



the weekly

Window

August 11, 2023

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



VBS



Our Week at Vacation Bible School



Thank you to the 50+ volunteers that made this week possible!



We had a wonderful week of faith, friendship, and fun at Vacation Bible School this week. Ninety-eight children learned that **Heroes** are called to **Follow Jesus, Help Others, Work Together, Listen to God, and Show Grace!** We explored these ideas through Music, Art, Science and Recreation. In Science, we explored topics like light and trees as we learned about the beauty of God's creation. In Art, we created Tie Dye, painted canvases, made mosaic crosses, made Magi star ornaments, and ended by making prayer jars to use at home. We emphasized helping others by collecting more than 700 food items for North Raleigh Ministries Food Pantry!

FELLOWSHIP

End-of-Summer Fellowship Lunch

**Sunday, August 27
Following Worship
Westminster Hall**

Hudson Memorial will kick off fall with a fun congregational lunch! We are having boxed lunches from Jason's Deli and **we need your order by August 22nd**. All lunch boxes come with chips, pickle spear and chocolate chip cookie. Drinks will be provided by Fellowship.

SANDWICH OPTIONS:

- **Roast Turkey Breast** with Lettuce & Tomato on a croissant
- **Chicken Salad** with Almonds & Pineapple, Lettuce & Tomato on a croissant
- **1/2 Veggie Wrap** (Organic spinach, cucumbers, zucchini and our homemade veggie cream cheese mix with red pepper, green onions, in an organic wheat wrap)

To RSVP online:

Please RSVP and select sandwich options on [this form](#).

To RSVP through the church office:

Please call 919-787-1086, extension 13, and leave a message letting us know your name, how many will be attending, and what your sandwich choice(s) are. You can also email info@hmpe.org to let us know.

Boxes are \$5 each. Please pay by check (made out to the church) or cash. You can place the payment in an envelope marked "Fellowship Lunch" into the Accounting Coordinator's mailbox in Room 100. Another option is to bring your payment to the event and drop it into the collection basket there.



WORSHIP & THE ARTS

Two Unique Worship Services LABOR DAY WEEKEND

On Sunday, September 3rd, we will have two smaller services over the holiday weekend:

8:00am - Worship in the Chapel



For those of you who are early risers, we will have a simple service in the Chapel (formerly the Parlor). This service will have piano and hymns, along with communion by intinction. The chapel seats approximately 45 people.

10:30am - Worship outside in the Memorial Garden



This service will include communion by intinction, and a men's group will share special music. The Thomas Sayre sculpture will serve as a backdrop to our liturgy. This service will be in a setting that reminds us of the "great cloud of witnesses" and of God's good creation.

If you are in town, we look forward to seeing you!

AMAZING GRAYS

Amazing Grays Thursday, August 17 at 11:30



Join the Amazing Grays for lunch and fellowship this Thursday at Briggs Restaurant! It is located at 8111 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh NC 27613 (in Brennan Station Shops). Please let Mike Law or Sandy Cole know if you plan to attend. See you there!

Youth Kick-Off is September 10th!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...This year we will have the annual Youth Group Kick Off **after worship on September 10th**. Parents, guardians and youth are invited to come for lunch to hear about the exciting year ahead. Before the kick-off, you will be emailed a "Commitment Survey" to let us know if and how frequently you anticipate participating in youth activities in the church.

Rich will be sending that out in the next couple of weeks as we get closer to kick-off.

A Message From Rich

Dear HMPC Staff and Family,

Lindsey and I would like to thank you for all of your love, support, prayers, cards and meals that you offered to us so graciously during the past 8 weeks. To all of you who stepped in to cover the past couple months, whether it be at Massanetta Middle School Conference or Montreat Youth Conference or Arts Camp, I am truly grateful for your gift of time during the first very crucial and tender time in our lives.



Bogen is doing well as he comes up on his 2 months on earth with us, and his new big brother, Olsen has already taken a loving and prominent place in his life.

As we slowly begin to create a routine/schedule, we will look forward to seeing you at church and all of the other places this faith community gathers!

Thanks again,

Lindsey, Rich and Bogen Richards

Confirmation Ministry Team

Get ready! The HMPC Confirmation Ministry Team has big ideas, faithful forward movement, and creative ways to take Confirmation to another level!

Over the past year, the Confirmation Ministry Team (Tim Peeler, Becca Fisher-Gabbard, Karen Melling, Sean Cole, and Rich Richards) have been meeting, dreaming, praying and planning for the next Confirmation Class program. Last year, because of the way Youth Ministry rosters work, we had to sit out a year because of low class numbers. This year, we will combine the 8th and 9th grade youth to make the 2024 Confirmation Class. This will be guaranteed to be a great time of discernment, learning about what it means to be church in the world and at home, and building life-long relationships.

Without YOU though, this new approach will not be possible. Keep an eye out for announcements from the Confirmation Ministry Team in the Weekly Window, on social media, and during worship. **(If you are thinking about being a mentor this year, please contact Karen Melling.**



Confirmation Class of 2024

This year we are combining the 8th and 9th grade classes for Confirmation, which will start in September.

If you wish to participate in Confirmation this year and have not yet let us know, **please contact Rich by the end of next week**. We have a wonderfully exciting Confirmation experience planned with a great ministry team that has been working hard to make it memorable and meaningful.

If you have already let us know, start thinking about a non-family adult that you wish to have as a MENTOR. (Again, this should *not* be a family member!)



Please contact Rich by [email](#), text, or phone to participate in this year's Confirmation experience.

Our most recent Confirmation Class

Thank You to Amy Clapood!

Today, August 11th, was Amy Clapood's last day on staff as Business Administrator. Amy and her fiancé Joe have a wonderful opportunity to move to Budapest, Hungary for a new adventure together. Please pray for her and Joe as they wrap things up here in the U.S. and make their big move.



We want to thank Amy for all she has done over the past year. She joined our staff at a time when there was significant transition and many moving parts. She jumped in with two feet and has helped the church move forward organizationally.

She has done a masterful job of

helping the staff and lay leadership look at administrative issues with fresh eyes and helped the church go through important technological, facility and systems adaptations that will serve HMPC well in the future.

We are sad to see Amy go, but also excited for what is in store for her and Joe. Thank you, Amy, for your leadership and service to Christ's church! You will be missed.

A Note from Amy

Dear Friends,

It is a longstanding tradition in my family to celebrate endings and beginnings. So as I end my day-to-day journey at Hudson and start a new adventure in Hungary, I wanted to pause and celebrate. Some days the path was hard and rocky, and the uphill climb was steep, but it always led to a beautiful view. To each person who walked alongside me with an encouraging word, guidance, support, and even challenges - thank you. To the wonderful staff, my deepest gratitude for your enthusiasm, humility, collaboration, and leadership. I have grown so much both professionally and personally along the way. While I do not know what my future holds, I know I will carry into it fond memories of my time serving alongside you. God's richest blessing now and in the days to come for the people who are Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church. And if you're ever in Budapest - come on by. *Béke és szeretet.*

~Amy

New Business Administrator Hired



We are excited to announce that Erica Hairston will be starting at Hudson on **August 21st** as the new Business Administrator! Erica is a graduate of Baylor University with a BA in Religion, Theology and Ethics. She served as Financial Secretary and Administrative Assistant for Crestview Church in Austin, Texas for over five years.

She describes herself as a quick learner, organized, friendly, and a leader. She is a writer with interests in music, movies, reading, sports, and philosophy. After multiple conversations with Erica, the Search Committee believes she has the experience, personality, and skill set to excel in this important position at HMPC. We know the congregation will give Erica a warm welcome at the end of August!

We want to thank Caroline Smart, Ken Krause, and Lesley Ash Jacobsen for serving on the Business Administrator Search Committee, along with Pastor Mac Schafer.

FAITH FORMATION

Waking Up With The Word This Tuesday, August 15 | 6:30am | Patio



All men are invited to join this group for scripture reflection, discussion, fellowship and coffee. The group uses an ancient Bible study process called Lectio Divina.

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 a 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, please contact [Mac Schafer](#).

Special Offering PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE



The Special Offering for August is in support of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. We will be dedicating our collection to help the people of Ukraine. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance enables congregations and mission

partners of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) to witness to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crisis and catastrophic events.

HOW TO GIVE



You can give by designating your donation on an envelope placed into the offering plate, or giving online by clicking the QR code to the left or visiting hmpc.org. To give by phone, you can text the donation amount with the letters "PDA" to 888-906-0744. Example text: 25 PDA

From the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance website, some information about their efforts in Ukraine:

What exactly are you doing?

At this time, we are in the emergency response phase. This means primarily supporting refugees in transit (Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Ukraine in addition to refugees who have crossed borders) with food, hygiene items, potable water, baby supplies, first aid, psychosocial support and more. Our partners on the ground have shared that they anticipate this crisis to require mid-term and long-term response, so the needs will change over time. For the most up to date information, visit www.pcusa.org/PDA/Ukraine

How long do you think resources will be needed for this crisis?

We are still in the emergency phase of this crisis and anticipate that there will be long-term recovery needs that will perhaps go on for years, long after the war ends.



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**
OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE



Volunteer at the Food Bank

September 16th | 9:00am

The Mission Committee has scheduled times for HMPC as part of our commitment to the Food Bank. Our next date is **September 16 from 9:00 to 12:00**.

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.

[Register HERE](#)

Please contact [Beth Billman](#) with any questions.

Children's Opportunity 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 date is Saturday, September 23 from 1-3pm.** Registration link can be found [here](#).

August Tend My Sheep

PANTRY ITEMS FOR THE FOOD BANK

This month we are collecting for the Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC. We are specifically collecting: **canned meats (chicken, salmon, tuna, etc), pastas, and rice.** Items can be dropped off in the bins by Sanctuary entrances through the month of August.



Adult Education Summer Series

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

THIS WEEK!

August 13 - The Bald Eagle (9:15 start time)



As we continue to enjoy the summer season we are reminded of our God-given responsibilities as stewards of the earth and caretakers of all its inhabitants. On August 13th, the Summer Series will feature a recent

PBS presentation of *The American Bald Eagle*. This is the story of how the American Bald Eagle soared to its vaunted perch in American iconography, a symbol not only of patriotism but also of environmental activism and Native American traditions. This iconic symbol of our country is important for both the human and animal populations, and although the Bald Eagle is no longer protected under the Endangered Species Act, it is still protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

This film is 55 minutes long and will begin promptly at 9:15 am.

NEXT WEEK!

August 20- Mission Trip Report

For the final Summer Series session, the Avery County Mission Team will report on this year's trip, which serves as a mission opportunity as well as a wonderful time of fellowship for HMPC members and friends.



Women at the Well Fall Schedule



Women at the Well welcomes women of all ages and stages to join us! The two groups have a different format, time, and content. **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 monthly group meets on the **fourth Thursday of each month at 6:00pm** (sometimes the third Thursday to avoid holidays etc.) and uses a podcast as the basis for discussion on various relevant topics. Both groups are wonderful opportunities for women to get to know each other as we discuss the intersection of culture and faith and our own spiritual journeys.

Weekly Women at the Well begins the fall semester on September 11, 9:15-10:30 in the Chapel and offers a hybrid format. Our book selection is *Life in Five Senses* by Gretchen Rubin and may be purchased through the church for \$14.00 by using this [link](#), cash or check. Make a note in the memo that the payment is for "WATW Book".

In *An Altar in the World*, the preacher Barbara Brown Taylor says, "People encounter God under shady oak trees, on riverbanks, at the tops of mountains, and in long stretches of barren wilderness. To know more about God we must pay attention to the lilies of the field and the birds of the air, to women kneading bread and workers lining up for their pay. The world is place of encounter with God." In *Life in Five Senses* the author invites us to get reacquainted with our five senses in order to pay closer attention to the exterior world all around us where we encounter God and glimpse the transcendent.

To join either group, contact Debbie Kirk dkirk@hmpc.org. Current participants will receive an email to confirm participation. **To join the weekly group, please let Debbie know no later than August 30.** You can pay for the book [here](#), or purchase it on your own.

The monthly group fall schedule is Sept 21, Oct 19, Nov 16 and Dec 7 at 6 PM at Vivo Ristorante.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 13

9:30 am - Adult Ed Summer Series - WH North
9:45 am - Summer Sing - Sanctuary Choir Loft
10:30 am - Worship - Sanctuary
11:30 am - Fellowship - WH North

Monday, August 14

6:30 pm - Grandparents of Children w/ Autism - WS
8:00 pm - How It Works (Al-Anon) - GH Rooms

Tuesday, August 15

6:30 am - Waking Up with the Word - WH Patio
9:30 am - Staff meeting - Welcome Lounge
10:00 am - Sewing Guild - WH South
7:00 pm - Fellowship - Zoom
7:30 pm - Boy Scouts - Geneva Hall, Room 234

Wednesday, August 16

6:30 pm - Mission Committee - Off-site
7:30 pm - Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

Thursday, August 17

11:30 am - Amazing Grays - Brigs Restaurant
6:00 pm - Women at the Well - Vivo Ristorante

Friday, August 18

6:30 pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200

HMPC STAFF

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WORSHIP & THE ARTS

The Ministry of Members



This summer, Pastor Mac and Debbie have been preaching on discipleship by using the below section of the *Book of Order* called "Ministry of Members".

Each week the sermon will be based on a line from the "Ministry of Members" with a scripture text. You are invited to cut this blue box out and put it in your Bible to meditate on.

Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and a privilege. It is also a commitment to participate in Christ's mission. A faithful member bears witness to God's love and grace and promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ's Church.

Such involvement includes:

- Proclaiming the good news in word and deed,
- Taking part in the common life and worship of a congregation,
- Lifting one another up in prayer, mutual concern, and active support,
- Studying Scripture and the issues of Christian faith and life,
- Supporting the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time, and talents,
- Demonstrating a new quality of life within and through the church,
- Responding to God's activity in the world through service to others,
- Living responsibly in the personal, family, vocational, political, cultural, and social relationships of life,
- Working in the world for peace, justice, freedom, and human fulfillment,
- Caring for God's creation,
- Participating in the governing responsibilities of the church, and
- Reviewing and evaluating regularly the integrity of one's membership, and considering ways in which one's participation in the worship and service of the church may be increased and made more meaningful.



In case you missed any, all of our services are available on our [YouTube channel](#)!