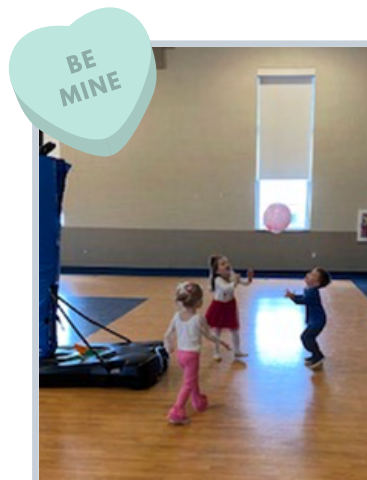
**There is still time
to place your
candy order!**

**Thank you to everyone
who helps support the
school through our
fundraisers. Your support
is greatly appreciated!**

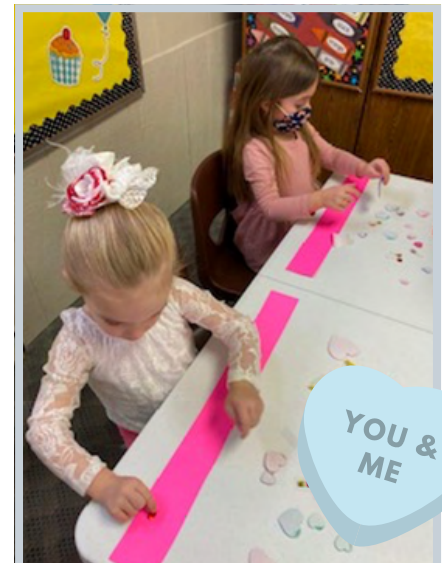


LOVE
YOU

**We had a
great time
at our
Valentine's
Day party!**



BE
MINE



YOU &
ME

6TH-12TH GRADE HICKORY STUDENTS SPRING SCHEDULE

Youth Group

Sundays 630-8pm

Mar 6, 13 & 20

Apr 3, 10

May 1, 8 & 15

Sunday School

Sundays 945-1045am

Up through May 22

Special Events

Mar 25 Bowling 6-11pm

Apr 10 YG Parents Night

**Apr 22-24 Pine Springs
Remix Retreat**

May 15 YG Mystery Finale

May 22 Family Sunday

Service Project

Backpack Blessing Drive May 1 - 22

KIDS/YOUTH COORDINATOR, Dan Bender

Dan.Bender@HickoryUnitedEPC.org | Text: 262-287-1583 | Sunday School (K-12th) 9:45 - 10:45 am

COMBINED YOUTH GROUP EVENT WITH VENICE EPC

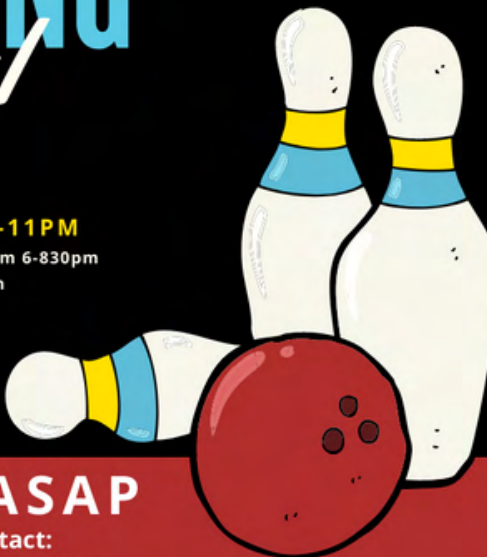
BOWLING *Night!*

FRIDAY, MARCH 25 • 6-11PM

Food and Games @ Hickory CC Gym 6-830pm

Bowling @ West Pike Bowl 9-11pm

**6TH-12TH
GRADERS**



SIGN UP ASAP

For More Information Contact:
Dan.Bender@HickoryUnitedEPC.org

PINE SPRINGS CAMP SPRING REMIX RETREAT

**6TH-12TH GRADE
APRIL 22-24**

SIGN UP ASAP





KIDVENTURE

K-5th Grade

SPRING SCHEDULE (MAR-APR) (6:00PM-7:15PM THURSDAYS)

MAR 3 #21

MAR 10 #22

MAR 17 #23 CRAZY GAME NIGHT

MAR 24 #24

MAR 31 #25

APRIL 7 #26

APRIL 14 MAUNDY THURSDAY - NO KV

APRIL 21 #27

APRIL 28 #28 FAMILY NIGHT FINALE

HICKORY KIDS K-5TH CRAZY GAME NIGHT

Thursday, March 17th
6-715pm Covenant Center Loft



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 - 10:45 am

More Information at
HickoryChurch.com

All are welcome at any time during
these studies.

Location: Fellowship Hall
Teacher: Patty Hamilton

Topic: A study of the gospel of John called
"Be Alive: Get To Know The Living Savior"
by Warren Wiersbe. The focus is the life of
Jesus Christ. This study will last
approximately twelve weeks.

Location: Parlor
Teacher: Ron Stewart

Topic: A study of the Book of Hebrews
called "Be Confident" based on Warren
Wiersbe's Be Confident Bible
Commentary.

NAME YOUR PRICE FLEA MARKET

MARCH 19, 2022 9 AM - 2 PM
COVENANT CENTER • FOOD AVAILABLE

It's that time of year again to start cleaning out those closets for our annual Name Your Price Flea Market! Mark your calendars for March 17th, 18th, and 19th. Please read ALL of the information listed below as there are some changes this year.

- Donation drop-off times for the flea market will be Thursday, March 17th from 1:00 pm - 8:00 pm and Friday, March 18th from 1:00 pm - 8:00 pm. PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF YOUR ITEMS BEFORE the start time each day as it may interfere with the preschool activities and drop-off/pick-up times.
- There will be no pick-up of items this year. You must bring them to the church, and we will help unload.
- We are not accepting clothing, including shoes and hats, stuffed animals, TVs, computers, cribs, and expired car seats (check the back for the expiration date).
- Church members are invited to presale shop on Friday, March 18th from 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm.
- The flea market is Saturday, March 19th, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Food will also be available to purchase, so come hungry or get it to go to enjoy later.
- Large items that cannot be carried while shopping should be dropped off at the Fellowship Hall.

As always, thank you in advance for your donations, it wouldn't be a success without all of you.

If you would like to volunteer or have questions, please get in touch with Shelly, svhouat@hotmail.com, or Sherry, sherrystrnisa@verizon.net.

We look forward to seeing you!



Calling All Pie Bakers!

We are in need of pies for the upcoming Name Your Price Flea Market on Saturday, March 19th. Please contact Shelley Heinlein at 724-356-7815 or svhhcs@icloud.com for more details on what is needed.

Krepps Covered Bridge Festival

Saturday, September 17, 2022

10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 18, 2022

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



Calling all Vendors and Crafters

Would you like to be part of the fun?

For the sixteenth year, the Hickory United Evangelical Presbyterian Church will sponsor the Washington and Greene Counties Covered Bridge Festival at the Krepps Covered Bridge. The Krepps Covered Bridge is a working bridge in a beautiful rural setting near the farming community of Hickory, PA. The Festival is a family-friendly venue with a country fair flavor.

This Festival is part of the Washington-Greene County Covered Bridge Festival weekend. This Festival includes ten bridges, two in Greene County and eight in Washington County. Depending on weather and other factors, we have attracted 1200 – 3000 guests for the weekend at our location. This year, we encourage artisans who can demonstrate their craft to apply, but as always, quality vendors and crafters are welcome.

We feature different entertainers on the stage throughout each day, delicious homemade food from our church kitchens, an antique tractor show, antique/classic car and truck show, children's activities, and, of course, fantastic vendors and crafts. Specific events are subject to change. In addition, we have a Church Service on Sunday morning.

We would like to count you and your artistic endeavors as a key part of the 2022 Krepps Covered Bridge Festival. We seek quality crafters and home product and personal care vendors and want to provide a great experience for you and our guests. We have 18 spaces under the Festival tent and another 25+ spaces in Vendor Alley with vendor-supplied tents. Spaces under the Festival tent are 8' x 13'; Vendor Alley spaces are 12' x 16'. Space under the Festival tent tends to sell out early. Therefore, spaces are assigned first come, first served.

Enclosed is an application for you to fill out and send back to let us know you would like to participate in the 2022 Festival. **Reserve a space under our tent or your own by May 1, 2022, for \$40 for the two days; between May 2 and July 1, the registration is \$50; after July 1, registration is \$60. The first-time vendor fee is \$40.** We will be looking for you – please let us know you are coming! If you are a first-time vendor, please provide pictures of your product.

Return the completed form with your check or money order made out to Hickory United EPC to: Suzanne Stewart, 2038 Stillwater Lane, McDonald, PA 15057

Hope to hear from you soon,

Suzanne Stewart
Chair, Vendor Committee,
Krepps Covered Bridge Festival
quiltsuz@aol.com
724-288-5032 (cell)

KREPPS VENDOR REGISTRATION FORM

2022 Washington-Greene County Covered Bridge Festival

Krepp's Covered Bridge, Hickory, PA
Saturday, September 17, 2022
10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, September 18, 2022
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Name and/or Name of Business:

Address:

Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Type of Vendor: Crafts Home or Personal Care Other

Description of Products Sold (picture of products, if possible for first time vendor):

Number of Spaces: _____ X \$40.00 (\$50 after May 1, \$60 after July 1)

Per Space = \$_____ Enclosed

Have Tent _____ Need under a Festival Tent _____ Will use a generator _____

Special Needs and/or Requests (you may request a specific location, if available):

Outdoor spaces for your own tent are 12' X 16'; Festival tent spaces are 8' X 13'.

Sorry No Tables Supplied and No Electricity Available for Craft Tents.

Check or money order payable to: Hickory United EPC

Payment due date: **By May 1 for the lowest price**

Mail completed form and payment to: Suzanne Stewart
2038 Stillwater Lane
McDonald, PA 15057

Call or e-mail with questions/comments to: 724-288-5032 or quiltsuz@aol.com

Sponsored by: Hickory United Evangelical Presbyterian Church (www.HickoryChurch.com).



COMING THIS MONTH!!

We are excited to announce the launch of our new website and mobile app.

- **NOW:** Visit the website at www.HickoryChurch.com
- **SUNDAY, MARCH 13TH:** Bring your phone to church. We will walk you through setting up the app on your phone.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE - With Imposition of Ashes
Wednesday, March 2nd @ 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary

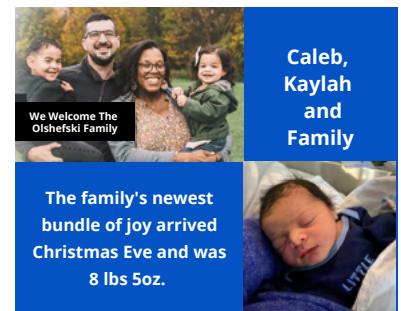
MAUNDY THURSDAY - Cantata with Musical Ensemble
Thursday, April 14th @ 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary



DISCIPLEMAKERS
Reaching the campus...Reaching the world

Please join us in welcoming the Olshefski family from the DiscipleMakers Ministry. Caleb will be preaching at the 8:30 and 11:00 am worship services and will meet with our youth later in the evening. "DiscipleMakers is a Christian campus ministry based in Pennsylvania. Our goal is to raise up the next generation of leaders for the Church by training college students in Bible study, gospel-driven discipleship, and evangelism." www.dm.org

Caleb Olshefski Preaching Sunday, March 6th



March 5, will be the Upward Basketball banquet. Please pray that the families at the awards celebration that do not attend a church will be open to the invitation of connecting with our church. I, personally, would like to thank everyone for all their prayers and support for our Upward Basketball program this year. It has been greatly appreciated.

In His Love, Jeanne Phillips, Upward Basketball Prayer Commissioner

WOMEN'S MINISTRY: On Sunday, February 20th, the Women's Ministry Team distributed "Encouragemints" to the congregation during both services. Our church has had a rough few months, and they just wanted to spread the love of Jesus to everyone.



ALL LADIES:

The Secret Sister program will do things a bit differently this year. We've decided to shower women from Avis Arbor with blessings instead of keeping it between the ladies of the church. We are so blessed here at HUEPC, so let's spread it out there to those who really need it. Stay tuned for how you can participate and help.

Women's Ministry Team: Tracey Fasnacht, chair (tlfasnacht@gmail.com), Cindy Semack, co-chair (ckt@hky.com), Judy Clark, Merri Clark, Janet Greene, Shelley Heinlein, Jeanne Phillips, Denise Rollinitis, Suzzane Stewart, and Georgie Turk.



JOIN US FOR COMPETITIVE CO-ED VOLLEYBALL EVERY MONDAY | 7:00-9:30 PM | COVENANT CENTER

This weekly event is indoor competitive co-ed volleyball. Teams are pickup and divided evenly based on skill level. We play pass, set, spike. Players are expected to know basic volleyball rules and consistently be able to serve overhand, pass ball with forearms, set ball, and hit over the net. Previous playing experience or the ability to learn and adapt quickly is required. We play regulation volleyball rules at

a Men's height net. The event is free (donations to facility accepted)!

Need more information?

- Don't hesitate to get in touch with Jamie, 23jwhite@gmail.com.
- To join the reminder texts and invite a friend, follow the link: <https://www.remind.com/join/churchvoll>.
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/288487686137312/about>



BIRTHDAY LISTS: Effective with the March newsletter, we will no longer publish the monthly birthdays. Instead, we have created an entire year's list of birthdays. Please pick up your copy on the wood table in the welcome area or stop by the church office Monday thru Friday from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm.

THANK YOU NOTES

Dearest Church Family,

The entire Strnisa family has been abundantly blessed by your outpouring of prayer, support, and tremendous love during Frank's illness and passing. Our hearts overflow with thanks and love to you all.

With grateful hearts,
The Strnisa Family



Dartball's March Schedule

All Games Start @ 7:00 pm

Home Games in Covenant Center

- | | |
|------|------------------------------------|
| 3/1 | Dartball vs. Baptist - Home Game |
| 3/8 | Dartball vs. Langeloth - Home Game |
| 3/15 | Dartball vs. Midway - Away Game |
| 3/22 | Dartball vs. Baptist - Away Game |

With deep gratitude, our family would like to thank the congregation for holding us up through George's illness and passing. God has truly blessed us with such a wonderful and caring church family. From the outpouring of love through daily prayer, cards, texts, visits, phone calls, gifts, and food (enough to feed the small army that came in), your love was felt. To the Deacons, who did a heroic job, and those who helped serve and made desserts, Thank-you.

For those behind the scenes who Blessed us and want to remain anonymous, God knows you, Thank-you.

To Fred and Bobbie, who cooked the fabulous dinner, Thank-you! To Pastor Dan, who stood by my side throughout our journey, Thank-you! To each of you that made George's service so beautiful, setting up, tearing down, security, clearing the sidewalks and parking lot, music and sound, Thank-you. There are so many of you behind the scenes that cared for us during such a difficult time. Please forgive me if I forgot someone. My wish is that our family can Bless you as you have Blessed us.

With Gratitude and Love, Your Sister in Christ,
Kathy Yonker and Family.

MARCH 2022 Calendar

All Events, Dates & Times Are Subject to Change

- Go to: www.hickorychurch.com.
- Click "Events" on the Welcome page (middle of page).
- Click the Google Calendar link at the top of the "Event" page.

SPECIAL DATES FOR THIS MONTH

3/2 (Wed) Ash Wednesday Service - 6:00 pm (S)

3/5 (Sat) Upward Basketball Banquet - 10:00 am (CC)

3/6 (Sun) COMMUNION - Both Services

Caleb Olshefski From DiscipleMakers

Preaching At Both Services

3/13 (Sun) Daylight Saving Time Starts

3/17 (Thur) KidVenture Crazy Game Night 6:00 pm (CC)

Flea Market Drop Off - 1-8:00 pm (CC)

3/18 (Fri) Flea Market Drop Off - 1-8:00 pm (CC)

3/19 (Sat) Flea Market - 9:00 - 2:00 pm (CC & FH)

3/25 (Fri) Youth Grp. Bowling Night With Venice EPC

Youth Grp. - 6-11:00 pm (CC & West Pike Bowl)

3/26 (Sat) Blood Drive - 7:30 am - noon (CC)

RECURRING WEEKLY MEETINGS/ CLASSES/ GATHERINGS (by Day of Week)

SUNDAYS

- Worship Service | 8:30 am Contemporary & 11:00 am Traditional (S)
- Sunday School All Ages | 9:45 - 10:45 am (Various Locations)
- Youth Group | 6:30-8:00 pm (CC)

MONDAYS

- Fit Club | 8:00 am (CC)
- Volleyball | 7:00 pm (CC)

TUESDAYS

- Staff Meeting (Every Other Week) | 10:00 am (Parlor)
- Boy Scout Meeting | 7:00 pm (FH)
- Dartball Team | 7:00 pm (CC & away games)

WEDNESDAYS

- Fit Club | 8:00 am (CC)
- Praise Band Practice | 7:00 pm (S)
- Cub Scouts | 7:00 pm | (CC)

THURSDAYS

- Hanbells | 6:00 pm (S)
- KidVenture | 6:00 - 7:15 pm (CC)
- Choir | 7:00 pm (CL)

FRIDAYS

- Fit Club | 8:00 am (CC)

SATURDAYS

- Yoga Class | 9:00 am (CC)

RECURRING MONTHLY MEETINGS/ GATHERINGS (In Alphabetical Order)

Building & Property Meeting | 7:00 pm | Every 2nd Wednesday (P)

Christian Education Meeting | 6:30 pm | Monthly meetings are fluid, please check the online church calendar (L)

Deacons Meeting | 7:00 pm | Every 4th Monday (P)

Outreach Committee Meeting | 6:30 pm | Every 2nd Tuesday (P)

Prayer Group | 7:00 am | Every 3rd Saturday (S)

Prayer Shawl Ministry | 12:00 pm | Every 2nd Wednesday (CC)

Preschool Team Meeting | 12:30 pm | Every 1st Tuesday (FH)

Security Team Meeting | Every 1st Tuesday (P)

Session Meeting | 6:30 pm | Every 3rd Wednesday (P)

Stewardship Meeting | 6:30 pm | Every 1st Monday **after** 1st Wednesday (P)

Women's Cancer Survivors Group | 12:00 pm | Every 4th Wednesday (CC) (*Currently not meeting*)

Women's Ministry Meeting | 6:30 - 7:30 pm | Every 1st Monday (P)

(CC) Covenant Center (CL) Choir Loft (FH) Fellowship Hall (L) Library (P) Parlor (S) Sanctuary (YR) Youth Room

CONNECTING TO



HICKORY UNITED EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Pastoral & Ministry

Pastor Dan Clark | dan.clark@HickoryUnitedEPC.org

Lay Pastor, Lou Templeton | (724) 356-7835

Director of Music Ministry, Tim VanNasdale | tim.vannasdale@HickoryUnitedEPC.org

Kids & Youth Coordinator, Dan Bender | dan.bender@HickoryUnitedEPC.org

Administrative / Support

Office Manager, Paula Steele | paula.steele@HickoryUnitedEPC.org

Communications Coordinator, Lisa Alexander | lisa.alexander@HickoryUnitedEPC.org

Treasurer, Linda Carter | linda.carter@HickoryUnitedEPC.org

Assistant Treasurer, Melissa Fluharty | melissa.fluharty@HickoryUnitedEPC.org

Audio Visual Technician, David Sykut | david.sykut@HickoryUnitedEPC.org

Hickory Christian Preschool

School Director, Maria Moore | hickorypreschool@HickoryUnitedEPC.org | (724) 356-7337

Facilities

Sexton, Mark May | (724) 356-4424

Facilities Assistant Housekeeper, Will Smith | (724) 356-4424

Prayer Tree

PHONE REQUESTS, Sharon Mechtel | (412) 496-9147

EMAIL REQUESTS, Sharon Merckle | sharon.merckle@yahoo.com

MAILING ADDRESS

Hickory United Evangelical Presbyterian Church
210 Main Street, Hickory, PA. 15340

OFFICE NUMBERS & EMAIL

Main Office: (724) 356-4424 | Office Fax: (724) 356-2300 | office@HickoryUnitedEPC.org

WEBSITE / FACEBOOK (Services live streamed on Facebook / Service Recordings on the website)

NEW! www.HickoryChurch.com | www.facebook.com/hickorychurch

NEW MOBILE APP

Open your phone's App Store (Google Play or iTunes App Store). In the search bar, key in **Hickory UEP Church**. Download our app, then open and create a sign-in with a password of your choice that you will use for future sign-ins.