



the weekly Window

September 23, 2022

2023 Pledge Campaign: Hudson Home Base *"Release, Receive, Return"*

A LETTER FROM DEBBIE

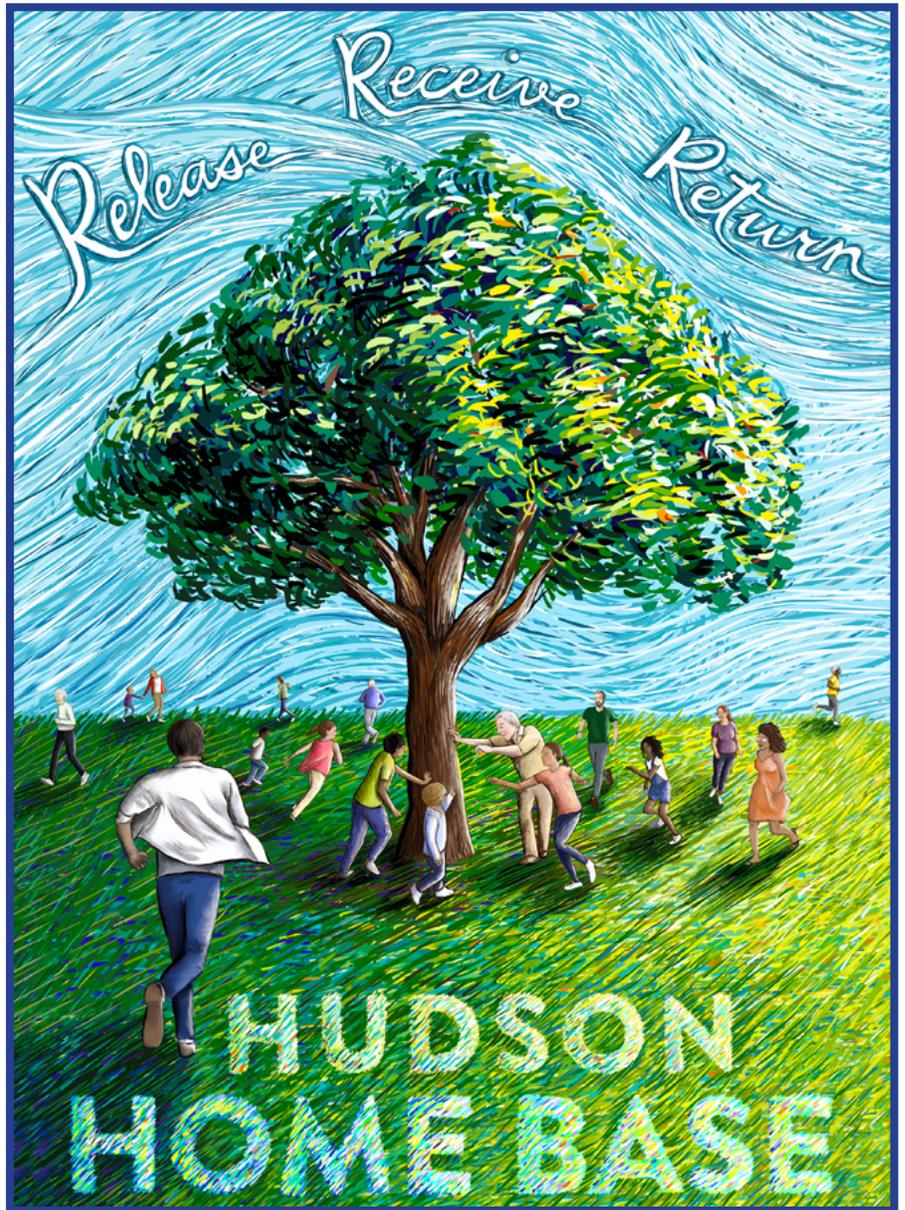
Dear Hudson Friends,

Many of us experience our church as a "home base"- a place we return to again and again. Like some of you, I have a "home church" where I was baptized, spent my childhood and youth, and where members of my family have been active for decades. Since then, other congregations have been "home" to me, including Hudson for the nearly eighteen years I have served in ministry with you. Each of us who call this our church home, whether we are here for a lifetime, temporarily, or everything in between, are all part of the fabric of this community.

As we enter the fall season, the pandemic is no longer as acute as it was, though its effects are still being felt. Our congregation was challenged to do things differently; that provided opportunities that we had not previously explored. When the landscape changed so rapidly, each of us had to evaluate our individual priorities through a different lens, including our commitment to HMPC. That experience now informs our mission and shapes our ministries.

On September 25, we kick off our annual Stewardship campaign with the image of HMPC as our "home base". Scripture is filled with stories of our ancestors who literally moved from one place to another, and along the way recognized other ways

that they were on a journey. Faith formation itself is a journey as we grow in experience, knowledge, and discernment of God's call on our lives as our relationship with God deepens. In recognition of this, the Giving Ministry team chose Genesis 28:15 as the primary text for the 2023 Stewardship campaign. It is from the story of Jacob, who, when on a journey to a place he did not know, had a dream where God came to him with a promise:



A Letter From Debbie

(Continued from Page 1)

“Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land...”

In the next few weeks, the Giving Ministry team will share with you the Stewardship theme Release, Receive, Return, reflecting our individual journeys that converge through ministry in this place and from this place. Here we can be our most authentic selves as we release those things that hinder faithful discipleship. We receive as we are fed for our journeys through worship, study, care, and fellowship, and go from this place to serve others. We return to our home base again and again as the cycle goes on throughout our lives.

Your staff and leaders are continually discerning how and where God is calling us to be faithful as we intentionally reflect on what time, talent, and treasure we will provide to the church for the next year. In the weeks ahead, you are asked to consider your commitment as a good steward of all that is entrusted to us.

Using the words of the author Anne Lamott, I offer you this blessing for your journey and in gratitude for Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church: “Traveling mercies: love the journey, God is with you, come home safe and sound.”

Faithfully,



Debbie Kirk, Associate Pastor



Homecoming Celebration

Mark your calendar for Sunday, November 6th for a good ol' 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.

Guests are invited to join 10:30am worship, as well as the Homecoming celebration that will follow. We will have a big lunch, fellowship, entertainment, and more!

For questions, please contact Shawn Jackson at shawn_jackson2004@yahoo.com

FELLOWSHIP



Fellowship Friday : Movie Night

September 30 | 6:00pm | Final Fellowship Friday of 2022!

Join us in Westminster Hall to enjoy being with friends, eat treats, and watch Disney's *Remember the Titans*. Bring a picnic supper if you'd like. Popcorn, drinks, and dessert provided! You can come anytime after 6:00pm and we will begin the movie at 6:30pm.

Please **RSVP no later than Friday, September 30 at noon**. You can use this [link](#), call the church office at 919-787-1086 (leave a message if no one is there), or email info@hmpc.org.



Remember the Titans is a true story about a newly appointed African-American coach and his high school team on their first season as a racially integrated unit. This remarkable story celebrates how a town torn apart by friction and mistrust comes together in harmony.

September Special Offering PRESBYTERIAN CAMPUS MINISTRIES

**NC STATE
UNIVERSITY**

This month's Special Offering is for Presbyterian Campus Ministries. As an extension of the ministry of the Presbyterian Church (USA), PCM of

Raleigh seeks to be a unique voice of God's grace on the college campuses in our community. Our donations go specifically to the PCM at NCSU. To investigate the campus ministry at NC State, please check out www.pcmraleigh.org



You can give online by clicking the QR code, or visiting hmpe.org. To give by phone, simply text the donation amount with the letters "PCM" to 888-906-0744. (Example text: 25 PCM)

A Note From PCM of Raleigh

As always, thank you for your support of Presbyterian Campus Ministry of Raleigh. Your financial contributions enable us to continue to nurture the students entrusted to our care. Throughout the pandemic, our ministry of being a welcoming, brave space to wrestle with faith amid current events has been even more vital. We also appreciate your ongoing commitment to having a Hudson Memorial representative on the PCM Board. Emily Cobb was a dedicated, energetic member during her tenure, and we are excited to welcome Andrea Mouw as your new representative. While programs, meals, and trips are impossible sans funding, our organization would not exist were it not for the devotion to young people from congregations. Thank you for continuing to uphold baptismal vows by ensuring theological education within a beloved community is possible for college-aged adults.

With much gratitude,
Rev. Ashley-Anne Masters, Director
Presbyterian Campus Ministry of Raleigh

September Tend My Sheep DIAPERS FOR ST. SAVIOUR'S



FINAL WEEK TO DONATE

This month, the Mission Committee will be collecting diapers for infants (and adults), along with wipes and children's books for the St. Saviour's Center in Raleigh. St. Saviour's is a community service organization that addresses unmet needs for low-income residents of Wake County.

The center is looking for infant diapers (size 5 especially needed) as well as adult sizes. They are also collecting wipes and gently-used children's books for ages 0-5. **Please bring donations to the church by Sunday, September 25.** Realizing diapers can be rather bulky and a bit of a struggle to carry - the center has an online service that can be utilized for immediate impact. Click [here](#) for online donations.

Hunger Action Event



*'Can' you volunteer?
Why yes, you 'CAN'!*

The NC State Fair is coming up next month and the Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC has partnered with Smithfield Food for the Annual Hunger Relief Day, **Thursday, October 20**. Since 1993, this has become one of the largest one-day canned-food drives in the state.

Come volunteer at one of the gates – register at Smithfield Foods Hunger Relief Day at the NC State Fair - Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina (foodbankcenc.org) or simply come with 6 cans to donate, and enjoy the fair!

This volunteer opportunity also gives community service hours for students.

foodbank
NOURISH. BUILD. EMPOWER.

Children's News

Sunday School Registration

Parents of infants - 4th graders: **Be sure to fill out your registration form for the 2022-2023 school year!**

Link to form for Sunday School aged children [here](#).

Link to form for Infants, Toddlers, and Twos [here](#).

Communion Education



We will have a Communion Education class for children and their parents immediately following Worship on October 9th. Debbie will walk the children through the meaning of communion in an age

appropriate way. A light lunch will be served, so please RSVP [here](#) to help us know how many to expect:

Children's Movie Night

On October 15th we will have a Children's movie night at the church! Come enjoy a kid-friendly movie and popcorn with our church family!

Children's Sabbath/Preschool Sunday

On October 16, the children will perform in worship!

Volunteer Opportunity



Join us for a child-friendly volunteer opportunity at the Food Bank on **October 22nd from 2-4 pm**. Please register both you AND your child [here](#).

Children & Family Ministries Facebook Group



Join the group to read the latest Children's Ministry news, learn about upcoming events, and see photos of the kids of Hudson! Join here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/556052681758820>

Youth News for Sunday, September 25

Sunday Morning

Worship in the Balcony- Every Sunday, meet us in the balcony for worship at 10:30am. It usually ends around 11:30am, and then head upstairs for Sunday school at 11:35am.

MS/HS Sunday School

Explorers' Class: 5th-7th grade youth
Sundays, 11:35am - NEW LOCATION!! This will now be held in Room 226 - the former Game Room.

Growing Disciples Class: 8th-12th grade youth
Sundays, 11:35am in the High School Room

Sunday Evening

Youth Music & Dinner

(5th-12th grade)

4:15-5:00pm (Dinner is 5:00-5:45)

Pick-up for 5th graders is 5:45

MS/HS Youth Group

(6th-12th grade)

5:00-7:00pm in Westminster North



HMPC Youth Group can now be found on Instagram! Follow us!
Our handle is [@HMPCYM](#)

Sabbatical Update: Art Along The Way

As many of you know, art is a love of mine. This has seeped into my ministry through bulletin covers, casting the occasional image onto the chancel wall for sermon illustrations in worship, using illuminations in the St. John Bible for Seeing the Word Bible study, and more.

This pilgrimage from northern Germany through Italy has bubbled over in artistic expressions of faith. My art cup runneth over!

Most recently, I took four days off from the pilgrims' path and went to Florence, Italy for the first time in my life. My wife, Katy, has always talked to me about going there, as she did for a semester abroad in college.

While in Florence, I visited the Uffizi Galleries. It's home to works by the giants: da Vinci, Michelangelo, Botticelli, Caravaggio, Titian, Rembrandt, Raphael, and many others.



While in Florence I also visited the Galleria dell'Accademia where Michelangelo's *David* is, along with other unfinished sculptures by him. (Photo on left)

On my final day in Florence I visited the Duomo Museum where *The Deposition* (The Florentine Pieta) by Michelangelo is. They think Michelangelo did a self portrait of his own face in the figure of Nicodemus. It's a very moving sculpture of Mary holding Jesus' dead body as he is let down from the cross (Photo on left). For some reason, experts think that Michelangelo got frustrated with the work and tried to destroy it. Thank goodness he didn't succeed.



Earlier in my trip I took another day off the Via Francigena to go

to Milan. This is the home of Leonardo da Vinci's *Last Supper* and I was thrilled to be able to secure tickets to see it. I had no idea how much this sacred painting had been through.

He painted it on a wall of the refectory at Santa Maria delle Grazie. Leonardo used paint not typically used on a wall and the painting began to deteriorate fairly quickly after he finished it in the late 15th century. On top of this, a hot kitchen was behind the wall and temperatures affected the longevity of the paint in negative ways. There were multiple attempts at restoration. The painting also miraculously survived a bombing during World War II.

Today, only about 40% of the painting we see is da Vinci's original work. Regardless, I sat in awe of this depiction of the Last Supper.

Also in Milan, I got to see Caravaggio's *Supper at Emmaus* (1606) and *David with the Head of Goliath* (1610). They are two paintings that have informed my view of their Biblical narratives.



One of the artistic surprises of this trip is the work of Lucas Cranach the Elder and his son, Lucas Cranach the Younger. While we often think of the Reformation as a time of running away from art, Cranach and his

son did wonderful portraits of Martin Luther (photo on left), his family, other reformers, and biblical scenes. The Cranachs' work can be found in a variety of places including Wittenburg, Wartburg, and Florence. I loved stumbling upon these works along my journey.

While I have been mainly talking about paintings and sculptures, I am keenly aware that art comes in a much wider variety, from architecture to music. I have certainly been in no short supply of these expressions. The Duomos (cathedrals) in Florence, Milan, Pisa and Siena are extraordinary masterpieces of engineering and artistic expression. I stand in awe of these places of worship that give glory to God through their size and attention to the smallest details.

I have found that the artistic expression of faith I've been in the presence of on this trip has humbled me and filled me with thanksgiving. Art through the ages has been a way of communicating the stories of faith to the literate and illiterate. It is a powerful tool of communication and beauty.

When you read this, I will be seven days outside of Rome on my pilgrimage. This city (as many of you know) will quench my thirst for the weaving together of art and faith. I have never been to Rome and look forward to soaking in all the art it has to offer!

Thank you for this incredible opportunity for restoration of body, mind and spirit.

With Care,

Sunday Morning Adult Education

THE GATHERING

"The Nine O'Clock Class"
9:00-10:00am | Room 200

Facilitated by
Susan Bradshaw, Dottie Burch and Linda Meeks



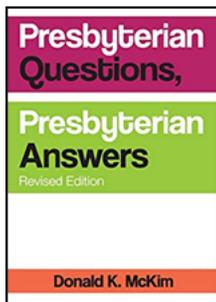
This earlier class is especially for those who have commitments preparing for worship at 10:00am, and others who would like a full hour of study, conversation, and fellowship. We began the fall semester with part one and two of the movie *Same Kind of Different as Me* and a discussion. Sept 25 we will watch and discuss

part three of the film. This true story is about three people from dramatically different backgrounds who develop a surprising bond and friendship through a local soup kitchen where two are volunteering and one is experiencing homelessness. Each of them learns about themselves and each other, and finds their lives changed in ways they never expected. This series continues this Sunday and next.

In October, we will explore "Pilgrimages around the World".

9:30-10:20am | WH North

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

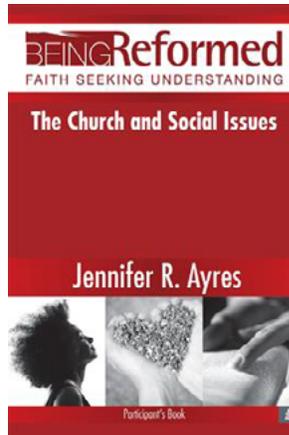


"Presbyterian Ponderings" is a discussion-based class that welcomes visitors and does not require any advance reading or preparation. From a Presbyterian perspective, we will look deeply at big concepts of our faith such as the Bible, Humanity, the Church, and Salvation. **For the fall session**

we will be using *Presbyterian Questions, Presbyterian Answers* by Donald McKim as a primary resource. Participants do not need the book.

9:30-10:20am | WH South

Facilitated by **Susan Grigg, Jimmy Hulsey, Ron Ash**



Beginning This Sunday, Sept. 25th: "The Church and Social Issues"

The Church and Social Issues by Jennifer R. Ayres will be our study for several weeks beginning September 25. This will be a discussion class based on various Scripture selections

each week as we think about how we as Christians should act in our public lives. How do we deal with the world that we live in today? Each session is a separate study and you are welcome to attend any Sunday.

Library & Workspace

Movin' on Up!



If you've been in the Karl Hudson room, you may have noticed something missing... the copy machine. It has been moved upstairs to our new Library/Workspace (Room 223). The copier is available for use by all ministry groups, and each group has its own code to use. If you are making copies, please see the appropriate ministry

leader, committee chair, or staff member to get the right code. And please, feel free to take some time to explore our library and share it with your friends and family. (Keep in mind, it is currently a work in progress!)

Women at the Well



Women at the Well has kicked off for the fall, and welcomes women of all ages and stages to join us! There are two groups, each with different format, time and content. 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.

The Monthly Group

The monthly group meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:00pm (sometimes the third Thursday to avoid holidays) and uses a podcast as the basis for discussion on topics of interest. Participants will receive podcast information a week before each meeting. Contact [Debbie Kirk](#) if you are interested in joining the distribution list. **Fall Dates: October 20, November 17, December 15**

The Weekly Group

The weekly group meets Wednesday mornings from 9:15-10:30am and is currently using the book *Wholehearted Faith* by Rachel Held Evans for the fall semester. Conversations will cover our longing for spiritual wholeness found in the church and in other places as we experience the grace and love of God. Contact [Debbie Kirk](#) if you are interested in joining the distribution list.

Waking Up With The Word

Tuesday, Sept. 27 | 6:30am | Zoom



All men are invited to join this group (over Zoom this week) 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 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 or would like to be added to the email distribution list, please contact [Don Slater](#) (while Mac is on sabbatical).**

Presbyterian Pint

Upcoming: October 27



Men of the church are welcome to join us at 7:00pm at Mordecai Beverage Company for fellowship and faith in a friendly environment. We discuss relevant questions of theology and culture. Contact [John James](#) to be added to the distribution list.

OFFICE VOLUNTEER MINISTRY

Become An Office Volunteer!

Our Office Volunteer Ministry was a blessing to the church this spring and summer and we are grateful for their help! **As we kick off fall, we invite new people to join our rotation!** You can get a peek at what the church is like during the week and give a helping hand to various committees and staff members. This is a great way for newer members to learn more about Hudson and meet other members. Here are some of the tasks office volunteers perform:

- Staff the Karl Hudson Room, answer the phone, direct calls, and open the door to greet guests.
- Collate the weekly bulletin and newsletter, put together visitor welcome bags, and help stuff envelopes for mailings.
- Help with Children's Ministry projects. These recently included: assembling children's backpack tags, VBS preparation, and creating welcome packages for families.

It is not a big time commitment, and the hours you choose to volunteer are flexible. It can be fun to do some "behind-the-scenes" work for the church! If you are interested, contact our Office Volunteer Coordinator, [Teri Morris](#) at 919-880-6472.

CALENDAR

This Week...

Sunday, September 25

9:00 am - Adult Ed "Nine O'Clock Class" - Room 200
9:30 am - Adult Ed Classes - WH South and WH North
10:30 am - Worship - Sanctuary
10:45 am - Children's Sunday School - GH/Playgarden
11:30 am - Fellowship - WH North
11:30 am - Children's Music - GH
11:30 am - Coffee & Conversation for Parents - Chapel
11:35 am - Youth Sunday School - GH
4:15 pm - Youth Music - WH South
5:00 pm - Youth Dinner & MS/HS Youth Group
5:00 pm - Book Study with Debbie - Room 200

Monday, September 26

7:00 pm - Session - WH South
7:00 pm - PEO - Room 200
8:00 pm - Al-Anon/AlaTeen/AlaKid - GH 227, 236

Tuesday, September 27

6:30 am - Waking Up With the Word - Zoom
9:30 am - Staff Meeting
7:00 pm - Boy Scouts - GH 234

Wednesday, September 28

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

Friday, September 30

6:00pm - Fellowship Friday - Movie Night - WH
6:00 pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200

STAFF DIRECTORY

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CHANCEL FLOWERS

Flower Donations

Three October 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.

DEVOTIONALS

These Days

The fall edition of *These Days* has arrived! Copies are available at the sanctuary entrances. Please contact [Lesley Ash Jacobsen](mailto:lash-jacobsen@hmpc.org) or the church office (919-787-1086) if you would like one mailed to you.

