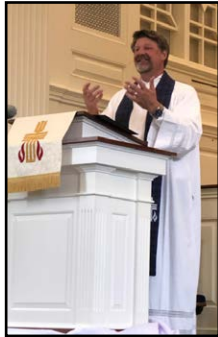




OCTOBER 18, 2024

PASTOR MAC'S LAST SUNDAY AT HUDSON

This Sunday, October 20 | 10:30am Worship & Reception to Follow



October 20 is Pastor Mac Schafer's last Sunday in the HMPC pulpit! Mac will preach, and the Hudson Handbells, Chancel Choir, Joyful Noise, and Youth Bells will share music. Join us after worship for a reception celebrating Pastor Mac in Westminster Hall. We invite everyone to write a message in the farewell book for Mac that will be in Westminster Hall on Sunday.



A FEW WORDS ABOUT MAC FROM CHURCH MEMBERS...

Mac brings such creative & dynamic energy to worship!
- Church member

I love Pastor Mac because from the first time I met him, I knew our church would be OK, because we have shared so much, and he also likes the humor from The Farside!
- Susan Bradshaw

I'll miss Pastor Mac's reasoned sense of purpose, his insight, his never ending wonderment, but mostly his spontaneous & genuine laughter. - Ken Krause

Mac has a gift for inviting us into sacred places with his artistic imagination.
- Joanna Hulsey

Mac, you are loved beyond your wildest imagination!
- Bill & Marsha Flueckinger

Pastor Mac was the loving innovator and unifier we needed at the time he came to us and we as a church have grown so much closer to God and to each other under his care and guidance. Thanks be to God for Mac Schafer.
-Dottie Burch

A while back, he counseled our family concerning a relative. His words to us on forgiveness we will never forget.
- Church member

I appreciate Mac as a wonderful leader.
-Jimmy Hulsey

I will miss Mac assuring us that "God is up to something" and "that we are loved beyond our wildest imagination".
-Aleta Ash

Pastor Mac is the best pastor I've ever known. - John Whisler

Hudson is a better church and I am a better person because of Mac. - Carolyn Scott

When I think of Pastor Mac, I think of early Tuesdays and enriching conversation.
-Don Slater

The way he calms babies during baptisms is MAGIC!
-Church member

Mac has been a great friend as well as my pastor, sorry to see him go!
- Roger Howard

Mac has a ready smile, warm embrace, and genuine loving heart. - Bruce & Carol Cox

Mac's super power is his incredible gift for connecting with people and building community.
- Glenn Schindo

Mac has meant the world to both of us, and know that you are loved beyond your wildest imagination!
- Harry & Gerry Bowles

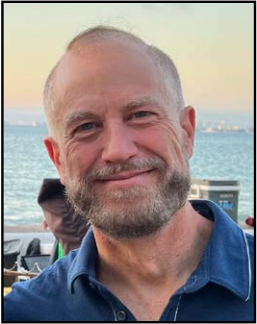
Thank you, Mac, for your CONSTANT CARE - for SWEATING THE DETAILS.
-John James

When Mac first showed up at Hudson, I thought "What a breath of fresh air!" He has been real, honest, and a faithful pastor/partner for a community that needed exactly that. I'm gonna miss him. - Fred Woodward

In the words of Bob Hope, "thanks for the memories"!
- Jay Cummins

2025 Pledge Campaign: Overflow with Hope

DAN VIG - MINUTE FOR MISSION - OCTOBER 13, 2024



Good morning. My name is Dan Vig and I am here to reveal a deep dark secret. I cry at commercials. Full disclosure – I cry at some movies too. At my kids’ graduations I was a mess. I’m talking about before, during and after the event. Why the emotional confession? Because I’m here today to talk about HOPE. Hope as

an emotion, hope as a driving force. More on that in just a minute.

I’ve been at Hudson for a long time – about 23 years. Let me start out by saying what a beautiful and miraculous place Hudson has turned out to be!

My 2 kids have grown up at Hudson and have grown in their faith through the love and support of the Hudson community. Early Sunday school with Miss Pat, Kids Praise with Miss Lizzie, Christmas pageants, ski trips, kids choir, confirmation, youth group, movie nights. Lots of happy experiences.

I’ve had my share of stress and hard times also. I’ve been through a life-changing awakening, a divorce, the untimely death of my father. I’ve taken care of so many patients in life-or-death situations, some Hudson members (thank you!). I can not imagine making it through the stress of life without the love of God, manifested by the love and support of the community that is Hudson. I’m serious – the support of my friends at Hudson has saved me over and over.

I have had the honor and pleasure of being elder, deacon, usher, musician, habitat worker, men’s group leader, pig picker, trunk or treater, Easter pancake maker, reliably bad golfer. I’ve gone on mission trips to Avery County and Guatemala. Presently I’m on the Welcome Team as well as the Giving Ministry Team.

The giving ministry team’s purpose is to focus us all on how we can contribute to the goals of the church. Financially our congregation’s outstanding generosity this year allowed us to do great things. In fact, we were able to fund all the programs, all the ministry, all the outreach that we had hoped for. By giving generously again,

and perhaps adding a little more than we gave last year, because, as you well know, prices go up (i.e. insurance, utilities, fees, yada yada yada). Together we can continue to do all the mission and ministry we’ve done, expand our programs, and also continue to pay the bills.

We would like for y’all to focus on more than financial giving, though. For the goals of the church to be met we need participation. I mean, really, what are we doing here? I think we would all agree – we are here to be part of a community that lives the way Christ wants us to live. For that to work, it takes all of us doing our parts and showing up.

OK! Back to the emotion thing. Let’s talk about HOPE! While I may cry at high emotion events, I’m generally a happy, optimistic person. A hopeful person. I think of HOPE as an emotion, an optimistic state of mind about the future. Hope is the assurance that God (whatever your vision of God) is present when we are working together toward a common good. That God wants us to love each other and support each other. That our coming together in community here at church brings God to us, and that God walks together with us on our journeys.

Look around you. Hudson is a community of people of hope. People that care, that help each other, that help others, that see the good in the world, that grow up and go into the world, carrying with them the Christ energy they got from Hudson.

Our present world is full of emotions other than hope, often dominated by fear and despair. How often do we hear the following words on a daily basis?

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Hunger | Homelessness |
| Conspiracy | Deforestation |
| Climate change | War |
| Terrorists | Exclusion |
| Pollution | Pandemic |
| Cancer | Dark web |
| Enemy nations | Apocalypse |
| Hurricanes | |

Continued on next page...

GIVING MINISTRY

DAN VIG - MINUTE FOR MISSION (Continued)



The antidote to all this fear and despair is HOPE. I'm not saying that we should pretend that the problems of our world don't exist or that they

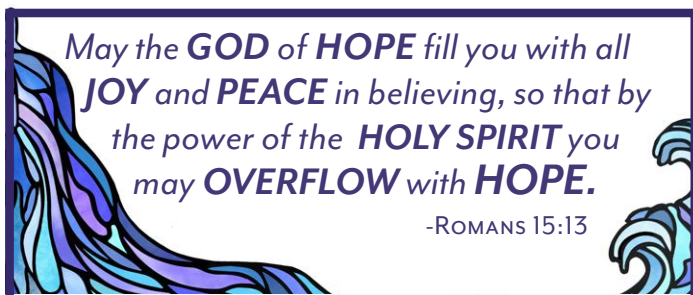
are going away. I'm talking about putting our trust in our God. Putting our hope in Christ and his redeeming work. Knowing that together we can be part of the solution.

Now contrast these hopeful things at Hudson with all the fear and despair I just listed:

- Ministers that love us
- Kids raised in the church being good people and good citizens
- Growth
- Beautiful facilities
- Multi-generational
- Matthew 25
- Pre-school
- LGBT inclusion
- Mission
- Neighbors
- Rise Against Hunger
- PCUSA
- Faith formation
- Family
- Peacemaking
- Habitat
- Music
- Worship
- Christ-centered lives

Yes, our community of Hudson gives us reason for hope! We are all human. Most of the problems of the world were created by humans. With God's help, humans can make things better. Right here at Hudson Memorial Presbyterian we can counteract anxiety, fear and despair with hope. We can in fact overflow with hope. Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has shown us how to do this. We just need to listen and follow.

Thank you for your time!



SESSION

Session Update



The next step in the process of naming a new pastor and head of staff is to designate a Bridge Interim Pastor. The Bridge Interim will fulfill the duties of the Pastor and Head of Staff until Session names an Interim Pastor.

During last week's called Session meeting, there was a vote to affirm Pastor Debbie Kirk as Bridge Interim Pastor effective October 21, 2024. To support her, some of the staff members and lay leaders will step up to fulfill certain associate pastoral duties. Debbie has had experience in this role over the years, most recently during Pastor Mac's sabbatical in 2023.

The coming weeks will be very busy with Pastor Mac's departure, the stewardship campaign, Presbytery meeting, 2025 budgeting, and Advent. The Session is confident that Debbie will guide us through this season of transition.

Thanks be to God for the ministry of Pastor Debbie!

- Glenn Schindo, Clerk of Session

WELCOMING TEAM

2024 Fall Festival

October 27 | 3-5pm | St. Mark's UMC

The Annual Fall Festival is coming up! This is a fun-filled event shared between St. Mark's United Methodist Church and Hudson. This year, St. Mark's UMC is hosting the event and the Welcoming Team is busy making plans! **The Fall Festival includes Trunk or Treat, food, games, an inflatable obstacle course, and more.**

Feeling creative? Get your trunks cleared out and get ready to be a part of the **Trunk-or-Treat** experience! In addition to the creatively decorated cars, we will need donations of candy and treats to use during the event. These may be dropped off in bins outside the Karl Hudson room and in the Preschool lobby.

Visit the [sign-up page](#) and see how you can help make this event a success. There is no age limit for volunteers.



SIGN UP HERE!

The link can also be found on the homepage of hmpc.org.

CELEBRATIONS

Congratulations

to
Adam and Heather Carter
of the Birth of Their Child
Holly Marie Carter
on October 11, 2024



MEMORIALS

To the Church Triumphant OLENE FRANKS



Hudson member Olene Franks entered God's Everlasting Kingdom on Tuesday, October 15, 2024. A memorial service will be held at 1:00pm on Tuesday, October 22, at Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church.

You can find the link to the livestream service [HERE](#) or on the homepage of hmpe.org.

WORSHIP & THE ARTS

Thank You, Dr. Grady!



Special thanks to the Reverend Dr. Bruce Grady, Executive Presbyter of the Presbytery of New Hope, for preaching at Hudson this past Sunday, October 13! His inspiring sermon on Genesis 15:1-6 can be found on [Hudson's YouTube channel!](#)

BAPTISMS

Congratulations

to
Zachary & Llala Hughes
of the Baptism of Their Child
on October 13, 2024



SINGLE WAY

Single Way

JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT LUNCH!

Join this group of never-married, widowed, or divorced adults for fun, food, and fellowship. We typically meet the first Tuesday of every month. If you know of anyone that would like to join us, please extend the invitation. New people are always welcome!



Tuesday, November 5 at 11:30am
Olive Garden
4805 Capital Blvd
Raleigh, NC 27616

Please call Dee Blackerby at 919-846-6241 **by November 3** if you plan to attend.



DEACONS

Deacon Retreat

The Deacons enjoyed their annual retreat held at New Hope Camp and Conference Center. The Facilitator, Rev. Susan Mazarra, led us in conversation, prayer, and reflection on how we experience the reign of God: within, among, and through us. One activity that was particularly powerful was the affirmation circle where we shared the gifts and graces we see in one another. We also enjoyed the beautiful labyrinth, lakeside worship with communion, and picnic lunch outside in the beautiful fall weather!



PROPERTY

A Big Thanks from Property!

Thank you to everyone who came out and helped last Saturday for the campus workday. We had over 20 people attend to spruce up the grounds for fall and for the Presbytery meeting. The Property Committee really appreciates the efforts of all! The day was a huge success!

FYI: **The Property Committee is looking for volunteers to join the committee.** Please contact Karen Melling or Allie Maples if you are interested!

MISSION

October Tend My Sheep

RALEIGH RESCUE MISSION

This month we will be collecting **white towels, white twin sheet sets, and standard pillows** for Raleigh Rescue Mission. Raleigh Rescue Mission is dedicated to serving those experiencing homelessness in our community through the love of Christ. They offer a wide range of services from meeting basic needs like providing meals, clothing, hygiene and healthcare to providing counseling, parenting classes, transportation,



and vocational and career training. **Please note, all donations must be new. Donations can be placed in bins at Sanctuary entrances.**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We Need a Few More Volunteers!



Hudson is proud to be selected by New Hope Presbytery to host “The 123rd Gathering of the Presbytery of New Hope” on **Saturday, October 26th**. We need you to help make this event run smoothly. Please sign up and volunteer your time, or donate items as listed on the [sign up page](#). We have opportunities for beverage, baked goods and fruit contributions, Friday set-up, Saturday assistance with parking, greeting, directing, registering, preparing food, serving lunch, clean-up, and tear down.

Everyone who volunteers will wear a snazzy “volunteer” lanyard and will receive a free lunch (catered by A Place at The Table). **Sign up to help [HERE](#)** or find the link on the homepage of hmpc.org.

We appreciate your help in providing gracious Christian hospitality to our friends from all over the Presbytery. Any questions? Contact Lizzie Graybill graybill@mindspring.com or [Mary Schindo mschindo@yahoo.com](mailto:Mary_Schindo_mschindo@yahoo.com).



Gratitude, Call, Ethic & Challenge

MAC'S MEANDERINGS



As I enter my final few days as being Pastor & Head of Staff at Hudson I wanted to communicate a few important things to help in your understanding aspects of this transition:

1. **Gratitude** – My favorite thing about Hudson has been the people. You are a wonderful and gifted group of human beings. I

am a better follower of Christ because you have taught me so much about faith, service, and love. When I arrived at Hudson, my children were preschool and elementary age. My wife Katy and I want to thank you for loving them unconditionally and teaching them about Christ within community. This meant a great deal to us.



2. **God's Call** – The people on Doylestown Presbyterian Church's Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) got my name from a colleague in ministry and reached out to me. I had not been looking for a new church. As I read their information, talked to members of the PNC, discerned with Katy, and engaged their needs, I sensed God's call to something new. In like manner, my departure will make space for who God is calling to use their gifts to lead Hudson's ministry in the future.

3. **Separation Ethic** – I recently signed a Separation Ethic with the Presbytery of New Hope agreeing to have certain boundaries with you as a congregation. While I love you very much and will cherish the ministry we shared, I also agreed through this Separation Ethic to no longer engage in ministry with you. This means I cannot do weddings, funerals, baptisms, or provide pastoral care after my call has concluded at Hudson. These boundaries allow space for a new pastor to establish a ministerial relationship with you as a community. I can be your friend, just not your minister.

4. **A Challenge** – Please increase your commitment to this community of faith during this transition. Be open to try new things and to be in relationship with new people at Hudson. Remember what the church is called to do:

- Bring freshness to the proclamation of the gospel;
- Mentor the next generation of leaders to do the work you are doing now;
- Heighten the value of rites of passage;
- Take an interest in learning about each other's gifts;
- Ground yourself in rhythms of personal discipleship and increased faith literacy.

Please know I will pray for you in this period of transition, and I am hopeful for the good work that you will continue to do along Six Forks Road.

Have Courage!

THE GATHERING

Presbyterian Ponderings

9:30-10:20am | Room 200 this week!

"A Short Walk with The Parables"

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

They are the best known and best understood means by which Jesus conveyed his message of love and hope. His Parables address the profound and made it simple enough that even as children we can understand them and accessible enough that we enjoy listening to them even as their often-challenging messages hit home.

For the next four weeks we will examine some of those parables -- perhaps one, perhaps more at a time -- and hear again in these stories important truths about how we should live in connection with God and our neighbors.

This week we will seek illumination with the Parable of the Lamp. What light are we hiding? Have we put it in the right place? What is keeping us from seeing the light from others? We won't keep you in the dark this week!

We are discussion-based, team-taught, with no advance reading or other prerequisites. Drop in and ponder with us!



The Seekers

9:30-10:20am | Chapel this week!

October 20 & 27

"Happiness, Joy and Laughter in Scripture"

Facilitated by Susan Grigg

*Please note the different
locations this week!*

Waking Up With The Word

Tues. October 22 | 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. 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. Contact Tripp Bradshaw with any questions about in-person WUWTW or Don Slater for questions about Zoom WUWTW.

Presbyterian Pint

Next Meeting October 24 | 7:00pm

Mordecai Beverage Co.

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 short book study. It is a wonderful time of community, laughter, insight, and thoughtful discussion on how we live as people of faith.

Join us on October 24th - Member Tim Peeler will be leading.

CALENDAR

Sunday, October 20

9:30am - Presbyterian Ponderings - Room 200
9:30am - The Seekers - Chapel (this week only)
10:30am - Worship - Sanctuary
11:30am - Reception for Pastor Mac - WH
4:30pm - High School Youth Walk to North Hills
5:00pm - Middle School Youth Group - HMPC
5:00pm - David Lamotte Book Study - Room 200

Monday, October 21

9:30am - Preschool Chapel
5:30pm - How it Works Anniversary Meeting - WH
6:00pm - Property - Chapel
7:00pm - Diaconate - Room 200
7:00pm - Finance - Zoom
8:00pm - Al-Anon/Ala-teen - Geneva Rm 226, 234, 235

Tuesday, October 22

6:30am - Waking Up With The Word - WH Patio
8:30am - Presbytery Tech Rehearsal
9:30am - Staff Mtg - Welcome Lounge
5:45pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200
6:30pm - Boy Scout Court of Honor - WH
7:30pm - Boy Scouts - Geneva Hall, Rm 234

Wednesday, October 23

9:15am - Women at the Well - Chapel/Zoom
6:15pm - Hudson Handbells - WH South
7:30pm - Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

Thursday, October 24

7:00pm - Presbyterian Pint - Mordecai Bev Co

Friday, October 25

9:00am - Presbytery Meeting Set-up
5:45pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200

Saturday, October 26

All day - New Hope Presbytery Meeting

FELLOWSHIP

Boomer Gathering!

Friday, November 1 at 7:00

Let's get together and celebrate our favorite sports teams—college or pro. Wear your team's shirts/hats/etc.

Please join us at HMPC's Westminster Hall North on Friday, November 1 at 7:00. Bring an appetizer to share and we will have cold drinks available.



It's time that we get together and reconnect with old friends and meet new friends. Quite a few Boomers have joined HMPC over the past few years and we all need to get to know them.

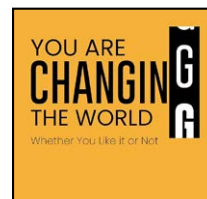
Looking forward to seeing you in November!

FALL BOOK STUDIES

October Book Study

Sunday evenings, through Nov. 10

5:00-6:30pm in Room 200



Following David LaMotte's visit to HMPC earlier this year, 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 David LaMotte's TED Talk and his assertion that "hope is both an active choice and a choice to be active." **We will meet October 20, 27 and November 3, 10, 17.**

If you would like to attend this book study, contact Debbie Kirk dkirk@hmpc.org. Even if you have not registered or attended the first class, you can still attend!



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