

THE WEEKLY WINDOW

OUT TO THE LIFE
AND MINISTRY OF
HUDSON MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SEPTEMBER 20, 2024

A Message from Pastor Mac

This is a message from Pastor Mac that was sent via email on Sunday, September 15. For those of you that missed it, please read below. More information will be forthcoming from Mac and the church leadership about this time of transition.

Friends & Members of
Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church,



After 15 years of joyous and meaningful ministry at Hudson, I am writing with important news. A call has been extended to me by [Doylestown Presbyterian Church](#) in Doylestown, Pennsylvania to be their next Pastor & Head of Staff. I have accepted that call.

Their church's Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) reached out to me several months ago and we began having conversations. As I engaged with the PNC over time I began to sense and discern that God was calling me to something new.

Hudson Memorial is a wonderful church that continues to live into its mission in so many beautiful and unique ways. I have loved sharing in ministry with you. God has particularly touched me by witnessing how generous so many of you are in your love and service to Christ.

My last Sunday at Hudson will be October 20th. I will be taking the month of November off for several family obligations that Katy and I are committed to. I will begin my ministry in Doylestown in early December.

Over the next six weeks I will do my very best to have meaningful closure with you and to conclude my tenure well. You have an excellent Session and Staff that will listen and lead in ways that are faithful to Christ. Furthermore, we are a connectional church and the Presbytery of New Hope will walk alongside you through this time of pastoral transition.

I am thankful for these years we've had together and trust that God will lead us.

With Love & Care,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mac". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mac Schafer, Pastor & Head of Staff

Gathering of The Presbytery of New Hope at HMPC VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ON OCTOBER 25 & 26!



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. (Mary and Lizzie are pictured to the left.)

Offering of Letters - September 29 After Worship



HMPC is a Matthew 25 Congregation. We are one of 1,235 congregations which have committed to "actively engage in the world around us, and act boldly and compassionately to serve those marginalized and in need - those who are poor, hungry, thirsty, naked, sick, imprisoned and strangers."



The U.S. Farm Bill (a very large piece of legislation taken up by Congress) is a "comprehensive omnibus bill that is the primary agricultural and food policy instrument of the federal government. Congress typically passes a new farm bill every five to six years." The Farm, Food and National Security Act (H.R. 8746) for 2024 is pending in Congress. Approximately 80% of the \$1.5 trillion cost will go to fund the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, which over 40 million Americans

rely upon to put food on their tables. Without these benefits, millions of people go hungry. We need your assistance in encouraging Congress to pass this legislation.

Please join us in Westminster Hall on Sunday, September 29, after the service to write a letter to each of your U.S. Senators (Senators Thom Tillis and Ted Budd) and your U.S. Representative (Congresswoman Deborah Ross or another depending upon where you live). Sample letters, stationery, pens, and refreshments will be provided.

Help Package 12,000 Meals VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Rise
AGAINST HUNGER

As a Hunger Action Congregation, we are committed to addressing hunger, not just in our community, but on a global scale. One of the ways we make a significant impact is through our support for Rise Against Hunger. This organization distributes food to places in the world where there is not enough food. Packing this many meals takes a contribution of \$5,000 and the Mission Committee is using designated Hunger Action funds.

Hudson Memorial is partnering with Rise Against Hunger in the fight to End Hunger. Rise Against Hunger meals are distributed through global partners that administer school feeding programs, orphanages, health clinics, vocational training, and respond to crises. Be sure to register through the link below for this fun, kid-friendly (ages 4 and up), high-impact event!

When: October 6 - 4:00 to 6:00 PM
Where: Rise Against Hunger Warehouse
 3200 Wellington Ct. #112 | Raleigh 27615
Who: You! SIGN UP [HERE!](#)

September Tend My Sheep CLOTHING DRIVE

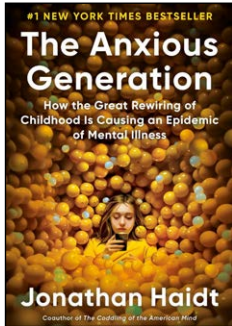


This month we are having a back-to-school clothing drive for Note in the Pocket. Note in the Pocket helps address clothing insecurity, which is a problem that often lacks adequate attention. By providing clothing we can give children what they need to feel comfortable and confident at school, allowing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



Short-Term Book Study for Parents of Children & Teens



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**:

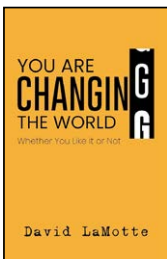
Thursday, September 26th (read Part II) | Thursday, October 3rd (read Part III) |
Thursday, October 10th (read Part IV)

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 by Oct. 1.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth This Week



- Sunday School at 11:30am
- **This Sunday afternoon, September 22, is Sabbath Sunday!** Find guides by Sanctuary entrances, on hmpc.org, or [HERE](#).

"Kilwins Chillin's" on Wednesday 6:30-7:15pm
5th to 8th graders; Kilwins in NH (Near Chuy's)

SINGLE WAY

Single Way



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!

Join us for our next gathering!

October 1 at 11:30am
Lemongrass Thai Restaurant
8320 Litchford Road #142; Raleigh, NC 27615



Please call Dee Blackerby at 919-846-6241 by **September 29** if you plan to attend.

Sunday Adult Education

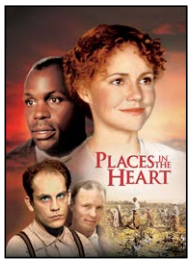
THE GATHERING

The Nine O'Clock Class

9:00-10:00am | Room 200

September 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 22nd we will wrap up the movie *Places in the Heart* and 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 | Westminster South

September 22

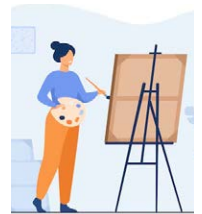
"Sharing Interests and Talents: Show and Tell"

Facilitated by Susan Grigg

Bring a sample (live or a photo) of your interest, craft, pastime, talent, etc. to class.



Tell us a little about the beginning of your interest and how it has continued. Using Romans 12:3-7 and 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, we will discuss what it means to use our gifts and talents for God's glory.



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!

September 29

"Worship in the Church, According to Paul"

Facilitated by Ron Ash

Do you know how to act in Church? Do you know what to wear to Sunday services? Where does the practice of intinction for Communion come from? Paul has some answers to these questions and others for us to ponder.

FAITH FORMATION AFTER WORSHIP

Coffee & Conversation: A Time for Young-ish Adults

Sundays Following Worship



Are you in your 20s, 30s or 40s? Coffee & Conversation is a group that meets most Sundays following worship at 11:30ish in the Chapel while Joyful Noise & Youth Music are 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! If you have questions please reach out to Pastor Mac or Cary Dickerson.

WOMEN'S FAITH FORMATION

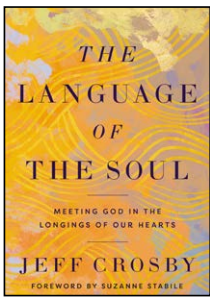
Women at the Well

FALL SEMESTER



Women at the Well has begun the fall semester, 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



THE WEEKLY GROUP meets Wednesday morning from 9:15-10:30am (through 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. Contact Pastor Debbie in you have any questions.

The Monthly Group Next Meeting: October 17

THE MONTHLY GROUP meets over dinner at a local restaurant at 6:00pm on the third or fourth Thursday of each month (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 how the 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@hmpc.org.

MEN'S FAITH FORMATION

Presbyterian Pint

Cookout 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 short book 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@hmpc.org.

Waking Up With The Word

Tuesday, Sept. 24 | 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.

If you'd like to be added to the reminder list for the group, please contact Pastor Mac at mschafer@hmpc.org.

This Week at HMPC

Sunday, September 22

- 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 - Geneva Hall
- 11:30am - Fellowship - Westminster Hall
- 11:30am - Children’s Music - Geneva Hall
- 11:30am - Coffee & Conversation - Chapel
- 11:30am - Youth Sunday School - Youth SS Room
- 12:00pm - Youth Music - WH South
- 5:00pm - Youth Sabbath Sunday - At home/restaurant

Monday, September 23

- 9:30am - Preschool Chapel
- 6:30pm - PEO - Room 200
- 7:00pm - Session - WH South
- 8:00pm - Al-Anon/Alateen - Geneva Rm 226, 234, 235

Tuesday, September 24

- 6:30am - Waking Up With The Word - Patio
- 5:45pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200
- 7:00pm - Presbyterian Pint Cookout - Mac's House
- 7:30pm - Boy Scouts - Geneva Hall, Rm 234

Wednesday, September 25

- 9:15am - Women at the Well - Chapel/Zoom
- 6:15pm - Hudson Handbells - WH South
- 6:30pm - Youth Kilwin's Chillin's - Off-campus
- 7:30pm - Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

Thursday, September 26

- 7:00pm - Anxious Generation Book Study - Mordecai Bev.

Friday, September 27

- 5:45pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200

Saturday, September 28

- 11:30am - Al-Anon District Workshop



Pizza Party!

We had so much fun at our annual Back-to-School Pizza Party last Thursday. It was wonderful seeing all of our families and teachers visiting on the west lawn, and of course the pizza was a hit!

Also, last week's Scholastic Book Fair was a huge success! Preschool parents and church members brought our sales total to \$4,623. We appreciate your support!

