

THE WEEKLY WINDOW

OUT TO THE LIFE
AND MINISTRY OF
HUDSON MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 19, 2025



Congregational Zoom Meeting This Sunday



Please join the Mission Study Team and Pastor Marguerite on Zoom this **Sunday, September 21, at 5:00pm!** We will begin by looking at Scripture, so have your Bibles open to [1 Corinthians 12:27-13:7](#). Then the MST will share some ideas gleaned from our interviews with 16 leaders from non-profits and other community organizations, as well as from population studies and Hudson's own history and finances.

To join us, follow the link [HERE](#). Full information is in an email that went out Wednesday and will be resent Sunday afternoon. If you can't be on the call, the recording and PowerPoint slides will be available by contacting mst@hmhc.org or the church office.

A UNIQUE WORSHIP SERVICE LAST SUNDAY



Last Sunday, we celebrated our third Youth Arts Sunday of the year, and our youth brought energy and creativity to worship—stepping up as liturgists, leading us in song, and even bringing scripture to life through drama. Their gifts, voices, and leadership remind us how blessed we are to have young people shaping our worship and sharing their faith with the whole congregation.



THIS SUNDAY IS THE LAST DAY TO ORDER HMPC SHIRTS!

The HMPC Welcoming Team has t-shirts and sweatshirts available to order! If you didn't get a chance to visit their table last Sunday, the link can be found [HERE](#) or on the homepage of HMPC.org. You can also scan the QR code to the left. Orders must be placed by September 21.



Hats Off to Hudson!



Heartfelt thanks to everyone who completed the Congregational Assessment Tool!

231 responses were received, exceeding all expectations!

Your answers will inform the Mission Study Team as we lead the congregation in developing a vision, goals, and objectives. Your time and participation are appreciated!

What's Next from the Mission Study Team?

- A Congregational Zoom Call will be on **October 30, at 7:00 pm.** We will be discussing the Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) results and hearing your thoughts about church needs AND community needs.



- **Brunch Church** on Sunday, November 9, to draft our vision statement
- **Brunch Church** on Sunday, November 23, to draft goals and objectives

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Collecting Old Fobs



As part of the security review conducted to complete HMPC's Emergency Action Plan, the EAP team has realized that we have many church entry fobs still in the hands of people who no longer need

them. If you were issued a fob while holding a position as an officer or committee member that required you to have after-hours church access, but you no longer hold that position, we're asking that you return your fob to Hannah in the church office. Returning these fobs will help us to assure that access to the church building is properly controlled and will contribute to the overall safety of our campus. Thank you for your help!

A GREAT DAY FOR HMPC YOUTH MINISTRY

September 14 was Youth Ministry Kick-off Sunday and boy, was it a kick-off! It started with Youth Arts Worship in the morning, with over 16 youth participating. They led everything from the music to the liturgy, and a dramatic interpretation of the Parables of the Lost Sheep and Lost Coin.

In the evening, **over 65 youth and their parents** showed up for our first Youth Group of the regular season. Much food, fun, and prayer were had!

Check out the new Youth Ministry calendar in the long hallway near Westminster Hall and the Chapel. You can also find it on the website [HERE](#). Also, make sure to request to join the Instagram accounts that are connected to Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church Youth Ministry at [@hmpecym](#) and [@hmpeyouth](#).



SUNDAY MORNING

Music Programs Are Back In Full Swing!

CHILDREN'S MUSIC

Joyful Noise
(3 year olds - 4th grade)
Sundays in Geneva Hall
11:30am-12:15pm



YOUTH MUSIC

Youth Handbells
(5th-12th grade)
Sundays in WH South
11:45am-12:15pm



Coffee & Conversation: A Time for Young-ish Adults Following Worship on Sunday



Coffee & Conversation is a group that meets most Sundays following worship at 11:45 in the Chapel while children's music & youth music is happening. It's a great group of young-ish adults who talk about life, faith and culture in a laid-back setting. The group meets for a half hour. Grab a coffee in the Welcome Lounge or a snack in Westminster Hall and stop in. No preparation or homework!

The Nine O'Clock Class is Back! Resumes on October 5 at 9:00am



Have you ever wondered where the Bible came from? When Jesus referred to his Bible, he talked about the Torah, the Prophets and the Writings. What exactly was he referring to? Are these the Old Testament?

The 9:00am Sunday school class will resume on October 5 in Room 200. This class was originally designed to provide a learning opportunity for choir members and worship leaders and those for whom the 9:30 classes were difficult to attend, but all are welcome.

In this class, we will view videos from the Bible project and discuss the material that is presented. The class will be moderated by Don Slater.



THE GATHERING Sunday Adult Ed

PRESBYTERIAN PONDERINGS

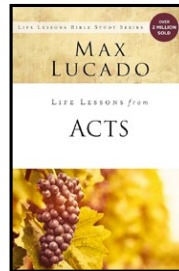
9:30am Sunday | **Room 200 THIS WEEK**

"Jesus Is Gone! Now What Do We Do?"

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

After Jesus' amazing ministry, the disciples were unprepared for what came next. Did he leave them any instructions? How did they choose their new leaders? Who would be in charge of performing miracles? Anybody up for a road trip?

This fall, the Presbyterian Ponderings class will study the Acts of the Apostles, guided by *Life Lessons from Acts*



written by Max Lucado. We will look at the struggles and successes of the early church and examine how the foundations of our faith, established by Christ, were shared. The Presbyterian Ponderings class is discussion-based, team-led, with no advance reading or other prerequisites. Drop in and ponder with us!

THE SEEKERS

9:30am on Sundays | WH South

"Women in Religion" - Part 2

3 Part Series - Facilitated by Ron Ash

Women have, for centuries, been relegated to second place in many societies and religions. This treatment of women has been due, in large part, to patriarchal interpretations of sacred texts, e.g. the Bible, the Quran, etc. This series will delve into the role of women in Christianity and other mainstream religions. Women who were revered in the founding of certain religious traditions will be discussed.



WEEKDAY FAITH FORMATION

Women at the Well MONTHLY GROUP

**Next Meeting: This Thursday, September 25
6:00pm at Casa Carbonne**



The monthly group meets over dinner at a local restaurant at 6:00pm on the third or fourth Thursday of each month (see list of planned gatherings below). This group uses a podcast as the basis for discussion on topics of interest. We would love to

have you join us for fellowship and lively discussion! If interested, contact Linda Meeks at linda.meeks@gmail.com, or Kay Emanuel at ckemanuel@gmail.com.

September 25 at 6:00pm: Casa Carbonne Ristorante, 6019 Glenwood Ave A, Raleigh

October 23: Relish Craft Kitchen & Bourbon Bar, Creedmoor Crossings, 5625 Creedmoor Rd

November 20: Winston's Grill, Sutton Square, 6401 Falls of Neuse Rd, Raleigh, NC

Presbyterian Pint

**Next Meeting: This Thursday, September 25
7:00pm at High Park Bar & Grill
625 E Whitaker Mill Rd, Raleigh, NC 27608**



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 [Lesley Ash Jacobsen](mailto:Lesley.Ash@hudsonmpc.org) to be added to the distribution list.

Waking Up With The Word

Tuesday, Sept. 23 - 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 is 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.

If you'd like to be added to the reminder list for the group, please contact Lesley at lash-jacobsen@hmpc.org. Contact Tripp Bradshaw with any questions about the group you might have.

FELLOWSHIP

A Big Thank You to Our Fellowship Team!

What a joyful gathering we shared at the September 7 potluck! With one of our best turnouts ever, the fellowship team worked tirelessly to make it such a memorable gathering. From the beautifully decorated tables, to the delightful meal served on real plates with silverware (and all the extra washing that required!), every detail reflected your care and dedication.

On behalf of the whole congregation, thank you for the countless ways you made this day special. Your



hospitality and hard work truly blessed us all.

Join Our Social Media Community!



@HudsonMPC



@HudsonMemorialPC

Help Package 12,000 Meals to Fight Global Hunger!

OCTOBER 5 - 4:00-6:00PM
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN



Rise Against Hunger Warehouse
3200 Wellington Court, Suite 112, Raleigh
Volunteer Sign Up Link [HERE](#).

Sign up to help with this meaningful mission project with one of our partners in fighting hunger, Rise Against Hunger. Open to volunteers ages 4 years and older. All volunteers must sign a waiver by clicking register on the event page. All volunteers who register online also receive an email when the meals they packaged are shipped with details about who they will feed!



Thank you for sharing our vision of a world without hunger!



Offering of Letters SEPTEMBER 28 AFTER WORSHIP



HMPC will hold its annual Offering of Letters session after our regular worship on September 28. It is critical that as many members of our congregation participate in writing to our

elected representatives in the US Congress and US Senate requesting their assistance in continuing food support programs.

Please consider these facts:

- US House Bill 1, The "Big Beautiful Bill" eliminates eligibility for food assistance from a wide range of individuals including Refugees, People Granted Asylum, Certain Victims of Trafficking and Domestic Violence, and Other Currently Eligible Immigrants who Lawfully Reside in the USA.
- Administrative Costs to NC Counties will increase by \$65,000,000 per year.
- Changes to the Work Requirements could entirely cut benefits for up to 143,000 North Carolinians.
- The costs to the State of NC may increase by \$420,000,000 per year. As the NC Legislature has yet to pass a budget, this amount could increase.
- Children are likely to lose their entire free lunch program benefits.
- Every \$1 in SNAP benefits generates up to \$1.80 in local economic activity, so cuts harm small businesses and can lead to job loss. Over 1,400 food retailers that depend on SNAP spending, mostly in rural areas, are at the highest risk.

Please plan to join us in Westminster Hall on September 28. Tens of thousands of our fellow NC citizens need our help.

MORE WAYS TO HELP:

- Look at the full Hunger Action Month Calendar [HERE!](#)
- Make a financial contribution to the Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC. Donate [HERE](#)
- Volunteer at the Food Bank! [Learn more HERE](#)



SEPTEMBER TEND MY SHEEP OFFERING

Collecting New & Gently Used
Children's Coats & Jackets
for Note In The Pocket



You may place donations in the bins at Sanctuary entrances during the month of September.

A Poem for Fall

As we step into a new season, we are delighted to share a poem by friend of Hudson, Steven Alvarado, reflecting on the beauty of fall. We are grateful to Steven for sharing his creative gifts with our community.

Let's weave something that mirrors the quiet majesty of fall and the reflective grace of elderhood—where each falling leaf is a memory, a whisper, a truth softened by time.

The Leaves That Knew My Name

A poem in prose and verse

In the hush of late September, the trees loosen their grip—not out of despair, but devotion. Each leaf, once green with youth, now burns gold with knowing. They fall not because they are unseen, but because they are ready.

I walk beneath them, slower now. My steps are greater, not by urgency, but by reverence. The wind does not rush me. It carries stories I once told, laughter I once gave, and the silence I now keep.

*Amber spirals in the air,
like old letters never sent.
They land gently on my shoulder,
as if to say: "You were meaningful."*

There is no bitterness in the fall. Only what once held too tightly softly let go. My hands, like branches, have let go of many things—children grown, lovers gone, dreams reshaped. And yet, they remain open. Ready.

*I do not mourn the summer's end,
nor chase the spring that fled.
I sit beneath the rustling limbs,
and listen to what's said.*

The leaves speak in rustles and hushes. They do not shout. They do not beg. They simply fall—gracefully, truthfully—like elders who have learned that wisdom is not in the telling, but in the waiting.

*Let me be a leaf in fall,
not clinging, but dancing down.
Let me wear my years like color,
and rest upon the ground.*



STEVEN ALVARADO (CR) 9-3-2025

This Week at HMPC

Sunday, September 21

Children's Book Fair - WH North

9:30 am - Presbyterian Ponderings - Room 200

9:30 am - The Seekers - WH South

10:30 am - Worship - Sanctuary

10:45 am - Children's Sunday School - Geneva

11:15 am - Joyful Noise Music - Geneva

11:30 am - Fellowship - Westminster North

11:30 am - Coffee and Conversation - Chapel

12:00 pm - Youth Bells - Westminster South

5:00 pm - Youth Group & Bible Exploration - HMPC

5:00 pm - Congregational Zoom Meeting

Monday, September 22

9:30 am - HMP Chapel - Geneva, Sanctuary

6:30 pm - P.E.O. - Rm 200

7:00 pm - Session - Westminster South

8:00 pm - Al-Anon/Alateen - Geneva Hall

Tuesday, September 23

6:30 am - Waking Up With The Word - WH Patio

6:00 pm - ACA - Rm 200

7:00 pm - Boy Scouts - Geneva Hall

Wednesday, September 24

9:15 am - Women at the Well - Chapel/Zoom

6:00 pm - Mission Study Team - Westminster North

6:15 pm - Hudson Handbells - Westminster South

6:30 pm - Youth 4C - Chipotle, Captain Cookie

7:30 pm - Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

Thursday, September 25

10:45 am - Staff Meeting - Welcome Lounge

6:00 pm - Women at the Well - Casa Carbone

7:00 pm - Presbyterian Pint - High Park Bar & Grill