

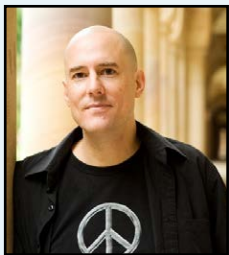
THE WEEKLY WINDOW

OUT TO THE LIFE
AND MINISTRY OF
HUDSON MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



MARCH 15, 2024

THIS SUNDAY! AN EVENING OF STORIES & SONGS WITH DAVID LAMOTTE



This Sunday evening, March 17 at 5:00pm in the Sanctuary, join us for a concert with special guest David LaMotte! He is an internationally recognized songwriter, speaker, activist, and author. Read more about him at davidlamotte.com

[The RSVP form can be found HERE](#)

or on the homepage of our website. This event is free and all are welcome! If you cannot make it in person, you can livestream the concert [HERE](#). Livestream link can also be found on the homepage of hmpc.org.

Welcome, Hannah! NEW ADDITION TO HMPC STAFF



We are excited to announce that Hannah Woodcock started last week 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!

Holy Week

MARCH 24 - PALM SUNDAY

10:30am Worship Service - Sanctuary



MARCH 28 - MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:00pm Tenebrae Worship Service - Sanctuary

More information about the service on page 2.

**MARCH 29 - GOOD FRIDAY:
"Blues, Ballads & Spirituals"**

12:00pm Worship Service - Sanctuary

The service will take place in the round, in the blue chairs at the front of the Sanctuary. More information about the service on page 2.



Easter Sunday

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

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

This will be held outdoors - Dress accordingly!

9:00am Worship Service - Sanctuary

11:00am Worship Service - Sanctuary



**JOIN US FOR THE
"CANCAKE" BREAKFAST!**

Breakfast will be served in Westminster Hall from **8:00-10:30am**. Come eat pancakes, bacon, coffee and juice, and enjoy fellowship with your HMPC friends!



Suggested donation: You may make a monetary donation or bring some non-perishable food items which will be donated to the North Raleigh Ministries Food Pantry.

Final Evening Lenten Prayer Service

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

Supper: 6:00pm in WH North

Service: 6:30 in the Chapel

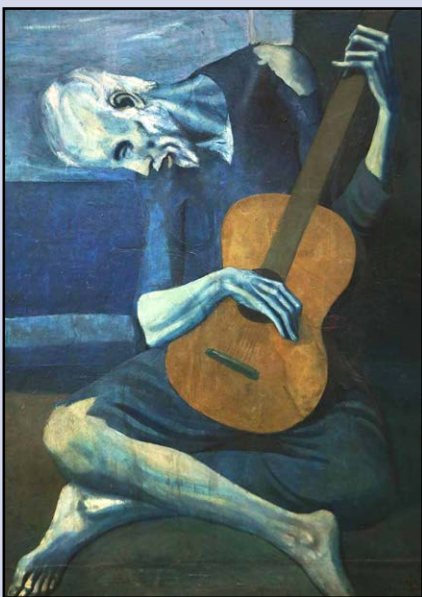
These are contemplative, reflective services that include scripture, liturgy, several forms of prayer, music, and the opportunity to be anointed with oil for yourself or on behalf of someone else. The service will conclude with the Lord's Supper. Join us for a delicious, healthy supper beforehand, at no cost. This is our final Wednesday prayer service this Lenten season.

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.



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?

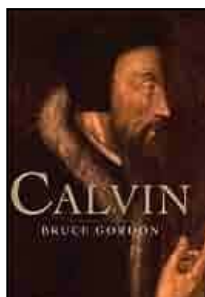
He sets *Calvin* in the context of an extremely turbulent era when views of God were changing in seismic shifts. It was not at all an irreligious age. Christian faith was woven into every aspect of life. So, when Biblical preaching on the priority of God's grace before

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.

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	Intimate
Sacramental	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!

CHANCEL FLOWERS

Easter Lilies: It's Time to Order and Dedicate!



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.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

EASTER EGG HUNT THIS SATURDAY!

Join us this weekend!
March 16th from
10:00am-12:00pm



HMPC Arts Camp

June 19 - June 21 | 5:30pm-7:30pm

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Cost: \$30 for first child and \$25 for each additional sibling. Includes dinner each night.



Our theme hymn for this year is "God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale." Join us as we explore and celebrate God's creation through drama, music, and visual art.

This camp is open to children currently in Kindergarten through 5th grade for the 2023-2024 school year. Dinner will be served each evening before we begin our art rotations.

We look forward to a time of faith and fun with your children! Use [this link](#) to register your child. **Only 15 spots left!**

Coffee & Conversation A Time for Parents During Children's Music

This group meets most Sundays following worship at 11:45. **This week we will be meeting the Welcome Lounge.** It is a group for parents of children and youth who do music at the same time. They pick topics and themes that have to do with faith, culture, and parenting. The group meets for a half hour. It's a super chance for our parents to connect in a laid back manner.

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 19 | 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:

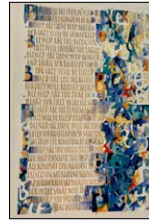
What's a word or phrase that stands out to you? Allow that word or phrase to develop into a memory from your life, a thought you have on the passage, or a metaphor? What is Christ calling you to through the passage?

No previous Bible study experience is necessary. At in-person meetings we provide coffee and Bibles, 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.



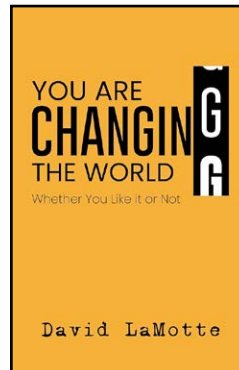
Seeing the Word

Monday, March 18 at Noon | Chapel



This group meets once a month and uses music, scripture, and illustrations from the *St. John's Illuminated Bible* for an hour-long time of study and reflection. This is led by Pastor Mac Schafer. Participants are welcome to bring their lunch; we provide water and napkins. We use an ancient Bible study method called *visio divina*. No previous Bible study experience necessary. 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 5-7:30 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 Kirk 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. **Our next meeting is March 21.**

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

Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Coalition Build

APRIL 27 AND/OR MAY 18

This year we will once again be building at Old Poole Place neighborhood. This 105-home neighborhood is going up near the intersection of Old Poole Road and New Hope Road in Southeast Raleigh, and will feature 60 single-family homes and 45 townhomes, all built by Habitat.

The Spring Old Poole Place Build is a building and advocacy campaign to advance a more beloved community with justice, equal opportunity, and love for all. The Spring Old Poole Place Build began on March 9, and will continue through June 1. We will start and finish 2 new homes and help to finish other homes underway in the Old Poole Place neighborhood.

TO REGISTER FOR A WORK DAY: Go to [this link](#) and sign in or create an account, scroll down to our assigned build dates (Saturday, April 27 and Saturday, May 18) and choose your date. HMPC has 5-6 slots available each day. Contact **Debbie Kirk for more information.**



Last weekend was the Kick-off Ceremony (photo below) and wall-building day. Handy members of HMPC had a great day helping out!



Above photo: Pastor Debbie and the home-owner.



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

Special Offering for March

GENERAL MISSION FUND

This is an opportunity for the congregation to contribute directly to the Hudson Mission Fund. These funds help us put on events that serve our community and donate to causes and organizations that align with Hudson's mission and values.

This fund allows the Mission Committee some

discretion in addressing requests that may arise throughout the year. It may also be used to supplement the budgeted projects if needed.



You may place your donation in the offering plate, mail it, [donate online](#), or text to give. Text donation amount with the word "GenMission" to 888-906-0744 (Example: 25 genmission).

FAITH FORMATION

THE GATHERING

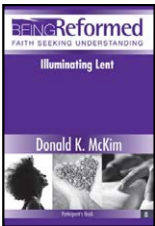
SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION

No Nine O'Clock Class this week!

The Seekers

9:30-10:20am | Chapel This Week
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. **NOTE: Class on March 17 will be in the Chapel.**

Presbyterian Ponderings

9:30-10:20am | Room 200 This Week

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 17 - Faith Amidst the Fiery Furnace (**Room 200**)

March 24 - Faith in Times of Trouble

No class on Easter Sunday

April 7 - Faith in God's Purpose

AMAZING GRAYS

Amazing Grays

Thursday, March 21 | 11:30am



Join us for lunch and fellowship on Thursday, March 21! We will be meeting at the Olive Garden on Capital Blvd. Please let Mike Law or Sandy Cole know if you plan to attend so we can get an accurate headcount.

COMMUNITY

American Pilgrims on the Camino

Raleigh Chapter

"Camino 101"

MONDAY, MARCH 18 AT 7:00pm
IN WESTMINSTER HALL NORTH



The Camino de Santiago are various ancient pilgrims paths in Portugal and Spain that all have their destination in Santiago, Spain. The cathedral in Santiago is the final resting place of the remains of Jesus' disciple James. Pastor Mac and Dr. Melanie Thomas are going through all the basic information related to this pilgrimage: History, packing, lodging, walking, clothing, food, water access, and more. All are welcome to come to this event at the church. If you have questions please contact Pastor Mac at mschafer@hmhc.org

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth This Sunday, March 17



Confirmation Class will meet and eat with David LaMotte on Sunday at 12:00pm in Westminster South.

ALL YOUTH AND PARENTS are invited to come to the David LaMotte Concert at 5:00pm in the Sanctuary.

Please note: Summer Youth Trip Money is DUE NOW!

CALENDAR

Sunday, March 17

9:30am - Presbyterian Ponderings - Room 200
 9:30am - The Seekers - Chapel
 10:30am - Worship - Sanctuary
 10:45am - Children's Sunday School - GH
 11:35ish - Coffee & Conversation - Welcome Lounge
 11:45am - Youth Bells- Chapel
 5:00pm - David LaMotte Concert - Sanctuary

Monday, March 18

12:00pm - Seeing the Word - Chapel
 6:00pm - Property Committee - WH South
 6:30pm - PEO - Chapel
 7:00pm - American Pilgrims on the Camino - WH North
 7:00pm - Finance Committee - Zoom
 7:00pm - Diaconate - Room 200
 8:00pm - Al-Anon/Alateen - Geneva Rm 226, 234, 235

Tuesday, March 19

6:30am - Waking Up With The Word - Zoom
 9:30am - Staff Meeting - Welcome Lounge

10:30am - Esther Circle - Chapel
 10:00am - Sewing Guild - WH South
 5:30pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200
 6:00pm - Ad Hoc Capital Campaign - WH South
 6:30pm - Youth Committee - Welcome Lounge
 7:00pm - Fellowship - Zoom
 7:30pm - Boy Scouts - Geneva Hall

Wednesday, March 20

9:15am - Women at the Well - Chapel/Zoom
 6:00pm - Simple Supper - WH North
 6:30pm - Lenten Prayer Service - Chapel
 6:15pm - Hudson Handbells - WH South
 7:30pm - Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

Thursday, March 21

11:30am - Amazing Grays - Olive Garden (Capital blvd)
 6:00pm - Women at the Well - Vivo Ristorante

Friday, March 22

6:30pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200

FINANCE

Financial Update

Review of Actual VS Budget

HMPC GENERAL FUND

YEAR TO DATE (YTD)

	YTD 2024 <u>ACTUAL</u>	YTD 2024 <u>BUDGET</u>	Favorable/ (Unfavorable) ACT VS <u>BUDGET</u>	YTD 2023 <u>ACTUAL</u>
PLEDGES	\$ 225,172	\$ 198,898	\$ 26,274	\$ 140,102
NON-PLEDGE/OTHER GENERAL FUND OFFERING	\$ 13,408	\$ 8,567	\$ 4,841	\$ 9,355
TOTAL GENERAL FUND OFFERINGS	\$ 238,580	\$ 207,465	\$ 31,115	\$ 149,457
TOTAL GF REVENUE	\$ 266,717	\$ 236,551	\$ 30,166	\$ 168,227
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSE	\$ 180,479	\$ 177,506	\$ (2,973)	\$ 146,257
GENERAL FUND SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ 86,238	\$ 59,045	\$ 27,193	\$ 21,970
AVAILABLE TO BORROW-NS BANK	\$ 50,000			

CASH BALANCE	\$ 474,777
BORROWED FROM BANK	\$ -
NET GENERAL FUND CASH BALANCE	\$ 474,777

Current Year

