

THE WEEKLY WINDOW

OUT TO THE LIFE
AND MINISTRY OF
HUDSON MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



NOVEMBER 1, 2024

JOIN US THIS WEEKEND FOR COMMITMENT SUNDAY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, at 10:30am



Bring your pledge to worship on Sunday as we make our 2025 commitment to the ministries of

HMPC! If you cannot make it in person, you can mail your pledge form to the church, or complete the online pledge form [HERE](#). You can also find the link on the homepage of [hmpc.org](#).

Since it is Commitment Sunday, **we will only have one service this week** - A 10:30am worship service in the Sanctuary. Our 8:30am Chapel communion service that is normally held the first Sunday of the month will be held on **November 10th** instead.



A FUN AFTERNOON AT THE FALL FESTIVAL LAST SUNDAY MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 4-5



PLEASE READ AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FROM PASTOR DEBBIE ON PAGE 2

This message also went out via email on October 31.



An Announcement from Pastor Debbie

Dear Hudson Friends,



I share this news as a significant part of the pastoral transition at HMPC. It turns out that at the same time Mac was discerning his next call, I was also considering a change in the focus of my ministry. About two years ago, I intentionally took a “sabbatical” from most of my Presbytery responsibilities to be more involved with some of the organizations

whose causes I support. Then a few months ago, one of those organizations contacted me asking if I might be interested in working with them in a position they had open. While I did not pursue it, it piqued my imagination as to what a “second act” of ministry might look like for me. Since 1981, my professional ministry has been serving local congregations and it became clear to me that to open up my life for something different, the time is right to retire from active ministry on January 31, 2025.

Simultaneously, Mac and I shared our news with each other in the same conversation. It was important that this information was only divulged to the Personnel Committee until we celebrated Mac’s ministry with us and blessed him as he left for his new congregation. In the meantime, the Personnel Committee and Session asked me to serve as your Bridge Interim Pastor, and I happily agreed. We have an incredibly gifted staff, and together with all of you we are moving forward just as we always do.

The process for ending our formal relationship is essentially the same as it was with Mac. HMPC and New Hope Presbytery will affirm my next steps as I have requested. What is different is that we are not bound to a short timeline because I am retiring rather than accepting another installed position. I will still be living in Raleigh so I won’t be going far, just in a different direction than the one we have shared for so long.

For twenty years it has been a sacred privilege to be with you through each and every season, including numerous staff and pastoral transitions. Now we have entered another season in our life together, and though I will not be going on the interim journey with you, I am grateful that I am able to help you prepare for it and the interim leadership who will be here. I believe that God opened the space for new directions—for Mac and for me in our individual journeys and for our beloved congregation.

I am aware it is a lot for both installed pastors to leave at the same time. However, I am confident God will guide you in finding the right people to fill these positions. I am fully committed to our shared ministry for the next three months, and I am excited about all we have going on through the end of the year: Stewardship conclusion and prayerfully creating the 2025 budget, Children’s Sabbath, end-of-the-year events, the Advent/Christmas Season, and more.

Please know how I dearly wish I could have shared this discernment and decision with each of you in-person. Now that this is public, we can talk freely together. We are blessed to have these next few months, so please invite me to join your activities, classes, gatherings, and meetings for fellowship, and/or there are things you need assistance with. The Interim Pastor Search Committee has been selected and is getting to work. I am not a part of the search, though of course, I am happy to discuss the transition process with you. After the first of the year we will plan on saying goodbye, for now we will go forward in faith, hope, and love that are the strength of our community.

With gratitude for all the ways you minister to me and one another.

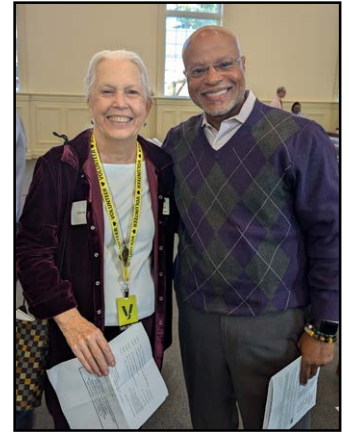
Grace and Peace,

Debbie Kirk

Presbytery Meeting Last Saturday

A WONDERFUL GATHERING HOSTED AT HMPC

Over 150 leaders from New Hope Presbytery gathered at Hudson last Saturday. There were a lot of moving parts so we want to thank all the volunteers who made the event possible (and a huge success)! Extra big shout-out to Lizzie Graybill and Mary Schindo for their intensive planning and orchestration.



A Note from Bruce Grady

The Office of New Hope Presbytery, commissioners, and I would like to take this time out to say a heartfelt thank you, Hudson Memorial, for hosting our 123rd stated gathering. Your hospitality, preparation, organization and service was simply beautiful. The inspiring ecumenical worship service, extensive technical support and friendly team of volunteers was more than we could have ever imagined.

We have managed to see the hand of God at work. I will be forever grateful for your support and kindness. May the grace of the Lord be with you all!

Peace and blessings,
Rev. Dr. Bruce Grady
Executive Presbyter

Fall Festival Last Sunday

FESTIVE FELLOWSHIP AT ST. MARK'S UMC



THANKS TO
ALL WHO
VOLUNTEERED!



FALL FESTIVAL

FALL FESTIVAL



YOUTH MINISTRY

News about Youth Sunday School

Join us for Special In-depth SS Classes
First Sunday of Each Month!

Begins This Sunday, November 3

Join us at 9:30am for our first "in-depth" Youth Sunday School class! We will dig deeper and have more time to learn and grow our faith as we study a variety of topics. This week we will study the Gospels.

We will hold our usual 11:30am Sunday School classes on November 10, 17, and 24.

God is up to something in YOUR life!



WAYS TO GET INVOLVED!

SACRISTY GUILD

Volunteers Needed!



Looking for an easy way to volunteer at Hudson? Join the Sacristy Team and help prepare the Lord's Supper a few times a year.

Time commitment:

Approximately 1 hour on Saturday morning and 1 hour on Sunday following church, 3-4 times per year based on your schedule.

Skills required:

Ability to pour juice, dry dishes, and chat with committee members.

For more info, contact Elizabeth.Peeler@mindspring.com or Carol Cox bchcox@gmail.com

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Consider Joining Our Team!

Psalm 23:6 - "Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever."

These are such comforting words from the Psalmist. We know that this passage means God's eternal house yet while here on earth, we are called to take care of God's earthly house, in our case, Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church. The Property Committee of HMPC has quite the large task of taking care of our church's campus. We are seeking members to join our committee to help keep God's House up and running to provide a space for worship, mission work, fellowship, preschool, support groups and so much more. Please consider joining our committee to make this House the best it can be. Feel free to contact any member of the



Property Committee: Allie Maples, Karen Melling, Harry Bond, Steve Jesseph, John Whisler, JB Babson, Nancy Eyre, Bob Stowe, or Session Liaison, Ken Krause.

Grace and Peace....

SINGLE WAY

Single Way

JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT LUNCH!

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!



Tuesday, November 5, 11:30am
Olive Garden
4805 Capital Blvd
Raleigh, NC 27616



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

FAITH FORMATION

Waking Up With The Word

Tues. November 5 | 6:30am | WH Patio



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. 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. Contact [Lesley Ash Jacobsen](mailto:Lesley.Ash.Jacobsen) to be added to the mailing list for this group.

2025 Pledge Campaign

Oct. 27 Minute for Mission - Bob Stowe

Good morning, I'm Bob Stowe. October marks the two-year anniversary of Hudson membership for my wife, Iva, and myself. You can often see Iva among the altos in the choir, but lately she is mostly hidden in the organ pit. In our short tenure at Hudson, we have had some serious health issues, and we have felt the sincere concerns and prayers of our church family.



As we continue this sharing message with the theme of hope, let's take a moment to review the word "hope", which Webster states can be a noun or a verb. As a noun, we all have our hopes for the future – both for our church and our personal lives. There was a song made popular by Frank Sinatra in the 1950s titled "High Hopes". Contrast it from a movie in the 1980s with the theme of "Lost Hope". How do we keep our high hopes from becoming lost hope? Our scripture theme from Romans 15:13 states that we must "believe by the power of the Holy Spirit". Our task becomes to focus on hope as a verb – putting our hope in action.

In this season of pondering the sharing of our finances, time and talents, let's focus on what we as individuals can do to fulfill our hopes for our church. Where do we begin? Isn't prayer the appropriate place? In this time of sharing, we pray that we hear God's call as we plan and budget our gifts of money, time, and talents. Notice I said "hear" or listen for God's call. And this should be a frequent prayer. We probably do this at "pledge" time. But should we not pray every time we write a check, do an electronic transfer, or have the collection plate pass before us? Our giving should not become a routine financial activity similar to paying bills. In our prayer for doing this financial transaction, can we prayerfully consider if we give a little more this Sunday or this month, whatever your frequency of giving - even \$1 more? Just think, with 600 members at \$1 a week equals over \$30,000 per year. Think about what the occasional extra five dollars could do. Maybe we could get in the habit of putting just a little cash in the collection plate each Sunday. May we ponder the moment and act accordingly.

I'll close by reading Roman's 15:13 – *May the God of Hope fill you with all Joy and Peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may Overflow with Hope.*

Some Words About Hope

Prose by HMPC's Steven Alvarado

Let's weave together prose and verse to illuminate the theological essence of hope, offering a beacon of light to all who seek it.

Lets really stretch our imagination and create something beautiful that everyone would enjoy reading and give hope to persons in search of hope for their own salvation in a godly way.

In the vast tapestry of existence, hope is the golden thread that binds our hearts to the divine.

It is the whisper of dawn after the darkest night, the promise of renewal and redemption.

Theologically, hope is not merely a fleeting emotion but a profound assurance rooted in faith.

It is the belief that beyond the trials and tribulations of this world, there lies a divine plan, a purpose crafted by a loving Creator.

Hope is the anchor of the soul, and unwavering, holding us firm amidst life's tempests. It is the light that guides us through the valley of shadows, reminding us we are never alone. In the sacred scriptures, hope is a gift from God, a virtue that sustains us and propels us forward. It is assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Amid the morning light, When shadows fade and take their flight, Hope arises, so bright, a beacon in the darkest night.

From ancient texts, its voice will call, A promise given to us all, In faith and love, we stand tall, With hope we shall not fall.

Through trails deep and sorrows wide, Hope remains our faithful guide. In God's embrace, we shall abide. With hope, our fears subside.

So let us lift our hearts in prayer, For hope abounds in God's care, A light that shines beyond compare, A gift of love, forever rare.



THE GATHERING

Presbyterian Ponderings

9:30-10:20am | WH North

"A Short Walk with The Parables"

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

They are the best known and best understood means by which Jesus conveyed his message of love and hope. His Parables address the profound and made it simple enough that even as children we can understand them and accessible enough that we enjoy listening to them even as their often-challenging messages hit home.

For the next few weeks we will examine some of those parables -- perhaps one, perhaps more at a time -- and hear again in these stories important truths about how we should live in connection with God and our neighbors.

This week we will seek illumination with the Parable of the Lamp. What light are we hiding? Have we put it in the right place? What is keeping us from seeing the light from others? We won't keep you in the dark this week!

The Seekers

9:30-10:20am | WH South

November 3

"A TIME OF TRANSITION AT HUDSON"

Facilitated by Debbie Kirk

THIS WEEK AT HMPC

Sunday, November 3

9:30am - "In depth" Youth Sunday School - Youth SS Rm
9:30am - Presbyterian Ponderings - WH North
9:30am - The Seekers - WH North
10:30am - Worship - Sanctuary
11:30am - Fellowship - WH North
11:30am - Coffee & Conversation - Chapel
12:00pm - Youth Music - WH South
5:00pm - High School Youth Group at HMPC
5:00pm - David Lamotte Book Study - Room 200

Monday, November 4

9:30am - Preschool Chapel
6:30pm - Children's Committee - Zoom
7:00pm - Personnel - Zoom
8:00pm - Al-Anon/Ala-teen - Geneva Rm 226, 234, 235

Tuesday, November 5

ELECTION DAY - PRESCHOOL CLOSED
6:30am - Waking Up With The Word - WH Patio
9:30am - Staff Mtg - Welcome Lounge
11:30am - Single Way - Olive Garden
5:45pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200
7:30pm - Boy Scouts - Geneva Hall, Rm 234

Wednesday, November 6

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

Friday, November 8

5:45pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---|---|
| 4 - Tripp McDuffie, John Hall | 16 - Darrin Komono |
| 5 - Heather Monroe | 18 - Ken Krause |
| 6 - Justin Smith, Mgbo Nkpa, Martin Playford | 19 - Hollis Peterson, Ed Holzinger, Jackson Lynch |
| 7 - Matthew McDougal, Jordan Parker, Jim Knight | 20 - Joan Lester, Kate Fertin, Anna Fertin |
| 8 - Monica Fitzgerald, Alexandra McIntire, Will Kever, Davis Bradshaw | 21 - Amy Hunnicutt, Maggie Turnbull |
| 9 - Allie Maples, Rob Duggins, Maureen Thomas, KK Woolley | 22 - Ron Cole |
| 12 - Emily Duggins, Connor Smith | 23 - James Dickerson, Drak Thi |
| 13 - Emily Bigger, Elizabeth Forehand, Sandra Vasher, Meredith Dalzell, Bryson Guy, Garrett Guy | 24 - Brad Harris |
| 14 - Kenny Capps | 25 - Logan Huesgen, Sandy Goodale, Sheri Jackson |
| 15 - Alice Njoroge | 27 - Maegan Smith, Spencer Rogers, William Glenn |
| | 28 - Kirk Richardson, Roger Howard |
| | 30 - Renee McDougal |