



SEPTEMBER 6, 2024

FALL PROGRAMMING KICKS OFF THIS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Regular Sunday Schedule

9:00-10:00am

Nine O'Clock Class - Room 200

9:30-10:20am

Seekers - WH South (2nd flr Library on 9/8 only)

Presbyterian Ponderings - WH North

10:30-11:30am

Worship - Sanctuary

Children's Sunday School - Geneva Hall

11:30am-12:15pm

Fellowship Time - Westminster Hall North

Children's Music (Grades K-5) - Geneva Hall

Coffee & Conversation for Youngish Adults - Chapel

Youth Sunday School (11:30-12:00) - Youth SS Rm

Youth Music (Grade 5-12) (12-12:30) - WH South

5:00-7:00pm (Varies)

Youth Group

Activities vary between middle school,
high school, and 5th graders.

Special Events & Serices

Sunday, September 29

Offering of Letters (After Worship)

Sunday, October 6

World Communion Sunday (Worship)

Sunday, October 20

Children's Sabbath (Worship)

Sunday, October 27

Fall Festival (3-5pm at St. Mark's UMC)

Sunday, November 3

Commitment Sunday (Worship)

Sunday, December 1

Blue Christmas Service (6pm in the Chapel)

Saturday, December 7

Family Christmas Celebration (10am-12pm)

Sunday, December 8

Children's Christmas Pageant (Worship)

Sunday, December 15

Christmas Joy (Worship)

A Wonderful Summer at Hudson!



Children's Ministry had a fantastic summer! Some highlights were: Vacation Bible School, Children's Arts Camp, a visit from Andy the Beekeeper, and learning all about the Beatitudes in Sunday School!



There were lots of **fellowship** events this summer! We had our most well-attended Summer Suppers and Fall Kick-off Lunch ever! Fellowship also hosted 3 Fellowship Fridays (Bingo, an Olympics-watching party, and an outdoor gathering at Cafe Capistrano).



It was a great summer for **Music Ministry**! Our smaller Hudson Handbell Ensemble played during worship 3 times, and a total of 7 new folks joined the choir for the Summer Sing! We are excited to kick off our new musical season this week!



This summer in **Youth Ministry** was another time for transformation, leadership, fun, and faith development! We had a dozen Middle School youth attend the Massanetta Conference in June; 10 High School youth attend the Montreat Youth Conference in July; and then a whole slew of youth from our program acted as leaders for the HMPC VBS! We also had 2 young people who were called and decided to help on a NATIONAL level of leadership as Advocates and Keynote Leadership Team. LILLY GRAYBILL was on the Keynote Leadership Team with Rev. Ashley Anne Masters at this year's Montreat Youth Conference Week 5. HAYES ATKINSON was an Advocate at the Massanetta Middle School Conference as well as a participant in the JEREMIAH PROJECT at the Montreat Youth Conference. This basically meant that Hayes and Lilly were "stage leadership" and up in front of hundreds of people in the name of Christ and his Gospel message. Here at HMPC, we had numerous young people in worship leadership both musically and liturgically! We are grateful for all of you who support the youth ministry of this church and it's many hands that make it possible.



Adult Education was jam-packed with opportunities this summer! The Adult Summer Series had many special guests (Nick Billman, Mary Glenn Krause, "Pigeon Dan", Don Slater, Fred Woodward, and Pastor Mac) and a variety of topics (Celtic Christianity, Interfaith Food Shuttle, Holy Land Archeology, The Book of Confessions, Doves and Pigeons, Lectio Divina, the history of Hudson's land, and more!) There was also the Montreat Women's Conference, Presbyterian Pint, Seeing the Word, Waking Up with the Word, and evening Women at the Well gatherings!

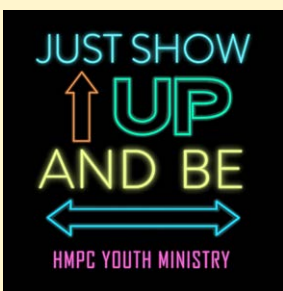


We had lots of volunteers pitch in for our various **Mission** projects this summer: A Meals-on-Wheels packing event; a bag-making project for the NC Food Bank; and special offerings for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Interfaith Food Shuttle, Avery County Mission Trip, Hunger Action, Green Elementary, and the Food Bank. Read about fall mission on page 5!



YOUTH MINISTRY KICK-OFF PIZZA DINNER!

This Sunday, September 8
5:00 -7:00pm
Westminster Hall
Please bring \$12 per family



Youth & their families (at least one adult) are invited to the 2024-2025 Youth Ministry Kick-off! A mandatory parent/guardian meeting will be held during this time.

PLEASE LET US KNOW if you plan to attend so we can be sure to have enough food for all. Email Rich Richards at hmpcyouthgroup@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY EVENT

Concert at FPC

THE SENSATIONAL NIGHTINGALES

Grammy-Nominated Gospel Quartet

SEPTEMBER 14 | 5:00PM | FREE ADMISSION

First Presbyterian | Raleigh | 112 S. Salisbury St.



HMP Kicks Off Fall



Hooray, HMP has opened for the 2024-2025 school year! We had a fantastic Open House on Friday, August 30th, and began class on Tuesday, September 3rd. This year we welcome over 150 children to the program, 25 of those families being new to HMP. We are looking forward to a great school year full of learning, creating and connecting!!!



Thanks to Ken Krause and Bill Flueckinger for sharing their time and talents. Ken and Bill hung bulletin boards and cabinets to help us get ready for the new school year!

FALL INQUIRERS' CLASSES

Interested in Membership?

The Inquirers' Class, for those interested in membership, will be held after worship on **Sunday, September 22nd and Sunday, November 10th**. The class covers what it means to be a Christian, a Presbyterian, and a member of Hudson Memorial. [RSVP for the class here](#). Contact [Debbie Kirk](#) with any questions.



Music Ministry Opportunities



CHANCEL CHOIR

Rehearsals have begun!

Regular Rehearsals on Wednesdays

7:30-9:00pm - Sanctuary

Musical Leadership in Sunday 10:30am worship services & special services throughout the year. All are welcome!

HUDSON HANDBELLS



Rehearsals have begun!

Wednesdays - 6:15-7:15pm - Westminster Hall South

(for intermediate to advanced ringers)



YOUTH MUSIC (5th-12th grade)

Begins this Sunday, September 8

Sundays | 12:00-12:30 | Westminster Hall South

If you play an instrument, have any questions, or want to help in the music area, please reach out to [Barbara Loehr-Fox](#).

CHILDREN'S MUSIC - "JOYFUL NOISE"



This is for kids (Kindergarten-5th grade) and is held in **Geneva Hall on Sundays from 11:30am-12:15pm**. Come sing, play instruments, and learn about God and the

Bible through this unique musical opportunity! PARENTS: While your kids are in Joyful Noise, you hope you will join other parents during Coffee & Conversation located in the Chapel!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's Sunday School Registration

Parents of infants - 4th graders: **Be sure to fill out your registration form for the 2024-25 school year!**

Sunday School aged children [HERE](#)



Infants, Toddlers, and Twos [HERE](#)



September Special Offering

PRESBYTERIAN CAMPUS MINISTRIES



Our special offering this month is for Presbyterian Campus Ministries of Raleigh. HMPC has been a long-time supporter of PCM and has had many former youth participate in its ministries and activities. Its mission is to proclaim

and reflect the Good News of the Kingdom of God through ministry to, with, and for college-age students in the Raleigh, North Carolina area.

Your support will help to provide much-needed nurturing to the young people in our care by providing a safe and accepting environment for all students. In addition to Wednesday night meetings at West Raleigh Presbyterian, PCM Raleigh's Campus Minister and students organize various gatherings and outings throughout the year and attend retreats, spring break service trips, and the annual College Conference at Montreat.

You can give online by visiting hmpc.org. To give by phone, simply text the donation amount with the letters "PCM" to 888-906-0744. (Example text: 25 PCM)

Fall Mission at Hudson

OFFERING OF LETTERS EVENT

September 29 after worship

RISE AGAINST HUNGER EVENT

October 6 - 4:00-6:00pm - RAH Warehouse

SEPTEMBER TEND MY SHEEP



This month we are having a **back-to-school clothing drive for Note in the Pocket**. Note in the Pocket helps address clothing insecurity, which is a problem that often lacks adequate attention. By providing clothing we can give children what they need to feel comfortable and confident at school,

allowing them to see themselves as valuable and capable of learning and success. Their most urgent needs are: girls' shirts (short & long sleeve t-shirts) sizes 8 & 16; girls' pants (jeans & athletic pants) sizes 5, 8, & 16; boys' shirts (short & long sleeve t-shirts), sizes 5, 8, & 10; boys' pants (jeans & athletic pants) sizes 6 & 8. Place donations in bins at Sanctuary entrances.



Sunday Adult Education Kicks Off!

CLASSES BEGIN THIS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

The Nine O'Clock Class

9:00-10:00am | Room 200

September 8, 15, 22 - Facilitated by Susan Bradshaw

This class is especially for those who have commitments preparing for worship at 10:00am, and others who would like a full hour of study, conversation, and worship.

For September 8, 15, and 22, we will watch the movie *Places in the Heart*. We will watch 30 minutes each day and then have discussion. We hope you will join us to discuss this award-winning movie about a widow with two small children that tries to save her small farm with the help of a blind boarder and an itinerant handyman.



The Seekers

9:30-10:20am | September 8 & 15

Meet in the *Library* Sept. 8

Meet in *Westminster South* Sept. 15

"What Does a Church Library Mean?"

Facilitated by Jimmy Hulse

Why does a church have a library? I have known people, not at Hudson, who I can still hear asking, "We have the Bible. Isn't that all we need?" But, when Christians realize that the Bible and the Christian faith are not a single, literal point of view on God, we have come to the library.

When Christians realize that Scripture requires that the Holy Spirit working with the community of faith in tandem need not merely to quote but to interpret God's Word, we have come to the library. When Christians realize that the diversity of voices in Scripture and across Christian faith represent angles of vision and not truth in concrete, we have come to the library.

When Christians are tired of burying our dead through conflict with one another and people of other religions; when mutual understanding strikes us as a better way than shouting slogans from behind walls of difference, we have come to the library.

When we as Christians lose any connection to the library of our faith, we are susceptible to those who want to use us for their causes, substituting their mottos and slogans and rallying cries for actual Christian confession of faith.

We need to repent in the library and once again practice faith seeking understanding. When we like the Ethiopian eunuch in Acts 8 realize that we need someone, a community of someones to help us understand our faith, we have come to the library.

If you have read this far, you may have guessed that our class is about, not only what's in the library, but what the library symbolizes to us. I invite you to join with me to discover both what's in our church library and how to make use of it and to rediscover that we are a people open to God with our hearts and minds.

At this time, a number of us are going off to college. Before the wide ranging world of secular education, not to mention diverse religious education, we Presbyterians have never thought our faith a flimsy house of cards. Reason is, among other places and ways, we have also encountered God in the library.



Presbyterian Ponderings

9:30-10:20am | Westminster North

September topic: "HOPE"

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

Hope is waiting in faith. It is not merely wishing for something to happen or hoping everything will work out if the stars align. Hope is waiting with anticipation—at times, with impatience—for what you know and believe is coming.

For the four Sundays in September, Presbyterian Ponderings will discuss Hope from both Old and New Testament perspectives. We are using a multimedia



lesson plan from the series *Follow Me: Biblical Practices for Faithful Living*, published by Growing Faith Resources / Presbyterian Publishing.

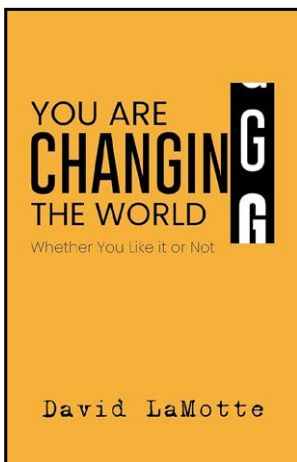
Later this fall, we will offer sessions based on lectio divina, the Parables of Jesus, and the "flawed messengers" God chooses. We are discussion-based, team-taught, with no advance reading or other prerequisites. Drop in and ponder with us!

David LaMotte Fall Book Study

Sunday evenings, Oct. 13 - Nov. 10
5:00-6:30pm in Room 200

The day before he joined us for the weekend in March, David LaMotte gave a TED Talk, at TEDx Asheville 2024, along with eight other speakers on the stage of the Wortham Center for the Performing Arts. David's talk focused on the downside of hero narratives, and how stories that we tell in order to inspire people can often have the opposite effect. It's a hopeful message, reminding us that we don't have to be extraordinary to make change, we just have to work together. If you haven't seen it, check it out: www.DavidsTEDx.com.

Following David's visit at HMPC, a number of us read his latest book *You are Changing the World Whether You Like it or Not** and participated in a book study where we had rich conversations about how to show up and engage wherever people are hurting, bringing our own unique perspectives, gifts and skills to make a positive impact in the world.

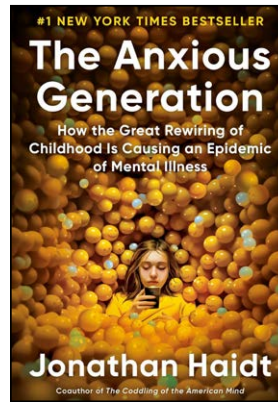


This fall we are offering part two of this book study which will cover some of the same as well as additional material we did not get to in the spring study. You are invited to join us whether you attended previously or not. We will begin with the TED Talk and David's assertion that "hope is both an active choice and a choice to be active." **We will meet October 13, 20, 27 and November 3, 10, 17.**

If you would like to attend this book study, contact Debbie Kirk dkirk@hmpc.org

*A copy is now in our church library if you want to take a look! The book explores how easy it is to be overwhelmed with all that is going on in our world and offers practical and inspiring content for use in our personal and communal lives.

Short Term Book Study for Parents of Children & Teens: *THE ANXIOUS GENERATION*



Pastor Mac will be leading a short term book study on *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt. Dr. Haidt addresses the impact of the smartphone in the early 2010s to the present and the need to restore a more humane childhood. Pastor Mac will facilitate a discussion on the four parts of the book while incorporating questions that tie to our Christian faith. This

study for parents of teens and children will meet on the following dates at **7:00pm at Mordecai Beverage Company:**

- Thursday, September 19th (read Part I)
- Thursday, September 26th (read Part II)
- Thursday, October 3rd (read Part III)
- Thursday, October 10th (read Part IV)

SUNDAY FAITH FORMATION

Coffee & Conversation: A Time for Young-ish Adults Following Worship RESUMES SEPTEMBER 8



Are you in your 20s, 30s or 40s? Coffee & Conversation is a group that meets most Sundays following worship at 11:40ish in the Chapel while children & youth music is happening. It's a great group of young-ish adults that talk about life, faith and culture in a laid-back setting. The

group meets for a half hour. Grab a coffee in the Welcome Lounge or a snack in Westminster Hall and stop in. No preparation or homework! This group will start again on Sunday, September 8. If you have questions please reach out to Pastor Mac or Cary Dickerson.

Women at the Well

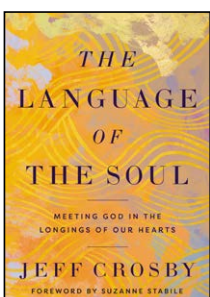
FALL SEMESTER



Women at the Well begins the fall schedule in September, and welcomes women of all ages and stages to join us! The two groups have a different format, time, and content.

The Weekly Group

Wednesdays at 9:15am Starting Sept. 11



THE WEEKLY GROUP meets Wednesday morning from 9:15-10:30am (from September 11-December 11) and uses a particular book chosen each semester as a guide for shared conversation, reflections, and prayer. This group uses a hybrid format with women meeting in the Chapel and on Zoom. Using

the book *The Language of the Soul: Meeting God in the Longings of Our Hearts* by Jeff Crosby, we will explore how we experience God, who meets us in our places of our deepest longings, as individuals and in the community of the Women at the Well. The cost of the book is \$14.00 payable by check with "Women at the Well book" in the memo or by using [this link](#). Contact Pastor Debbie in you have any questions.

The Monthly Group

Begins Thursday, September 19

THE MONTHLY GROUP meets over dinner at a local restaurant at 6:00pm on the third or fourth Thursday of each month (Sept 19, Oct 17, Nov 21, and the end of December) and uses a podcast as the basis for discussion on topics of interest.

Both groups are wonderful opportunities for women to get to know each other as we discuss the how intersection of culture and faith informs our own spiritual journeys. Current participants in each group are already on the contact lists. If you would like to be added to either one or both, email Debbie Kirk at dkirk@hmpe.org.

Waking Up With The Word

Tuesday, Sept. 10 | 6:30am | WH Patio



This is an early morning men's Bible study. It meets in-person this week and on ZOOM next week, alternating weekly.

WUWTW uses an ancient study method called *lectio divina*. We read the passage that is 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. At in-person meetings we provide coffee and Bibles. On ZOOM we invite you to use an online Bible or pull out your own hard copy and brew some joe at home.



It's a great way to deepen your faith and develop friendships within the church! New participants are always welcome.

Presbyterian Pint

Season Kick-off on September 24



The first Presbyterian Pint of the fall will be a cookout at Pastor Mac's house on Tuesday, September 24th, at 7:00pm.

This men's group typically meets the 4th Thursday of every month and enjoys a pint together as the group discusses articles that have to do with culture and faith, along with the occasional book or short study. It is a wonderful time of community, laughter, insight, and thoughtful discussion on how we live as people of faith. If you'd like to be added to the reminder list for the group, please contact Pastor Mac at mschafer@hmpe.org.

A New Artistic Addition to Westminster Hall



A number of years ago, Milner Presbyterian Church on New Bern Avenue in Raleigh closed. Hudson received a number of their members to our congregation. For everyone who joined Hudson we eventually received approximately \$35,000. The Session of Hudson allocated these funds to help upgrade Westminster Hall.

This past week we installed a stained glass window from Milner in Westminster Hall. In the upcoming weeks it will be lit and we will finally dedicate the upgraded hall to Christ and the future ministry we do in that space. The Presbyterian Church USA is a connectional denomination. We are so thankful to the members of Milner Presbyterian Church who joined our congregation. We are thrilled to honor their ministry with a section of Milner's stained glass in our fellowship hall. Hudson's

Minister of Visitation, the Reverend Aleta Ash, was pastor at Milner for nearly 7 years. We are thrilled to celebrate our connection with them!



We also celebrate that their property is now being used to provide affordable senior living housing. This housing complex is called Milner Commons and hosts 156 affordable units for residents aged 55+. Learn more [HERE](#).

*Image below:
Milner Commons*



Above left: The original home of the stained glass windows in the now-closed Milner Presbyterian Church, 2014.



Above and to the right: Installation of the stained glass occurred this past week. Lighting to be installed soon.



Matthew 25 Mini-Conference Report

WORKSHOP #4 - BY JOAN LESTER

Since joining the PCUSA Matthew 25 movement in 2021, Hudson has focused on the goals of congregational vitality, eradicating systematic poverty, and dismantling structural racism. The Matthew 25 invitation focuses on Matthew 25:31-46, the parable of the sheep and goats in which Jesus makes clear, that what we do matters to God and how we treat others is important to God.

In January, Elders Joan Lester and Jay Cummins participated in the Atlanta Matthew 25 Summit. (Summary [HERE](#).) New Hope Presbytery organized a follow up [mini-conference in July featuring six PCUSA moderated workshops](#).

Pastor Mac, Joan, and Jay participated in the mini-conference and will continue to report about their workshops in the Weekly Window over the next few weeks.



This week's report is by Joan Lester, about the workshop she attended, entitled "Rebecca Barnes: Eradicating Systemic Poverty and Addressing Root Causes of Hunger--The Church's Role".



Rebecca Barnes coordinates the Presbyterian Hunger Program, which addresses intersectional, underlying causes of hunger. She started with the church's seven assertions on poverty; these assertions summarize our church's historic stance on poverty. They are on the web [HERE](#).

Who in our society gets access to a leg up?

We discussed the church's role from the standpoint of Isaiah 58:6, Mark 3:37, and Matthew 25:37-40. We discussed the meaning of the "least of these," i.e. the least advantaged.

PCUSA developed a 40-page policy on poverty in 1996. Core principles are as follows:

- Be present with, listen to, and be led by those who live in impacted communities.
- Seek equity and diversity in leadership.
- Learn about systems, structures & practices that perpetuate poverty.

An excellent book about poverty is *Poverty by America*, by Matthew Desmond. He talks about fear of the other (the stranger).

We ended by discussing three organizations within NC that address poverty:

- [Operation Spring Plant](#)
- [Fertile Ground Coop](#)
- [Oak City Cares](#)

CALENDAR

Sunday, September 8

9:00am - Nine O'Clock Class - Room 200
 9:30am - Presbyterian Ponderings - WH North
 9:30am - The Seekers - 2nd flr LIBRARY this week only
 10:30am - Worship - Sanctuary
 10:45am - Children's Sunday School
 11:30am - Fellowship - Westminster Hall
 11:30am - Children's Music - Geneva Hall
 11:40am - Coffee & Conversation - Chapel
 11:30am - Youth Sunday School - 2nd flr Youth SS Room
 12:00pm - Youth Music - WH South
 5:00pm - Youth Ministry Kickoff - HMPC

Monday, September 9

6:30pm - Children's Committee - Zoom
 8:00pm - Al-Anon/Alateen - Geneva Rm 226, 234, 235

Tuesday, September 10

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

Tuesday, September 10 (continued)

11:00am - Elizabeth/Rachel/Esther Circle - Chapel
 11:30am - Hannah Circle - WH South
 5:45pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200
 6:45pm - Preschool Board - Welcome Lounge
 7:00pm - Adult Ed - Zoom
 7:00pm - Miriam Circle - Off-site
 7:30pm - Boy Scouts - Geneva Hall, Rm 234

Wednesday, September 11

6:15pm - Hudson Handbells - WH South
 7:30pm - Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

Thursday, September 12

6:00pm - HMP Pizza Party - West Lawn
 7:00pm - Mission Committee - WH South

Friday, September 13

5:45pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200