

THE WEEKLY WINDOW

OUT TO THE LIFE
AND MINISTRY OF
HUDSON MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 3, 2025



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR DEBBIE

Dear Hudson Friends,

As we enter this new year we have so much to look forward to! Worship the next four Sundays will be shaped by Epiphany, Baptism, and celebrating twenty years of our shared ministry.

January 5 - Epiphany Sunday - We will celebrate Epiphany with the journey of the wise men and the reminder that when they met the Christ child, they "went home by another way" because they were not the same as when their journeys began. Each of us is on a journey that is familiar, as well as in new directions, and the year is full of possibilities.



January 12 - Baptism of the Lord Sunday - The story of Jesus' baptism as the beginning of his public ministry is the setting for worship when we will give thanks for our baptisms that represent our covenant with God and commitment to life in community.



January 19 - Rev. Jo Nygard Owens, Pastor for Digital Ministry at Washington National Cathedral, will preach and offer a blessing for us as we come to the conclusion of our time together.



January 26 - Saying Goodbye - "How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard." (From *Winnie the Pooh*)

- **Immediately following worship, the Session has called a congregational meeting:**

- To approve my terms of call for January 1-31, 2025.
- To dissolve the pastoral call between me and Hudson, which began January 1, 2005.

- **Reception/Fellowship in Westminster Hall**

Coming up:

- We are completing the 2024 Annual Report;
- The 2025 budget is being finalized;
- We have an Inquirers' Class for those considering membership (On January 12 - Please RSVP by January 7);
- Rich is preparing for paternity leave, which begins mid-February;
- We welcome a new organist as we express appreciation to member Iva Stowe for doing a fabulous job on the organ, piano, and conducting as needed;
- The nominating process for church officers is underway;
- Summer plans are being solidified for children's programs & youth trips;
- The Interim Pastor Search Committee faithfully continues their work.
- The Deacons are hosting a congregational event. Details coming soon.

Debbie



Children & Family Ministries

Youth Ministries

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

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FEBRUARY 2nd

FEBRUARY 2

YOUTH MUSIC-LED SUNDAY



Parent Information meeting for "Spread the Love" Service Project



FEBRUARY 14th



Spread the Love Service Project begins!
More information coming soon!

THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

Join us at 9:30am for once a month "in-depth" Youth Sunday School class! This includes middle and high school youth.



MARCH 1st

VBS Registration opens for church families

The first Sunday of every month, we will meet after the 8:30am Chapel Worship Service for a longer, more in-depth Sunday School class. We will dig deeper and have more time to learn and grow our faith as we study a variety of topics. **We will hold our usual 11:30am Sunday School classes on the other Sundays each month.** *God is up to something in YOUR life!*



MARCH 12th

VBS Registration opens for current Preschool families



MARCH 15th

VBS Registration opens to the public

High School CHIPOTLE CHECK-INS

6:30pm to 7:30pm on these dates:

- Wednesday, Jan. 15
- Wednesday, Feb. 12
- Wednesday, Mar. 12
- Wednesday, Apr. 2
- Wednesday, May 14



APRIL 12th

Easter Egg Hunt (10:00-12:00)

APRIL 20th

Easter Sunday



JUNE 18th-20th

4th Annual Children's Arts Camp (5:30pm-7:30pm each day)



AUGUST 4th-8th

Vacation Bible School

Middle School CAPTAIN COOKIE GATHERINGS

6:30pm to 7:15pm on these dates:

- NO MEETING in January
- Wednesday, February 19
- Wednesday, March 26
- Wednesday, April 16
- Wednesday, May 21



MUSIC MINISTRIES

Music Ministries

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5



Youth Bell Rehearsals begin!

Westminster Hall at 12:00pm

Most Sundays (11:45am this Sunday)



Children's Music starts up again!

Sundays at 11:30 in Geneva Hall

SUNDAY, MAY 18

Spring Music Sunday 

Welcome, Hunter Cox!



We are pleased to welcome a new musician to our Music Ministry family, who will serve as our new organist/pianist. Hunter Cox has returned to the Raleigh area recently to be closer to family and to begin the school year at Enloe Magnet High School. He teaches piano and music theory. From Appalachian State University, he

holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance and Music Education (graduated Summa Cum Laude) and a Master of Music degree in Piano Performance (he also studied organ and harpsichord). He has over 15 years of church music experience and believes "that music is one of the most sincere and loving ways in which we can worship our God." We hope you will help us give Hunter a warm Hudson Memorial welcome!

A NOTE OF GRATITUDE



An enormous **THANK YOU** is due to our Interim Organist and church member, Iva Stowe! She has been a joy to work with and a real lifesaver.

Also, we need to thank the Organist/Pianist Search Committee for their time and commitment in finding our

wonderful new musician – Carol Cox, John James, Iva Stowe, and Sue Newton (audition/interview adjudicators).

SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION

The Seekers

Sundays | 9:30am | Westminster South

January 5: "New Beginnings"

Facilitated by Roger Howard

The Seekers class will explore "New Beginnings" in Scripture — both Old and New Testaments, around the state/ U.S./world and our beloved Hudson Memorial Presbyterian. Leadership says bring ideas, beliefs, questions and answers, and a sense of humor. Let's start 2025 off with a thoughtful, upbeat discussion.

January 12, 19, 26: "Living the Bible Literally: Can It Be Done?"

Facilitated by Ron Ash

Can all of the laws, rules, commandments, and mandates found in the Old and New Testaments be followed as they are written? This series will discuss what this involves by looking at one man's attempt to live Biblically for one year. Many verses in the Bible will be examined to see



what must or can be done: Can we pick and choose which rules to follow? Is the meaning of verses with a mandate really clear? Are some Biblical laws too harsh? These and other questions will be studied.

Presbyterian Ponderings
Sundays | 9:30am | Westminster North

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

Presbyterian Ponderings returns this coming Sunday (1/5). The first third of the "semester" will take us again to the Parables. The next third will examine once more God's use of imperfect messengers -- there just are so many -- to inform and lead us. The last third will be a study course TBD (to be determined) to finish this part of the year before the Summer Series begins. As before, we expect to do some Lectio Divina sessions when we finish one mini-course but before we move onto the next portion of study.

This coming Sunday, John Oldenburg invites us to examine what many believe is the quintessential Parable that examines the meaning of charity, "The Good Samaritan", with a twist or two as John is informed by commentators much more knowledgeable than he is.

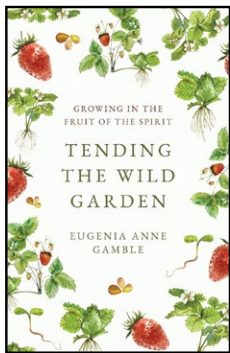
WOMEN'S FAITH FORMATION

Women at the Well

JANUARY



The weekly meeting of Women at the Well begins the winter/spring session on **January 8 at 9:15am** in the Chapel and on Zoom. Our book for the semester is *Tending the Wild Garden: Tending the Fruit of the Spirit* by Eugenia Gamble. Books are \$12.00 if purchased through the church. Pay by check or online [HERE](#) and let Pastor Debbie know if you plan to attend and would like a book to be ordered for you.



If you are not already on the contact list and would like to participate contact Debbie Kirk at dkirk@hmpc.org before the class begins.

MEN'S FAITH FORMATION

Waking Up With The Word

Tuesday, January 7 | 6:30am | Zoom



This is an early morning men's Bible study. It meets via Zoom and in-person (on the WH Patio), alternating weekly.

WUWTW uses an ancient study method called *lectio divina*. We read the passage that will be 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. It's a great way to deepen your faith and develop friendships within the church! New participants are always welcome. Contact [Lesley Ash Jacobsen](#) to be added to the mailing list for this group.

INQUIRERS' CLASS

Interested in Membership?

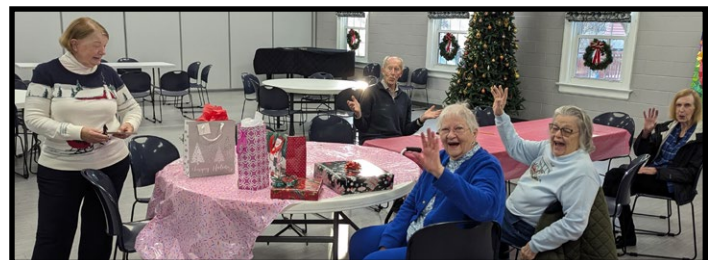
The Inquirers' Class, for those interested in membership, will be held after worship on **Sunday, January 12th**. The class covers what it means to be a Christian, a Presbyterian, and a member of Hudson Memorial. [RSVP for the class here](#) or on the homepage of our website by January 7. Contact [Debbie Kirk](#) with any questions.



FELLOWSHIP

Single Way Gathering

FUN & FELLOWSHIP ON
NEW YEAR'S EVE



This Week at HMPC

Sunday, January 5

- 8:30am - Early Worship Service - Chapel
- 9:30am - Ponderings - WH North
- 9:30am - The Seekers - WH South
- 9:30am - In-Depth Youth Sunday School - Rm 236
- 10:30am - Worship - Sanctuary
- 10:45am - Children's Sunday School - Geneva Hall
- 11:30am - Coffee and Conversation - Chapel
- 11:30am - Joyful Noise Music - Geneva Hall
- 11:30am - Fellowship - WH North
- 11:45am - Youth Bells - WH South
- 4:15 pm - Youth Band & Drama Troupe - Geneva
- 5:00pm - MS/HS Youth Group

Monday, January 6

- 9:30am - HMP Chapel
- 6:30pm - Children's Committee - Zoom
- 7:00pm - Personnel Committee - Zoom
- 8:00pm - Al-Anon/Ala-teen - Geneva Rm 226/234

Tuesday, January 7

- 6:30am - Waking Up With The Word - Zoom
- 9:30am - Staff Meeting - Welcome Lounge
- 6:00pm - ACA Meeting - Rm 200
- 7:00pm - Boy Scouts - Geneva Hall

Wednesday, January 8

- 9:15am - Women at the Well - Chapel/Zoom
- 6:00pm - Nominating Committee
- 6:15pm - Hudson Handbells - WH South
- 7:30pm - Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

Thursday, January 9

- 5:30pm - Worship Committee - Karl Hudson Room
- 7:00pm - Mission Committee - WH South

January 10-11

HS Ski Trip

Join Our Social Media Community!



@HudsonMPC



@HudsonMemorialPC

December's Tend My Sheep Invitation Elicited True Generosity From The Congregation

Last month, the congregation strongly met the December Tend My Sheep call and contributed the following winter clothing items to the clientele of Healing Transitions: 144 pairs of gloves, 110 hats, 88 scarves, 7 pairs of socks, 2 winter jackets, 2 fall jackets, and a hoodie pullover; altogether a great response meeting the needs of so many in this winter season. On this occasion, we can truly say that Hudson "knew how to keep Christmas well." -The Mission Committee



Special Offerings JANUARY SPECIAL OFFERING

A Place at the Table is Raleigh's first pay-what-you-can cafe. Its mission is to give a dignified dining experience where anyone is welcome to dine regardless of means. Patrons from all walks of life come together to share a meal at their table and over 80 people volunteer for their meal every day. They gain skills and connect each shift, along with being provided a delicious and nutritious meal.

You may place your donation in the offering plate (designated to "Place at the Table"), or you can give online by clicking [HERE](#).

TEND MY SHEEP

In January, we are collecting canned fruits, vegetables, and beans for the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina. Among the largest anti-hunger organizations in the United States, the Food Bank works every day to provide food to people in need while advancing long-term solutions to end hunger in our communities.

