

ISLE OF HOPE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

EST. 1851



CULTIVATING COMMUNITY
BY UNITING IN PURPOSE AND SERVING IN LOVE

JULY 26, 2026

OUR PURPOSE: TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST
FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD

A Word of Welcome

We are glad you are here! Whether you are a long-time member or a first-time guest, we pray this time of worship draws you closer to God.

Please note our worship locations: we gather in the Sanctuary on the first, third, and fifth Sundays, and in the Ministry Center on the second and fourth Sundays. No matter the space, the Spirit meets us there!

Welcome to Isle of Hope United Methodist Church!

About Our Summer Worship Series: 'The Story of Us'

This summer, we will journey through scripture to explore the people, promises, and events that have shaped God's people across generations. As we hear these stories of faith, we are invited to discover our place within God's continuing story of grace, hope, and redemption.

About the Children's Message

When Jesus welcomed children, he reminded his disciples that they were full members of God's kingdom — not merely the Church of tomorrow, but the Church of today. During the Message to the Children, our youngest worshipers are invited forward for a brief lesson designed especially for them. As adults, we also have the opportunity to listen with childlike wonder, remembering that God's truth is often found in simplicity, curiosity, and joy.

+ indicates that the congregation will stand.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

GATHERING MUSIC

Kathy Smith & Rev. Jared Wilson, piano

You Are My All in All

arr. by Marcia Wells

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Meg Procopio

+THE OPENING SONG

Build My Life

Pat Barrett

+THE OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Procopio

Worthy God,

you are the sure foundation upon which we build our lives.

Meet us within our complicated stories —

in our longing and waiting,

in our disappointments and unexpected turns.

Open our hearts to recognize your kingdom,

growing quietly among us

and hidden within ordinary moments.

Reorder our desires, deepen our trust,

and teach us to treasure you above all else.

Through all that we sing, hear, and offer today,

shape us into people who walk in the light of Christ.

Amen.

+THE GREETING

Rev. Procopio

GOD SPEAKS GOD'S WORD TO US

THE MESSAGE TO THE CHILDREN

Dr. Frank Parr

THE ANTHEM

One & Done Choir

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light
arr. Erik Dewar and Dan Forrest

The congregation is invited to join in singing as directed:



I'm look-ing for the com-ing of Christ; I want to be with Je - sus.

When we have run with pa-tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

In Him there is no dark-ness at all, the night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God: Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Rev. Procopio

Genesis 29:15-28

This is the Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

THE SONG OF PREPARATION

You Are My All in All
Dennis Jernigan

+THE GOSPEL LESSON

Rev. Jared Wilson

Matthew 13:31-33; 44-52

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE SERMON

Rev. Josh Roberts

Illusive Integrity

About the Anthem

Kathleen Thomerson wrote both the text and tune of 'I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light' in 1966. Its prayer to follow Christ and live in his light offers a fitting introduction to today's reading from Genesis. Jacob's encounter with Laban unfolds amid hidden motives, broken promises, and deception — reminding us how easily integrity can become obscured by self-interest. Against that complicated story, the hymn expresses our longing for an undivided life: one in which our choices, our words, and our deepest desires are illuminated by Christ. Erik Dewar and Dan Forrest's arrangement gives fresh musical expression to this enduring prayer.

About One & Done Choir

One & Done Choir is exactly what its name suggests! This unique ensemble gathers for a single rehearsal immediately before worship to prepare an anthem for that morning's service. No weekly commitment or auditions required — just a willingness to sing and serve. Whether you're a longtime choir member or someone who's always wondered what it's like to sing in the choir, One & Done offers a simple and welcoming way to share your gifts in worship. For more information, check out the church website or contact Rev. Jared Wilson (jwilson@iobumc.com).

About the Song of Preparation

Written by Dennis Jernigan, 'You Are My All in All' draws directly upon Jesus' parables of the hidden treasure and the pearl of great price. In today's Gospel lesson, Jesus describes the kingdom of heaven as something of such surpassing worth that those who discover it joyfully reorder everything else around it. As we sing, we prepare to hear Christ's invitation to examine our own hearts: What are we seeking? What do we treasure most? And what might change if we truly recognized Christ as our strength, our treasure, and our all in all?

About the Music for Reflection

Today's Genesis story is shaped by powerful desire. Jacob knows what he wants and is willing to labor fourteen years for it, yet his longing becomes entangled in bargaining, deception, rivalry, and the ambitions of others. The story invites us to consider what governs our own desires and whether the things we pursue are forming us into people of integrity. The African American spiritual 'Give Me Jesus' offers a prayer for an undivided heart. Tom Trenney's powerful setting draws us away from striving and calculation toward a simpler confession: beneath our competing wants, Christ is the one desire capable of making us whole.

About the Closing Hymn

Frances Ridley Havergal's 1874 hymn is a prayer of complete consecration, offering every aspect of life — our time, abilities, possessions, will, and love — to God. It provides a fitting response to a Genesis story in which desire, self-interest, and deception become painfully entangled. True integrity is more than presenting the appearance of faithfulness; it is allowing our outward actions and inward desires to be made whole in God. As we leave worship, this hymn invites us to become undivided people, offering not merely selected portions of our lives, but our whole selves to Christ. Nathan Drake's acoustic arrangement for ReAwaken Hymns brings Havergal's enduring prayer into a modern musical setting.

Acolytes:

Jack & Wyatt Tyler

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WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Kourtney Funderburk, soloist
Rev. Wilson, piano

Give Me Jesus
arr. by Tom Trenney

THE MORNING PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Wilson

WE ARE SENT TO BE GOD'S PEOPLE IN THE WORLD

+THE CLOSING HYMN

Take My Life and Let It Be
ReAwaken Hymns

+THE BENEDICTION

Rev. Roberts

+CLOSING MUSIC

Kathy Smith, piano

Take the Name of Jesus with You
Arr. by Pamela M. Robertson

*Sympathies to Barbara Coley on the death of her mother, **Farrell Flake**, who died on July 21.*

*Sympathies to Judy Phillips on the death of her son, **Daniel Phillips**, who died on July 22.*

HOPE NOTES

Today's Sunday School Hour

CHILDREN:



Daniel's Dangerous Dilemma Rehearsal

The next rehearsal for our summer musical is today at 10:30 am in the Children's Choir Room!

Note: The cast of Daniel's Dangerous Dilemma will have an extended rehearsal this week! Plan to stay after the Sunday School hour for lunch and a dress rehearsal until 1pm in the Ministry Center.

We will also have a lunch and extended dress rehearsal next Sunday, August 2, in preparation for our performance on August 9.

This is the only children's Sunday School offered today.

STUDENTS: Student Breakfast

10:30 am in the Green House

ADULTS:



Jammin' July: Good Dirt

If you can believe it, this Sunday is already our fourth and final week of Good Dirt! Rev. Stephanie Smith will speak to us about finding practical pathways to community.

Rev. Smith is the Family Ministry Pastor and Youth Director at Pittman Park UMC in Statesboro, GA. You won't want to miss this inspiring talk, and, as always, there will be a light breakfast provided!

This is the only Adult Sunday School offered today.



Student Ministries Dock Party Summer Finale

Wednesday, July 29 at 6:00 PM |
The Vann's House

We're ending summer the best way we know how—on the water! Join us for a night of swimming, games, food, and one last chance to hang out before the school year begins. Bring a swimsuit, towel, and your best summer energy!

Usher & Greeter Orientation

Sunday, August 9 at 11:45 am | Ministry Center

All current ushers and greeters, along with anyone interested in learning more about serving in this way, are encouraged to attend a gathering on Sunday, August 9th at 11:45 in the Ministry Center.

Ushers and Greeters play a vital role in creating a warm, welcoming environment as our community gathers. This meeting will continue to equip ministry leaders to serve effectively.



Walking Through Grief

Tuesdays at 12:30 pm |
St. Peter's Episcopal Church

This fall, St. Peter's Episcopal Church is offering a nine-week educational and support program for those grieving the loss of a loved one.

Through professionally produced videos, quiet reflection, and supportive group conversation, participants will find companionship and encouragement as they move toward hope.

The program starts on Tuesday, September 15 and continues until Tuesday, November 10. Meetings are from 12:30-2:30 pm at St. Peter's Episcopal Church (3 West Ridge Road).

For more information or to sign up, please contact Cathy Henderson at chenderson@saintpeterssav.org.

Year-to-Date Financial Update

Here's a regular year-to-date look at our church finances. Note that church income is relatively linear because it relies on voluntary, fixed giving habits. However, expenses are more non-linear, determined by seasons and church programming within a single month.

Our Tithes & Offerings

2026	June 2026	YTD 2026
Total Receipts	\$116,227	\$728,614
Total Expenses	\$160,307	\$825,556
Status	(\$44,080)	(\$96,942)

HOPE NOTES



Sing Glory to the Name of God: A Hymn Festival with Tom Trenney

Sunday, August 2 at 4 pm | Sanctuary

Join us for an inspiring afternoon of congregational singing, choral music, and celebration as Isle of Hope United Methodist Church continues the year-long dedication of our new organ.

Sing Glory to the Name of God is a community Hymn Festival led by acclaimed church musician, composer, and conductor, Tom Trenney.

Together with singers from Isle of Hope United Methodist Church, St. Thomas Episcopal Church, First Baptist Church of Savannah, Trinity United Methodist Church, Messiah Lutheran Church, and St. Peter's Episcopal Church, participants and audience members alike will experience the beauty, power, and joy of singing the great hymns of the Christian faith.

Known across the country for his vibrant leadership, creative artistry, and engaging spirit, Tom Trenney serves as Minister of Music at First-Plymouth Church in Lincoln, Nebraska, and is one of today's most sought-after leaders of hymn festivals, worship conferences, and sacred music events. His compositions and arrangements are performed by churches, universities, and professional ensembles throughout the United States and abroad.

Whether you sing in a choir every week or simply love the great hymns of the church, this festival is for you. Come lend your voice as hundreds of singers and worshipers fill the Sanctuary with music that has united Christians across generations.



Music Matters: Adult Music Enrichment at IOHUMC

Sunday, August 2 at 4 pm | Sanctuary

Music Matters is a new adult enrichment series designed for anyone who loves music—or wants to learn more about it. Two Music Matters classes will be offered this fall:

- **Savannah Sings: The Story of Sacred Music in Georgia's First City**
 - *September 13, 20, 27, & October 11 at 4:00 pm*
 - A four-week course exploring the people, churches, traditions, and music that have helped define Savannah's rich sacred music heritage. Through stories, listening experiences, local history, and discussion, participants will discover how sacred music has shaped both the faith and culture of Georgia's First City.
- **Finding Your Musical Voice: A Beginner's Guide to Reading, Hearing, and Creating Music**
 - *November 1, 8, 15, & 22 at 4:00 pm*
 - Designed for beginners and curious learners of all ages, this four-week course introduces participants to the building blocks of music through listening, rhythm, notation, singing, and creative musical exploration.



Growing in Grace Children's Music Ministry

Starting August 16

Growing in Grace is our new children's music ministry for children ages 3 through Grade 5 (replacing Hope Kids).

Built on the faith-based Growing in Grace curriculum, the program was developed by experienced music educators and children's choir leaders to engage and nurture children spiritually while they sing, play, move, and become creative musicians.

Children will be split into two groups:

- Growing in Grace I (Age 3 - Kindergarten)
- Growing in Grace II (Grades 1 - 5)

This ministry will begin on Sunday, August 16th, and take place weekly during the Sunday School hour, which is split between Growing in Grace and Children's Sunday School.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, July 26, 2026

8:30 AM - One & Done Choir

9:15 AM - Worship Service

10:30 AM - "Daniel's Dangerous Dilemma" Rehearsal

10:30 AM - Jammin' July: Good Dirt

10:30 AM - Student Breakfast

11:30 AM - "Daniel" Lunch & Dress Rehearsal

Monday, July 27, 2026

9:00 AM - Sew Much Fun Summer Camp

11:00 AM - Meals on Wheels

11:00 AM - Rummikub

4:00 PM - Yoga

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

9:00 AM - Sew Much Fun Summer Camp

10:00 AM - Care Partners Support Group

10:00 AM - Hope Arbor

Wednesday, July 29, 2026

9:00 AM - Sew Much Fun Summer Camp

11:00 AM - Meals On Wheels

1:00 PM - Stephen Ministry

1:00 PM - Mahjongg for Fun

5:30 PM - Prayer Meeting

6:00 PM - Student Ministry Dock Party Summer Finale

6:30 PM - Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, July 30, 2026

9:00 AM - Sew Much Fun Summer Camp

2:00 PM - SonRise Casserole Crew

5:30 PM - Endowment Committee Meeting

6:30 PM - Anchor Band Rehearsal

6:30 PM - Endowment & Finance Mortarstone Meeting

Friday, July 31, 2026

All Day - Church Office Closed

11:00 AM - Meals On Wheels

Saturday, August 1, 2026

8:30 AM - SonRise Servers

10:00 AM - Hymn Festival Rehearsal & Lunch

CONNECT WITH US

Welcome! We're so glad you're here today. Scan the QR code to let us know you're here, tell us more about yourself, learn about our upcoming events, and give online.



WAYS TO GIVE

Giving is an essential part of worship—an act of love that shapes our hearts as much as it supports the work God is doing. Here are ways you can support His work through IOHUMC:

- **Mobile:** Text "GIVE" to 855-712-6960
- **Online:** Scan the QR code above
- **In-Person:** On Sunday mornings, place your gift in the plate that is passed or in one of the designated boxes

You can also give through the mail, online with recurring transactions, with Required IRA Distributions, and by giving stock. Visit iohumc.com or contact Marla Grady at mgrady@iohumc.com for more information.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is offered for adults, youth, and children at 10:30 am every Sunday. Sunday School is a time of Bible study and fellowship for all ages, and acts as a community group for adults. All are welcome and encouraged to join!

Adult Sunday School Classes

Seekers

SALT

New Horizons

Good News

Sisters of Strength

Children & Youth Sunday

School Classes

Student Ministries Breakfast Club

Growing in Grace I

Growing in Grace II



To help extend our worshipping community, our services are livestreamed and recorded; those present may appear in the video.

Pastoral Care Response*

Rev. Josh Roberts - 770-891-2578
Rev. Meg Procopio - 912-663-5512
Rev. Jared Wilson - 931-624-1418

*If you are in need of a pastor due to hospitalization, death in the family, or other emergency.

THE STAFF OF ISLE OF HOPE UMC

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