

THE WEEKLY WINDOW

OUT TO THE LIFE
AND MINISTRY OF
HUDSON MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



AUGUST 23, 2024

THIS SUNDAY, AUGUST 25



FALL KICK-OFF LUNCH

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, FOLLOWING WORSHIP IN WESTMINSTER HALL

Our annual Fall Kickoff Lunch is after worship this Sunday! **RSVP by the end of the day Friday, August 23**, using [this form](#). If you have a dessert you'd like to share, bring it to the Westminster Hall Kitchen before worship. There are going to be a lot of delicious desserts made by members of our congregation! This will be a wonderful time of fellowship as we wrap up summer and get ready to head into fall!

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS



STUDENTS, BRING YOUR BACKPACKS!

Join us this Sunday for the Blessing of the Backpacks! All students (children and MS/HS youth) can bring their bags up during the Children's Message to receive a blessing for the new school year and a new backpack tag!



**HMPC
PROGRAMMING
KICKOFF
IS SEPTEMBER 8!**

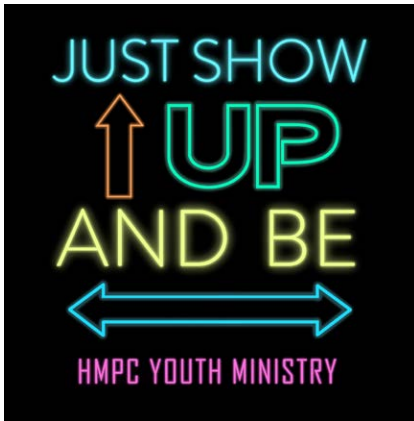
**READ ALL IT ABOUT IN
NEXT WEEK'S WEEKLY WINDOW!**



We Need Youth Advisors!

If you have ever thought about giving back to the church, working with an amazing group of young people, or simply have a gift for working with kids, we need you!

If interested, please contact Rich Richards, Director of Youth Ministry and Children’s Music. You can contact him at hmpcyouthgroup@gmail.com or 336-324-0497.



Youth Ministry Kick-Off Dinner!

SEPTEMBER 8 at 5:00pm

HERE WE GO! Let’s do this, y’all!!!

Youth and their families (at least one adult) are invited to the 2024-2025 Youth Ministry Kick-Off! Our theme for the year is “Planting Peace”.

Sunday, September 8, from 5:00-7:00pm at HMPC.

A mandatory parent/guardian meeting will be held during this 2-hour block of time.



This will be a **POTLUCK DINNER** with the main dish being an Italian spaghetti/linguini meal with “Rich’s Not-So-Famous” Sauce (Or *gravy*, if you know what I mean).

We ask that every family contribute to the dinner, preparing an offering that would feed 4-8 people.

Sign-up links will be sent through email as well as a website link from the church. More details will be in an email from Rich.

If you'd like to be added to the Youth Ministry mailing list, contact Rich Richards at hmpcyouthgroup@gmail.com.

Youth Ministry A Note From Merritt Liebman



Hi, Hudson family! I have decided to take the leap into ministry, and I have taken a role down the road at Wake Forest Presbyterian Church. I will be the Director of Youth Ministries, where I will lead youth group on Sunday nights, plan and attend youth trips, and serve the youth of WFPC in many other ways.

Growing up at youth group at Hudson, being on the Presbytery Youth Council, being an advocate at Massanetta, being involved with PCM at NC state, working on summer staff at Montreat, and then coming back “home” and volunteering at Hudson as a youth advisor has all led me to this moment.

To the youth of Hudson, thank you for being you. I see God in you, and cannot wait to watch the great things you all will do.

To the members of Hudson that are not youth, if you feel a call to connect to the community, whether as a youth advisor (I’m biased; it is awesome) or in another area of ministry, just do it - it’s worth it. You have so much to offer, more than you know. Our ministries would be better off with your involvement, your time, and your talents. Who knows where it will take you, I certainly never could have guessed I’d be writing this!

This is most definitely a see you later!

Merritt



Matthew 25 Mini-Conference Report

Workshop #3 - By Pastor Mac

Since joining the PCUSA Matthew 25 movement in 2021, Hudson has focused on the goals of congregational vitality, eradicating systematic poverty, and dismantling structural racism. The Matthew 25 invitation focuses on Matthew 25:31-46, the parable of the sheep and goats in which Jesus makes clear, that what we do matters to God and how we treat others is important to God.

In January, Elders Joan Lester and Jay Cummins participated in the Atlanta Matthew 25 Summit. (Summary [HERE](#).) New Hope Presbytery organized a follow up [mini-conference in July featuring six PCUSA moderated workshops](#).

Pastor Mac, Joan, and Jay participated in the mini-conference and will continue to report about their workshops in the Weekly Window over the next four weeks.



Pastor Mac attended the workshop "PDA, not just Public Display of Affection" with Reverend Edwin Gonzalez-Castillo. Rev. Gonzalez-Castillo is the Director of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) which Hudson is presently designating as its August Special Offering.

The Mission of PDA is to enable "congregations and mission partners of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to witness to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crisis and catastrophic events. PDA is the emergency and refugee program of the Presbyterian Church USA. The core budget, including staff and administration costs is funded through One Great Hour of Sharing, and its program work is additionally funded through designated gifts." PDA was founded after World War II to assist with refugee emergency situations.

Here is a glance at what PDA has done recently:

- \$6.1 million granted in 27 states and 46 countries
- 131 National Response Team members were deployed to 46 presbyteries
- 67 Presbyterian Women trained in Disaster Preparedness
- 1,837 work team volunteers served in Arkansas, California, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Texas and Puerto Rico, donating 127,755 hours, totaling more than \$4 million in volunteer time.

PDA has six core ministries:

- Domestic Ministry

- \$1,868,805 in grants for situations of:
- Hurricanes (23 grants, 15 National Response Teams - NRT)
- Floods (11 grants, 8 NRT)
- Trauma & Human-caused Disaster (4 grants, 34 NRT)
- Tornadoes & Severe Storms (30 grants, 11 NRT)
- Fires (10 grants, 12 NRT)
- Migration Accompaniment Ministries (17 grants, 2 NRT)

- Volunteer Ministry

- Emotional and Spiritual Care

- "This is a ministry of presence providing a non-anxious presence and opportunity to be an active listener while holding an outreached hand, offering a cup of coffee or mucking out a home."

- International Ministry

- Conflict/war (32 grants)
- Cyclone/Hurricane/Typhoon (6 grants)
- Drought (3 grants)
- Earthquake (9 grants)
- Economic crisis/political unrest (5 grants)
- Famine (2 grants)
- Fire (3 grants)
- Flooding (12 grants)
- Severe Storm (9 grants)
- Refugee (8 grants)
- Training (3 grants)

- Story Ministry

- PDA is actively creating videos for people to share their personal experience and particularly the long term impact of community disaster.

- Migration Accompaniment Ministries

Rev. Gonzalez-Castillo talked about PDA being careful in knowing its role and the best ways we can support situations of disaster. PDA is very good at working with and listening to other disaster response partners that are on the ground before us. This helps to reduce duplication and waste of resources. Respectful relationships with mission partners and locals is vital to PDA's ministry. **To learn more, please go to pda.pcusa.org.**



Get Involved with Music Ministry This Fall!

CHANCEL CHOIR

Rehearsals begin September 4

Regular Rehearsals on Wednesdays

7:30-9:00pm - Sanctuary

Musical Leadership in the Sunday

10:30am Worship Service

and special services throughout the year.

New singers always welcome!



HUDSON HANDBELLS

Begins September 4

Rehearsals - Wednesdays 6:15-7:15pm

Westminster Hall South

(for intermediate to advanced ringers)



YOUTH MUSIC

Begins September 8

Handbells (5th-12th grade)

Sundays | 12:00-12:30 | Westminster Hall South

If you play an instrument, have any questions, or want to help in the music area, please reach out to [Barbara Loehr-Fox](#).

It's Almost Time to Make a Joyful Noise!

CHILDREN'S MUSIC RESUMES SEPTEMBER 8

Children's Music (Joyful Noise) begins on Sunday,

September 8 immediately after worship!

This is for kids (Kindergarten-5th grade) and is held in Geneva Hall from 11:30am-12:15pm.



Come sing, play instruments, and learn about God and the Bible through this unique musical opportunity!

PARENTS: While your kids are in Joyful Noise, you hope you will join other parents during Coffee & Conversation located in the Chapel!

AUGUST TEND MY SHEEP - FINAL WEEK

Food Bank of NC

August's Tend My Sheep collection is for the Food Bank of North Carolina. The Food Bank has provided over 89,600,000 meals to families in just this past year! In our community, one out of seven people face starvation and food insecurity. North Carolina has hundreds of local pantries, food giveaways and pop up markets that help to decrease this need. As a church, we are focused on food insecurities in our community, and this month will focus on collecting healthy breakfast food.

Items needed: Canned fruits, canned dairy, shelf stable milk, cereal, oatmeal, nut butters (peanut, almond, hazelnut), jelly, nuts, seeds, trail mix and granola.

Place donations in the bins at the front and rear of the sanctuary anytime and the Mission Committee will deliver to the Food Bank after the last Sunday in August.

Many of your fellow church members volunteer at these pantries and markets – you can too!

AUGUST SPECIAL OFFERING - FINAL WEEK

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance enables congregations and mission partners of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to witness to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crisis and catastrophic events. Through our church, donations for this offering go towards events such as: Hurricane Beryl, the Texas Panhandle Fires, Israel/Palestine, and more. We pray, we cry, we give, and pray some more. Please consider sharing your treasures.

You can give by designating your donation on an envelope placed into the offering plate; mailing a check with "PCUSA Disaster Assistance" in the memo line to the church office; giving online by visiting hmpe.org, or texting the donation amount with the word "PDA" to 888-906-0744. *Example text: 25 PDA*



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

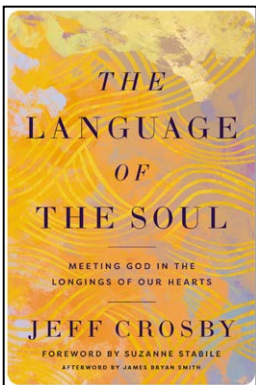
Women at the Well

**NEXT MONTHLY GROUP MEETING
AUGUST 29 - 6:00PM
& FALL DATES**



Women at the Well begins the fall schedule in September, and 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 morning from 9:15-10:30am from September 11-December 11 and uses a particular book chosen each semester as a guide for shared conversation, reflections, and prayer. This group uses a hybrid format with women meeting in the Chapel and on Zoom. Using the book *The Language of the*



Soul: Meeting God in the Longings of Our Hearts by Jeff Crosby, we will explore how we experience God, who meets us in our places of our deepest longings, as individuals and in the community of the Women at the Well. The cost of the book is \$14.00 payable by check with "Women at the Well" in the memo or by using [this link](#).

THE MONTHLY GROUP meets over dinner at a local restaurant at 6:00pm on the third or fourth Thursday of each month (Sept 19, Oct 17, Nov 21 and the end of December) and uses a podcast as the basis for discussion on topics of interest.

You are welcome to join us for our final summer monthly group meeting this coming Thurssday, August 29 at 6:00pm at Vivo Ristorante!

Both groups are wonderful opportunities for women to get to know each other as we discuss the how intersection of culture and faith informs our own spiritual journeys. Current participants in each group are already on the contact lists. If you would like to be added to either one or both, email Debbie Kirk at dkirk@hmpc.org.

Waking Up With The Word

Tuesday, August 27 - 6:30am - Patio



This is an early morning men's Bible study. It meets in person on the WH Patio and via Zoom, alternating weekly. It uses an ancient study method called *lectio divina*. We read the passage that will be preached on 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. New participants are always welcome.

SINGLE WAY

Single Way

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 to join!

Date: September 3 at 11:30am

Place: Bahama Breeze Island Grille
3309 Wake Forest Drive
Raleigh, NC 27609

Please call Dee Blackerby at 919-846-6241 by September 1 if you plan to attend. Join us!



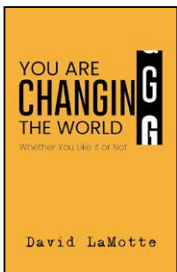
FALL FAITH FORMATION

David LaMotte Fall Book Study

Sunday evenings, Oct. 13 - Nov. 10
5:00-6:30pm in Room 200

The day before he joined us for the weekend in March, David LaMotte gave a TED Talk, at TEDx Asheville 2024, along with eight other speakers on the stage of the Wortham Center for the Performing Arts. David's talk focused on the downside of hero narratives, and how stories that we tell in order to inspire people can often have the opposite effect. It's a hopeful message, reminding us that we don't have to be extraordinary to make change, we just have to work together. If you haven't seen it, check it out: www.DavidsTEDx.com.

Following David's visit at HMPC, a number of us read his latest book *You are Changing the World Whether You Like it or Not** and participated in a book study where we had rich conversations about how to show up and engage wherever people are hurting, bringing our own unique perspectives, gifts and skills to make a positive impact in the world.



This fall we are offering part two of this book study which will cover some of the same as well as additional material we did not get to in the spring study. You are invited to join us whether you attended previously or not. We will begin with the TED Talk and David's assertion that "hope is both an active choice and a choice to be active."

Registration will be open in early September. For more information contact Debbie Kirk dkirk@hmpc.org

*A copy is now in our church library. The book explores how easy it is to be overwhelmed with all that is going on in our world and offers practical and inspiring content for use in our personal and communal lives. David well knows that we are often seduced into believing it is impossible to have a positive impact on such enormous issues but he does not buy into this defeatism. Through his own experience and the stories of many others he illustrates the practical value of small, organized efforts. The book has many examples of "planting the seeds of change" as we consider the seeds we are planting.

MEMORIALS

Service of Witness to the Resurrection in Celebration of the Life of PEGGY GRADY

Peggy Grady entered God's everlasting kingdom on August 20, 2024. Peggy and her late husband, Bob, were faithful Hudson members for over fifty years, since 1967. A memorial service will be held at Hudson Memorial



Presbyterian Church on Tuesday, August 27 at 2:00pm. Bob and Peggy will both be remembered at this service. If you cannot attend the service in person, you can find the livestream [here](#).

Please keep Peggy's family in your prayers.

CALENDAR

Sunday, August 25

- 9:45am - Summer Sing - Sanctuary
- 10:30am - Worship - Sanctuary
- 10:45am - Children's Sunday School - Geneva/Playgarden
- 11:30am - Fall Kickoff Lunch - Westminster Hall

Monday, August 26

- 7:00pm - Session - WH South
- 8:00pm - Al-Anon/Alateen - Geneva Rm 226, 234, 235

Tuesday, August 27

- 6:30am - Waking Up With The Word - Patio
- 8:30am - Back to School Breakfast (for HMP) - WH
- 9:30am - Staff Meeting - Welcome Lounge
- 5:45pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200
- 7:30pm - Boy Scouts - Geneva Hall, Rm 234

Wednesday, August 28

- 9:00am - Preschool First Aid/CPR Training - Chapel
- 6:00pm - Handbell Workshop - WH South

Thursday, August 29

- 6:00pm - Women at the Well - Vivo Ristorante

Friday, August 30

- 8:30am-1:00pm - HMPC Open House- WH
- 5:45pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200