



the weekly Window

July 8, 2022

Out to the life and ministry of Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church (USA)

MAC'S MEANDERINGS

Sabbatical



Friends, I am deeply grateful to the Personnel Committee and Session for their approval of a sabbatical for me. I will be on sabbatical from July 19th to October 13th. The HMPC Staff Policy Manual states, "Sabbatical Leave is qualitatively different from vacation or basic paid time off. It is an opportunity for the individual to strategically

disengage from regular and normal tasks so that ministry and mission may be viewed from a new perspective because of a planned time to focus. It is an extension of the Biblical concept of a Sabbath day. It is both an act of faith that God will sustain us through a period of reflection and changed activity and an occasion for recovery and renewal of vital energies."

I have served Hudson for 13 wonderful years. The past two and a half years have been some of the most challenging of my 30 years in ministry: Forging ahead through the bell curves of the pandemic and working through an enormous amount of staff changes has been invigorating and tiring.

This sabbatical will be important for me to do what I often recommend people do on labyrinth walks: Release. Receive. Return. As I said in my sabbatical proposal to Personnel Committee and Session, Sabbatical will: **Release** me from day-to-day responsibility at HMPC for 3 months, open me up to **Receive** new insights from God through pilgrimage and (spiritual) tourism, **Return** me to HMPC rested, refreshed and restored to more balanced health.

There are two major themes for this sabbatical:

- Visiting major Reformation sites in Germany and Switzerland.
- Walking the Via Francigena from Lausanne, Switzerland to Rome, Italy.

For years I have been studying and teaching about the Reformation and the theology of the Reformers. I have never visited the sites in Germany and Switzerland associated with this seismic shift in church history. Places associated with Martin Luther, Ulrich Zwingli, John Calvin and others. Cities like Wittenberg, Erfurt, Wartburg, Geneva, and more. I look forward to visiting these places as a way of undergirding my learning, teaching, and preaching.

As many of you know, long-distance hiking and pilgrimage has been something that has been transforming for me since 2016. The three great Christian pilgrimage destinations are Jerusalem, Rome, and Santiago. I went on a peacemaking trip to Israel-Palestinian Territories in 2006. I went to Santiago, Spain in 2016 (Camino Frances), 2019 (Camino Portuguese with my wife, Katy), and 2021 (Camino Frances with my daughter, Hannah). So, the final pilgrimage destination is Rome.



I will go to Rome on the Via Francigena, the ancient pilgrims' path that begins at Canterbury Cathedral in England, and ends in Rome, Italy. I will not be walking the whole thing, but will pick it up on the north end of Lake Geneva.

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Sabbatical *(continued from page 1)*



For me, long-distance walking has slowed me down and allowed me to reset emotionally, physically, and spiritually. While the destination of Rome will be wonderful, pilgrimage is about the journey and some of the meaningful work that can be done within oneself along the way.

Special thanks to Don Slater, Fred Woodward, John James, and Ken Krause who will be facilitating some of my faith formation/fellowship groups while I am gone. Associate Pastor Debbie Kirk will be coordinating worship, running staff meetings, and moderating the Session. This church is filled with wonderful lay leaders and staff who are creative and dedicated to Christ's calling through Hudson.

Once again, thank you for this opportunity to re-center myself. It is a privilege that I do not take for granted. Please pray for me, as I will do the same for you as we are apart.

With Care,

Welcome, Amy!

New Church Business Administrator Joins HMPC Staff



The Personnel Committee is pleased to announce that we have found a new Church Business Administrator. Amy Claprod will begin in the position on Monday, July 11. Amy comes to us from White Memorial Presbyterian Church (WMPC), where she served as Administrative Assistant for Music and Congregational Care for

four and a half years. While at WMPC, Amy led a significant database transition, helped navigate ministry leaders through the COVID pandemic, assisted in the music library update, and improved communication and reporting around congregational care. Prior to WMPC, Amy served five years as the Administrative Assistant at Hocutt Baptist Church in Clayton, NC. Ms. Claprod has her Bachelor of Science in Communication from Ohio University.

Special thanks to Caroline Smart (chair of the Search Committee), Mary Schindo, Bill Flueckinger, and Lesley Ash-Jacobsen for their efforts in reading resumes and interviewing candidates on zoom and in person. Please join us in giving Amy Claprod a warm and inviting welcome to the HMPC Team!

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

2022 Garden & Glass Campaign

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

The Garden & Glass Campaign has concluded. **To date, 84 households have given \$86,068.** Our goal was \$85,000. As mentioned from the pulpit, the sanctuary windows have been ordered and the Memorial Garden Pergola is presently being installed. In the months to come, the Memorial Garden Committee will be working on garden seating and a commissioned sculpture.

A Note to Donors

In next week's Weekly Window we will be publishing the names of those who gave and who they gave in memory and honor of. **Please let [the office](#) know if you would not like your name included.**

HOMECOMING

Save The Date!



HUDSON HOMECOMING

Sunday, November 6, 2022

Mark your calendar for Sunday, November 6th for a good ole' Church Homecoming Celebration. Invite your family members who grew up in the church, former members and others who might be interested in coming home for a Sunday. We will have a big lunch, music, and more! For questions, please contact [Shawn Jackson](#).

SUMMER FELLOWSHIP

Summer Simple Suppers

July 13 and August 3 | 6:00pm

Join us in Westminster Hall anytime between 6:00 and 7:00pm on the above listed dates. Come have a summer fresh and healthy meal and enjoy fellowship with each other! Cost of dinner is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children under 10.

Place your reservation at least 2 days before the supper by contacting the office at 919-787-1086 (feel free to leave a voicemail) or by emailing susanbradshaw8@gmail.com



Fellowship Friday July 22nd at 6:00pm

Ice Cream Social & Games for ALL Ages

Come enjoy fellowship, ice cream, and games! There will be a variety of indoor/outdoor games such as Cornhole, Bocce, Jenga... and more! Co-hosted by Fellowship Committee & Children's Committee.

Place your reservation by July 20th by contacting the office at 919-787-1086 (feel free to leave a voicemail) or by emailing susanbradshaw8@gmail.com

HMP FOUNDATION

Hudson Memorial Legacy Program



The Hudson Memorial Legacy Program recognizes those who have dedicated a Legacy of Commitment to the Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Foundation. This legacy commitment will be a great future benefit to the Foundation and to the church. There are various forms of legacy commitment, including: bequest/will, life insurance policy with HMP Foundation as beneficiary, trust, charitable gift annuity, or other accepted means.

A special Legacy Society pin has been designed for those who have made legacy commitments. If you are interested in learning more, please contact [Pastor Mac](#), or [Don Haydon](#).

MOVIE ON THE GREEN

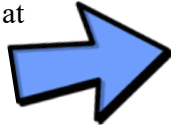
This Sunday, July 10 | 8:00-10:00pm

Hey, HMPC Youth!

Come hang out under the stars, eat popcorn, and watch a movie with your friends!



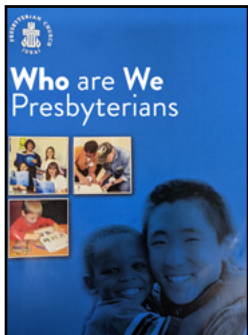
Our youth had a blast last month at Movie on the Green! We watched *School of Rock* and enjoyed a nice evening outside on the lawn!



DENOMINATION

Overture Originating From Hudson Session Is Approved by 225th General Assembly

This past week at the 225th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA), an overture from the Presbytery of New Hope was considered that originated from Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church's Session. The overture was considered in the General Assembly Ministry Coordination Committee.



Overture GA-MC-02, is titled: "On Updating the Video Resource, *Who Are We Presbyterians*, with Accompanying Study Guide" and the rationale accompanying the overture says the following: In 2001, the denomination produced a seventeen-minute video called *Who Are We Presbyterians*, with an accompanying study guide written

by Freda Gardner, Moderator of the 211th General Assembly (1999). The video packaging describes the video as, "an excellent tool for church school, officer training, new members class, confirmation class, retreats, midweek gatherings and much more." For many years this video resource was a relevant, concise introduction to the Presbyterian Church (USA).

This resource is almost nineteen years old and needs to be updated. The new video resource needs to:

- Communicate how the good news of Jesus Christ proclaimed by ministries of the Presbyterian Church (USA) continues to be life changing and relevant in this time and place.

- Communicate who we are as a denomination as we enter the 2020s.
- Move from DVD format to an online resource that can be pulled up on the denominational website or other video platforms to easily be shown to groups or viewed individually.
- "Provoke our questions and encourage us to share our experiences as one part of the whole people of God" (as stated in the 2001 study guide).

Furthermore, the Office of General Assembly needs a plan for financing and creating future introductory videos so that ministries do not face using "out-of-date" denominational resources. It is essential for outreach and engagement that the diverse ministries of the PC(USA) have a dynamic resource that concisely describes our history, who we are today, where we are headed, and the beauty of our connectional nature."

The above rationale wording was approved by Hudson's Session before being adopted by the Presbytery of New Hope and concurred by Coastal Carolina Presbytery and de Cristo Presbytery.



Reverend John Taylor speaking in favor of Overture GA-MC-02

On Tuesday, July 5th Overture GA-MC-02 was unanimously passed in the consent agenda. This means an updated video resource will be made.

July Special Offering Shelter Ministries

Our congregation has been involved with many different housing and shelter ministries. Whether we're helping out with Habitat for Humanity, Rebuild Together, or Hudson Handy Helpers, we have always been there to help people turn their houses into homes. Money raised during this special offering can be used toward our sponsorship of the Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Build, assist with any natural disaster relief or any other shelter related ministries that the Lord asks us to lend a helping hand to.



You can give by designating your donation on an envelope placed into the offering plate, or by online giving specifically to Shelter Ministries through the church's website by clicking the QR code or visiting hmpc.org. You can text the donation

amount with the word "Shelter" to 888-906-0744.

Example text: 25 Shelter. You can also mail a check with "Shelter Ministries" in the memo line to the church office: 4921 Six Forks Rd, Raleigh, 27609.

Adult & Youth(12+) Food Bank Volunteers Needed



HMPC has dates scheduled for volunteer opportunities with the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC. The next dates are **Saturday, July 9 (9:00am-12:00pm)** and **Wednesday, August 3 (6:00-8:00pm)**

Please use this [link](#) to register. The link can also be found on the homepage of the church's website hmpc.org. After following the link, click the "Sign Up" button next to the shift you'd like to attend, then follow the website's prompts to either create a new account and register, or login to an existing account. Please note that registration through the website is required before volunteering.

Youth ages 12-16 may volunteer with a parent, over 16 do not need a parent in attendance. Youth may be able to count these as service hours. [Please contact Beth Billman](#) with any questions.

NRM Needs Your Help!

We have heard from North Raleigh Ministries about the rapidly increasing need for food pantry assistance which has been growing for the past two and a half years as a result of pandemic-related factors. Now the sharp rise in cost of food means that the number of people who are food insecure is escalating at an alarming rate. Every group who addresses this in large and small ways is struggling to meet the need, including the NRM food pantry, who is running out of food. Currently the Food Bank and Interfaith Food Shuttle, who supply much of what is distributed by food pantries, do not have the food supply (at bulk prices) to feed all of our neighbors in need.

Our Mission Committee has funds designated for Hunger Action and is able to make an additional financial contribution to NRM in addition to our ongoing commitment. Listed below are ways you may want to help personally by donating directly to NRM. They have let us know that financial donations enable them to purchase needed items in bulk at better prices that we can get if we buy them on our own. Both options are available using the following links:

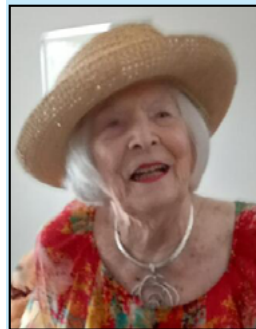
1.) A list of food/household items can be found [here](#).

<https://northraleighministries.com/pantry-donations>

2.) Financial donations can be made [here](#). <https://northraleighministries.com/give>

MEMORIAL

To the Church Triumphant Dorothy (Dottie) Gall



On July 3, 2022, Hudson member Dottie Gall entered God's everlasting kingdom.

A Celebration of Life Service, preceded by Visitation, will be held at Jones Funeral Home in Swansboro on Saturday, July 30 beginning at 1:00pm.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Crystal Coast Hospice House, PO Box 640, Newport, NC 28570.

Her obituary can be found [here](#).

Women at the Well

Thursday Evening Group Meetings



Mark your calendars! Meetings through December will be the third Thursday of the month at 6:00pm in a restaurant:

**July 21, August 18,
September 15, October 20,
November 17, December 15**

For questions or to join the distribution list, contact [Debbie Kirk](#).

Adult Summer Series

**Sundays | 9:30-10:20am
Westminster Hall**

**Sunday, July 10
Interfaith Food Shuttle**

The Interfaith Food Shuttle* staff will help us understand the importance of advocating for systemic change as part of our commitment as a Hunger Action Congregation. *One of our mission partners



Waking Up With The Word

Tuesday, July 12 | 6:30am | WH Patio



All men are invited to join this group on the WH Patio for scripture reflection, discussion, fellowship and coffee. The group uses an ancient Bible study process called Lectio Divina. We look at the passage that will be preached on the upcoming Sunday.

The study revolves around 3 questions:

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

No previous Bible study experience is needed. It is a great group of guys who are welcoming and wise in their comments. For our in-person meetings, coffee and Bibles are provided. [If you have questions or would like to be added to the email distribution list, please contact Pastor Mac.](#)

**Sunday, July 17
Exploring The Old Testament**



Rev. Jimmy Hulsey will share some highlights of the Old Testament and facilitate conversation on how we interpret them in the 21st century.

**Sunday, July 24
Genetically Modified Humans:
Moral Concerns**



Ron Ash will help us explore the topic "Genetically Modified Humans: Moral Concerns". Altering human offspring using genetic technologies will result in the elimination of certain diseases but changing traits like intelligence and body structure are also possibilities. The moral concerns about these changes and how babies are produced using these methods will form the basis of our discussion.

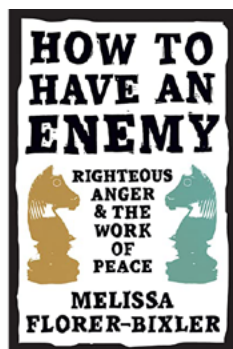
Dr. Andy McRee led the Adult Ed Summer Series class on July 3rd - All about bees! We had a great crowd and learned a lot of interesting facts!



Upcoming Book Study

Looking Ahead to Fall

These are troubled times, and the news each day is filled with atrocities that the human community is dealing with, from the Russian invasion of Ukraine to the epidemic of mass shootings across our country. However we respond, systemic change is necessary in order to stop the cycles that cause these and other destructive behaviors to flourish. As people of a particular faith tradition, we have tools that enable us to be prayerful and thoughtful as followers of Jesus. The Adult Education Committee is offering a book study this fall for those who would like to explore biblical and theological guidance that will assist us in identifying what it means to get into "good trouble" in the words of the late John Lewis. We will be using *How to Have an Enemy: Righteous Anger and the Work of Peace* by



Melissa Florer-Bixler, Pastor of the Raleigh Mennonite Church, as the foundation for our conversations.

She says: "In the teaching to 'turn the other cheek' Jesus does not call us to passive reception of violence but instead to dismantle the power of the old order in creative, life-giving ways."

The book study will be offered in two sessions each Sunday evening. The class will run from mid-September to mid-November.

- Section A - In person from 5:00-6:30pm
- Section B - On Zoom from 7:00-8:30 pm

Registration will be in August. For more information contact Debbie Kirk dkirk@hmpc.org.

CHANCEL FLOWERS

Flower Donations

Dates Still Available



Secure a date to honor or remember someone with a floral arrangement. To sign up, or for more information, refer to the flowers bulletin board outside Room #103.

Children's Opportunities at The Food Bank

Please join us for a family-friendly volunteer day at the Food Bank! This event is for children from 5 to 11 years old and guardians are required to attend. Projects include labeling donations and sorting produce. **Our volunteer dates are rapidly approaching!** The dates are **July 9th, September 10th, and October 23rd** from 2:00-4:00 pm. Registration link can be found [here](#).



Children's Sunday School Summer Book Series

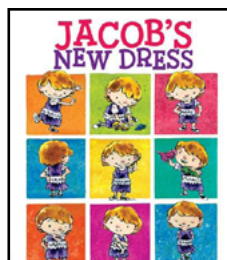
Coming Up...

July 10

THEME: Self-acceptance

BOOK: *Jacob's New Dress* By Sarah and Ian Hoffman

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 139: 14 - "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well."

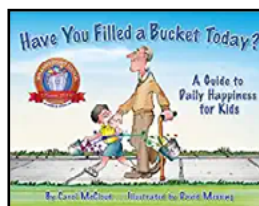


July 17

THEME: Kindness

BOOK: *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?* By Carol McCloud

SCRIPTURE: 1 Thessalonians 5:11 "Encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing."



July 24

THEME: Inclusion and Forgiveness

BOOK: *I'm Not Just A Scribble* By Diane Alber

SCRIPTURE: Luke 6: 37 - "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven."



CALENDAR

This Week...

Sunday, July 10

9:30 am - Adult Education - Summer Series - WH
 10:30 am - Worship
 10:45 am - Children's SS - Playgarden
 11:30 am - Fellowship - WH

Monday, July 11

6:00 pm - Grandparents of Children w/ Autism - WH
 8:00 pm - Al-Anon/AlaTeen/AlaKid - GH/Room 226

Tuesday, July 12

6:30 am - Waking Up With the Word - Zoom
 9:30 am - Staff Meeting - WH South
 4:00 pm - Memorial Garden Committee- WH South
 6:00 pm - Giving Ministry - WH South
 7:00 pm - Adult Ed Committee - Zoom
 7:30 pm - Boy Scouts - GH, Rm 234

Wednesday, July 13

6:00 pm - Summer Simple Supper- WH

Thursday, July 14

7:00 pm - Mission Committee - Zoom

Friday, July 15

6:00 pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200

STAFF DIRECTORY

Mac Schafer

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JULY BIRTHDAYS



1. Colt Jackson, Dottie Davis
2. Tiffany Wheeler, Wynne Long
3. Avi Banerjee, Billy Poole, Leigh Betancourt
4. Andrea Mouw, Kathy White, Cate Madden
5. Lacey Sandlin, Logan Randolph
7. Anna Keen, Susan Krause, Debbie Bumgarner, P. J. Conger, Jimmie Spell, Charlie Onaya, Riley Anderson
8. Connery Bunn, Maddox Johnson, Michelle Philips

9. Dick Ives, Beth Billman, Marie Martin
10. Susan Bradshaw
11. Lauren Parker, Walt Lang
12. Jeri Thomas
13. Phil Hayden, Shelly Ayers
14. Rick Melling, Lee Playford
15. William Davidson, Karen Melling, Avery Claire Bevier
16. Trish Richardson, Cathy Bentlage
17. Heidi Duggins, Sandra Acai, Sandy Cole, Kathy Seekamp, Ellie Vig, Richard Blanks, Tanner Hanks, Lisa Hoffman, Camden Christenbury
18. Teri Morris, Phyllis James, Ethan Page, Hannah Cox, Ashley Woolley
19. Bob Conder, Luke Dalzell, Nathan Edge, Jimmy Hulsey

20. Aleta Ash, Ogbeyialu Nduka, Morgan Plentl
21. Olivia Mercer, Robert Saleeby
22. Karen Layton
24. Ann Trent, Laura McHenry, Andrew Pate
26. Calesta Heres
27. Mitch Perry, Jenna Schindo, Katy Schafer, Keels Maxwell
28. Olivia Davidson, Terry Lamberson
29. Kelli Greene
30. Robert Atkinson, Ginny Conger, Patty Shaver
31. Brent Sharpe, Caroline Smart, Jackie Rogers