

# the weekly Window

June 30, 2023

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

## MASSANETTA MIDDLE SCHOOL CONFERENCE



This week, 12 middle school youth and 3 adults traveled to Harrisonburg, Virginia for a special conference with the theme "Welcome Home". Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference is a transformational program that welcomes hundreds of middle schoolers and their leaders from all over the country each summer. Participants attend keynotes, recreation, workshops, worship, and small group discussions. The kids learned a lot, met new friends, and grew closer to God during their time at the conference. Thanks to our adult leaders - Matt Carlisle, Emily Cobb, and Cary Dickerson.

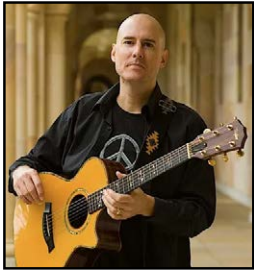




## Session Update

### JUNE MEETING

- Elders Cary Dickerson and Roger Howard were elected commissioners representing Hudson at the 119th stated gathering of Presbytery on July 25 in New Bern.
- Approved recommendation to the Foundation to use the Reagan Fund to finance wood rot repairs and painting of the steeple.
- Approved the updated Memorial Garden Board Policy and Procedures manual.
- Approved new Memorial Garden Board members Morgan Dickinson, Leigh Magee, and Lisa Williams.
- Added Juneteenth to the 2024 Important Dates calendar.



- Approved a plan to host a Sunday Evening Concert in the Sanctuary on March 17, 2024, featuring songwriter, speaker, and author David LaMotte. The event will be sponsored by the Adult, Mission, and Youth Committees, supported by the

## INQUIRERS' CLASS

### Interested in Membership?

#### Next Inquirers' Class is July 16

The Inquirers' Class, for those interested in membership, will be held on **Sunday, July 16**. The class covers what it means to be a Christian, a Presbyterian, and a member of Hudson Memorial. [If you are interested in attending, please RSVP here.](#) Contact [Debbie Kirk](#) with any questions.



## The Ministry of Members



This summer Pastor Mac is preaching on discipleship by using the below section of the *Book of Order* called "Ministry of Members". Each week he will pair 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.



# First Quarter Financial Summary

By Bill Flueckinger, Finance Committee Chair



The results for the first quarter were mixed. There is a current surplus of \$48K, however, this is significantly less than the \$73K surplus that would be expected at this time of the year. Historically, Hudson accumulates a surplus in the early part of the year because revenue tends to be higher and expenses lower. The surplus typically decreases in the latter part of the year. This is largely due to some members contributing their entire pledge in January. This did not occur to the same extent as previous years, resulting in a revenue shortfall. Expenses, though higher than the previous year, are somewhat lower than anticipated. Actuals for last year at this time are shown for comparison. At this time last year there was a surplus of \$152K.

Hudson is still in a good financial position with strong Foundation assets, a strong and thriving Preschool, a strong cash position, and no mortgage or line of credit balance. Results are less than hoped for at this time without any progress to report in regards to closing the deficit in the budget approved.

## HMPC GENERAL FUND (GF) ACTUAL VS BUDGET YEAR TO DATE (YTD) AS OF 3/31/23

	YTD 2023 <u>ACTUAL</u>	YTD 2023 <u>BUDGET</u>	Favorable/ (Unfavorable) ACT VS <u>BUDGET</u>	YTD 2022 <u>ACTUAL</u>
PLEDGES	\$ 221,695	\$ 267,000	\$ (45,305)	\$ 309,590
NON-PLEDGE/OTHER GF OFFERING	\$ 33,871	\$ 28,071	\$ 5,800	\$ 16,916
TOTAL GF OFFERINGS	\$ 255,566	\$ 295,071	\$ (39,505)	\$ 326,506
TOTAL GF REVENUE	\$ 283,079	\$ 321,981	\$ (38,902)	\$ 362,742
TOTAL GF EXPENSE	\$ 234,767	\$ 248,867	\$ 14,100	\$ 210,002
GF SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ 48,312	\$ 73,114	\$ (24,802)	\$ 152,740
AVAILABLE TO BORROW-NS BANK	\$ 50,000			
	YTD			
CASH BALANCE	\$ 334,892			
BORROWED FROM BANK	\$ -			
NET GF CASH BALANCE	\$ 334,892			

## BIRTHDAYS

# July Birthdays

1. Colt Jackson
2. Tiffany Wheeler
3. Avi Banerjee, Billy Poole, Leigh Betancourt
4. Andrea Mouw, Kathy White, Cate Madden
5. Lacey Sandlin, Logan Randolph
7. Anna Keen, Susan Krause, Debbie Bumgarner, P. J. Conger, Jimmie Spell, Charlie Onaya, Riley Anderson, Eleanor Ward
8. Connery Bunn, Maddox Johnson, Michelle Philips
9. Dick Ives, Beth Billman, Marie Martin
10. Susan Bradshaw
11. Lauren Parker, Walt Lang
12. Jeri Thomas
13. Shelly Ayers
14. Rick Melling, Lee Playford
15. William Davidson, Karen Melling, Avery Claire Bevier
16. Trish Richardson, Cathy Bentlage
17. Heidi Duggins, Sandra Acai, Sandy Cole, Kathy Seekamp, Ellie Vig, Richard Blanks, Tanner Hanks, Lisa Hoffman, Camden Christenbury
18. Teri Morris, Phyllis James, Ethan Page, Hannah Cox, Ashley Woolley
19. Luke Dalzell, Nathan Edge, Jimmy Hulsey
20. Aleta Ash, Ogbeyialu Nduka, Morgan Plentl
21. Olivia Mercer, Robert Saleeby
22. Karen Layton, Bryan Swenson
24. Ann Trent, Laura McHenry, Andrew Pate
26. Calesta Heres
27. Mitch Perry, Jenna Schindo, Katy Schafer, Keels Maxwell
28. Olivia Davidson
30. Robert Atkinson, Ginny Conger,
31. Brent Sharpe, Caroline Smart, Jackie Rogers

## PRESCHOOL

# Preschool Water Days

**Preschool students cooled off with sprinkler play and water games this week!**





## MISSION

# Summer Project for the Food Bank

We know that many of you are unable to volunteer at the Food Bank, so we have an opportunity for something you can do right here at church!



One of the things we do at the Food Bank is to sort the

thousands of pounds of produce that come in every day. After sorting, the sweet potatoes, squash, etc. are packed into 5lb mesh bags and distributed to organizations providing direct service to those in need, including the North Raleigh Ministry Food Pantry. Those mesh bags start out on a large spool, where they are cut and tied to be ready to hold the produce. The Food Bank uses thousands of these every week!

For the next few weeks, under the windows in Westminster North, you will find a spool of red mesh next to a table with instructions for the bags, the length

for each bag marked on the table, and a plastic bin with sharp scissors to cut the bags. Whenever you are here, you are invited to make a few bags! After church fellowship, Summer Suppers, or if you have some time during office hours and the space is not otherwise being used, stop by and help with the project!

This is a simple thing to do, and an important one, as you can imagine each and every bag filled with healthy produce for people who would otherwise be unable to



have it. It is much appreciated, and saves the Food Bank a great deal of money by not having to purchase the bags ready-to-use.

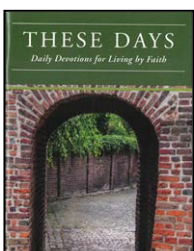
## Interfaith Habitat House is Nearing Completion!



With only a few more things to go--finishing up the vinyl siding, installing the sheet rock, the interior doors and trim before the final inspection--we anticipate the dedication when the home buyer takes occupancy to take place later this summer. As always, working with the Interfaith Coalition has been a rich experience of building relationships while building this house. Thanks to all of you who volunteered for work days and contributed to the Shelter Offering from 2022 and 2023 which was applied to the \$6,500 contribution we made to the cost of the house. Check out this [link](#) to the latest story from CBS-17, as well as an article with helpful information about the development of Old Poole Place.

## DEVOTIONALS

### These Days



The July-September issue of These Days has arrived! You can find them at sanctuary entrances. If you would like one to be mailed to you, call 919-787-1086 ext. 13, or email [info@hmpe.org](mailto:info@hmpe.org) and let the church office know.

## CHANCEL FLOWERS

### Chancel Flowers Lots of Summer Dates Available!



Secure a date to honor or remember someone with a floral arrangement. To sign up for a 2023 date, or for more information, refer to the flowers bulletin board outside Room 103, or contact [Amy Clapgood](#) in the church office.

## FELLOWSHIP

# Summer Suppers

*Delicious, healthy meals and fellowship!*



**WEDNESDAY,  
JULY 12**

**WEDNESDAY,  
AUGUST 2**

**Westminster Hall  
Doors open at 6:00pm  
\$5 per person**

**RSVP to Susan Bradshaw or the church office  
no later than the Monday before the supper**

919-787-1086 ext. 13

(leave a voicemail if no one picks up)

or email Susan Bradshaw at [susanbradshaw8@gmail.com](mailto:susanbradshaw8@gmail.com)

# Fellowship Friday

*"Design & Unwind"*

**July 28 | 6:30-8:30pm**

Join us for an artistic evening of painting with  
HMPC member Cyndi Harris.

Enjoy mocktails & light hors d'oeuvres!

For ages 12 and up.

Please RVSP [here](#) by July 17

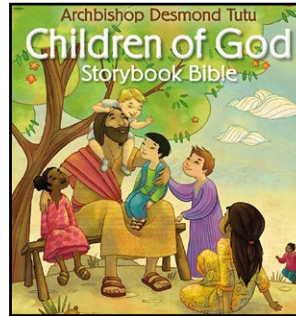
to allow enough time to purchase supplies.

Event is \$10 per person.



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

# Invest in the Future with New Children's Bibles for Hudson!



The Children's Bibles sitting in our pews were published in 1997 and they have been read and loved for many years. We have an opportunity to replace them with an updated version that emphasizes the inclusivity of all of God's children. The Worship Committee reviewed

many options and decided on the *Children of God Storybook Bible* by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. It is a beautiful Bible that invites all children to read and learn timeless stories.

Our goal is to purchase 100 of these Bibles for the pews, and have extra for the Sunday school classes, benefiting our growing children's ministry. We would love for as many families as possible to participate in this effort.

If you would like to purchase and donate a Bible in memory of or in honor of a loved one, we will place an inscription inside the front cover of the Bible.

Use [this form](#) to place an order. Online payment information can be found at the end of the form.

The form will also be available on the back of the bulletin, and you can pay with cash/check and place in the offering plate or give to the church office.

Donations will be collected June 25 - July 23.

# "Fruit of the Spirit" Children's Summer Series

**This Sunday, July 2**



**THEME:** Generosity

**SCRIPTURE:** 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

**BOOK:** *Thank you, Omu* by Oge Mora





# Adult Education Summer Series

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

## THIS WEEK!

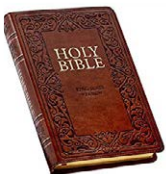
### July 2 - Special Start Time: 9:15am *Statue of Liberty Ken Burns documentary*

On this holiday weekend, we will view the wonderful documentary *The Statue of Liberty* by the acclaimed historian and filmmaker Ken Burns. As we celebrate the birthday of our nation, you will enjoy this Academy Award-nominated documentary on one of America's most well-known national symbols. Director Ken Burns details the perilous history of the Grand Dame, the difficulties in creating her in a Paris suburb, and shipping her to New York. Then we see the heated arguments that arose Stateside as to whether or not she should even be set up in New York's harbor.



The film is a full 60 minutes, so for this week the class will start at 9:15 in Westminster North.

### July 9 - Part 2 *Sin, Guilt & Responsibility in the Bible & Today*



Jimmy Hulsey will lead part two of the discussion on *Sin, Guilt and Responsibility in the Bible and Today*.

### July 16 - Food Bank Update

The Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina\* will bring us an update on the complicated issues that contribute to the rise in hunger in our area and the ways the Food Bank is expanding its work to meet those needs. Our guest will be Jennifer Gedeon, Manager of Corporate, Civic and Religious Partnerships for the Food Bank. \*Our primary mission partner as a Hunger Action Congregation.

### July 23 - A Place at the Table



Maggie Kane, Executive Director of A Place at the Table, will share the latest about this amazing ministry that grew from an idea she had while in college to the thriving nonprofit it is today. It is a place where people from all walks of life share meals around tables together. She has wonderful stories of how many individuals benefit from this pay-what-you-can cafe, including how the staff met the challenges of Covid restrictions that required them to close in-person dining, yet continued to provide meals to those who needed them. HMPC supports APATT as part of our Hunger Action commitment.

### July 30 - Characters of the Bible (Dramatized!)

Joanna Hulsey, Lizzie Graybill and Grace Hutchinson will provide us a new lens through which to look at scripture through a dramatic (and humorous) interpretation of some famous and infamous biblical characters.

### August 6 - All About Bees



Our friend "Andy the Beekeeper" gave us a wonderful presentation last year about the importance of honeybees to the ecosystem, and will once again be our guest! He will tell us all we need to know about one of the smallest and most vital of God's creatures. Honey and treats made with honey will be available for sampling!

### August 13 - Preview of Fall Program

An overview of fall faith formation opportunities will be presented by the Adult Committee and class leadership.

### 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.



## THIS WEEK

### Sunday, July 2

9:15 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, July 3

7:00 pm - PW Leadership - WH South  
8:00 pm - How It Works (Al-Anon) - GH Rooms

### Tuesday, July 4

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED



### Friday, June 7

6:30 pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200

## HMPC STAFF

**Mac Schafer**, Pastor & Head of Staff  
[mschafer@hmpc.org](mailto:mschafer@hmpc.org)

**Debbie Kirk**, Associate Pastor  
[dkirk@hmpc.org](mailto:dkirk@hmpc.org)

**Aleta Ash**, Minister of Visitation  
[aletaash@gmail.com](mailto:aletaash@gmail.com)

**Barbara Loehr-Fox**, Director of Music Ministries  
[bloehr-fox@hmpc.org](mailto:bloehr-fox@hmpc.org)

**Rich Richards**, Director of Youth Ministries  
& Children's Music  
(On parental leave)  
[richards@hmpc.org](mailto:richards@hmpc.org)

**Cary Dickerson**, Director of Children's Ministries  
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**Lisa Flint-Morris**, Accounting Coordinator  
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**Joyce Hawkins**, Assistant Preschool Director  
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**Al Hyde**, Organist  
[al@hydefin.com](mailto:al@hydefin.com)

**Hope Parangi**, Church Hostess  
[hparangi@yahoo.com](mailto:hparangi@yahoo.com)

## FLAT JESUS

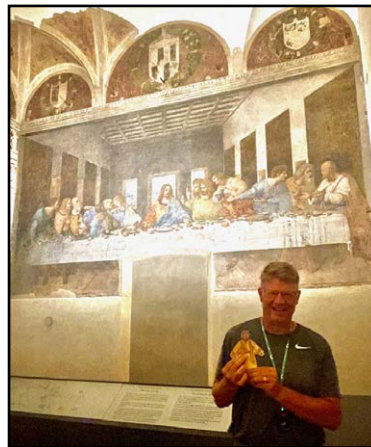
### Take Flat Jesus With You This Summer!

"Flat Jesus" is based on a children's book called *Flat Stanley* by Jeff Brown. In the book, a boy named Stanley becomes flattened and is able to be mailed to different places, having all kinds of exciting adventures. Flat Jesus is a great reminder that Jesus is always with us and is a fun way to keep our church family connected as we enjoy the summer traveling season. Color Flat Jesus and take him with you as you enjoy your summer activities. Take a picture of him out to dinner, at the pool, having fun on vacation, or anywhere else you go and send them to us! We can't wait to see where he goes this summer!

There is a blank [Flat Jesus](#) for you to cut out in this newsletter or some are available at Sanctuary entrances. Submit pictures by:

- Emailing them to Cary Dickerson at [cdickerson@hmpc.org](mailto:cdickerson@hmpc.org)
- Uploading your picture to Facebook and/or Instagram. Tag Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church in your photo and include the hashtag #hmpcflatjesus.

We will decorate a bulletin board with the photos you share! Below are some photos from previous years.





**Here's your Flat Jesus  
to print at home!  
(See page 8 for more  
information on Flat Jesus)**

