

THE WEEKLY WINDOW

OUT TO THE LIFE
AND MINISTRY OF
HUDSON MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



JULY 19, 2024

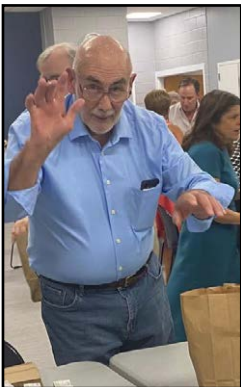
500 BAGS PACKED FOR MEALS ON WHEELS!



Last Sunday during the 9:30am Summer Series, over 40 volunteers from age 6 to 96 helped pack 500 meal bags for Meals on Wheels! Meals on Wheels provides for its clients



one hot meal five days a week and two frozen meals for use on the weekends. The bags we have prepared will provide some shelf-stable items to supplement the deliveries, and they are greatly appreciated by those who receive them. Thanks for all of the energy and hard work by our volunteers!



ADULT SUMMER SERIES CELTIC CHRISTIANITY SUNDAY, JULY 21 | 9:30AM | WH



St. Patrick, St. Columba, the Gospel of John, God's creation, the Isle of Iona, the Synod of Whitby, and more. What are the marks of Celtic Christianity? Come "scratch the surface" of this interesting topic that can impact your spiritual journey. Led by Pastor Mac.

FELLOWSHIP

FELLOWSHIP FRIDAY ON JULY 26

On Friday, July 26th, from 6:00-8:00pm, come join your HMPC friends to enjoy the splendor of the Paris 2024 Olympics opening ceremony. We will watch the opening ceremony in Westminster Hall while enjoying an ice cream sundae bar and cold drinks. Please feel free to bring a packed dinner to eat before ice cream.



For the first time in the history of the summer games, the opening ceremony will not take place in a stadium. Paris 2024 is breaking new ground by bringing sports into the city and the same will be true of the opening ceremony, set to be held in the heart of the city along its main artery: the Seine. This promises to be an amazing display of creativity and entertainment.

Please RSVP [here](#) or call the church office by July 24 so we can be sure to have enough refreshments.



Final Summer Supper

August 14 | 6:00pm | Suggested donation \$6 per person | WH North



Fellowship Friday: Bingo

August 23 | Doors open at 6:00pm | WH North



Fall Kick-Off Lunch

August 25 | Following Worship | WH North

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Help Decorate for VBS!

August 4th After Worship

Join us on August 4th as we transform Hudson into Camp Firelight! Volunteers are needed following worship to help decorate the church for our week of

Vacation Bible School. Volunteers will gather in Westminster Hall North after Fellowship. We hope you can join us! Contact Cary Dickerson if you have any questions.



VBS Volunteers



Our slate of VBS volunteers is almost full, but we have a need for the following: Friday **classroom volunteer** and **science helper** M-TH. If you are able to fill either of these slots or are

interested in helping with the **nursery**, we would love to have you! The dates of VBS are August 5th-9th - 9:00am-12:00pm.

[SIGN UP HERE TO VOLUNTEER](#)

Emilie Sorrell & Jean Smith Patton Baker-Hicks

Over the past few weeks I have been talking with Emilie and Robert Sorrell who live in Atlanta, GA. Her mother, Jean Baker-Hicks, recently died at the age of 94. Many years ago, when Jean lived in Raleigh, she had purchased a niche in Hudson's Memorial Garden. In subsequent years she had moved to Hilton Head, SC, and then Atlanta. Emilie and Robert wanted to come up to Raleigh for a small graveside service to commit Jean's remains to their final resting place.

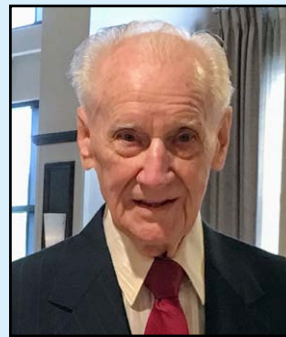


Emilie and I spoke over the phone a number of times as we planned the service. In the midst of those conversations, I learned that Jean was a charter member of Hudson (#35 in the church registry book) and that Emilie was the first girl baptized

in the church (#3 overall). Emilie shared with me how wonderful the members of Hudson had been to her mother at a certain stage of her life and how grateful Jean was for that. She said her mom was so proud of being a charter member.

After having the graveside service on Monday, July 15th, I was able to show Emilie and Robert around the church. It was particularly fun to show Emilie the original baptismal font in the Karl Hudson Room in the historical display (Emilie is holding the font in the picture above). It's always a joy to connect with people that have been connected in meaningful ways with the history of the church. Thanks be to God for the life of Jean Smith Patton Baker-Hicks and for Emilie's baptism.

To the Church Triumphant JACK LLEWELLYN



Hudson member Jack Llewellyn entered God's everlasting kingdom on July 16, 2024. Memorial service information will be announced soon. Please keep the Llewellyn family in your prayers.

Thanks be to God for Jack.

Deacons' Prayer Ministry

Hudson Memorial's Deacons are an elected board of church members focused on care of the Hudson community. We provide care in the form of visits to sick or homebound members, meals for those recovering from surgery or illness, and other forms of ministry. Above all, we pray for our congregation and all who request it. If you feel in need of prayer for yourself or a friend or family member, you may place a blue prayer card in the offering plate on Sunday with your information or you may call the Deacon Prayer Line at 919-390-2688 and leave a message for the Deacon on Call.



If it is in your heart to pray for others, you may join the list of members called Prayer Partners. Some prayer requests received by the Deacons are sent by email (with the requester's permission) to the Prayer Partners who pray individually for the concerns. It is important that Prayer Partners keep all prayer requests confidential. Deacons [Jill Hovis](#) and [Gil Graybill](#) maintain the Prayer Partners list and you may contact one of them to be added.

Deacons' Meal Ministry: Cooks Needed



As one of our ministries to the congregation, the Deacons coordinate preparing and delivering meals to our members for whom getting a meal together would be difficult: struggling with an illness, recovering from surgery, healing from a broken bone, welcoming a new baby into the family. We need your help in caring for one another in this very practical—and tasty(!)—way.

We are updating our list of members who would like to be called on occasionally to help out. Please let [Joanna Hulsey](#) know if you would like more information or are interested in joining our “team of cooks”.

JULY SPECIAL OFFERING: Hunger Action



This month we are collecting for our Hunger Action fund. Hudson Memorial is a certified Hunger Action congregation which means our primary mission focus is to address food insecurity in our community and around the world. When famine or other events contribute to

food insecurity, we can use these funds to help get food to those in need.

You can give by designating your donation on an envelope placed into the offering plate; mailing a check with "Hunger Action" in the memo line to the church office; giving online by visiting hmpc.org, or texting the donation amount with the word "Hunger" to 888-906-0744. *Example text: 25 Hunger*

JULY TEND MY SHEEP:

Green Elementary BACKPACKS + SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Green Elementary is our neighbor public elementary school - it is a Title I school which means that a significant portion of its students receive free or reduced lunches and have extra needs required to achieve an equitable education. Hudson is working with the school's social worker to provide backpacks and school supplies to those children most in need. **We are collecting backpacks, headphones (no earbuds or wireless please), #2 pencils, composition notebooks, crayons,**



colored pencils, dry erase markers, safety scissors, two pocket folders, glue sticks, and wide ruled paper. We will continue to collect these items through the first two weeks in August.

Meal-Packing Event A THANK YOU FROM M.O.W.

Following our Summer Series meal-packing event, Wake County Meals On Wheels posted the following online:



"Thank you to Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church and their volunteers for packing breakfast bags to be delivered to our homebound senior neighbors!"

Food Bank Project: Round 2 Let's keep it going!

Last month, volunteers from the Mission team and members of the church cut and tied 6,000 produce bags for the Food Bank. *(Photo below)* The Food Bank used all of them in just a couple of days! These bags are packed with food and distributed to various hunger relief organizations, and the Food Bank always needs to have a stash ready. Hudson volunteered to create 6,000 more bags this month! You'll see the materials and bins in Westminster Hall as you did last month. Feel free to grab material and create some bags!



Waking Up With The Word

TUESDAY, JULY 23 - 6:30am - Zoom



This is an early morning men's Bible study. It meets in person on the WH Patio and via 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. New participants are always welcome.

Women at the Well

Thursday, July 25 - 6:00pm
Vivo Ristorante



We welcome women of the church to this monthly study/discussion group. We are meeting Thursday, July 25! This group typically uses a podcast as the basis for discussion on topics of interest. It is a casual gathering with great conversation and fellowship.

For more information or to participate contact Debbie Kirk at dkirk@hmpe.org.

Presbyterian Pint

Thursday, July 25 - 7:00pm
Mordecai Beverage 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. Join us this Thursday!

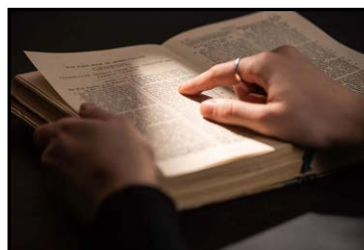
Adult Summer Series

9:30-10:20am Sundays | WH North

COMING UP...

July 21 on cover

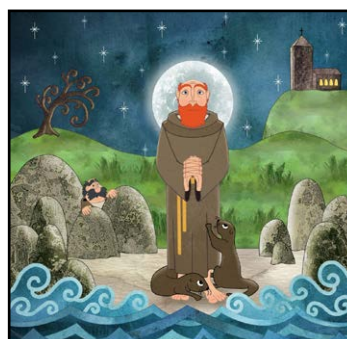
July 28: Lectio Divina



Lectio Divina (Latin for "Divine Reading") is an ancient devotional practice that includes multiple readings of a single Scriptural passage, quiet reflection, and in a group setting,

conversation. Bring a Bible and join Fred Woodward to learn more and give it a try.

August 4: St. Cuthbert & The Holy Island



St. Cuthbert is a 7th century saint who is buried in Durham Cathedral in England. He conducted ministry along the present day Scottish border and lived on the Holy Island of Lindisfarne. There are many interesting stories and legends about him, and

today there is a 100 km pilgrims' path in his memory. Come join Pastor Mac to learn about Cuthbert.

August 11: Avery County Mission Trip Presentation



Our Mission Team will share their week building with Habitat for Humanity in Avery County in Western NC. Not only do they work hard as the "hands and feet of Christ" but also they enjoy getting to know each other better through times of devotion, reflection and sharing at the end of each day.

This Week at HMPC...

Sunday, July 21

- 9:30am - Adult Summer Series - WH North
- 9:45am - Summer Sing - Choir Loft/Sanctuary
- 10:30am - Worship - Sanctuary
- 10:45am - Children's Sunday School - Geneva/Playgarden
- 11:30am - Fellowship - WH North
- 12:30pm - Inquirers' Class - Zoom
- 2:00pm - EAP Meeting - Zoom
- 5:00pm - Montreat Women's Conf Gathering - Offsite

Monday, July 22

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

Tuesday, July 23

- 6:30am - Waking Up With The Word - Zoom
- 9:30am - Staff Meeting - Welcome Lounge
- 5:45pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200

Wednesday, July 24

- 6:15pm - Handbell Ensemble - Sanctuary

Thursday, July 25

- 6:00pm - Women at the Well - Vivo Ristorante
- 7:00pm - Presbyterian Pint - Mordecai Bev Co

Friday, July 26

- 5:45pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200
- 6:00pm - Fellowship Friday - WH North

MUSIC MINISTRY

Handbell Workshops

August 21 & 28 at 6:00 pm
in Westminster Hall South

Have you ever...



- *wanted to learn more about bell ringing?*
- *wanted to try your hand at ringing a bell?*
- *rang in the past but are feeling rusty?*

These workshops are for you! You will have some hands-on ringing experiences and grow in your appreciation for this fun and meaningful music ministry. For more information, reach out to Barbara Loehr-Fox.

Preschool News

Summer Fun | Asst Teachers Needed

Fun, fun, fun at HMP this summer! We have been busy learning all about ocean life, gone on a few "camping"



trips, and played outside. The most fun has been on our Water Days, splashing on the sprinkler pads and playing with our new water table. We are so lucky to have shaded playgrounds on these hot days!

Looking ahead toward the fall, we do have a few Assistant Teacher openings. Teachers typically work 8:30-1:00 M-F, but we can be flexible if needed. Please contact Dorothy Roche at droche@hmpc.org if you would be interested in working at the preschool.



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 to join!

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, August 6, at 11:30am at Hiberian Irish Pub and Restaurant (8021 Falls of Neuse Road, Raleigh, NC 27615). Let Dee Blackerby (919-846-6241) know if you plan to attend by August 4.

*At times lively, with bursts of dancing and joy, and - at times - pin-drop quiet as commissioners and observers listened to the voices at the mics, General Assembly 226 – themed **Live into Hope** – was an ever-faithful time for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to ask profound questions about the shape and future of Christ's church.*

LIVE *into* HOPE

► **New stated clerk, co-moderators**

The **Rev. CeCe Armstrong** and the **Rev. Tony Larson**, both of South Carolina, were [elected co-moderators of the 226th GA](#), and the **Rev. Jihyun Oh**, born in South Korea and reared in Kansas, [was elected stated clerk](#), the highest ecclesial office of the denomination.

Elected the night before business proceedings began, Armstrong and Larson presided over the day-to-day business, but [in an overhaul of standing rules](#), the **moderatorial election will move to the end** of the assembly instead of the beginning in 2026. The overhaul also eliminates “mission advisory delegates,” creating partner advisory delegates instead.



► **Sexual orientation, gender identity protections**

Commissioners approved a two-part inclusivity change to the *Book of Order*, [adding gender identity and sexual orientation](#) to the list of the “rich diversity” reflected in the church’s membership (recommendation 1, section F-1.0403) and then recommending [an examination of these principles for ordination and installation](#) (recommendation 2, section G-2.0104b) that could determine a “candidate’s ability and commitment to fulfill all requirements as expressed in the constitutional questions for ordination and installation ...” If POL-01 is approved by more than 50% of presbyteries, these changes will be added to the *Book of Order*.

► **Unifying budget of OGA and PMA**

GA adopted a **\$94.9 million budget for 2025 and \$95 million for 2026**, [resulting in a 14.8% increase in per capita](#) over the two-year span. In 2025, per capita will be \$10.84, and \$11.26 in 2026, increasing from \$9.80 this year. Because of an earlier decision by the Commission on the Unification of the Office of the General Assembly and the Presbyterian Mission Agency, all the budget items added at this assembly (\$600,000+ per year) were charged to the per capita budget, regardless of how they would be spent.

► **Fossil fuels and climate justice**

After a protracted debate on alternative recommendations for [aligning the values of the PC\(USA\) with its investments in fossil fuels](#), the GA initially approved overture ENV-02 encouraging categorical divestment in fossil fuels and other efforts to respond to climate change. However, in a historic turnabout, the assembly reversed its decision, disapproving ENV-02 and approving ENV-06, which directs **further engagement with greenhouse gas emitters and the fossil fuel industry**.

► Medical coverage, small church flexibility

GAEC-28 asks mid councils to work with the Board of Pensions to [explore adjustments to be made to medical dues plans](#) for Pastors and Spouse or Families to **help alleviate the burden on small congregations and present medical coverage options** for pastoral leaders needing family, spousal, or child coverage in 2026 and beyond.

GA unanimously agreed to develop educational resources for faith formation for congregational use and to meet the needs of the small church.

► Divestment from occupier countries

GA unanimously adopted a commissioner's resolution asking The Presbyterian Foundation and the Board of Pensions, the two primary investing arms of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), to "prayerfully consider" [ending their investments in government debt](#) from countries "engaged in prolonged military occupation," currently defined by the United Nations as Israel, Morocco and Turkey.

► Prison justice

GA unanimously passed DOE-02, **encouraging ratification of a U.S. Constitutional amendment [abolishing the exception clause in the 13th Amendment that allows any person convicted of any crime to be enslaved](#)**, and also passed a commissioner's resolution urging Presbyterians to call upon elected officials to enact legislative or administrative reforms ending prolonged

solitary confinement in jails, prisons, and detention centers.

► Protecting children from gun violence

DOE-03, an overture calling for action [so that children can live free from gun violence](#), passed easily in committee but was removed from the consent agenda so the entire assembly could hear testimony about it. Following heart-wrenching witness, co-moderator Tony Larson spoke and said, ["The stories are important, but they are hard"](#). They are important because they have residence in our communities." DOE-03 passed the assembly unanimously.

► Changes to special offerings

The [four special offerings currently received by the PC\(USA\) will be reduced to three](#), and proceeds will be distributed to causes instead of programs. The changes in FIN-12, which take effect for the 2026 offerings, include eliminating the Pentecost Offering and moving the ministries it has supported to a restructured Christmas Joy Offering.

► The rejection of Christian Zionism

The GA passed on consensus the [update and expansion of the resolution confronting Christian Zionism](#) approved in 2004. Through the Office of Theology, Formation and Evangelism, GA calls on the denomination to reject Christian Zionism in all its forms, acknowledge the expansion of Christian Zionism in all its forms, and issue a study document that addresses the expansion of Christian Zionism since the 2004 policy.

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