

# the weekly Window

**December 24, 2021** 

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



# Christmas Eve Services Friday, December 24th





#### 3:00 pm Communion Service

This service will take place while it is still light outside, offer beautiful Christmas music, and conclude with the Lord's Supper. Nursery care will be available for this service.

#### 5:00 pm Candlelight Service

This service will have a children's message, the Chancel Choir, and conclude with carols by candlelight. This service will be live-streamed.

#### 8:00 pm Lessons & Carols, Candlelight & Communion Service

This service will have the Chancel Choir, the Lord's Supper, and will conclude with carols by candlelight. This service will be live-streamed.

#### **2022 GIVING MINISTRY**

# 2022 Pledge Campaign Update: Almost There!

We are filled with gratitude for all of you who have pledged your time, talent and/or financial resources to Christ's ministry through Hudson for 2022! We are closing in on our goal of 200 households pledging and \$800,000 committed towards mission, congregational care, fellowship, education and worship!

Currently there are 173 pledging member households for a total of \$730,458. This time last year we had collected 168 pledges for a total of \$697,569.

It is not too late to pledge. You may pledge online here, email your pledge to Cheri Thomas, HMPC Bookkeeper, or call Pat Cash at 919-787-1086 to request a pledge form be mailed to you. Thank you for your commitment to Christ through the church during these challenging times.

Thanks be to God for your commitment!



#### MUSIC MINISTRY



# **Christmas Joy Celebration**















#### YOUTH MINISTRY

#### THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26...

#### THIS SUNDAY MORNING:

Explorers Class (5th-7th grade) will **NOT** meet on 12/26. See you on January 2nd

Confirmation Class: (8th grade) We will **NOT** meet on 12/26. See you on January 2nd

#### **BAGELS ARE BACK!**

(1st Sunday of every month) Sunday, January 2 at 10:00am we will have "Bagels in the Breezeway"

#### THIS SUNDAY AFTERNOON:

No youth activities scheduled for our regular afternoon meeting times!



#### **RETREATS & CONFERENCES:**

#### **Montreat Youth Conference** July 17 - 23, 2022

(for rising 9th grade to graduated 12th grade)

#### Massanetta Presbyterian **Middle School Conference** June 21-24, 2022

(for rising 6th, 7th and 8th grades)

For both trips, forms and money will be due on Monday, January 3, 2022 Contact Rich Richards if you plan on going.

#### Mission Trip to Memphis

(Rising 9th to Graduated Seniors) Tentatively we have this wonderful opportunity to go to Memphis through Youth Mission Co. for a High School Mission Trip. The dates (not yet confirmed) are June 26-July 1. Pencil in those dates if you are interested and we'll let you know when it is set.

#### **TECH TEAM NEWS**

# Get involved with the **Technology Team at** Hudson!

Hudson's Tech Team provides Sound and Livestream support for all events at Hudson and provides building WIFI.

OBS has officially launched as our streaming platform, and we had a great training on December 19th with 8



people in attendance. The Tech Team welcomes Davis Boone to our ranks and Lesley Ash-Jacobsen as staff member in charge of livestream setup each week. You can expect to see new and improved graphics appearing over time in the HMPC livestreams on YouTube. Check them out!

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Next Tech Team class will be January 23rd immediately after worship at the soundboard (back row of the sanctuary). More info will be posted closer to the date.

Thanks to the current Tech Team for the great quality presentations over the last month: John Whisler, John Oldenburg, Tiya Komono, Gil Graybill, Barton Meeks, Chekwas Nkpa, Olsen Richards, Erik Jacobsen, amd Skye Schafer. Additional thanks to consultants to the team, Clark Johnson and Winter Fox.



#### **FAITH FORMATION**

# The Gathering

Sunday Mornings | 9:30 -10:20am



#### **WH South**

**Exploring a Hunch Through the Lens of Faith** Here's the Deal: Led by Rev Jimmy Hulsey January 9, 16, 23, 30; February 6, 13, 20, 27

All are invited to explore a hunch: that we Christians have known God's special care throughout our lives, and we are also troubled by so much that seems wrong in the world. In short, we are curious about what God is up to.

The image I have in mind for this study is a magnifying glass. Let's look through the lens of our faith to see more clearly how God cares for us and how God's heart beats with a suffering world.



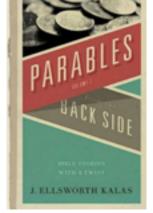
#### **WH North**

#### Parables from the Back Side

Beginning January 2nd

"Ponderings" is a conversation all are welcome to join any Sunday, no preparation needed. We use scripture, commentaries, and current events to frame our discussions. Gil Graybil, John James, John Oldenburg,

and Fred Woodward facilitate the group. We'll begin 2022 with the book Parables from the Back Side, Bible Stories with a Twist, in which J. Ellsworth Kalas offers fresh insight into 12 of Jesus' parables by considering them from the perspective of a minor or unsympathetic character. We hope you will explore them with us.



# Waking Up with The Word

#### Tuesday, December 28th at 6:30am

All men are invited to join this group on the WH Patio 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 though on the passage or 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 Pastor Mac.

#### Parlor - Silent Reflection and Prayer

For those who need a quiet space to be still and mindful, the Parlor is available. Suggestions of ways to use the space are provided using Words to Build On: Words of Scripture for Remembrance and Reflection and guides for personal prayer. The opportunity to light a candle as a symbol of the light of Christ and or in memory or honor of someone will be available. This will be one option for the space, another is just to sit quietly, pray if you would like, etc. In order to keep the sanctity of the space, the area is not for visiting.

#### Labyrinth Walking Meditations

An outside option for Sunday mornings that will require social distancing but not masks, will be a self-

guided Labyrinth Meditation option. A guide to walking meditations and suggested material for reflection and some Sundays tokens of focus to carry on your journey will be available at the Labyrinth on or in front



of the Welcome Box. You may also come walk the labyrinth during the week if you wish.

#### **FAITH FORMATION**

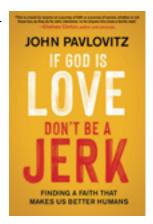
# Women at the Well

#### January 2022 Information

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 winter semester begins January 12 using If God is Love Don't Be A Jerk: Finding A Faith That *Makes Us Better Humans* by John Pavlovitz. In this book, the author helps us explores the value of spiritual communities



marked by compassion and interdependence that enable us to authentically love our neighbors, especially those who are different than we are. Cost of the book, if ordered through the church, is \$12.00. Please let Debbie Kirk dkirk@hmpc.org know if you are planning to attend and if you would like us to order your book no later than December 31.

The monthly group meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:00pm (sometimes adjusted to avoid holidays etc.) and uses a podcast as the basis for discussion on topics of interest. This group typically meets over dinner in a local restaurant with meetings on Zoom if necessary. Recent podcasts have included those with Diana Butler Bass, Anne Lamott, Kate Bowler, and Bishop Michael Curry. 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. Current members are included on the distribution list, if you would like to be added let Debbie Kirk know dkirk@hmpc.org. The next gathering is Thursday, January 27.

#### **MISSIONS**

### **Christmas Bag Gift Project** by Sandy Geiger

The Christmas Bag Gift Project of the Hannah Circle for our friends at Capital Towers is most meaningful for those who give and those who recieve. This year we delivered 31 Christmas gifts with great joy. We thank all the Presbyterian Women who shared their heartfelt kindness so others may know God's Love. We are so looking forward to doing this again next year, which will be our seventh!





#### Volunteer at the Food Bank

The Mission Committee has scheduled designated times for HMPC as part of our commitment to the Food Bank. We have set up two standing monthly volunteer shifts: the second Wednesday evening from 6:00-8:00pm and the third Saturday morning from 9:00am-12:00pm. Use the link below to see the dates we will be working and to sign up to participate. The Food Bank does

require that volunteers be masked inside the warehouse. 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.

Please contact Beth Billman, with any questions. <a href="https://www.cervistech.">https://www.cervistech.</a> com/acts/console.php?console id=0225&console type=event list&event id=21&ht=1&res code=HudsonMemorial



#### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

## **Dates to Note**

December 26th and January 2nd - There will be NO Joyful Noise or Wee Worshipers at the 9:30 hour.

# **Happy Birthday, Jesus!**

This past Sunday our children celebrated the birth of Jesus by packing Birthday Bags for North Raleigh Ministries. The bags are filled with cake mix, icing, sprinkles and candles to help families at NRM give their children a special birthday!





# **Sunday School Volunteers**

Please join us for Sunday School as we continue to expand the Children's Ministry program! The schedule is now posted through June and we need the support of each family to make this program a success. Each family should consider signing up at least once a month (or more!). Thank you for your commitment to the children of the church!

Please note: All volunteers working with children 12 and under must have an up-to-date Safe Sanctuary Affirmation on file, and provide proof of vaccination to the Interim Director of Children and Family Ministries.

https://www.signupgenius.com/ go/4090445ADA82CA46-hmpc4

#### **NEW MEMBERS**

#### **Welcome New Members!**

#### **Ashley and Chris Woolley**

Ashley was born in Fayetteville and grew up in Cary, Chris was born in Texas and grew up in Durham. They met while attending UNC-Wilmington. Chris is Finance Director for Cisco and Ashley is a stay at home mom for their 2 daughters, who attend HM Preschool. They

love to travel, especially within NC. They enjoy bike riding and water activities (boating, kayaking). Chris loves cooking and college football, and the girls love dance/gymnastics and their friends. The Woolleys have a dog named Wallace.



#### FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

#### **End of Year Gifts**

If you wish to make a contribution to complete your annual pledge or make a designated gift payment for the 2021 financial year, deliver your payment to HMPC by Friday, December 31st or mail it with a postmark date no later than December 31st so it can be posted this year. If you have any questions, contact Pat Cash, Church Business Administrator at pcash@hmpc.org or 919-787-1086.

#### WAYS TO GIVE AT HMPC







GIVE ONLINE

4921 Six Forks Rd

#### **Year-End Statements**

Those who have donated to the church during the year should not file their 2021 Federal tax return until you have received your year-end contribution statement, which will be mailed before the end of January 2022.

#### 2022 Offering Envelopes

2022 Monthly Offering Envelopes for those who have requested them will be mailed by the end of the year. If you would like monthly offering envelopes, contact Pat Cash.

#### **INQUIRER'S CLASS**

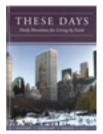
# Interested in Joining Hudson?

#### Join us Sunday, January 9th

The Inquirers Class, for those interested in membership, will be held on January 9th. The class covers what it means to be a Christian, a Presbyterian, and a member of Hudson Memorial. New Member Information Forms are available here. Please contact Debbie Kirk for more information at dkirk@hmpc.org.



#### **DEVOTIONALS**



# **These Days**

The winter edition of *These Days* has arrived! Copies are available at the entrances. Please contact Pat Cash, 919-787-1086, if you would like one mailed to you.

## **Advent Devotionals**

#### "Come to Bethlehem and Be Nourished"

This year's Advent Devotional is *Come to Bethlehem and Be Nourished*. Bread is a key theme of the devotional which carries us through Advent and the Season of Christmas, November 28 – January 6. Bread has a dual role in the scripture and reflections provided for our use each day. While our souls are nourished as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ, we are invited to nourish our bodies by making or purchasing a particular kind of bread each week

to enjoy and to share with others. As a Hunger Action Congregation, we are encouraged to remember those who are food insecure as we gather around holiday tables and to do what we can to be sure all have enough to eat. The devotional is available online <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a> and we have hard copies

available.



#### COVID-19

# Hudson's Current Policies

The below policies have been set or reviewed by Session, the COVID-19 Sub Team, Personnel Committee or the Hudson Memorial Preschool Board.



All below policies are subject to change.

- Church staff can work from the office or at home.
- For preschool drop off, no parents come inside the building.
- The preschool is following NCDHHS tool kit and guidance.
- Groups of any size can gather outside without masks. Eating outside on church property is permitted.
- Masks are required at all times inside the church building. Exceptions to this are:
  - Vaccinated speakers, soloists and small singing groups in worship who are appropriately socially distant from the congregation.
  - O Staff who are working alone in their office.
- Sunday worship children's message volunteers must wear masks when giving their talk because the children are not socially distant from the speaker.
- Employees of HMPC (church and preschool) are required to provide proof of their COVID-19 vaccination to their supervisor.
- Any volunteer working with children 12 and under at HMPC will be required to provide proof of their COVID-19 vaccination to the Interim Director of Children and Family Ministries or the Interim Director of Youth Ministries prior to volunteering with children 12 and under.
- Groups are not allowed to eat together inside the church buildings. The exception to this rule is preschool children have lunch and snack time in their class bubble.

#### CONNECT WITH US ONLINE!







@HudsonMemorialPC

#### THIS WEEK

#### Sunday, December 26

10:30 am - Worship-First Sunday of Christmas

#### Monday, December 27

8:00 pm - Alanon, AlaTeen, AlaKid - GH, 226, 236

#### Tuesday, December 28

6:30 am - Waking Up With the Word - In person

#### Friday, December 31

2:30 pm - Single Way New Year's Eve Celebration

#### Saturday, January 1

5:00 pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200

#### FROM THE HMPC STAFF

# **Staff Email Addresses**

When you receive an email from one of Hudson's staff members, please verify that the email address is their first initial then last name @hmpc.org - examples - mschafer@hmpc.org, dkirk@hmpc.org.

There have been some spam emails being sent, making them look like they are coming from the church. In those cases, the "from" email address is not correct. If you receive those, please do not respond or click on any links.

#### PERSONNEL SEARCH

# Sunday Morning Childcare Workers

Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church is looking for caring, reliable childcare workers for our church nursery! This is a part-time opportunity on Sunday mornings from 9:00 am - noon. Please send a resume or inquiry email to <u>Cary Dickerson</u>, <u>Interim Director of Children and Family Ministries</u>.

# **Organist/Music Assistant**

We are beginning our search to fill the part-time organist position here at Hudson. <u>Please click here for more information</u>. If you know of someone who might be interested, please contact anyone on the Search Committee: Barbara Loehr-Fox, Emily Brown, Carol Cox and Dan Vig.

#### STAFF DIRECTORY

#### **Mac Schafer**

Pastor & Head of Staff mschafer@hmpc.org

#### **Debbie Kirk**

Associate Pastor, Spiritual Growth & Nurture <a href="mailto:dkirk@hmpc.org">dkirk@hmpc.org</a>

Aleta Ash, Minister of Visitation aash@hmpc.org

Barbara Loehr-Fox, Director of Music Ministries bloehr-fox@hmpc.org

**Rich Richards**, Interim Director of Youth Ministries <a href="mailto:rrichards@hmpc.org">rrichards@hmpc.org</a>

Cary Dickerson, Interim Director of Children & Family Ministries <a href="mailto:cdickerson@hmpc.org">cdickerson@hmpc.org</a>

Pat Cash, Business Administrator pcash@hmpc.org

Cheri Thomas, Bookkeeper <a href="mailto:cthomas@hmpc.org">cthomas@hmpc.org</a>

Lesley Ash-Jacobsen, Communications Specialist lash-jacobsen@hmpc.org

**Dorothy Roche**, Preschool Director droche@hmpc.org

Joyce Hawkins, Assistant Preschool Director <a href="mailto:jhawkins@hmpc.org">jhawkins@hmpc.org</a>

Carol Yeargin, Organist carolyeargin@gmail.com

Hope Parangi, Church Hostess <a href="mailto:hparangi@yahoo.com">hparangi@yahoo.com</a>

#### LIVE-STREAMING

# **Attend Worship Online**



For those unable to attend worship in person, we will be live streaming the services. Please know that the live streams will also be recorded and posted on the church YouTube channel, as well as the church website.

Click here to live-stream or watch recording of this Sunday's 10:30 am service.