

India Hook United Methodist Church

The Mission of India Hook United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our vision is connecting people with God and one another.

May 2021

3300 Mt. Gallant Rd. Rock Hill; 803-329-7787

From the Pastor's Pen:

Last month I began a series on Methodism as part of refreshing our memory of who we are and how we function. As a part of that process I am writing about the different committees and their responsibilities. This material will be explained in greater detail in the Methodism class I will teach over four weeks in September. This month I want to look at the Charge Conference. The Charge Conference meets annually to:

1. Connect the local church and the General Church.
2. Evaluate the total ministry of the church.
3. Adopt objectives and goals for ministry.
4. Elect the leaders and committee members who will help fulfill these objectives and goals.

The Charge Conference is typically led by the District Superintendent who presides over a District, in our case the Rock Hill District. The Function of a District will be covered later.

I hope that you find this information helpful.

Blessings,

Michael

One service May 2nd!

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend a **Service of Reconciliation** on Sunday, May 2nd at 11 a.m. We will unite for a special service featuring Lay Leadership and a sermon by Pastor Michael on "Ghost Town Souls". The India Hook family will worship together as we seek healing for the hurts of the past and celebrate the ministry to which God is calling us. This will be an important step in our journey and we hope that you will be present.

Music News!

With joy we announce that the **choir** will begin rehearsing on Wednesday, May 5th at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. Fully vaccinated persons are cleared to sing, at a distance from the congregation.

Join us on May 16th at 4 p.m. for a **Hymn Sing** at the fire pit (weather permitting). Bring your chair and your requests. We will space out for safety.

Missions Opportunities

Congregational Health

The Missions Team has designated our congregational projects for this year. You are encouraged to participate as you are able.

May—**Rock Hill Community Fridge**. Perishable and non-perishable food items are available free to anyone who needs them. We will collect items and deliver weekly. You may also take donations directly to the fridge at 130 W. White St. (the Mercantile). More information is available here:

<https://www.facebook.com/rockhillcommunityfridge>

June/July—TBD (Salkehatchie programs have been cancelled for this summer)

August/September—Back-to-School items for local elementary schools

October—The Walk to End Alzheimer's

November—Operation Christmas Child
Watch for a **Blessing Box** coming soon!

Church Leadership has identified three key areas of focus in our conflict mediation work with the Congregational Specialists. These are: Leadership Development, Vision and Purpose, and Communication. Pastor Michael Walker, Council Chair Nathan Stewart, and Chris Lynch will develop a plan and timeline to accomplish the designated tasks needed to strengthen each of these areas. The plan will be presented to the Church Council in May for approval.

Tasks for Leadership Development include clarifying roles and providing training, a clear process for decision-making and communication, and an environment of collaboration.

Vision and Purpose work will involve a visioning process to create and articulate a clear vision for India Hook UMC that informs our ministry, Spiritual Formation and Discipleship, and Evangelism.

Communication steps will include full representation of committees in decision making and communication, celebrating successes, and valuing differences of opinion.

Epworth Children's Home

Each year, Epworth Children's Home provides care to children in our communities who have experienced abuse, neglect, and loss. Epworth's care works to break destructive cycles and encourage children to aim higher in life. The physical, emotional, academic, and spiritual care they receive transforms their lives. Sunday, May 9th, 2021, our congregation will support Epworth with the Annual Epworth Mother's Day Offering. We invite you to give generously to the children who call Epworth home. Epworth does not receive apportionments from the South Carolina Conference. This offering is our opportunity to support this vital ministry and is a main source of funding for the home. For more information or to donate online, please visit the Epworth website: www.epworthchildrenshome.org.

Worship in May

Services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. The 11:00 service is livestreamed on Facebook.

May 2—One Combined Worship Service at 11 a.m. only. No 8:30 worship this day. We will unite for a Service of Reconciliation.

May 9—Isaiah 66:10-1

A Mother's Comfort

Communion

Offering for Epworth Children's Home. Please prayerfully consider your gift to this transformational ministry.

***Mother's Day**

May 16 Lay Leader Donnie Parrish will speak.

May 23 Acts 2:1-21

Happy Birthday to You, Church.

***Pentecost**

May 30 Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:1-12

A Brief History of Communication. The 8:30 service will be held at the Ebenezer Park shelter beginning this morning (through Labor Day weekend).

Parking at Ebenezer Park. The renovations, while beautiful, have reduced the number of parking spaces. WE CANNOT PARK IN THE BOAT LANDING SPACES AS WE DID AT THE SUNRISE SERVICE. Family Covid bubbles and fully vaccinated persons are encouraged to meet at the church and car pool. **IMPORTANT- At one point we had been told there would be a fee to park or that we would have to buy a park pass. This is not the case. THERE IS NO FEE TO PARK for worship.

Young People

Children (and their adults) are invited to a virtual "**Sunday**" **School** lesson Saturdays at 10 a.m. on our Facebook page. We share a Scripture passage with reflection questions and suggestions for home activities. Activity pages are available to print at home.

Story Time happens on our Facebook page every Saturday at 11 a.m. Books by various authors are read for kids of all ages.

You are invited to share these events with family and friends near and far! Everyone is welcome.

Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join in a Zoom meeting each Sunday at 1 p.m. We spend time in Scripture, prayer, and fun, along with sharing about the week we've had and the week to come.

Please see Kendall for the Zoom link.

Our Facebook page is:
[facebook.com/IHUMC](https://www.facebook.com/IHUMC)

Finance Update

Due to your continued generous support, our first quarter was very successful. Total offerings were \$64,770 and expenses were \$54,579 with a positive variance for those three months of \$9,567. This is very good news! Apportionments for first quarter of \$7,162 will be paid. The weekly offering needed to meet our budget is \$4,998. For the first 17 weeks through April 25, the amount needed was \$84,966 and we received \$83,855 with a small negative variance of \$1,111. Thank you for your generous financial support and your dedication and service in our ministries. I am available and pleased to receive any questions on the financial condition of the church. Sandy Sindell, Finance Chair, 704-277-8104.

India Hook UMC
3300 Mt. Gallant Rd.
Rock Hill, SC 29732

Evangelism Happenings

Did you know that Evangelism is the entire church's privilege and task? We are all responsible for reaching out to those around us with the love of Christ.

Leading us in this work are the elected members of our Evangelism Team: Chair Regina Friedman (704-454-8556), Don Fowler, Beverly Gregory, Elaine Woody, Rachel Lilibridge, and Leslie Couick. In addition, Rev. Michael Walker, Kendall Farnum, and ALL MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION are India Hook UMC evangelists.

The team has met twice this year, first to help make Valentine cards for our homebound friends and then to put together and deliver Easter baskets. Thanks to everyone that came out to help! The beautiful hand-made peanut butter eggs were done by Leslie Couick. Don has also helped members make Covid vaccination appointments and visited or called some of the homebound members. (Thank you, Don!)

We have begun ringing the church bell as a call to worship before each service on Sundays, updated our welcome bags and have a member greeting visitors at the door. Lots of brainstorming (can you smell the smoke?) with great ideas going forward.

We welcome all ideas from you and encourage you to attend any meeting. The next Team meeting is Monday, May 3rd at 6:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center.