



the weekly Window

August 25th, 2023

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

THIS SUNDAY AT HUDSON SUNDAY, AUGUST 27

Blessing of the Backpacks



Bring your backpacks to church this Sunday and receive a blessing for the new school year. Children will receive a backpack tag to attach to their backpacks as well! Children will carry their backpacks out of worship with them and we will attach the tags during Sunday School.

Children's Bible Dedication



This Sunday, we will dedicate our new *Children of God Storybook Bibles* during worship. You will see them at the end of the pews this week. Thank you to all who generously donated.

Fellowship Lunch

AFTER WORSHIP IN WESTMINSTER HALL



Celebrate the end of a wonderful summer with friends, food, and fellowship! We will be serving pre-ordered boxed lunches from Jason's

Deli. The boxed lunches are \$5. If you did not pre-order, come by anyway! We ordered a few extra. See you after worship!

NEXT SUNDAY AT HUDSON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Labor Day Weekend

Two Smaller Special Services on
Sunday, September 3

**8:00AM - WORSHIP INDOORS
IN THE CHAPEL**

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

Fellowship in Westminster Hall from 9:00-10:15am.
We invite participants from both services to come and enjoy breakfast treats and conversation together!

**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.



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)
Begins September 6

YOUTH MUSIC

Hand bells (5th-12th grade)
 Sundays | 12:00-12:30 | 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 September 10



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

HAND BELL WORKSHOP

August 29th at 6:00 pm

Have you ever...

- wanted to learn more about bell ringing?
- wanted to try your hand at ringing a bell?
- rang in the past but are feeling rusty?

This workshop is for you! You will have some hands-on ringing experiences and grow in your appreciation for this fun and meaningful music ministry. We had one last Tuesday, August 22. If you missed the first one, don't worry! You are still welcome to join. For more information, reach out to [Barbara](#).



Upcoming Special Events

- September 10 - Kick-off Sunday!
- September 17 - Inquirers' Class
- September 24 - Children's Communion Class
- October 1 - World Communion Sunday
- October 29 - Fall Festival (4-6pm)
- December 3 - Hanging of the Greens
- December 10 - Christmas Pageant
- December 17 - Christmas Joy



Fall Sunday Schedule

Kicks Off Sunday, September 10

9:00-10:00am

The Gathering 9:00 Class - Room 200

9:30-10:20am

The Gathering 9:30 Classes - WH North & WH South

10:30-11:30am

Worship - Sanctuary

Children's Sunday School - Geneva Hall

11:30am-12:15pm

Children's Music - Geneva Hall
 (3 years-4th grade)

Coffee and Conversation for Parents - Chapel

Youth Sunday School (11:30-12:00pm)

Youth Music (12:00-12:30pm)
 (5th-12th grade)

5:00-7:00pm (Varies)

Youth Group

Activities vary between middle school, high school and 5th graders. To keep up with the weekly schedule, get on Rich Richards' HMPC Youth mailing list! Email hmpcyouthgroup@gmail.com

Children's News

This Sunday at the End-of-Summer Fellowship Luncheon, Ms. Cary will have all kinds of important Fall information for you! This includes registration forms, important dates for the semester, and information on Children's Music.

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](#)



FALL NURSERY HOURS

Nursery will be open until 12:15pm on Sundays to allow parents to go to Coffee & Conversation and allow their siblings to stay for music.

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](#).

FAMILY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

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](#).



Youth Kick-Off

**WITH FOOD TRUCK, OUTSIDE GAMES,
and PARENTS... OH MY!!!**

It's that time of year, folks! On Sunday, September 10th we will kick off another exciting, faith-forming, relationship-building year in Youth Group.

We will not have activities on September 3, but we invite you to enjoy one of our special worship services that day. Then we begin our Sunday schedule the next week.

KICK OFF SUNDAY SCHEDULE SEPTEMBER 10

SUNDAY MORNING

10:30am - Worship together

11:30am - Youth Sunday School

12:00pm - Youth Bells

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

5:00pm - Youth Kick-off with a food truck, games, and all you need to know about Youth Group at Hudson!

PLEASE RSVP!

RSVP REQUIRED if you'd like to partake in the food truck. They have a minimum, so we need to know how many people are coming in order for us to pull this off!



Please contact Rich Richards if you have not yet RSVPed. Food will be from the delicious Tacos Mama Chava! **Youth, parents, youth advisors, and youth committee members are welcomed!**

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 Richards.** We have a wonderfully exciting Confirmation experience planned, with a great Confirmation Ministry Team (Tim Peeler, Becca Fisher-Gabbard, Karen Melling, Sean Cole, and Rich Richards) that has been working hard to make it memorable and meaningful.

Sunday Adult Education

KICKS OFF SEPTEMBER 10!

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.

Sunday School Offerings

About The Gathering

Everyone is invited to join us each Sunday morning for a variety of offerings as part of your sabbath practice through opportunities that nurture our bodies, minds, and spirits through different formats. Some are more physically active, others are through hands-on experiences. Some are inside, and some are outside. The Adult Committee provides offerings designed to equip adults living out their faith in the world in the areas of current issues and culture; Bible study; peacemaking, justice and mission; spiritual formation and practice, and reformed theology. A variety of resources including classic theological literature, current books, music, and media are used to engage us in sharing faith with one another. All are designed for adults of any age, stage in life, and faith to encourage our thoughtful engagement with scripture, vigorous discussion of challenging issues, and reflective consideration of spiritual practices.

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

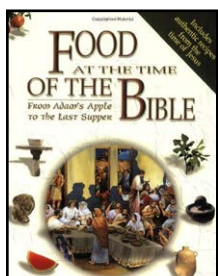
Facilitated by Fred Woodward, John Oldenburg,
John James, Gil Graybill

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!

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

Next meeting: Tuesday, Aug. 29 | 6:30am | 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@hmhc.org.

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@hmhc.org.

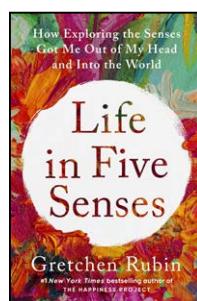
Women at the Well FALL SEMESTER



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 Wednesday, September 11



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 *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@hmhc.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.

Coffee & Conversation

2023-2024 Season Kick-off

First meeting: 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.



Seeing the Word

2023-2024 Season Kick-off

First meeting: Monday, September 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@hmpc.org.

Single Way

First lunch of the Fall - September 5th

Join this group of never-married, widowed, or divorced adults for fun, food, and fellowship. We typically meet the first Tuesday of every month.

Join us for our next gathering!



September 5, 2023 at 11:30am
Milton's Pizza & Pasta
Six Forks Station Shopping Center

Please call Dee Blackerby at 919-846-6241 by September 2, if you will be joining us so we can give the restaurant a head count.

FALL MISSION OPPORTUNITY

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 16th 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.

SPECIAL OFFERING



Tend My Sheep

PANTRY ITEMS
FOR THE FOOD BANK
FINAL WEEK!

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.

New Church Phone System



We are happy to report that Hudson is going live with a new phone system at the beginning of September! Thanks to the hard work and technical expertise of member John Whisler, we are going with a company called "Ooma".

The staff understood there was a need for a shift because of how difficult, at times, it was for people to leave messages, follow the messaging prompts, or actually speak to a live person on our old system. The old system had flaws and inconsistencies that we could no longer fix.

Our hope and desire is that this new Ooma system will be easier for members and friends to negotiate, that you will be able to reach who you desire to speak to in a timely manner, and that the staff can provide the best care possible through this communication tool.

Please be assured that our main number is the same, 919-787-1086. While we live in a world with multiple communication tools, we know that the phone remains an important part of our life, particularly with the needs you have within the church. We look forward to speaking with you!

FINANCE

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			
	Current Year			
CASH BALANCE	\$ 245,442			
BORROWED FROM BANK	\$ -			
NET GENERAL FUND CASH BALANCE	\$ 245,442			

THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 27

NO ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY

10:30 am - Worship - Sanctuary

11:30 am - Fellowship - WH North

Monday, August 28

9:30 am - Staff meeting - Welcome Lounge

7:00 pm - Session - WH South

8:00 pm - How It Works (Al-Anon) - GH Rooms

Tuesday, August 29

6:30 am - Waking Up with the Word - Patio

9:00 am - Preschool Teacher Breakfast

6:00 pm - Handbell workshop - WH South

6:30 pm - Youth Committee - Welcome Lounge

7:30 pm - Boy Scouts - Geneva Hall, Room 234

Wednesday, August 30

7:30 pm - Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

Friday, September 1

10:00 am - Preschool Open House

6:30 pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200

HMPC STAFF

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Hope Parangi, Church Hostess
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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!](#)

