



# HINTON CENTER

*Retreat. Reflect. Renew.*

Spring 2023

[www.HintonCenter.org](http://www.HintonCenter.org)

828-389-8336

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## Bobby Castaneda & Jeremy Jenkins Join Hinton Staff



Head Chef Bobby Castaneda

In keeping with our long-standing reputation of offering delicious meals for guests and visitors, Hinton is excited to announce the hiring of Roberto "Bobby" Castaneda as head chef. In his new role, he will provide meals for Hinton retreat groups, community groups meeting on campus, year-round mission teams serving in the area, as well as special events such as receptions, holiday gatherings, and award banquets.

Castaneda has lived in the area for five years and is a "self-taught" chef. Most recently, he was the banquet chef for Epic Catering and Eatery in Hayesville. "My goals for the dining experience at Hinton," he says, "are to provide delectable and innovative cuisine, a diverse menu that caters to dietary needs, a focus on sustainability and quality ingredients, and an overall memorable experience."



Community Connections Coordinator Jeremy Jenkins

After five summers on our summer missions outreach staff as a college student, Jeremy Jenkins joins Hinton full-time as our new Community Connections Coordinator. His primary responsibilities are to connect local community members and organizations with opportunities to learn more about what Hinton does, the services and resources we offer, and the variety of ways individuals and groups can volunteer to support Hinton's community outreach.

Prior to his new position, Jenkins attended Central Georgia Technical College in Warner Robins, GA, where he also worked as a ministry intern at Trinity United Methodist Church. Self-described as a "passionate community builder and dedicated follower of my faith," Jeremy is excited to build relationships with people, churches, businesses, and other organizations in Clay, Cherokee, and Towns counties. Contact him at [Jeremy@hintoncenter.org](mailto:Jeremy@hintoncenter.org).

## Register Now for Saturday, Aug. 19, Charity Golf Tourney Plus, Dinner & Silent Auction on Friday, Aug. 18



Enjoy a great day of golf and raise funds for Hinton's community outreach!

Golfers and sponsors, register now to participate in and support our third annual "Swing for Hinton, Swing for Hope" Charity Golf Tournament, Saturday, August 19, at the scenic Mountain Harbour Golf Club in Hayesville, NC. This best-ball format starts at 9am. Golfers can arrive early for a snack breakfast, coffee from BSG Coffee & Cafe, putting practice, and to buy mulligans and raffle tickets. Lunch, included in the registration fee, will be served by the Mountain Harbour Grill. You also get a swag bag filled with bottled water, snacks and fruit, and coupons and treats from local businesses. Signs at each hole identify our generous sponsors and highlight the many ways Hinton serves and supports our area. This year there will also be a Dinner & Silent Auction on Friday, August 18, at 6pm. For more information on the golf tourney, to register as a player, team, and/or sponsor, and for dinner details and reservations, please visit [www.hintoncenter.org/charity](http://www.hintoncenter.org/charity).

## Spring Appeal Features Hinton's Nick Oliver



CLICK ON THE PIC for a short video of Construction Ministries Coordinator Nick Oliver highlighting Hinton's outreach ministry and campus needs

NICK OLIVER: "Hinton has been serving our community for over six decades, and as our facilities age they also need our care and attention. At Hinton, we serve those in our community, but we also serve another group of folks – we serve those who come to serve. Our volunteers in Safe & Healthy Home Repair, firewood ministry, and Ervin Sanctuary Trails & Gardens work very hard. And, after they've worked hard, Hinton wants to offer them a wonderful place to rest and renew. Having comfortable and well-maintained lodging and gathering spaces help us do just that. It also helps us be good stewards of the campus entrusted to us to extend the ministry of Christ and offer space and place for physical, mental, and spiritual renewal for all, both neighbors and visitors. Your gift helps us meet the needs of our community and the needs of our guests. Thanks for your support and for partnering with us in ministry."

## DONATE TO HINTON CENTER TODAY!

## Molly Stewart, Ricky Beggs Honored at April Dinner



Hinton CEO Jackie Gottlieb presents Mollie Stewart a gift for her nine years of service on Hinton's Board of Directors.

With April being National Volunteer month, Hinton hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on Monday, April 17. In attendance were members of Hinton's Board of Directors (all volunteers!), current and retired staff members, and many who volunteer in a variety of ways through Hinton outreach ministries, such as our firewood ministry, Christmas Care, and office support. Recognized for her nine years of service on Hinton's Board is Mollie Stewart, who served from 2013 through 2022. Stewart is a United Methodist lay person from the Mississippi Conference. She provided leadership for Gulfside Assembly, an agency of the UM Southeastern Jurisdiction, for almost two decades, serving as CEO, executive director, board of directors chairperson, and board member; she retired in 2017. Under Stewart's leadership, the Gulfside Assembly continued in various ministries and partnerships, including Hinton Center, across the United Methodist connection.



Ricky Beggs receives the Charter Chucker Award from Charlie Gottlieb, who received training and support from the Woodchuckers. The award was made from the first tree Gottlieb took down by himself.

Board member Ricky Beggs received a "Charter Chucker" award for his seven years of providing leadership for the Woodchuckers, those dedicated individuals who provide ongoing volunteer service for Hinton's firewood ministry. Beggs starting volunteering in the firewood ministry in 2015, about the time when recipients began picking up their own wood, rather than it being delivery based. As firewood demand and volume increased, Beggs and others began volunteering year round, multiple days each week, and the Hinton Woodchuckers were born! Beggs helped with communications and scheduling, as well as volunteer recruitment. "Spending time with the Woodchuckers is never a dull moment," said Beggs. "Great friends have been made and maintained."

## Meet Our 2023 Summer Missions Outreach Staff!



Hinton's 2023 Servant Ministry Leaders (college summer staffers!), Duke ministry intern, and Rev. Dawn Martin attend the Empty Bowl event at the John C. Campbell Folk School in May.

Top left to right: Rev. Dawn Martin, Malina McKinzie, Makayla Finger, Kelsey Widener, Michael Buehring, Carson Brown  
Bottom left to right: Duke ministry intern Melody Franco, Ella Stilwell, Sydney Harrell

One of the most impactful ministries Hinton offers young people is that of serving on staff for our Summer Mission Outreach program as a Service Ministry Leader (SML). Every year Hinton employs and trains 8 to 10 college-age adults to provide leadership for home repair work sites, group devotions and worship, and fun fellowship activities for 10 weeks of summer ministry. This year's summer staff include senior-year staffers: Carson Brown, Statesville, NC, senior at UNC-Wilmington; Sydney Harrell, Mesa, AZ, senior design major at Western Carolina University; Kelsey Widener, Charleston, SC, firefighter/EMT, Trident Technical College grad; and Malina McKinzie, Adrian, GA, junior at Georgia Baptist College of Nursing. Returning summer staffers include: Michael Buehring (6th summer), Warner Robins/Blairsville, GA, 2023 graduate of Young Harris College, psychology major; Makayla Finger (3rd summer), Sherrills Ford, NC, senior marine biology major at UNC-Wilmington; Ella Stilwell (2nd summer), Lexington, NC, junior photography major at Trident Technical College. Also serving this summer is Duke Divinity School ministry intern Melody Franco, from Richmond, VA. Four of these summer staffers first encountered Hinton as campers themselves. We are grateful for their service and leadership!

## Rural Clergy Renewal Retreat

**Monday - Wednesday, Sept. 11-13, 2023**  
Hosted by Hinton Rural Life Center, Hayesville, NC

### Options include:

- Morning and evening gatherings for prayer, song, and reflection
- On-campus trails and gardens
- "Conversation Time" around rural ministry topics
- Scenic views of Lake Chatuge and Appalachian Mountains
- Massage Therapy add-on
- Fishing, swimming, canoeing/kayaking, disc golf, gardening, art, and more!

**Cost:** \$395 for individual clergy; \$600 for clergy & spouse. Check with your conference for availability of continuing education or renewal funds. **Info & Registration:** [www.HintonCenter.org/retreat](http://www.HintonCenter.org/retreat)

**Resourcing this retreat:** Rev. Telley Gadson- Hartsville (SC) District Superintendent, Chief Missional Strategist; Dr. Jonathan LeMaster-Smith- Scholar/Teacher of Rural Ministry & Methodist Studies, Newton, NC; Tom Conlon- Guitarrist/Singer/Songwriter, Worship Leader, Charlottesville, VA

This is a "do what YOU need to do for YOU" retreat!



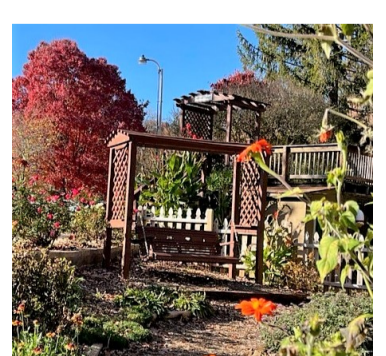
Also joining our resource leaders this year is Rev. Laura Hamrick, Clergy Engagement Coordinator for the Duke Clergy Health Initiative and WNCC elder. For more information and to register, visit [www.hintoncenter.org/retreat](http://www.hintoncenter.org/retreat).

## Recent Grants Received for Ministry Support



- **UMC Camp & Retreat Ministries -- \$19,000** to purchase new mattresses for Hinton Center lodging
- **Wesley United Methodist Church -- \$6,000** for a back-up for wood splitter for the firewood ministry
- **Dub & Murray Martin -- \$5,000** towards purchase of a Timberwolf Alpha6 for the firewood ministry
- **The Home Depot -- \$4,000** for building materials for Safe & Healthy Home Repair ministry
- **Solomon Cramer -- \$3,920** for Summer Mission Outreach programming

## A Sanctuary Gardens Poetic Update



The Swing Garden in bloom.

Hayesville resident Michael Hockaday attended Hinton's Volunteer Open House on April 21 and was drawn to our Ervin Sanctuary Trails and Gardens. Since then, he volunteers a couple days a week, primarily tending and weeding in The Swing Garden, but also helping Hinton's Els Vingerling with seed sowing, cultivating, and harvesting spearmint and other items. Michael is also a poet and hopes to compile some of his work into reflection resources for the trails and gardens: "How sweet to hear the sounds that soothe the wearied soul who has wandered too long in avenues of strife and trails of tribulation. Come, settle in the gardens and rest your spirit."

## Save these Dates! Participate!

**Latinx Community Family Picnic & Resource Fair**  
Sunday, Aug. 6, 3-6pm; Hinton's Lakeside Pavilion  
Visit [www.hintoncenter.org/latinx](http://www.hintoncenter.org/latinx) for more details and to register as a participating organization.

**Council for Collaborative Impact Breakfast Meeting**  
Thursday, Aug. 10, 8:30-10am, Hinton Lodge  
Guest speaker: Rocard Bello-Ball, director of UnidixWNC

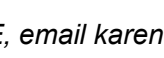
**"Swing for Hinton, Swing for Hope" Fundraiser**  
Friday, Aug. 18, 6pm -- Dinner & Silent Auction at Hinton Lodge  
Saturday, Aug. 19, 9am -- Charity Golf Tournament at Mountain Harbour Golf Club, Hayesville NC  
[www.hintoncenter.org/calendar](http://www.hintoncenter.org/calendar)

**Rural Clergy Renewal Retreat**  
Monday-Wednesday, Sept. 11-13; Hinton Rural Life Center  
[www.hintoncenter.org/retreat](http://www.hintoncenter.org/retreat)

**Leadership Chatuge Community Builders, Spring 2024**  
Registration Opens Oct. 1, 2023  
For more information, visit [www.hintoncenter.org/training](http://www.hintoncenter.org/training)

## OUR MISSION

Inspired by Jesus Christ, Hinton Center serves individuals, congregations, and rural communities through retreat ministries, educational opportunities, and missional outreach.



To UNSUBSCRIBE, email [karen@hintoncenter.org](mailto:karen@hintoncenter.org).