

THE WEEKLY WINDOW

OUT TO THE LIFE
AND MINISTRY OF
HUDSON MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 24, 2023



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26
10:30AM WORSHIP
HMPC WEST LAWN

All are welcome to
bring pets &
animal companions
to this special
outdoor service!



This weekend, we will have a special Sunday morning worship service on the West Lawn to thank God for the animals in our lives. All are invited to bring their leashed and secured animals to be blessed in this shorter Sunday morning service. If you cannot bring your furry friend in person, we invite you to **bring a photo!**

While we will have chairs available, **please bring your own lawn/camp chairs** as well as appropriate clothing for this outdoor service.

All barks, meows, and tweets will join our human voices in praising the Lord!

This service will not be live-streamed.

ADVENT 2023 *What is God Like?*

Advent begins next Sunday, December 3rd. The theme this year is *What is God like?* We hope you will join us for the many special services and activities during this Advent season. Check out page 2 and 3 to learn more about plans for this Advent at HMPC!



THE SEEKERS THIS SUNDAY

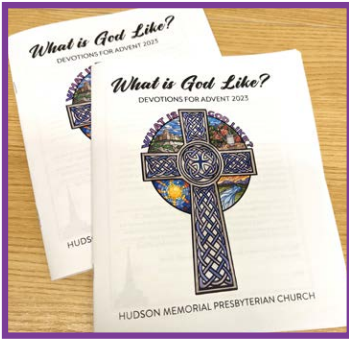
"Do You Experience God's Grace
Working In Your Life During Advent? "

Join the Seekers class on Sunday, November 26th in Westminster Hall South. Using John 1:9-14 we'll discuss our hopes for our Advent experience and how being a child of God affects us in this time of great expectation. Facilitated by Susan Grigg.



Advent & Christmas at HMPC

DEVOTIONALS



Next Sunday, December 3rd, Advent devotionals will be available! This booklet is filled with devotions written by members of the HMPC community (adults, youth and children).

ADVENT COIN DRIVE



All through the month of December, the children will be collecting coins to pay off school lunch debt for families at Green Elementary. Help families start off 2024 with no school lunch debt! Be on the lookout for collection boxes this month. Reach out to Cary Dickerson with any questions.

CHILDREN'S ADVENT & CHRISTMAS MUSIC NEWS

The children have been working hard getting ready for the pageant! Parents: It is very important that your pageant participant be at all of the rehearsals! If you have any questions, please reach out to Rich.

Rehearsal & Performances:

Rehearsal:

Sunday, December 3 after Worship/Sunday School
11:30am to 12:15pm

Pageant Rehearsal (Mandatory!):

Saturday, December 9 | 10am - 11am

Christmas Pageant:

Sunday, December 10 | 10:30am | Call time is 9:45

Children will also participate in

Christmas Joy In the Morning Worship:

December 17 | 10:30am | Call time 10:00am

Family Christmas Celebration

Saturday, December 2
10:00am-12:00pm
Westminster Hall

Nativity Scavenger Hunt
Hot Chocolate Bar
Ornament Making
Gingerbread Nativities

POINSETTIAS



The Chancel Guild invites you to honor or remember a special person with a donation of \$15 toward Advent preparations, including poinsettias and greenery. Names will be listed in the December 17th worship bulletin. Return an information form (located on the flower calendar board outside of room #103) with your check to the office, or place it in the offering plate by **December 10th**. You can also use [the link](#) on the homepage of hmpc.org to order. Designate 'Chancel Guild/Poinsettias' on your check. You may take your donated poinsettia home with you after the Christmas Eve service.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH CAROLING & HOT CHOCOLATE

5:00pm | Sunday, December 3



Middle School youth will be caroling in the local neighborhood on December 3. Youth, join us for this festive evening!

Advent & Christmas at HMPC

NEXT SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 3

HANGING OF THE GREENS

11:30am | Sunday, December 3



Help us decorate the church for the Christmas season! There are decorating tasks for all ages. Meet after worship in WH for instructions.

BLUE CHRISTMAS:
A SERVICE OF SHADOWS

6:00pm | Sunday, December 3 | Chapel

As we enter another Advent season, the season evokes many feelings, images, memories, and stories. We may be filled with excited anticipation or anxious dread. For many of us, the season is a mixture of both. The frenetic pace of the holidays may cause the time to pass quickly, while the extended hours of darkness can make each day seem endless. Each moment is unique as winter's changing lights that cast shadows invite us into the sacred presence of God.

To assist us in framing our Advent journeys, the Deacons are leading a worship service on Sunday, December 3, in the Chapel at 6:00pm. We emphasize the color blue as distinct from the traditional liturgical color, purple, and the popular holiday colors, red and green, as a reminder of the range of emotions during the holidays.

The service is for everyone who would like a quiet reflective time with the reading of scripture, prayers, contemplative music, and the lighting of candles in recognition of God's presence in our places of greatest need. The liturgical space will be created by Rich Richards and his youth team to reflect the shadows of the season.



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS
EVENTS & SERVICES

Saturday, December 2

Family Christmas Event
10:00-12:00 | HMPC Campus

Sunday, December 3

Hanging of the Greens
After Worship | HMPC Campus

Sunday, December 3

Blue Christmas: A Service of Shadows
6:00pm | Chapel

Sunday, December 10

Christmas Pageant
10:30am Worship | Sanctuary

Sunday, December 17

Christmas Joy in the Morning
10:30am Worship | Sanctuary

Sunday, December 24

Christmas Eve

10:30am - Worship in the Sanctuary

Children's Sunday School
(after Children's Message)

5:00pm - Candlelight Service

Nursery will be available (ages birth to 5)

8:00pm - Communion & Candlelight Service

Nursery will not be available



PRESCHOOL

Preschool Food Drive FOR NORTH RALEIGH MINISTRIES

The preschoolers had their annual Thanksgiving Chapel song gathering in the Sanctuary on Monday morning. This gathering concluded our Food Drive benefiting North Raleigh Ministries. The preschool families donated 304 cans of food and 140 packages of dry goods such as rice, pasta and beans. We wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!!!



YOUTH MINISTRY

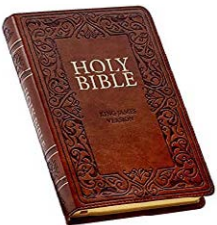
Youth News for Sunday, November 26

Morning:

NO YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Afternoon:

No regular youth group but it is a **Sabbath Sunday** for Youth Ministry. On Sabbath Sunday, we will send out a "[devotion](#)" to youth families who receive the blasts and Weekly Window. We have no way to measure who is actually utilizing the devotion beyond the amount of clicks we get on the email. Though, the feedback that other groups that have incorporated this has been that the youth and families appreciate this time, set aside. You could even have another family over for dinner!



SINGLE WAY

Single Way Winter Events



Join this group of never-married, widowed, or divorced adults for fun, food, and fellowship. We typically meet the first Tuesday of every month. New people are always welcome to join!

December Luncheon Tuesday, December 5th at 11:30am Outback Steakhouse 7500 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh

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

We ask that you bring one personal care item to be donated to Hannah Circle's Christmas gift bags for Capital Towers. Suggested items include toothbrushes, toothpaste, body wash, shampoo, disposable razors and /or any other item you feel would be appreciated. Thank you for your participation in this community project.

And save the date for Single Way's

Holiday Gathering

December 31, 2023 in Westminster Hall

Fun and Games, Festive Music, and Holiday Cheer!

FAITH FORMATION

Presbyterian Pint

7:00pm | Nov. 30 | Mordecai Bev Co

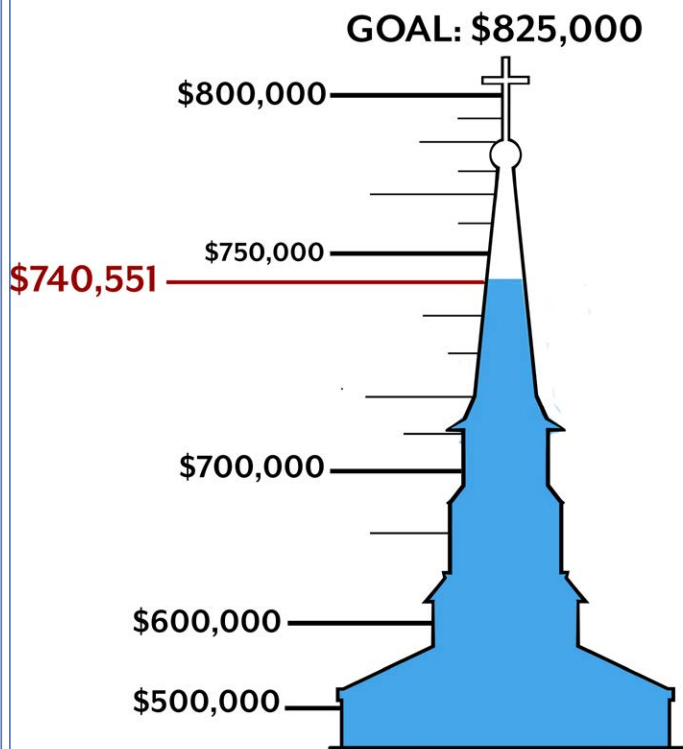


Men of the church are welcome to join us for fellowship and faith in a friendly environment. We discuss relevant questions of theology and culture. Contact [Pastor Mac](#) to be added to the distribution list.

GIVING MINISTRY

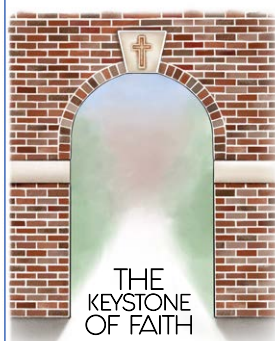
2024 Pledge Campaign Progress Update

AS OF NOVEMBER 21, 2023



Thank you to all who have submitted your pledges thus far. Collectively, our pledges provide our Finance Committee and Session with vital information as they work to prepare our 2024 budget.

As of November 21, 2023, our received pledges total **\$740,551** (still \$85k away from our goal of \$825k). We currently have **154** households who have submitted pledges--Last year we had a total of 185 pledging households.



It is not too late to pledge. You may pledge online [here](#), or email your pledge to Erica Hairston, HMPC Business Administrator, or Lisa Flint-Morris, Accounting Coordinator. You can call Erica at 919-390-2630 if you would like to request that a pledge form be mailed to you.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Officer Nominations



Stay tuned! Nomination forms and an online link will be provided to the congregation during December for Elder and Deacon nominations. Please begin to prayerfully consider members for these positions who you feel “possess the necessary gifts and abilities and who are persons of strong faith, dedicated discipleship, and love of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord” (Book of Order G-2.0104).

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Scholarships Available THROUGH PW



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Presbyterian Women offer two scholarships every year. Starting January 1, both PW college and campership scholarship applications will be open. The deadline for submission is March 1st. They do require letters of recommendation.

To apply for the campership scholarship, Youth (for grades 6 through 12) must live in the Presbytery and be a member of a church in the Presbytery. Campers may attend the camp/youth event of their choice, but preference may be given to those who are attending a Presbyterian-related camp. Value of the campership is \$250.

To apply for the college scholarship, applicants must live in the Presbytery and be a member of a church in the Presbytery. Applicants may attend the college of their choice, but preference may be given to those applicants who are attending a Presbyterian-related college. The amount awarded depends on the funds available and number of awards.

For additional information contact Grace Hutchinson at fghdukefan@aol.com.

The Seekers This Sunday

9:30-10:20am | Westminster South
Sunday, November 26

"Do You Experience God's Grace Working In Your Life During Advent?"

Facilitated by Susan Grigg



Using John 1:9-14 we'll discuss our hopes for our Advent and experience and how being a child of God affects us in this time of great expectation.

**THE SEEKERS WILL BE THE ONLY
ADULT ED OFFERING
THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26**

Waking Up With The Word

Tuesday, Nov. 28 | 6:30am | Zoom



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. In the fall and winter months, we do the study around a fire. If you'd like to be added to the reminder list for the group please contact Pastor Mac.

Tend My Sheep

Offering for November - FINAL WEEK



The Mission Committee's November Tend My Sheep collection focuses on the congregation's support of Housing Options for Students Today (HOST).

The Mission of HOST is to prevent college student homelessness by providing temporary safe and stable housing in the homes of local hosts, and assisting students to exit the host home into permanent housing.

HOST matches students who need short-term housing with hosts who provide a safe, private, affirming space in their home. Students prepare for long-term stable housing with support from a caring case manager advocate.

We will be collecting sheet sets, towel sets, and personal items including items of dental hygiene, deodorant, shampoo, etc. which will be part of care packages provided to students by HOST. Once students are able to find permanent housing on campus or in an apartment they will be able to take the sheets and towels to have a leg up on housekeeping necessities. **Please bring your donations to the bins at Sanctuary entrances no later than Sunday, November 26.**

November Special Offering - FINAL WEEK Good Samaritan Fund

Our monthly special offering is for the Good Samaritan Fund, a discretionary account outside of the annual operating budget that is used to assist HMPC members and others who are experiencing financial challenges. These needs have increased due to the long term effects of COVID-19 and we appreciate any amount you give so

we have the funds available as needed.



You may place your donation in the offering plate (designated to "Samaritan"), or you can give online by clicking the QR code, or visit hmpc.org.

CALENDAR

THIS WEEK AT HUDSON

Sunday, November 26

9:30 am - The Seekers - WH South

10:30 am - Worship & Blessing of Animals - West Lawn

11:30 am - Fellowship

Evening: Youth Sabbath Sunday

Monday, November 27

7:00 pm - Session - WH South

8:00 pm - How it Works - GH Rooms

Tuesday, November 28

6:30 am - Waking Up With the Word - Zoom

9:30 am - Staff Meeting - Welcome Lounge

7:30 pm - Boy Scouts - GH 234

Wednesday, November 29

9:15 am - Women at the Well - Chapel

6:00 pm - Hudson Handbells - WH South

6:00 pm - Children's Committee - WH North

7:30 pm - Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

Thursday, November 30

7:00 pm - Mission Committee - WH South

Friday, December 1

6:00 pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200

Saturday, December 2

10:00 am - Family Christmas Celebration - WH

HMPC STAFF

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