

THE WEEKLY WINDOW

OUT TO THE LIFE
AND MINISTRY OF
HUDSON MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 8, 2023



SEPTEMBER 10th

.. KICK OFF ..

SUNDAY

FALL SCHEDULE BEGINS



Sunday Schedule

BEFORE WORSHIP

9:00am - Nine O'Clock Class - Room 200

9:30am - Ponderings - WH North | The Seekers - WH South

WORSHIP TIME

10:30am - Worship - Sanctuary

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

AFTER WORSHIP

11:30-12:00pm - Fellowship - Westminster North

11:30-12:00pm - Children's Music - Geneva Hall

11:30-12:00pm - Coffee & Conversation - Chapel

11:30-12:00pm - Youth Sunday School - Geneva Hall

12:00-12:45pm - Youth Music - WH South

EVENING

5:00pm-7:00pm - Youth Group Kick-off! - HMPC

Labor Day Weekend Worship Services



*Both services had Communion by Intinction.
Above: Memorial Garden service;
To Left: Chapel service.*

Last Sunday, September 3, Hudson held two special services. At 8:00am, worship was held in the Chapel, and our former pianist, Sue Newton, accompanied the hymns. At 10:30am, the service was held outdoors in the Memorial Garden, with the new Thomas Sayre sculpture serving as the backdrop to the liturgy. Hymns were sung, accompanied by Al Hyde on the keyboard, and the Hudson Men's Chorus shared an upbeat song. It was a unique way to worship in some of the different spaces on our campus.

Property & Foundation Update

DETAILS ABOUT STEEPLE REPAIRS & NEW SIGNAGE



You have probably seen the giant crane with individuals working on the steeple over the past few weeks. Session, Foundation, and Property Committee approved repair work to be funded from money bequeathed to the church by Eleanor Ragan, and invested by the Foundation. This fund is specifically designated for maintenance of the church building

to preserve the structure, operation, and beauty of the building.

Session, Foundation, and Property were aware that there were questions about how much wood rot might be found on the steeple, and indeed, there was more than



expected. The good news is the repairs have been made and the wood was replaced with materials that will not rot. Once the wood rot was repaired, the steeple was painted over a two day period.



You may also have noticed that there is new signage around the campus. Property Committee co-chair Allie Maples headed up this project with Mary Schindo and Jolee Carpenito. This project was approved by Property Committee and funded from the Memorial Gifts accrual account. When undesignated gifts are made to the church in



memory of someone who has died, Ministry Teams can apply to use these funds for activities and for items that facilitate the ministry of the church. This is how this project was completed.

These are two tangible examples of the difference gifts to the Foundation & Memorial Gifts can make in the life of the church. Thanks be to God! If you are interested in leaving the church in your will or making a gift to the Foundation, please talk to Pastor Mac Schafer or Foundation President Don Haydon.

SESSION

Emergency Action Plan

In March of 2023, Session formed a Task Force to update



and implement an Emergency Action Plan (EAP). The EAP addresses the following potential emergencies: Fire, Medical Emergency, Gas Leak, Intruder, Bomb Threat, and Tornado. The goals of the EAP Task Force are as follows:

- Reduce the risk of harm
- Create a simple, safe, and understandable plan
- Create an effective training process
- Implement a seamless communication system
- Create a capital improvement list to enhance security

In July, the Session approved an initial version of an EAP Manual. The EAP Task Force has already begun training with the 38 church preschool teachers. Training on the church side of things will begin with staff, elders, deacons, and certain volunteers this month. While it is impossible to be prepared for every conceivable situation, we are pleased to communicate that we're on the path of creating a safer church environment when emergencies arise. Special thanks to Dottie Burch, Wilson Cheeley, Emily Cobb, Cary Dickerson, Steve Jesseph, and Mac Schafer who have worked diligently to move the congregation forward on this front. We will continue to keep the congregation informed as goals are implemented. Ezekiel 38:7 says, "Be thou prepared, and prepare for thyself, thou, and all thy company that are assembled unto thee, and be thou a guard unto them."

Sunday Adult Education KICKS OFF THIS SUNDAY!

Come and get it! Your Adult Education Committee is cooking up a feast of opportunities for faith formation, and you are invited to partake! There are many ways to fill your bodies, minds, and spirits with other church members.



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

Facilitated by Susan Bradshaw

This 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 worship. We begin the fall semester with sharing "Reflections of Summer" and participants are invited to bring a picture of something found in nature, a special find, or a memory of summers past. Perhaps you spent time with family, friends, or had your own time to regroup after a busy spring. You may have been in treatment or recovery, or supporting someone who was. Many of you may have been with grandchildren, and lots of us have precious memories of our own childhood with grandparents. The summer may have held a transition such as a move, retirement, relocation, or change in your household. You may have had time for retreat or travel. Whatever the summer held for you we invite you to join us. Just come in. Sit at the table. Listen, chat. There is a place for you.



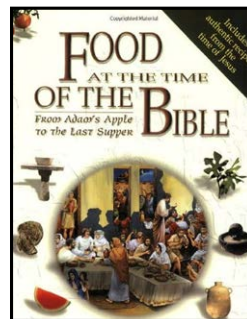
Presbyterian Ponderings 9:30-10:20am | Westminster North

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

This discussion based class is using *The Present Word Bible Study* as a guide to engage the topic "God's Law is Love", a New Testament thematic study with scripture from Luke, John, Romans, Galatians, Acts, and 1 Corinthians. No advance preparation required, only a heart for the Biblical narrative, excitement about exploring it through your particular lens of life and faith, and willingness to share with others.

The Seekers

9:30-10:20am | Westminster South
September 10, 17, 24: "Foods Mentioned in the Bible, What did Jesus Eat?"



The Seekers have a wonderful fall planned with a variety of topics and leadership. We will kick off the fall exploring the topic: "Foods Mentioned in the Bible, What did Jesus Eat?" We will be guided by several resources: *Food at the Time of the Bible* by Miriam Vamosh, *What Did the Ancient Israelites Eat?* by Nathan MacDonald, *The Food and Feasts of Jesus* by Douglas Neel and Joel Pugh, and Scripture. Led by Susan Grigg, we will see what role food played in the history of the people of the Bible and how Jesus used food in his ministry. We may even taste some of the dishes we enjoy today that could have been eaten by the disciples!

Presbyterian Pint 2023-2024 Season Kick-off



This men's group meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00pm at Mordecai Beverage Co. It is facilitated primarily by Pastor Mac Schafer. The group enjoys a pint together and discusses articles that have to do with culture and faith along with the occasional book or short study. The group next meets Thursday, September 28th. It is a wonderful time of community, laughter, insight, and thoughtful discussion on how we live as people of faith. If you'd like to be added to the reminder list for the group please contact Pastor Mac at mschafer@hmpc.org.

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](#)



Help Package 15,000 Meals To Fight Global Hunger!



You have been invited to join a meal packaging experience in the movement to end hunger! Hudson Memorial is once again coming together in partnership with Rise Against Hunger in the fight to End Hunger. Rise Against Hunger meals are distributed through global partners that administer school feeding programs, orphanages, health clinics, vocational training and respond to crises. Be sure to register through the link below for this fun, kid-friendly, high-impact event!

October 1, 2023 - 4:00 to 6:00 PM

Location:

Rise Against Hunger - Warehouse
3200 Wellington Court Suite 112
Raleigh, NC 27615



SIGN UP [HERE!](#)

September Tend My Sheep DIAPERS FOR DIAPER TRAIN



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

The center is looking for infant diapers. They are also collecting wipes and gently-used children's books for ages 0-5. Please bring donations to the church office by Sunday, September 24. 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.

September Special Offering PRESBYTERIAN CAMPUS MINISTRIES

Our special offering this month is for Presbyterian Campus Ministries of Raleigh. HMPC has been a long-time supporter of PCM and has had many former youth participate in its ministries and activities. Its mission is to proclaim and reflect the Good News of the Kingdom of God through ministry to, with, and for college-age students in the Raleigh, North Carolina area.

Your support will help to provide much-needed nurturing to the young people in our care, who are experiencing unprecedented levels of stress as they cope not only with the expected pressures of campus life, but also with the jolts of learning about tragedies experienced by students and faculty in recent months. In addition to Wednesday night meetings at West Raleigh Presbyterian, PCM Raleigh's Campus Minister and students organize various gatherings and outings throughout the year and attend retreats, spring break service trips, and the annual College Conference at Montreat.



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

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY - FALL

Children's News

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Parents of infants - 4th graders: **Be sure to fill out your registration form for the 2023-2024 school year!**

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



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



COMMUNION EDUCATION CLASS



We will have a Communion Education class for children and their parents immediately following Worship on September 24. Debbie will walk the children through the meaning of communion in an age appropriate way. Plan to stay and join us! RSVP [HERE](#).

Coffee & Conversation 2023-2024 Season Kick-off This Sunday, September 10th

This group meets most Sundays following worship at 11:45 in the Chapel beginning Sunday, September 10th. It is a group for parents of children and youth who do music at the same time. It's primarily facilitated by Pastor Mac Schafer & Cary Dickerson (Children & Family Ministries Director). They pick topics and themes that have to do with faith, culture, and parenting. They do less talking so the parents can do more talking

and sharing! Following worship, participants will have time to get their kids to music, get a drink or snack from fellowship, and make their way to the Chapel. The group meets for a half hour. It's a super chance for our parents to connect in a laid back manner.



YOUTH MINISTRY - FALL

HMPC YOUTH KICK-OFF

Get the 'ol pigskin ready because we are
"KICKING OFF" EVERYTHING this Sunday!

SUNDAY MORNING:

Youth Sunday School - 11:30am to 12:00pm

Youth Hand Bells - 12:00pm to 12:45pm

SUNDAY AFTERNOON:

5:00-7:00pm - HMPC Campus

"TACOS MAMA CHAVA" FOOD TRUCK

OUTSIDE GAMES

INFO & INTRO TO '23-'24



Youth, Parents, Youth Advisors,
Youth Committee & Staff
are welcome!

Youth are welcome to BRING FRIENDS!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY - FALL

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](#).



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women

Kicks off Tuesday, September 12th



Presbyterian Women meet in small groups every month (September-May) to study, serve, and fellowship together. In our Circle Groups, we nurture our faith, support our church's mission, and work for justice and peace utilizing our strengths as an inclusive, caring community. Any woman who supports these goals in her own life is participating in Presbyterian Women. **Why not join us in person!?** Below are our current Circle groups. Meetings occur on the second Tuesday of the month, September to May.

Elizabeth/Rachel/ Esther- meets at 11am in WH North

Hannah – meets at 11:30am in WH South

Miriam – meets at 7:00pm in the homes of the members

For more information or if you are interested in joining a current group or starting a new group, please contact Grace Hutchinson at fghdukefan@aol.com or 901-218-9537.



INQUIRERS' CLASS

Interested in Membership?

The Inquirers' Class, for those interested in membership, will be held early afternoon on **Sunday, September 17th**. The class covers what it means to be a Christian, a Presbyterian, and a member of Hudson Memorial. [RSVP for the class here](#). Contact [Debbie Kirk](#) with any questions.



FALL MUSIC MINISTRY

Fall Music Ministry

CHANCEL CHOIR

Rehearsals - Wednesdays - 7:30-9:00pm - Sanctuary
Began August 16 but new singers always welcome!

HUDSON HAND BELLS

Rehearsals - Wednesdays

6:15-7:15pm | Westminster Hall South
(for intermediate to advanced ringers)

Began September 6



YOUTH MUSIC



Hand bells (5th-12th grade)

Sundays | 12:00-12:45 | Westminster Hall South

Begins September 10



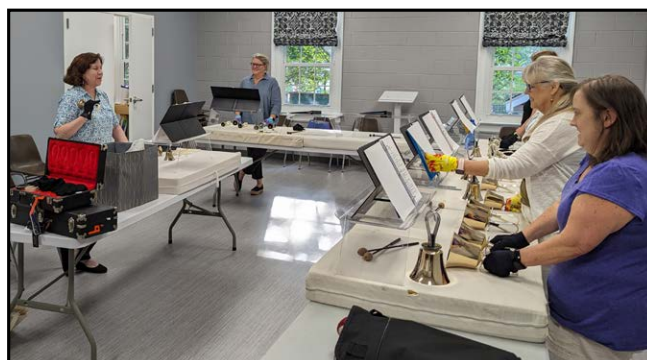
CHILDREN'S MUSIC

Wee Worshipers (3-4 year olds)

Joyful Noise (K-4th grade)

Sundays | 11:30am-12:15pm | Geneva Hall

Begins this Sunday, September 10!



Music Director, Barbara Loehr-Fox, led two handbell workshops last month, and it was a great time of

learning for new folks, and practicing for long-time ringers. These workshops happen annually, so if you didn't make it this year, there's always next year!

MEN'S FAITH FORMATION - FALL

Waking Up With The Word 2023-2024 Season Kick-off

Tuesday, Sept. 12 | 6:30am | WH Patio



This is an early morning men's Bible study. It meets in-person and on 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. In the fall and winter months we do the study around a fire. It's a great way to deepen your faith and develop friendships within the church! New participants are always welcome. This is facilitated by Pastor Mac Schafer and he sends out weekly reminders. If you'd like to be added to the reminder list for the group please contact Pastor Mac at mschafer@hmpe.org.

Seeing the Word

First meeting of Fall: Monday, Sept. 18



Seeing the Word occurs the Third Monday of the month at 12:00 noon in the Chapel - Monday, September 18th is the 2023-2024 Season Kick Off. This group meets once a month and uses music, scripture, and illustrations from the *St. John's Illuminated Bible* for an hour-long time of study and reflection. This is led by Pastor Mac

Schafer. Participants are welcome to bring their lunch; we provide water and napkins. We use an ancient Bible study method called *visio divina*. No previous Bible study experience necessary. It is a great group for those who love scripture and art and a chance to get to know other people in the church. If you'd like to be added to the reminder list for the group please contact Pastor Mac at mschafer@hmpe.org.

WOMEN'S FAITH FORMATION - FALL

Women at the Well FALL SEMESTER

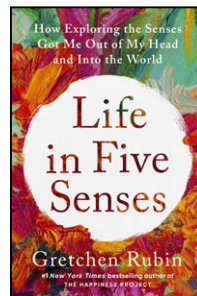


Women at the Well welcomes women of all ages and stages to join us! The two groups have a different format, time, and content. **The weekly group meets Wednesday mornings from 9:15-10:30am** and uses a particular book chosen each

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) and uses a podcast as the basis for discussion on various 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.

The Weekly Group

Begins THIS Wednesday, September 13



Weekly Women at the Well begins the fall semester on September 13, 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 *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.

The Monthly Group

Begins Thursday, September 21

The monthly group fall dates are September 21, October 19, November 16, and December 7 at 6:00pm at Vivo Ristorante.

To join either group, contact Debbie Kirk dkirk@hmpe.org. Current participants will receive an email to confirm participation. **To join the weekly group, please let Debbie know.**

Financial Update

By Harry Bond



Grace and peace be with you all. As the Treasurer of our beloved church, I am writing to provide you with an update on our financial situation as of July 31, 2023. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for your continued support and dedication to our church family. The first eight months of this year have been marked by

a mix of positive developments and challenges in our finances. While we are blessed with a strong Foundation, a thriving Preschool, and a healthy cash position, there are certain areas that require our attention and collective effort.

I regret to inform you that our Pledge Income is currently under budget by approximately \$57,000. This shortfall is a matter of concern, and it is crucial that we come together to bridge this gap. Our church relies on the faithful contributions of its members to carry out our mission and support our ministries. I appeal to each member of our congregation to prayerfully consider fulfilling their pledges or even increasing their contributions if possible. Your continued generosity is vital in sustaining the work that blesses our community.

On a positive note, our Total Expenses are currently under budget by \$18,000. We have been diligent in managing our expenditures, and this has helped us in mitigating the impact of the income shortfall. However, we must remain vigilant in our spending to ensure wise stewardship of our resources.

Despite our efforts to manage expenses, we are facing a current deficit of \$13,000 against a deficit budget of \$40,000 which was approved by your Session. we must address it the deficit promptly to avoid any further

financial challenges. Based on year-to-date trends, the deficit will not be overcome unless we take corrective action. We are currently more than \$71,000 behind where we were at this time last year.

I would like to bring to your attention an issue that has impacted on some of our members' contributions. Some of our members have generously given in the past through auto-drafts, and these were affected. Some of our auto-drafts did not go through for 2023 because the authorization forms on file are only valid for 12 months. If you have been affected by this issue, please review your giving statement to ensure that you are fulfilling your pledge as intended. The Giving Ministry and Finance team are currently evaluating the authorization form and the communication surrounding this policy. We apologize for any inconvenience caused.

As we move forward, it is crucial for all of us to come together in addressing these financial challenges. Our dedicated church staff and the Session, are actively exploring ways to increase giving and reduce expenses without compromising the vital work we do in our church community. I appeal to each of you to consider how you can support our church financially. Your time, talent, and treasure play a significant role in fulfilling our mission and ministry. Let us unite in faith and action, trusting that with God's grace and our collective efforts, we can overcome these challenges and continue to thrive as a church. Together, we can ensure that Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church remains a beacon of light and hope for all. Thank you for your unwavering support and dedication to our church family. May we continue to walk together in faith and love, embracing our calling to serve and uplift one another and our community.

Blessings,
Harry Bond

You can find the numbers from our most recent financial update on page 10!

CALENDAR

THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 10

9:00am - Nine O'Clock Class - Room 200
9:30 am - The Seekers - WH South
9:30 am- Presbyterian Ponderings - WH North
10:30 am - Worship - Sanctuary
11:30 am - Fellowship - WH North
11:30 am - Children's Music - Geneva Hall
11:30 am - Coffee & Conversation (for parents) - Chapel
11:30 am - Youth Sunday School - 2nd flr SS Room
12:00 pm - Youth Music - WH South
5:00 pm - Youth Kickoff - HMPC Campus

Monday, September 11

6:30 pm - Grandparents of Children w/ Autism - WHS
6:15 pm - Memorial Garden Board Orientation
7:00 pm - Memorial Garden Board
7:00 pm - Personnel Committee - Zoom
8:00 pm - How It Works (AI-Anon) - GH Rooms

Tuesday, September 12

6:30 am - Waking Up with the Word - WH Patio
9:30 am - Staff meeting - Welcome Lounge
11:00 am - Elizabeth/Rachel Circle - WH North
11:30 am - Hannah Circle - WH South
6:30 pm - Preschool Board - Chapel
7:00 pm - Adult Ed- Zoom
7:30 pm - Miriam Circle - Off-site
7:30 pm - Boy Scouts - Geneva Hall, Room 234

Wednesday, September 13

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

Thursday, September 14

7:00 pm - Mission Committee - WH South

Friday, September 15

6:30 pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200

Saturday, September 16

9:00 am - Food Bank Volunteer Day
10:00 am - Choir Retreat - Sanctuary

HMPC STAFF

Mac Schafer, Pastor & Head of Staff
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Financial Update

REVIEW OF ACTUAL VS BUDGET

HMPC GENERAL FUND

YEAR TO DATE (YTD) - AS OF JULY 31, 2023

	YTD 2023 <u>ACTUAL</u>	YTD 2023 <u>BUDGET</u>	Favorable/ (Unfavorable) ACT VS <u>BUDGET</u>	YTD 2022 <u>ACTUAL</u>
PLEDGES	\$ 437,000	\$ 495,000	\$ (58,000)	\$ 492,263
NON-PLEDGE/OTHER GENERAL FUND OFFERING	\$ 67,508	\$ 69,323	\$ (1,815)	\$ 54,789
TOTAL GENERAL FUND OFFERINGS	\$ 504,508	\$ 564,323	\$ (59,815)	\$ 547,052
 TOTAL GF REVENUE	 \$ 566,370	 \$ 627,113	 \$ (60,743)	 \$ 609,568
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSE	\$ 579,292	\$ 598,112	\$ 18,820	\$ 550,735
GENERAL FUND SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ (12,922)	\$ 29,001	\$ (41,923)	\$ 58,833
 2023 APPROVED BUDGET DEFICIT	 \$ (40,112)			
NET GENERAL FUND SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$ (53,034)			
 AVAILABLE TO BORROW-NS BANK	 \$ 50,000			
 CASH BALANCE	 \$ 245,442			
BORROWED FROM BANK	\$ -			
NET GENERAL FUND CASH BALANCE	\$ 245,442			