# THE WEEKLY

### **O**UT TO THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF HUDSON MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**JANUARY 24, 2025** 







Debbie has been our rock who has carried us through many times of transition. - Pam Glaub

May your new journey be filled with all the happiness you deserve! - Church Member

Debbie is, and has been a constant in my heart. Praise God for Debbie! We love you. - Church member

Debbie has a really tireless work ethic, meeting, collaborating, and teaching well into the night. - Jay Cummins You've shared your faith, knowledge, wisdom, wit, and steadfast love. Praise God for Debbie Kirk! We love you, Debbie! - Susan & Tripp

Debbie is a gifted nurturer. Her thoughtfulness and care through visitation, prayer, and kind words are uplifting for all of us. - Wilson Cheeley

Thank You, Pastor Deboie! We will truly miss her.
-WATW members

I am forever grateful for Debbie's dedication to and love for our church and its members over these many years, through both joyous and challenging times. Her steadfast strength and consistency have been a comfort to many of us as we navigated change and evolved as a congregation and a denomination. - Dottie Burch

> Debbie's Sunday morning Zoom class during the pandemic really helped us feel connected and involved at Hudson. - Jimmy & Joanna

I will always cherish Debbie's guidance and comfort to our family and am grateful for her friendship and

leadership. -Kelly Hurd

Debbie often included Mr. Rogers in her sermons to simplify her message to us, and ended it by saying, "May it Be So." - Teri Morris I will miss Debbie's willingness to stop what she is doing and answer questions and explain scripture. - Libbie Toth

I joined Hudson a few months after Debbie was called as our Associate Pastor. Through these past 20 years, I have appreciated her compassion, care and support for all! My faith journey has been enhanced through Debbie's sermons and book club discussions, through the Diaconate, many retreats, Presbyterian Women, memorial services and so much more. She has encouraged us to work towards justice and equality for all, care of the earth and all God's creatures within our faith--all with grace and kindness. Debbie is fun to be with too! I am so appreciative of Debbie's time at Hudson and will miss her, but I wish her many blessings for the next chapter of her ministry! Debbie Kirk, "May it be so."

- Church member

This place won't be the same without her! Best wishes, Pastor people is so inspiring. Debbie. - Church member

Debbie's dedication to mission and helping - Church member







### **SUNDAY WORSHIP**

# January 26 is Pastor Debbie's Last Sunday at Hudson!

Join us for 10:30am worship and a reception afterwards.



Thanks be to God for Pastor Debbie and her 20 years of ministry at HMPC!

### **MISSION**

## Refugee Hope Partner's (RHP) Baby Closet **COLLECTING DONATIONS**

St. Mark's UMC is proud to be the home of the Refugee Hope Partner's (RHP) Baby Closet, a space that has opened its doors to our neighboring ministry, RHP, and the expecting and new mothers that live there. This month, we are asking for some of our neighboring churches to please help us in restocking our Baby Closet so that we can continue to provide needed items to these families. Over the last 3 years, St. Mark's has housed this incredible ministry that has blessed nearly 100 families, and we look forward to being able to partner with you to bless many more.

This year, we are specifically seeking donations of NEW or GENTLY USED pack-n-plays, toddler sized car seats, and diapers of any size, especially newborn to size 4.

Other items that are popular and gladly accepted include, but are not limited to, new or gently used clothing, blankets, swaddles, bottles, pumping systems, baby monitors, toys, high chairs, jumpers/walkers, and crib sized mattresses. Please, no maternity clothing or cribs.

You may drop donations off at the main entrance of St. Mark's UMC (facing Six Forks Rd) on Mondays through Thursdays, from 10:30am - 1:30pm.

Thank you for helping us continue to provide this ministry to our refugee friends here in Raleigh.

### **MISSION**

## Habitat Interfaith Build



The 2025 Habitat Interfaith Coalition Build begins soon! The Mission Committee is pleased to share that Lauren Parikh is taking over from Pastor Debbie as coordinator for our congregation. Build dates and sign up information will be available soon!

# **Special Offerings JANUARY SPECIAL OFFERING**



A Place at the Table is Raleigh's first pay-what-you-can cafe. Its mission is to give a dignified dining experience where anyone is welcome to dine, regardless of means. Patrons from all walks of life come together to share a meal at their

table and over 80 people volunteer for their meal every day. They gain skills and connect each shift, along with being provided a delicious and nutritious meal. You may place your donation in the offering plate (designated to "Place at the Table"), or you can give online by clicking HERE.

### TEND MY SHEEP - FINAL WEEK!

This month we are collecting canned fruits, vegetables,



and beans for the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina. Among the largest antihunger organizations in the United States, the Food Bank works every day to provide food to

people in need, while advancing long-term solutions to end hunger in our communities.

You can drop off donations in the bins by Sanctuary entrances during the month of January.



### **DEACONS**

# Winter Warm Up to Wellness **Event**

## Saturday, February 8 10:00am - 12:00pm Westminster Hall

Join us for a refreshing morning of wellness and connection at our Winter Warm Up to Wellness event! On Saturday, February 8, 2025, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM in Westminster Hall at HMPC. We invite you to come together for a time of inspiration, relaxation, and support. Our special guest, Liza Coonse, LCSW, will be the featured speaker, offering valuable insights on mental wellness.



In addition to Liza's presentation, including a Q&A session, we will offer a variety of spiritual and creative activities designed to foster inner peace and well-being. And to keep you energized, we will have a delightful Espresso and Hot Tea Bar along with light refreshments.

This event is open to all ages 19-99, so feel free to bring a friend or neighbor along! Please bring a donation of new socks and canned soup to support our local outreach through Raleigh Rescue Mission and North Raleigh Ministries. These items will be distributed to those in need. We look forward to seeing you at this uplifting and enriching event as we embrace wellness together!



# **Deacons' Prayer Ministry**

Hudson Memorial's Deacons are an elected board of church members focused on care of the Hudson community. We provide care in the form of visits to sick or homebound members, meals for those recovering from surgery or illness, and other forms of ministry. Above all, we pray for our congregation and all who request it. During the holidays and during this time of pastoral transition, you may feel unsettled and especially in need.



If you feel in need of prayer for yourself or a friend or family member, you may place a blue prayer card in the offering plate on Sunday with your information, or you may call the Deacon Prayer Line at 919-390-2688 and leave a message for the Deacon on Call, who will be in contact with you.

### **WORSHIP & THE ARTS**

## **Early Chapel Services** ON PAUSE DURING THIS TIME OF TRANSITION



Many of us enjoyed the early once-a-month Sunday worship services held in the Chapel. With feedback from staff, the Worship Committee has paused those services for now. As we transition from Pastor Debbie,

we believe it is important that we worship as one congregation. With the leadership of an Interim Pastor we will re-evaluate when to go forward with this service.

### **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**



4th Annual Arts Camp for Children

June 18, 19, 20 - 5:30 to 7:30 each evening

Registration opens next weekend!

Link will be posted on the website and in the Weekly Window.

## Women at the Well **WEEKLY GROUP**

The weekly meeting of Women at the Well began the winter/spring session earlier this month. The group meets



Wednesdays at 9:15am in the Chapel and on Zoom. Our book for the semester is Tending the Wild Garden: Tending the Fruit of the Spirit by Eugenia Gamble. If you are not already on the contact list and would like to participate contact Debbie Kirk at dkirk@hmpc.org.

## **MONTHLY GROUP - JANUARY 30th**

The monthly Women at the Well begins the next session on January 30 at 6:00pm. We will meet in a local restaurant for a time of fellowship and saying goodbye to Debbie. Going forward, Linda Meeks linda.meeks@ pobox.com and Kay Emanuel ckemanuel@gmail.com will coordinate the gatherings and send out details the week prior to each meeting. If you are not already on the contact list and would like to be added, contact Linda or Kay.

# Waking Up With The Word

## Tuesday, January 28 | 6:30am | WH Patio



This is an early morning men's Bible study. It meets via Zoom and in-person (on the WH Patio), alternating weekly.

WUWTW uses an ancient study method called *lectio divina*. We read the passage that will be preached on

for the upcoming Sunday four times, with interspersed questions:

What's a word or phrase that stands out to you? Allow that word or phrase to develop into a memory from your life, a thought you have on the passage or a metaphor? What is Christ calling you to through the passage?

No previous Bible study experience is necessary. It's a great way to deepen your faith and develop friendships within the church! New participants are always welcome. Contact Lesley Ash Jacobsen to be added to the mailing list for this group. Contact Tripp Bradshaw with any questions.

# Registration for the Montreat Women's **Connection Conference OPENS FEBRUARY 3**



As always, this will be a time for women to connect with old and new friends, with a time for space and Sabbath. As in years past, we will do this

together through powerful and creative worship led by women, space for honest and faithful conversation. Each year, HMPC women enjoy this time of fellowship, fun, inspiration and spiritual renewal. This year's keynote speaker is Amy-Jill Levine (AJ) Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Hartford International University for Religion and Peace, and University Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies Emerita at Vanderbilt. She is a distinguished scholar, outstanding professor, creator of hundreds of educational resources and an engaging speaker who makes the Biblical narrative relevant for us today.

Comprehensive registration (includes conference, housing, and meals) will open Monday, February 3rd at 10:00am EST, and registration for commuters (conference only) will open Monday, February 10th at 10:00am EST. HMPC Women register individually with housing in Assembly Inn as our home base for meals and fellowship. Read more here: Women's Connection 2025 Montreat Conference Center.

If you have questions, contact Debbie Kirk at dkirk@hmpc.org.



### **SUNDAY FAITH FORMATION**



## The Seekers

January 26, Feb 2, Feb 9: "Living the Bible Literally: Can It Be Done?"

Facilitated by Ron Ash

#### MEETING IN THE CHAPEL THIS SUNDAY

Can all of the laws, rules, commandments, and mandates found in the Old and New Testaments be followed as they are written? This series will discuss what this involves by looking at one man's attempt to live Biblically for one year. Many verses in the Bible will be examined to



see what must or can be done: Can we pick and choose which rules to follow? Is the meaning of verses with a mandate really clear? Are some Biblical laws too harsh? These and other questions will be studied.

## **Presbyterian Ponderings** "Imperfect Messengers"

Facilitated by Fred Woodward, John Oldenburg, John James, Gil Graybill

#### **MEETING IN ROOM 200 THIS SUNDAY**

The first third of the Presbyterian Ponderings "semester" will take us again to the Parables. The next third will examine once more God's use of imperfect messengers -- there just are so many -- to inform and lead us. The last third will be a study course TBD (to be determined) to finish this part of the year before the Summer Series begins. As before, we expect to do some Lectio Divina sessions when we finish one mini-course but before we move onto the next portion of study.

On January 26, this coming Sunday, we will meet in Room 200. Fred Woodward will lead a discussion on The Parable of the Wicked Tenants, one of the few parables found in Matthew, Mark, and Luke. We'll look at the historical context of the story and think about what it means for us today.

#### **FELLOWSHIP**

# Single Way

Join us for our February Luncheon



Tuesday, February 4 11:30am **Brig's Restaurant** 8111 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh, NC 27613



Please contact Ruth Herpich at (919) 280-0049 by February 2, so she can give the restaurant a seating count. This is very important at this restaurant as they will want to set up for us

before we arrive. Also, they will not seat our group until all have arrived so being on time is very important.

New people are always welcome!

#### **PROPERTY**

## Consider Joining Our Team! PROPERTY COMMITTEE LOOKING **FOR NEW MEMBERS!**

Psalm 23:6 - "Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever."

These are such comforting words from the Psalmist. We know that this passage means God's eternal house, yet while here on earth, we are called to take care of God's earthly house, in our case, Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church. The Property Committee of HMPC has quite the large task of taking care of our church's campus. We are seeking members to join our committee to help keep God's House up and running, to provide a space for worship, mission work, fellowship, preschool, support groups and so much more. Please



consider joining our committee to make this House the best it can be. Feel free to contact any member of the Property Committee: Allie Maples, Karen Melling, Harry Bond, Steve Jesseph, John Whisler, JB Babson, Nancy Eyre, Bob Stowe, or Session Liaison, Ken Krause.

### **HMPC STAFF**

## **Beware of Scam Emails Impersonating** Staff Members



Be advised, there are several email scammers posing as HMPC pastors and staff members.

Pastor Debbie is the latest to be impersonated. Her current email is dkirk@hmpc.org and not any other email address.

We take security seriously, and we have reported this and are looking into where a data breach might have occurred and what we can do to prevent it in the future. It is important to the pastors and staff that our members feel their information is safe.

### Please read the below information and suggestions:

- Most church staff emails end in "@hmpc.org" and are the first initial and last name of a staff member. If you receive an email that does not end in that, and you have never emailed it before, delete it. Many of these scam emails are Gmail addresses, and they include the staff member's name in the address. Do not trust non @hmpc. org email addresses, even if they say the staff/pastor's name (unless it is one you have previously used and you trust, or it is one of the email addresses listed on the right).
- If you are unsure if an email is a scam, do not reply. We recommend you create a fresh email with the staff member's official email address from the church directory.
- Never click on any links and never reply to an email that seems suspicious. Report any suspicious emails to your email provider.
- HMPC will never send you a personal email asking for gift cards, routing information, and bank account numbers.

We are saddened that the community is targeted with these types of fake emails. This has happened to a number of churches in our area recently. We wanted you to know we are aware of the situation, and that we should all remain vigilant.

## Use These Staff Email Addresses

Debbie Kirk, Bridge Interim & Associate Pastor dkirk@hmpc.org

> **Aleta Ash.** Minister of Visitation aletaash@gmail.com

> > Hunter Cox, Organist hcox@hmpc.org

Cary Dickerson, Director of Children's Ministries cdickerson@hmpc.org

> Erica Hairston, Business Manager ehairston@hmpc.org

Joyce Hawkins, Assistant Preschool Director ihawkins@hmpc.org

Lesley Ash Jacobsen, Communications Specialist lash-jacobsen@hmpc.org

Barbara Loehr-Fox. Director of Music Ministries bloehr-fox@hmpc.org

> Hope Parangi, Church Hostess hparangi@yahoo.com

**Rich Richards.** Director of Youth Ministries & Children's Music hmpcyouthgroup@gmail.com

**Dorothy Roche**, Preschool Director droche@hmpc.org

Hannah Woodcock, Administrative Coordinator hwoodcock@hmpc.org

# Join Our Social Media Community!





@HudsonMPC

@HudsonMemorialPC

# This Week at HMPC

### Sunday, January 26

9:30 am - Ponderings - Room 200

9:30 am - The Seekers - Chapel

10:30 am - Worship - Sanctuary

10:45 am - Children's Sunday School - Geneva

11:30 am - Reception for Pastor Debbie - WH North

11:30 am - Joyful Noise Music - Geneva

11:30 am - Youth Sunday School - Room 236

12:00 pm - Youth Bells - Chapel

5:00 pm - Youth Group - Westminster, Geneva, Chapel

### Monday, January 27

9:30 am - HMP Chapel - Geneva or Sanctuary

6:30 pm - P.E.O. - Room 200

7:00 pm - Session - WH South

8:00pm - Al-Anon/Ala-teen - Geneva Rm 226, 234, 235

### Tuesday, January 28

6:30am - Waking Up With The Word - WH Patio

9:30 am - Staff Meeting - Welcome Lounge

6:00 pm - ACA Meeting - Rm 200

7:00 pm - Boy Scouts - Geneva Hall

### Wednesday, January 29

9:15 am - Women at the Well - Chapel

6:15 pm - Hudson Handbells - WH South

7:30 pm - Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

#### Thursday, January 30

6:00 pm - Women at the Well - Off Campus

# **Upcoming at Hudson**

## **JANUARY 26th**

Pastor Debbie's Last Sunday in the Pulpit! 10:30am Worship followed by a reception

### FEBRUARY 2nd

Youth Arts Worship Sunday - 10:30 Worship

Rev. Dr. Ed McLeod will be preaching.

Parent informational meeting for "Spread the Love" Service Project following worship.

### FEBRUARY 8th

"Winter Warm-up to Wellness" Deacon Event (10:00-12:00)

### FEBRUARY 14th

"Spread the Love" Service Project begins

### MARCH 4th

Fat Tuesday Event

## MARCH 5th

Ash Wednesday

### **APRIL 12th**

Easter Egg Hunt 10:00-12:00 at HMPC

### **APRIL 13th**

Palm Sunday

# Inclement Weather Information

In case of inclement weather on weekends, the church will notify the local ABC (WTVD) and NBC (WRAL) television stations if church will be delayed or cancelled. We will also post on the church's website, Facebook, and Instagram pages. Our website <a href="https://mpc.org">https://mpc.org</a> will always be the first thing to be updated. Please check the closings before venturing out in bad weather. We will do our best to have the sidewalks and steps cleared, but there is no guarantee that there will not be slippery spots.









fol:

On weekdays when Wake County Schools are in session, Hudson follows their lead on weather delays and closings. Safety is our #1 priority for our members, volunteers, students, teachers and staff.