

THE WEEKLY WINDOW

OUT TO THE LIFE
AND MINISTRY OF
HUDSON MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 22, 2024



Holy Week

PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, March 24

10:30am - Worship Service - Sanctuary

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, March 28

7:00pm - Worship Service - Sanctuary

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, March 28

12:00pm - Worship Service - Sanctuary
"Blues, Ballads & Spirituals"

The service will take place in the round, in the blue chairs at the front of the Sanctuary.

EASTER

Sunday, March 31

7:00am Ecumenical Sunrise Service
St. Timothy's Episcopal

This special outdoor service brings together St. Mark's United Methodist, St. Timothy's Episcopal, North Haven Church, The Fountain, Grace Lutheran, Trinity Baptist, and Hudson Memorial.

8:00-10:30am

Easter "Cancake" Breakfast - Westminster Hall

9:00am & 11:00am

Easter Worship - Sanctuary

Nursery for infants, toddlers and twos will be available from 8:45am-12:15pm.

Matt Moorman Ordained as Minister of Word & Sacrament



Former HMPC member Matt Moorman was ordained at Myers Park Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, NC, the afternoon of Sunday, March 17th.

Elder Marsha Flueckinger and her husband Bill attended the service.

During worship, Marsha placed a stole around Matt on behalf of Hudson. The stole was handmade by HMPC member Shirley Blanks. The fabric of the stole is from Scotland and called *Ancient St. Columba Tartan*. St. Columba brought Christianity to Scotland from Ireland in 597 and founded the community on the Isle of Iona. At the bottom of the stole is the PC(USA) seal and the Hudson Iona Cross that is in our Sanctuary. Marsha Flueckinger also presented Matt with the signed picture of Hudson. Pastor Mac preached at the service and at the end of worship Matt served his first communion.

Please pray for Matt as he embarks on his ordained ministry as Music Chaplain at Trinity Episcopal School in Charlotte.

Saturday's Easter Egg Hunt



MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 5!

Sunday with David LaMotte

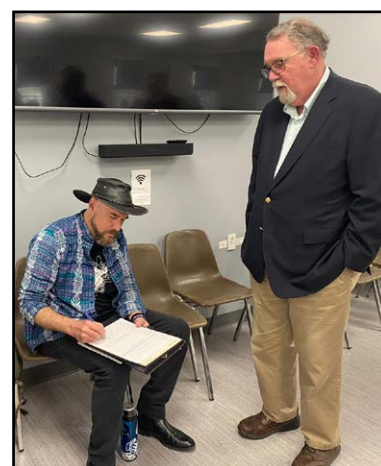
CONCERT, RECEPTION, AND MEETING WITH HMPC YOUTH



David LaMotte having lunch and speaking with our Confirmation class after worship.



Rich Richards, Director of Youth Ministries & Children's Music, joined David for a song!



After the concert was a lively reception and a meet-and-greet with David LaMotte.



If you missed the concert, you can watch it [HERE!](#)

Link can also be found on the homepage of hmpc.org



A Message of Gratitude

FROM EVENT ORGANIZERS, DEBBIE AND RICH

Thanks to everyone who made the weekend with David LaMotte such a great success, including the office staff, especially Lesley Ash Jacobson for her creative publicity and administrative expertise.

- ♥ We thank the Adult, Fellowship, Mission, Youth, and Property Committees; the Confirmation Team; and the Chancel Choir, with the leadership of Barbara and Al, for the beautiful rendition of David's anthem.
- ♥ The Team Leaders and Volunteers who assisted with every large and small detail: registration, hospitality, parking assistance and outside welcome; campus preparation including cleaning, signage, furniture moving, and room arrangements; greeters, foot traffic and helping folks find bathrooms; reception hosts and merchandise sales; soundboard and live-streaming.
- ♥ And to all of you who contributed to the wonderful abundance of goodies that everyone enjoyed during the meet and greet!
- ♥ To all of you for the gracious welcome to our campus.

The positive energy as we gathered with friends and neighbors was palpable as we celebrated what it means to live in harmony with each other.

YOU are our neighbors. No matter who you **vote** for, your **skin** color, your **faith**, or who you **love**, we will try to be here for you. That's what **community** means. Let's be neighbors.

letsbeneighbors.org

Thanks to Our Event Volunteers!



GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP:

*Blues, Ballads
& Spirituals*

FRIDAY, MARCH 29 AT NOON
HMPC SANCTUARY

*Can We Say Hallelujah on Sunday
If We Haven't Wept on Friday?*



For our 2024 Good Friday service, we embed worship in the musical traditions of blues, ballads and spirituals. Pastor Mac will center his message on the wine offered to Jesus on the cross, and Director of Youth Ministries & Children's Music, Rich Richards, will coordinate musical offerings for this worship service.

The service will take place in the round, in the blue chairs at the front of the Sanctuary.

Maundy Thursday

MARCH 28 at 7:00pm

Maundy Thursday is the Thursday before Easter, remembered as the day when Jesus celebrated his final Passover with his disciples. Most notably, that Passover meal was when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples in an extraordinary display of humility. He then commanded them to do the same for each other. In the midst of that intimate setting and great love was also betrayal, one of the most poignant times for Jesus. We come together in worship to remember and reflect.

Our Lenten journeys are moving us to Holy Week, which begins with an exuberant crowd, hosannas shouted and palms waved. The week gets heavier as each day we reflect on Christ's journey that ends on the cross. During this season, we have considered what provision is made for us in the wilderness, on Sundays and coming around the table each Wednesday evening to celebrate the Lord's Supper. Wherever your personal pilgrimage has brought you through these weeks, Holy Week gets liturgically more difficult. It is here on Maundy Thursday that we cannot avoid the next three days, and even though Easter is on the horizon, we all know what it is like when the worst of the human condition shows itself in anger, fear, betrayal, and brokenness, and we are in the wilderness.

On Maundy Thursday, the night of shadows, called *Tenabrae*, we don't have to look far to see darkness descending, in our personal lives, in our community, our country, and all over the world. During our evening worship service we will recall Jesus' last supper with his disciples that culminated in betrayal, and the last acts before his death. Our service will include the extinguishing of candles as we hear the story, the celebration of communion, and a haunting solo voice as the service closes and we exit in silence.



CHANCEL FLOWERS

**Easter Lilies:
Order by March 25**

Lilies may be dedicated in honor or in memory of a loved one. Each plant is \$15. Fill out a form by March 25 (found on the Flower Calendar in the main hallway) and place it in the offering plate or turn it in to the church office with a check designated for the *Chancel Guild Easter Lilies*. The lilies may be picked up after the worship service on Easter Sunday.



If you wish to order online, you can use this [link](#) and when paying online, please make a note in the memo line that the payment is for Easter lilies.

Fun at the Easter Egg Hunt

The kids had a blast at last Saturday's Easter Egg Hunt! Over 155 people attended, and nearly 90 children enjoyed hunting for eggs, painting crosses, playing games, and visiting with the Easter Bunny! Thanks to Cary Dickerson and our awesome volunteers for helping make this event a success. What a fun day!



Spring at the Preschool

Spring time at HMP has been a welcome change! The children have enjoyed extra time outside and have loved the Easter egg hunts with their classes. We are looking forward to Spring Break and will return after Easter refreshed and ready to see our HMP friends!



Photo above left: Searching for a four-leaf clover

Photo above right: Creating Easter art

Photo below: The children enjoying freshly picked carrots and lettuce from the Hudson community garden.



Shout-out to Ken Krause for rebuilding the Lending Library at the Preschool entrance! The library has been a wonderful addition to the entryway for the past 7 years and is visited daily!

SESSION

Matt Moorman Ordained as Minister of Word & Sacrament

More images from Matt's ordination last weekend. Full article on cover!



MISSION

Avery County Mission Trip SAVE THE DATES - JULY 21-26

This summer, a group of Hudson members will once again travel to Banner Elk, NC, to work on a home for Avery County Habitat for Humanity. The group will go to Banner Elk on Sunday afternoon, July 21, and, after a week of work, will return on Friday afternoon, July 26. Banner Elk is close enough that part-week participation is easily possible. Participants will stay at Holston Presbyterian Camp and Retreat Center where they will room and board for the week at its Guenther Lodge. Guenther offers nine rooms with two double beds and a private bath, plus additional bedrooms with twin beds accessible to ample bathroom facilities if our group needs more accommodation.

With these opportunities and facilities, a large group of men and women can be usefully engaged and fully accommodated each day. Our evenings will offer fulfilling togetherness and pleasant camaraderie. Please consider joining us on this Mission in the Mountains. No specific skills are necessary, and inexperience is not a barrier. Teens and friends are welcome too!

An informational meeting will be held on **April 14 shortly after service**. If you desire more detailed information in the meantime, please contact John Oldenburg, 901-210-3701, oldygolden@aol.com

WORSHIP & THE ARTS



Sunday Morning Early Chapel Worship Service Beginning Sunday, April 7th at 8:30am

In January, Session and Worship Committee approved the launch of a Chapel worship service on the first Sunday of the month. **This service will have four markers:** Early, Sacramental, Intimate, Shorter.

This addition will fulfill one of the requests of the Session-approved 2017 Sunday Morning Ministry Task Force Report: To reinstitute an early worship service with communion. The service will also include simple music with staff and lay leadership. If the characteristics of this worship opportunity appeal to you, we invite you to attend! Session has approved this service for a six-month period to examine the congregational and community response.

Let us worship God!



THE GATHERING

SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION

Nine O'Clock Class

9:00-10:00am | Room 200

March 24: "Creative Crosses"

Want to make a Creative Cross? Come to Room 200 on March 24th at 9:00am!



The cross is our most important symbol and in no season do we reflect upon it more intentionally than during Lent. Participants will create crosses to enrich your Lenten devotions.

Just bring yourself and a friend if you'd like! We will provide materials/

fabric, but if you have fabric that means something to you, feel free to bring your own!

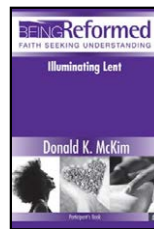


All are welcome! Join us!

The Seekers

9:30-10:20am | WH South
Sundays Through March 24

"Illuminating Lent"



Using *Illuminating Lent* by Rev. Donald K. McKim, well-known author and editor of numerous publications on Reformed Theology, The Seekers class will consider Lent through the lenses of providence, discipleship, and hope in the resurrection.

Various scriptures and the Lord's Prayer frame each lesson. The material and conversation with one another invite us to reflect on our personal discipleship and to consider the ways God may be calling us to move into the future. Facilitated by Rev. Jimmy Hulsey.

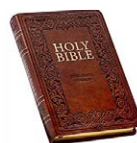
Coming Up....

April 7 - 14 : "Violence and Faith" led by Ron Ash. Violence in many forms is pervasive in our society. This class will examine the prevalence of violence in the Bible and how it is used by some to influence the behavior of church-going people. The impact of violence on Christians will also be discussed.

Presbyterian Ponderings

9:30-10:20am | WH North

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



This discussion-based class is using *The Present Word Bible Study* as a guide to engage the topic *Faith that Pleases God*. No advance preparation required; only a heart for the Biblical narrative, excitement about exploring it through your particular lens of life and faith, and willingness to share with others.

March 24 - Faith in Times of Trouble

Read the Gospel of Luke in March & Come Discuss It! Brown Bag Lunch with Pastor Mac APRIL 8 - NOON - WH SOUTH



In preparation for the meeting in April, please read through the Gospel of Luke. If questions arise for you, please send those questions to Pastor Mac by Friday, March 29th. All are welcome to bring a bag lunch. The church will provide cups, plates, napkins and water. No RSVP necessary!

In April, we will be reading the Gospel of John.

Waking Up With The Word Tuesday, March 26 | 6:30am | Patio



This is an early morning men's Bible study. It meets in person and on Zoom, alternating weekly. It uses an ancient study method called *lectio divina*. We read the passage that will be preached on the upcoming Sunday four times, with interspersed questions:

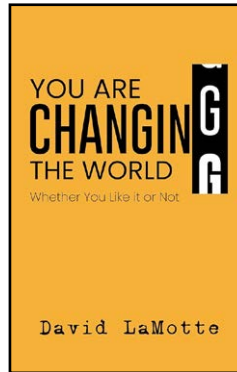
What's a word or phrase that stands out to you? Allow that word or phrase to develop into a memory from your life, a thought you have on the passage, or a metaphor? What is Christ calling you to through the passage?

No previous Bible study experience is necessary. At in-person meetings we provide coffee and Bibles, and, in winter months, we do the study around a fire. New participants are always welcome. If you'd like to be

added to the reminder list for the group please contact Pastor Mac at mschafer@hmpc.org.



April Book Study



We are offering a Sunday evening book study April 7, 14, 21 and 28 from 5:00-7:30 pm. Using *You Are Changing the World Whether You Like it or Not* by David LaMotte, we will reflect on the message shared in his visit with us on March 17 and have deeper conversations about how to work together to enact justice and peace in a troubled world.

If you are interested, contact Debbie - dkirk@hmpc.org.

Women at the Well



The weekly group meets Wednesday mornings from 9:15-10:30am and uses a particular book chosen each semester as a guide for shared conversation, reflections, and prayer. The book selection for the winter semester is

Enchantment: Awakening Wonder in an Anxious Age by author Katherine May.

The monthly group meets on the third or fourth Thursday of each month at 6:00pm and uses a podcast as the basis for discussion on topics of interest over dinner at a local restaurant.

For more information or to participate in either group contact Debbie Kirk at dkirk@hmpc.org.

SINGLE WAY

Single Way

Join us for our next meeting!



When: April 2 at 11:30am

Where: Bahama Breeze

3309 Wake Forest Drive
Raleigh, NC 27609

Please call Dee Blackerby at 919-846-6241 by March 30 if you plan to attend. **New people are always welcome!** Hope to see you there!

On The Library and A New Acquisition

BY JIMMY HULSEY

For some time now, I have been working with Mac, at his request, on making our church library more usable. John Oldenberg and I pruned our collection of extraneous and redundant titles. Rich and Olsen Richards relocated a number of items that were merely being stored there. Karen Melling gave her eye and expertise to make the space inviting. For those of you who don't know, the church library is next door to the choir room on the top floor. Come and see.

In an age of the internet and Kindles, why a church library? It has a symbolic as well as a practical value. We as Presbyterians are still a people of the Book. Our tradition has and continues to value learning coupled with spirituality (piety) in our Christian service. To resource our classes, enhance our worship experience and further our exploration of God, reading and study are ways to practice the sacred presence.

In short, the love of God with our minds still entails delving into Biblical background and theological



questions. Sitting in a pleasant and quiet space, even prayerfully, with a book, a pen and a coffee or tea, can nourish one's spirit.

A NEW ACQUISITION

Mac has also asked me to review new library additions. Our first title is simply *Calvin* by Bruce Gordon, a Canadian Presbyterian and the Titus Street Professor of Ecclesiastical History at Yale Divinity School. His very first sentence has it that, "John Calvin was the greatest Protestant reformer of the sixteenth century, brilliant, visionary and iconic." That is quite a claim since there were many great figures in that era. But Gordon makes his case to my mind. How?

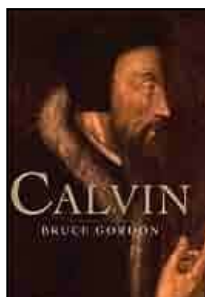
He sets *Calvin* in the context of an extremely turbulent era when views of God were changing in seismic shifts. It was not at all an irreligious age. Christian faith was woven into every aspect of life. So, when Biblical preaching on the priority of God's grace before

human response became central to worship services, kingdoms were shaken. The young Calvin had to flee his native France or risk being killed for his faith as were thousands of others.

A precocious child, his powerful mind absorbed the new learning of both the Renaissance and the Reformation like a sponge. He could be irascible because he was headstrong about his beliefs but also because he was the smartest one in the room. He had a magnet-like memory, a fierce tongue in debate and an amazing recall that served his writing long before Google. To read Calvin's pages in English translation, his capacity comes through to be clear and eloquent in both French and Latin. This gift advanced the quality of the French language as a whole and served to raise the education level of Reformation Europe.

Not a sequestered scholar, Calvin preached 3 to 5 times each week, taught regular classes, hosted many visitors, offered pastoral care and welcomed refugees from the storms of persecution. All the while, he sat with the administrators of the Geneva church and advised its civil authorities.

He wrote commentaries on most Biblical books, published his *Institutes* (still a classic of theological summation) and carried on a hefty correspondence as both pastor and friend to persons across the Continent and Great Britain. While his health allowed, he traveled to many cities to encourage ecumenical relationships and to uplift young congregations. When he could no longer travel, he wrote to comfort young ministers who had trained in Geneva and returned to join the Reformation cause in France. In one instance, he wrote to comfort five of them as they had been arrested and would die in the flames. In his own body and the struggles of his days, he coped with and countenanced suffering for the faith he espoused. Throughout his life, he was a steady hand for the gospel and tireless in encouragement of Reformed communities and commitments throughout Europe.



I recommend a dip into *Calvin* to better understand this major reformer at the height of his powers in the thick of his times.

CALENDAR

This Week at HMPC

Sunday, March 24

9:00am - Nine O'Clock Class - Room 200
9:30am - Presbyterian Ponderings - WH North
9:30am - The Seekers - WH South
10:30am - Worship - Sanctuary
10:45am - Children's Sunday School - GH
11:35ish - Coffee & Conversation - Chapel
11:45am - Youth Bells - WH South
5:00pm - Youth Sabbath Sunday - Guide [HERE](#)

Monday, March 25

7:00pm - Session - WH South
8:00pm - Al-Anon/Alateen - Geneva Rm 226, 234, 235

Tuesday, March 26

6:30am - Waking Up With The Word - Patio
9:30am - Staff Meeting - Welcome Lounge
7:30pm - Boy Scouts - Geneva Hall

Wednesday, March 27

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

Thursday, March 28

7:00pm - Maundy Thursday - Sanctuary

Friday, March 29

12:00pm - Good Friday Service - Sanctuary
6:30pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200

MISSION

March Tend My Sheep

PRESBYTERIAN CAMPUS MINISTRIES

This month we are collecting snack foods and gift cards for the NC State Presbyterian Campus Ministries. PCM is an inclusive and welcoming place for all students to enjoy fellowship with one another, find resources to assist them as needed, and have a safe place to process things happening on campus, in the community, and across the world. You may place items in the baskets at Sanctuary entrances.

SPECIFIC REQUESTS:

Gift Cards:

Food Lion, Harris Teeter, Gas
(Gift cards are given to students based on need)



Snacks:

Individual Skinny Pop bags, individual fruit snacks, Gatorade bottles, Diet Coke cans or bottles, protein & granola bars, "Liquid IV" electrolyte drink packets

DEVOTIONALS

These Days

April - June Issues Are Here!



The spring issue of *These Days* has arrived! Copies are available at Sanctuary entrances.

[Please contact Lesley Ash Jacobsen](#) 919-390-2648 (and leave a message), if you would like to have one mailed to you.

Welcome, Hannah!



We are excited to announce that Hannah Woodcock started this month in the new part-time role of Administrative Coordinator. Hannah will be scheduling, keeping attendance, and performing various administrative tasks, as well as taking over property management. This shift in office responsibilities will allow Erica Hairston, Business Manager, to fully absorb all church finance duties.

With a history of working in admin, volunteering in church, and attending her grandparents' Sunday School class for years, Hannah is incredibly kind and highly organized, describes herself as community-minded and a lifelong learner. In addition to her passion for serving the church, Hannah also enjoys the arts. She works part-time as House Manager at the NC State Theater. Let's all give Hannah a warm greeting!