

HUDSON MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



ANNUAL REPORT



2022

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To Know, Love and Serve God in Jesus Christ

OUR VISION

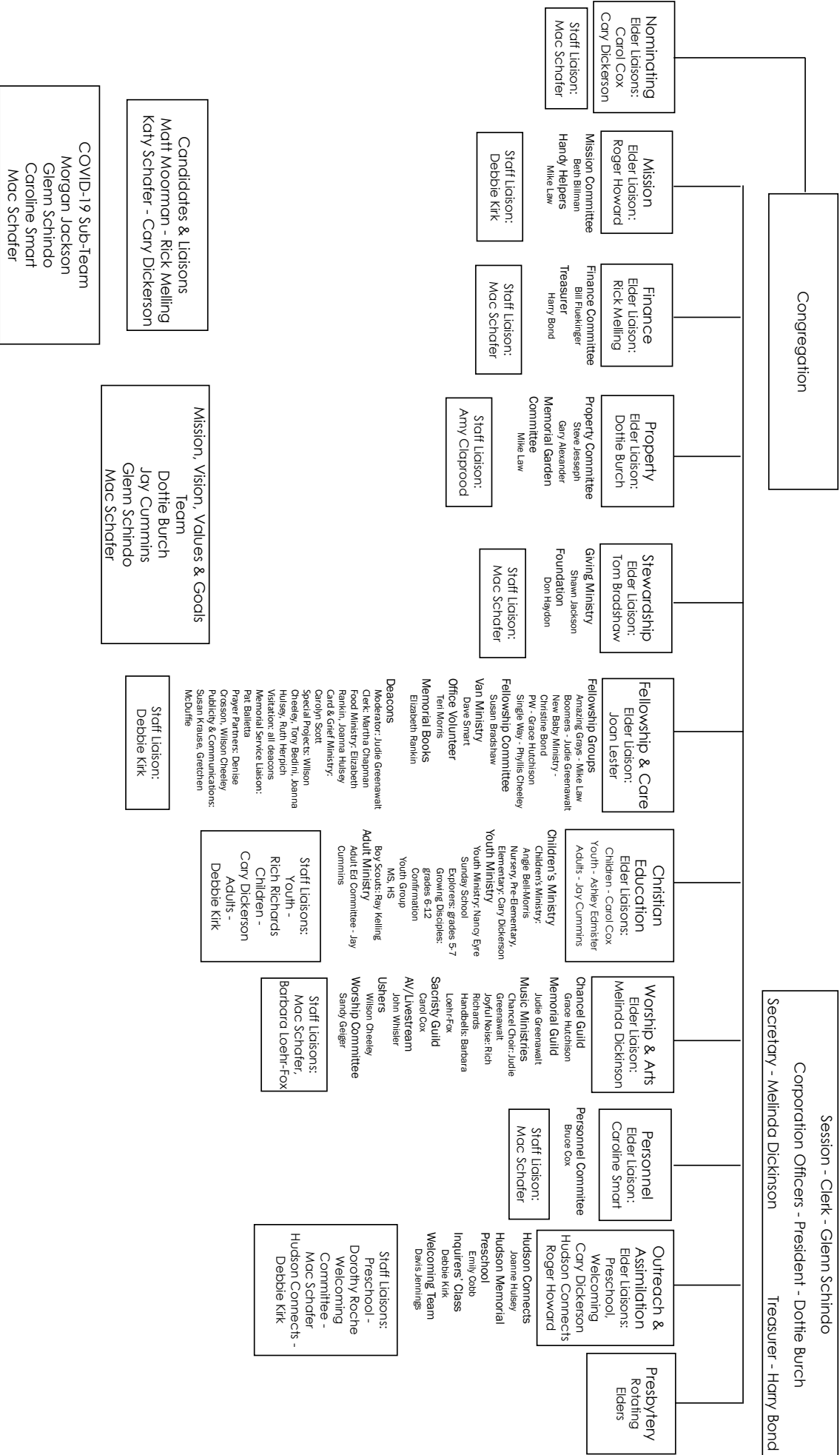
Explosive Excellence In Every Ministry We Engage In

OUR CORE VALUES

Worship, Generosity, Service, Nurture, Education & Gratitude



2023 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



STATISTICAL REPORT



CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP JANUARY 1, 2022 TO DECEMBER 31, 2022

Active Membership as of January 1, 2022: 650

GAINS	By Letter of Transfer:	20
	By Reaffirmation of Faith:	7
	By Profession of Faith:	12
	By Adult Baptism:	1
	TOTAL GAINS:	40

LOSSES	By Letter of Transfer:	2
	By Deletion from Active Roll:	22
	By Death:	16
	TOTAL LOSSES:	40

Active Membership as of December 31, 2022: 650



Baptized Children as of December 31, 2022:

160



Child Baptisms in 2022:

10



Weddings Officiated by HMPC Pastor:

4

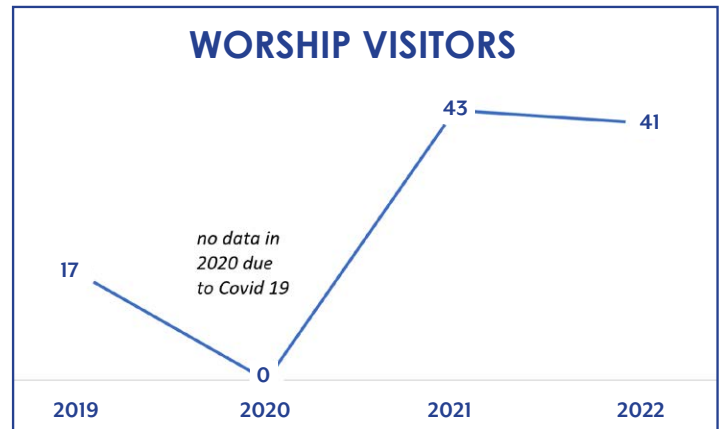
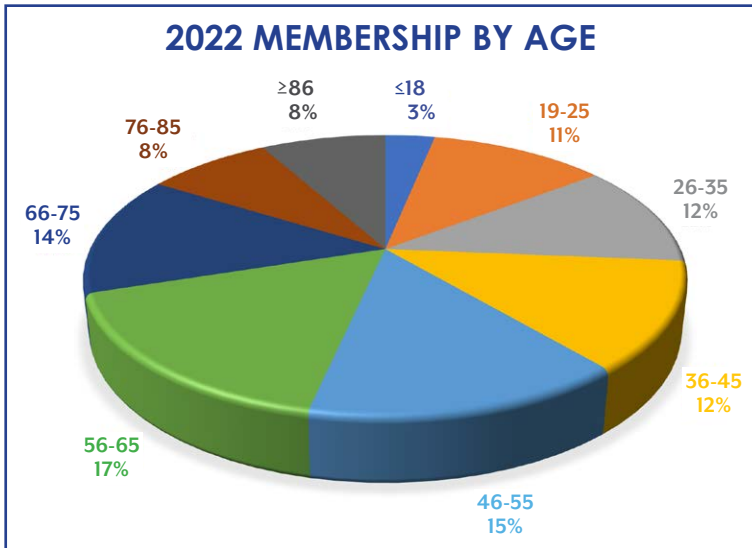
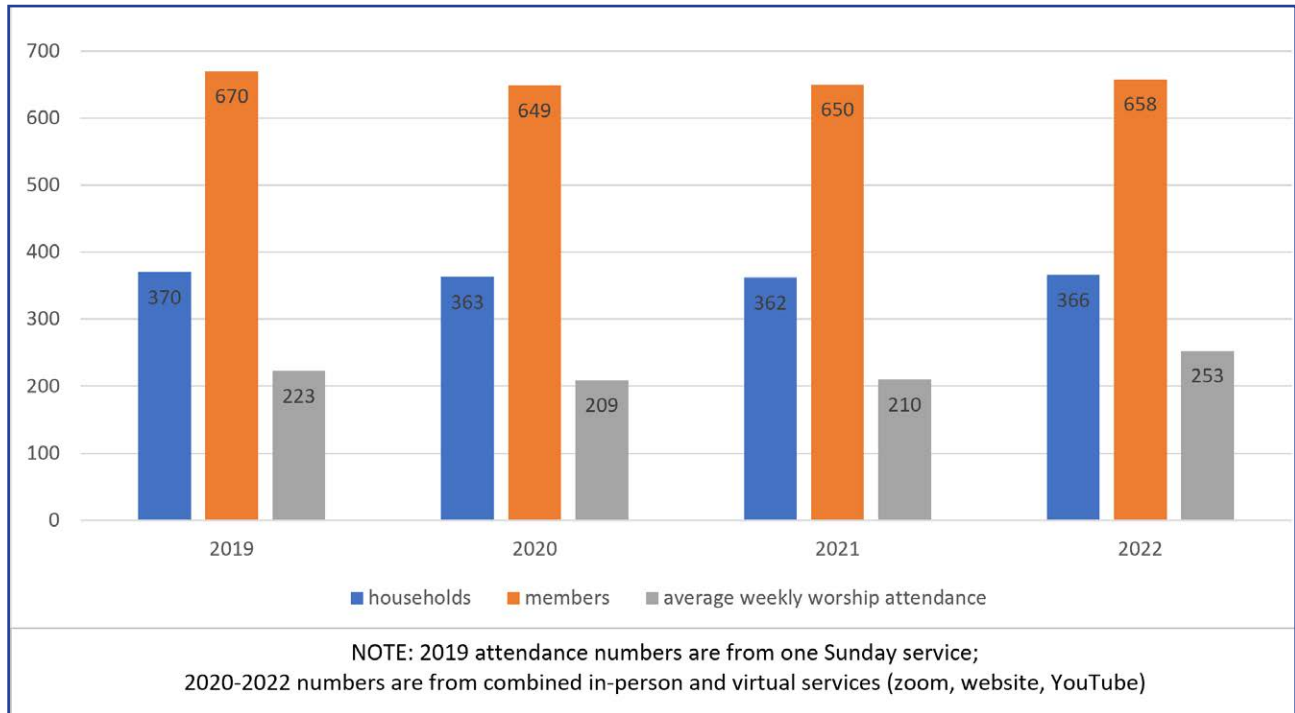


**Funerals/Memorial Services
Officiated by HMPC Pastors:**

17

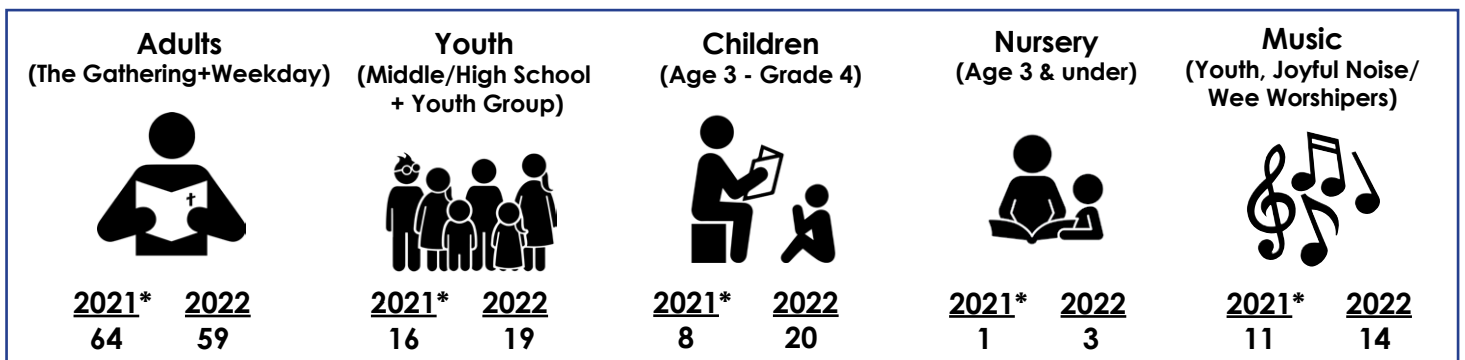
HMPC STATISTICS - DECEMBER 31, 2022

NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS, NUMBER OF MEMBERS AVERAGE WEEKLY ATTENDANCE IN WORSHIP



Number of visiting families who attended in-person worship and signed the Friendship pad

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AVERAGE WEEKLY ATTENDANCE



*Attendance taken sporadically due to Covid-19

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Lesley Ash Jacobsen, Communications Specialist

Digital communications have become more and more important in helping our HMPC community grow and connect with one another, and 2022 was a big year of growth! Here are a few highlights...

YouTube Stats:



Up 56% new channel subscribers in 2022

Total views in 2022: 10,900

Up 15% from 2021

Hours spent watching our channel: 2,300

Up 23% from 2021

Most watched videos of 2022:

- Memorial Service for Bob Fields
- Preschool Christmas program
- Sunday, January 23 Worship service

Weekly Window/E-blast Stats:

140 different E-blasts sent in 2022

- 66 Weekly Window/Worship E-blasts
- 46 Children's Ministry E-blasts sent
- Other (memorials, fellowship events, etc)

55 paper newsletter distributed weekly

Average of 257 weekly readers in 2021

Average of 366 weekly readers in 2022

15% increase in subscribers

From 432 subscribers to 495

Average open rate of digital newsletter: 64%

Up from 48% open rate in 2021

HMPC.org - Website Stats:

Total visits to website in 2022: 14,309 visits

Up 7% from 2021

Unique visitors: 7,388

Up 5% from 2021

Compared to other religious institution websites who use our platform (Wix)...

- Our number of unique visitors is 91% higher than that of other similar sites.
- Time spent on our site is 80% longer than what is spent on other similar websites.

Social Media Stats:



INSTAGRAM - @HudsonMemorialPC

LIKES:

6,785 likes were received on our posts in 2022

FOLLOWERS:

Page had **442 Followers** at end of year 2022

Followers went up 24% from 2021

♥ **Most loved posts** ♥

- Mac's final sabbatical post
- Becca Fisher + Lydia Gabbard wedding post
- Lindsey Moore + Rich Richards wedding post



FACEBOOK - @HudsonMPC

11% increase in Facebook page followers

FB page was visited 1,170 times in 2022

Up .6% from 2021

Posts reached a total of 13,607 individuals

Up 19% from 2021

♥ **Most reacted-to posts** ♥

- Thanks be to God for Bob Fields
- Photo of rainbow & church steeple
- Mac's final sabbatical post

Demographic:

75% Followers are Women/ 25% are Men
62% are Raleigh-based | 15% are elsewhere in NC
4% are International page followers -
Representing: India, Brazil, Finland, Côte d'Ivoire,
Greece, Pakistan, Malawi, Philippines, Spain

HELP GROW OUR ONLINE COMMUNITY!

DID YOU KNOW the more people like, heart, thumbs-up or comment on a post, the wider the distribution will be? This is a snowball effect based on social media algorithms. So when you ♥like♥ a post, you just helped 10% more people see it in their newsfeed! **You can help give our social media a wider reach by engaging with our posts and videos!**



FINANCES



Harry Bond (Treasurer), Bill Flueckinger (Moderator),
Rick Melling (Session Liason), Gail Brenner, Tom Carpenito, Joan Lester, Curt Plyler, Marilyn Webb

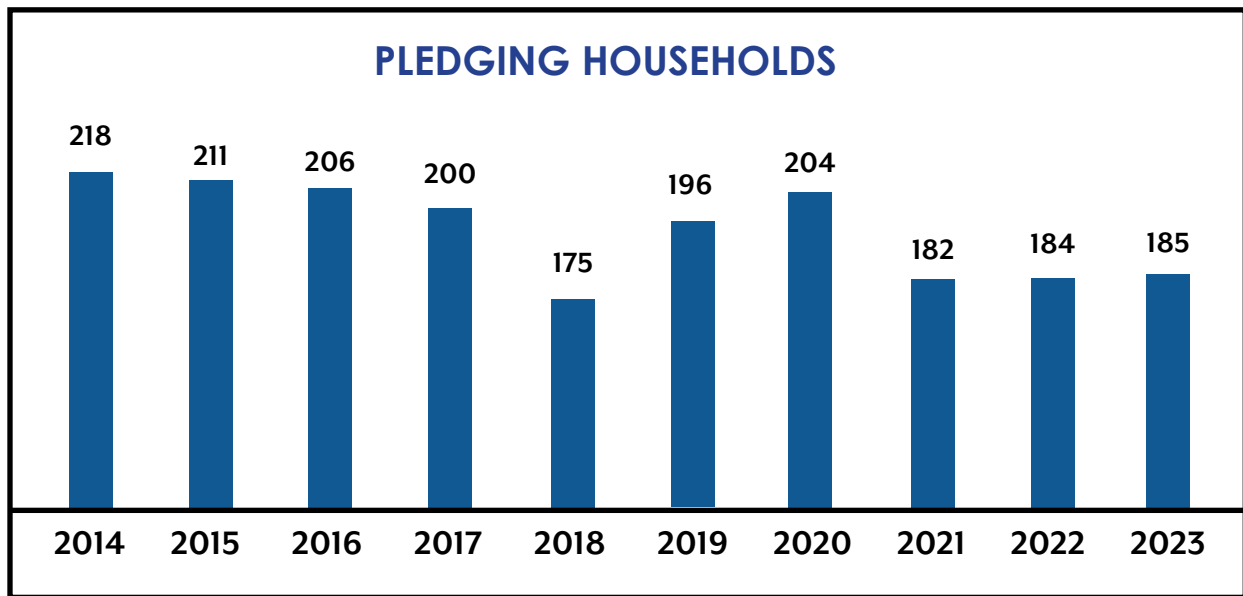
2023 BUDGET	
Regular Pledges	\$760,000
Non-Pledge Offerings	\$95,632
Prior Year Pledges	\$1,000
All Other Offerings	\$9,000
HMPC Foundation	\$42,838
Memorial Garden	\$500
Other Income	\$54,300
Preschool Contribution	\$10,000
Total General Fund Revenue	\$973,270
Christian Education	\$21,200
Fellowship & Care	\$6,547
Outreach & Mission	\$33,782
Worship & Arts	\$16,455
Office Expenses	\$41,625
Property Expenses	\$163,355
Stewardship	\$750
Ministry Staff	\$423,976
Music Staff	\$143,543
Administrative Staff	\$143,492
Support Staff	\$11,789
Other Personnel Expense	\$6,800
Total General Fund Expense	\$1,013,314
Surplus /(Deficit)	\$(40,044)

2023 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

- Pledge Income reduced by \$20K due to inflationary pressures (2.5% decrease from 2022). Still the 2nd highest dollar amount pledged since 2000.
- Non Pledge Offering at \$95K (65% increase from 2022)
- Total General Fund Revenue increased by \$36K (3.9% increase from 2022)
- Total General Fund Expenses increased \$76.5K (8.2% increase from 2022). General Fund Expenses are outpacing General Fund Revenue.
- Projected Deficit of \$40K
- Staff will receive a 2% increase compared to 2022
- Staff will receive an additional 3% bonus (Bonus was completely funded by an anonymous donation designated for this purpose and does not contribute to the Projected Deficit)

2022 STEWARDSHIP REPORT

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Pledged Amount	636,789	661,820	683,198	691,000	676,642	699,376	743,992	738,000	769,482	751,878
Pledge Revenues	640,009	647,640	659,900	695,776	683,199	717,173	741,486	762,983	777,455	
Non-Pledge Offerings	80,843	70,296	59,911	67,067	73,088	74,549	82,452	52,070	108,956	
Total General Offerings	720,852	726,997	745,990	787,283	779,361	791,722	823,938	815,053	886,411	
Designated Giving	23,741	21,032	18,946	18,806	17,317	21,675	15,390	18,022	21,604	
Total Giving	744,593	745,320	764,936	806,089	796,678	813,397	839,328	833,075	908,015	



HOUSEHOLD PLEDGING

Pledge Level	Households 2022	Amount 2022	Households 2023	Amount 2023
\$14,000+	8	\$ 158,934.00	9	\$ 165,800.00
\$10,000-14,000	6	\$ 72,000.00	5	\$ 61,300.00
\$6,000-9,999	25	\$ 181,434.00	24	\$ 175,280.00
\$3,000-5,999	52	\$ 215,060.00	50	\$ 200,728.00
\$2,000-2,999	31	\$ 71,904.00	30	\$ 71,650.00
\$1,500-1,999	17	\$ 28,800.00	20	\$ 33,960.00
\$1000-1,499	25	\$ 29,680.00	26	\$ 31,150.00
\$500-999	16	\$ 10,760.00	16	\$ 11,135.00
\$1-499	4	\$ 910.00	5	\$ 875.00
	184	\$ 769,482.00	185	\$ 751,878.00



Mac Schafer
Pastor &
Head of Staff

In September I completed my 13th full year as Hudson's Pastor & Head of Staff. I am writing this during the liturgical season of Epiphany. Epiphany is a time when we reflect on God's light in the world. The Magi followed a star to Jesus. This annual report helps us as a church reflect on how we as Christians are bearing Christ's light into the world through Hudson.

It's a healthy practice to look back on a year to see what you've done, and how it might impact what one does moving forward. This year was unique in that I stepped away from Hudson for a three-month Session-approved sabbatical. As our Staff Policy Manual states, (Sabbatical) "is an opportunity for the individual to strategically disengage from regular and normal tasks so that ministry and mission may be viewed from a new perspective because of a planned time to focus. It is an extension of the Biblical concept of a Sabbath day. It is both an act of faith that God will sustain us through a period of reflection and changed activity and an occasion for recovery and renewal of vital energies."

For the nine months I was not on sabbatical, here are some statistics of what I did:

- Officiated Weddings: 4
- Pre-Marriage Counseling Sessions: 11
- Pastoral Care Visits: 299
- Baptisms & Pre-Baptismal counseling: 7
- Coordinated Worship and Preached (at HMPC or at other locations): 42
- Social Media Posts: 122
- Memorial or Graveside Services: 10
- Preschool Chapel Talks: 16
- Facilitated Groups (Teaching or Leading): 119
- Attended Boards/Committees/Ministry Teams/Events: 57

In 2022, my sermon series included a four-part Epiphany series on Star Gifts (January), a three-part series on African-American Presbyterian Minister John Chavis (February), a seven-part Lenten Series called Good News (March-April), and a four-part Advent Series on Types of Waiting (December).

Some of my teaching/leading included *Being Reformed: Theology of Presbyterians*, *Being Reformed: Belhar Confession*, discussions on *Heaven & Hell: A History of the Afterlife* by Bart D. Ehrman, Visio & Lectio Divina with *The Saint John's Bible*, a Lenten Labyrinth series at various locations in the City of Raleigh, a Session Goal-Setting Retreat and a blessing service of the new Chapel Labyrinth in December. A great joy of 2022 was starting the Coffee & Conversation post-worship parent group with Cary Dickerson. This has been a wonderful place for parents to deepen their relationships with one another while discussing faith topics.

Outside the walls of HMPC, I served on the Exams & Transfers Sub-Commission of the Presbytery of New Hope, led the training of 224th General Assembly Commissioners for Presbytery of New Hope, moderated Blacknell Presbyterian Church Session while they are between pastors, coordinated the Six Forks Clergy Group, and was a co-coordinator of Raleigh's local chapter of American Pilgrims on the Camino.

Sabbatical (July-October)

The following list is from my 11th article to the congregation at the end of my sabbatical. Through lists, it summarizes a variety of things I experienced over the three months I was in Germany and along the Via Francigena pilgrims' path:

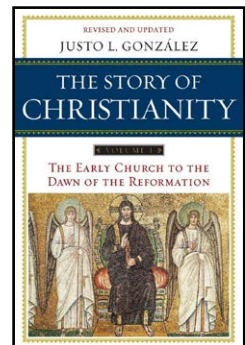
By the numbers:

- 1078 km walked on the Via Francigena
- 52 days on the Via Francigena Pilgrims' Path
- 10 days in Germany
- 9 euro regional rail ticket in Germany
- 4 days in Rome, Italy
- 3 days in Florence, Italy
- 2 days in Milan, Italy
- 2 days in Lucca, Italy
- 2 pairs of Brooks Cascadia trail runners
- 1 day in Pisa, Italy
- 1 day in Turin, Italy



Things I read/listened to during sabbatical:

- *Ariadne* by Jennifer Saint
- *Katherine von Bora: Luther's Wife* by Martin Treu
- *Catherine Of Siena* by Vittorio Peri
- *Protestants: The Faith That Made The Modern World* by Adam Ryrie
- *Pilgrimage to Eternity: From Canterbury to Rome* by Timothy Egan
- *The Story of Christianity V. 1: The Early Church to the Dawn of the Reformation* by Justo L. Gonzalez
- *Discover Martin Luther: Sites and Memorials in Germany, Travel Guide* by Wolfgang Hoffmann
- *Walking the Via Francigena - Part 2: Lausanne & The Great St Bernard Pass to Lucca* by Sandy Brown
- *Walking the Via Francigena - Part 3: Lucca to Rome* by Sandy Brown



Worship Services:

Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany

St. Pierre Cathedral in Geneva, Switzerland

Abbey of St. Maurice d' Agaunum in St. Maurice, Switzerland (vesper & prayer service)

Great St. Bernard Hospice (two prayer services)

Chiesa San Pietro in Chatillon, Italy

Basilica of San Domenico in Siena, Italy

Santo Spirito in Sassia in Rome, Italy

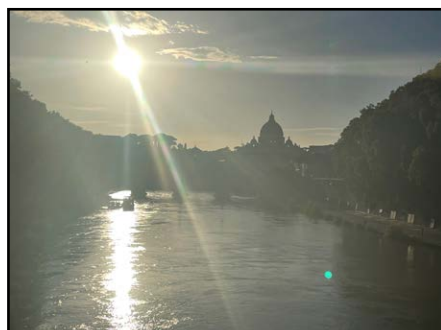
The Presbyterian Church of Scotland in Rome, Italy

First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro, NC



Important Church history locations I visited:

- Apostle Paul's burial location at Basilica of St. Paul, Rome, Italy (1st century)
- Disciple Peter's burial location at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome (1st century)
- Disciples Philip & James "the lesser" burial location at The Church of the Holy Apostles in Rome, Italy (1st century)
- Disciple Bartholomew burial location at Basilica of St. Bartholomew, Tiber Island in Rome, Italy (1st century)
- Catacombs of Priscilla in Rome - Burial location of early Christians and site of early Christian art (2nd century)
- St. Ambrose of Milan burial location in Basilica of Saint Ambrogio in Milan, Italy
- Constantine's Arch commemorating his victory over Maximilian and Christianity becoming official religion of Roman Empire in Rome, Italy (4th century)
- Augustine of Hippo burial location at San Pietro in Ciel d'Oro in Pavia, Italy (4th century)
- St. Bernard of Menthon founder of hospice & monastery at St. Bernard's Pass, Switzerland (11th century)
- Saint Anselm of Canterbury's birth city, Aosta, Italy (11th-12th century)
- Basilica di Sant' Antonino in Piacenza, Italy where the 1st crusade to the Holy Land was declared in 1095 (11th century)
- The Shroud of Turin holder & museum at the Cathedral of Saint John the Baptist in Turin, Italy (13-14th century)
- Dante Alighieri's home neighborhood in Florence, Italy (13-14th century)
- Meister Eckhart Doors at Predigerkirche in Eurfurt, Germany. Eckhart was a theologian, philosopher & mystic. (14th century)
- Catherine of Siena's home & relic location in Siena, Italy (14th century)
- Sistine Chapel, home of Michelangelo's ceiling & Last Judgment, Rome, Italy (15th century)
- The Last Supper by Leonardo da Vinci in refectory at Santa Maria delle Grazie in Milan, Italy (15th century)
- Martin Luther birthplace, baptismal site & death location in Eisleben, Germany (15-16th century)
- Martin Luther's Augustinian Monastery in Erfurt, Germany (16th century)
- Black Cloister in Wittenberg, Germany. Home to Martin Luther & spouse Katharina von Bora (16th century)
- Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany where Luther supposedly nailed his 95 Thesis & location of Luther's grave (16th century)
- Wartburg Castle, outside of Eisenach, Germany - location of Martin Luther translating the New Testament from original Greek to German. Exhibit about 500th anniversary of this translation (16th century)
- Katharina von Bora burial location in Torgau, Germany (16th century)
- Philip Melanchthon's home & burial location in Wittenberg, Germany. Reformer Melanchthon was primary author of the Augsburg Confession (16th century)
- John Calvin's home & lecture hall & grave in Geneva, Switzerland (16th century)
- St. Pierre Cathedral, the pulpit of reformer John Calvin in Geneva, Switzerland (16th century)
- Museo Galileo, Institute and Museum of the History of Science in Florence, Italy (18th century)
- Reformation Wall, a monument to the international reformation in Geneva, Switzerland (20th century)



The Presence of the Spirit in 2022

2022 continued to be a year of flexibility, innovation and improvisation as we adjusted to Covid challenges and opportunities. The Spirit was active as increasing numbers of people found us online, experiencing wonderful worship and caring fellowship many thought possible only in person. Communicating authentically in a virtual world speaks to the creativity and energy of staff and volunteers.

Collaboration with new staff who came on board during this year was also a place the Spirit was present as we became a team while tending to our particular areas. Working closely with the Stewardship/Homecoming team was inspirational as ideas took shape, plans came together, and the Homecoming event was well received. Observing the Deacons grow into their calls as care givers has been inspiring during this past year.

My Role at Hudson & in the Greater Community - Highlights of 2022

- I am the staff liaison to the following committees and groups: PW, Adult Education, Deacons, Fellowship, Hudson Connects, and Mission. I fill in for Mac when he is away, as I did when he was on sabbatical, and also served as staff liaison to the rest of the committees and groups as needed during that time. It was a good opportunity to work closely with others that I may not get to on a regular basis, as well as be more involved with areas such as Property, Finance, and Personnel. Those months had a different flow to the week as I planned each worship service and preached all but the four we had a guest preacher.
- I enjoy facilitating two vibrant Women at the Well groups, and serving as a resource for the facilitators of the Sunday morning offerings, selecting topics and materials from various sources. I am also available to assist women's circles with the annual Bible study and other resources they use. I lead the Sunday morning classes when asked, usually on a topic or season of interest; 2022 included both Lent and Advent sessions. A group of women attend the annual Women's Connection Conference in Montreat with me.
- Like all the staff, I worked hard at discerning how to go forward with the increased expectations of what we can do technologically while still being available and nurturing relationships in person.
- Ministry with Deacons includes orientation and ongoing education, creating their Lent and Advent worship services and putting together the annual Deacon retreat.
- Sharing sacred times with individuals and families is at the core of pastoral ministry and on any given week may include meeting with visitors, getting to know new members, having conversation with members, providing assistance to someone in need who comes to our door, planning for and officiating memorial services and baptisms.
- As much as there is to do that has an inward focus of care, education, worship, administration etc., all of which I do, our ultimate goal is to focus *outward*. To that end, I work with the Interfaith Coalition whose primary task is the annual Habitat build. I provide educational opportunities for members to consider the work of peace and justice on a broad scale, as I did in the Sunday evening classes I facilitated where we explored difficult issues through theological and cultural lenses.
- I am connected to the Food and Faith Ministry, a multi-faith initiative that is consistent with our Hunger Action Commitment.
- I engage with those inquiring about membership and find the in-depth conversations with them to be rewarding.
- I continue to spend time with colleagues and other church professionals through professional development both in person and online. In 2022 I attended the Next Church Conference in Montreat, a group of forward-thinking Presbyterians who are discerning the role of the church in the 21st century.
- Serving in ministry beyond HMPC is a requirement of my call and it is one both I and our congregation benefit from. I serve on a Presbytery Committee and assist larger church leadership with various events when asked. I enjoyed being on the planning team for a multi church event held at White Memorial last spring.



Debbie Kirk
Associate Pastor
Spiritual Growth & Nurture

*Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!
- Psalm 150:6*



Barbara Loehr-Fox
*Director of Music
Ministries*

What a difference a year makes! I had only been here a few months when I wrote my last annual report. I have now had the privilege of spending more than a year in ministry with you. I am even more enamored with the history, music, and mission of Hudson Memorial.

The highlight of the year for me was the first Arts Camp for Children. With over 30 children, we enjoyed 3 nights of laughter, learning and fun. I had facilitated this type of arts camp for years in another church, and was so gratified to see it come to life here. I believe it will endure for years to come.

Other wonderful musical happenings

- Spring Concert in May
- Joy Concert in December
- Chancel Choir Retreat in the fall
- Handbell Workshops – two in the fall

Times of Fellowship

- Choir/Hand Bell end-of-the-year party at the Monroes' home
- Dinner between Christmas Eve services
- Carol Yeargin's retirement parties, both with the choir only and with the congregation
- Welcome parties for interim pianist Sue Newton, both with the choir only and with the congregation

Instrumental joy

- Piano for Westminster Hall was acquired
- Piano formerly in WM was moved to the Chapel
- There were more worship offerings by our very talented member instrumentalists
- We had music representation at all 13 memorial services
- All of our music equipment and instruments were organized and are in one place in a room off Geneva Hall (Thank you to Rich Richards!)

Ensemble news

- Chancel Choir – numbers, commitment, and enthusiasm remain high
- Hudson Ringers – we have grown to 12 members with 2 strong substitutes
- Youth Music – has doubled in size – we began with 6 ringers and now have 12!
- Joyful Noise and Wee Worshipers – is flourishing under the direction of Rich Richards
- Hudson Ensemble – newly formed, this ensemble will use guitars, percussion, piano and other instruments to offer folk and more contemporary songs to enhance our worship



Our Organist Search was also fruitful last year. The Search Committee was composed of Emily Brown, Carol Cox and Dan Vig with extra help from Carol Yeargin and Martha Chapman. Our search culminated in offering the position to Al Hyde. He began with us in January 2023.

I feel very blessed to be with you in ministry in this little corner of God's Kingdom. I am looking forward to another wonderful year of music-making.

We have gained some momentum and rhythm in the past twelve months since the pandemic, and continually have hope in the enduring love and resilience of God and God's people, living in community.

Here are the highlights of our past year together:

The winter and early spring of 2022 brought some snow which delayed our programs, but after the melt, we started the process of planning for **Youth Sunday** worship with a theme called "**We Are Here**" on February 27. It was a wonderful celebration of God's gifts seen and heard in these young people who led us all in the glorification of God.

Confirmation Sunday saw the congregation reaffirm their commitment to care for, educate, have fun with, and love twelve young people as the Confirmation Class of 2022. This was a beautiful Sunday where their mentors, parents AND "church" family gathered around and celebrated them for who they are as children of God, and pledged to be there for them presently and in the future, as they have in the past.

Confirmation 2023 was put on hold for a year due to low numbers on the roles in the rising 8th grade class. In turn, a **Confirmation Ministry Team** was formed to vision, plan and execute our next Confirmation Class. The members of that team are as follows: Sean Cole, Becca Fisher-Gabbard, Karen Melling, Tim Peeler, Yana Soler.

The Middle School youth attended the **Middle School Conference at Massanetta** in Massanutten, VA, while the High School youth attended the **Montreat Youth Conference** in mid-July. The Montreat Conference theme was "More Than Enough". This was a wonderful week of small groups, worship, music, and fellowship. A new sustainable youth ministry "technique" called "**Shepherds and Sheep**" has had a year to grow into this ministry and while things continue to look toward a "relational" ministry, this "system" will allow all of our adult advisors to become more connected relationally in the area of recreation, pastoral care, and "off-campus" activities.

Youth Group continued to be our Sunday evening that provided a space for EACH YOUNG PERSON to have a place to come to to be themselves which sparked an idea about a Youth Group "motto". **JUST SHOW UP AND BE** is the new motto and a way to communicate the limitless possibilities of "be-ing" with one another in community.

The Youth Committee discussed a possible new model for the way we do youth ministry at Hudson and agreed to try some things starting in the beginning of 2023. One of those "tweaks" is **Sabbath Sundays**. Sabbath Sundays are once-a-month gatherings where we encourage families to share a meal with one another (at home, at another family's home or at a restaurant) for a guided time of prayer, questions and conversation. This is IN PLACE OF a regular evening youth group at church.

In the effort to create a consolidated time for families, the **Christian Education** piece of Sunday morning has been paired with a musical ensemble opportunity. This is on a trial basis and will be assessed at the end of May 2023. **Youth Sunday school (for grades 5-12) will be from 11:30am to 12:00pm and Youth Bells will be from 12:00pm to 12:30pm.** So far, we have had positive feedback with this schedule change.

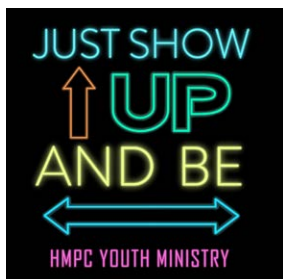
Youth Ministry is about relationships and one way to create, grow, and sustain those relationships is by supporting one another outside of church. Something new that we have recently added is a relational ministry technique called the "**Come See Me**" board. Youth are encouraged to write their names, "events" and date of special events on the board so that we all (adult advisors and youth) may attend those sporting events, musical and artistic shows and any other "event" to support and lift up one another in our gifts and talents.

In all of our efforts, our goal is to provide a safe and inclusive environment of love, freedom of thought, care, compassion and support in the name of Christ. This goal is attained by creating and sustaining relationships with our youth and would not at all be possible without the time and energy of our wonderful teachers, committee, adult advisors and leadership teams.

Finally, It is my absolute pleasure and honor to serve you in this capacity and I thank you for this opportunity.



Rich Richards
*Director of Youth
Ministries
& Children's Music*





Cary Dickerson

*Director of
Children & Family
Ministries*

As another calendar year comes to a close, many of us reflect back upon where we personally observed the Spirit moving in our lives this year. For many it might have been a particularly moving sermon, a favorite Bible verse, or a hymn that spoke to us. For me, where I most saw the Spirit's movement in the words and enthusiasm of the children of the church. One of the reasons I joined this particular church is because of the value placed on being an intergenerational community of faith, rather than a multigenerational one. Children at Hudson are not simply seen as the future of the church, but as valued members of our present church family with unique gifts they can use to glorify God.

Our children put their faith into action by doing Mission work alongside the larger congregation this year. As Hudson continued our Hunger Action focus,



our children participated by packing food bags for our local homeless population, assembling birthday bags for local families in need, and donating to Heifer International. As Hudson supported North Raleigh Ministries, our children collected food items for their Food Pantry during VBS. As Hudson supported the Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Build, our children painted baffles to be used to insulate Habitat homes.



As our Welcoming Committee helped newcomers navigate Hudson, our children found ways to welcome their peers. Throughout the year they color beautiful postcards to send to the children of visitors. They also create colorful tags to adorn the welcome bags we send home with visiting families. These seemingly small efforts make the children of our visitors feel seen and welcomed alongside their parents.

Our children brought their beautiful energy to singing, ushering, and reading scripture in worship. They used their creativity to make a wonderful canvas to welcome all of God's people to Hudson. They brought a youthful approach to telling the Christmas story during the Pageant. They brought their excitement for learning about God to VBS and Arts camp. They brought laughter and smiles to our many intergenerational Fellowship events. The list goes on and on. God has bestowed upon each of us gifts and talents as a part of the body of Christ, and I am proud to be part of a community of faith that values children the way Hudson does.

*"I lift up my eyes to the hills - from where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord." - Psalm 121:1-2a*

Being hospitalized, dealing with a chronic illness, facing a cancer diagnosis, having a major accident or family difficulty, confronting end of life, loneliness, etc. — all of these are times in which we need our faith more than ever. A listening ear, a shoulder to cry on, and someone to pray with and for you can be helpful during difficult times. As Hudson's Minister of Visitation I am available to visit with you on behalf of your pastoral staff. Mac and Debbie and the Deacons do a wonderful job of congregational care, but I am here to provide additional pastoral attention when requested by congregants or staff.

During 2022, 285 contacts by visits or phone calls were provided, as well as numerous undocumented conversations, emails, and cards.

Please know that we are available to you, but need to be informed of your situation in order to provide care to you. It is a privilege to visit in your homes and at your hospital bedside. It is a joy to serve as your Minister of Visitation.



Aleta Ash
Minister of Visitation

HMPC STAFF



- Mac Schafer Pastor, Head of Staff
- Debbie Kirk Associate Pastor, Spiritual Growth & Nurture
- Aleta Ash Minister of Visitation
- Rich Richards Director of Youth Ministries & Children's Music
- Cary Dickerson..... Director of Children & Family Ministries
- Barbara Loehr-Fox..... Director of Music Ministries
- Dorothy Roche Preschool Director
- Joyce Hawkins Assistant Preschool Director
- Amy Claprod Business Administrator
- Lesley Ash Jacobsen..... Communications Specialist
- Susan Gressel Interim Bookkeeper
- Hope Parangi Church Hostess
- Al Hyde..... Organist

SESSION

Glenn Schindo (Clerk), Debbie Kirk (Staff), Mac Schafer (Moderator)

Class of 2023

*Ashley Edmister
Sandy Geiger
Rick Melling
Caroline Smart*

Class of 2024

*Tom Bradshaw
Cary Dickerson
Roger Howard
Joan Lester*

Class of 2025

*Dottie Burch
Carol Cox
Jay Cummins
Melinda Dickinson*

The session of Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church met 20 times during 2022. There were 10 stated meetings, seven called meetings, and three electronic meetings.

January: The 2022 budget was approved with a 4% salary increase for staff. The Hudson Memorial Preschool budget was also approved.

February: Approved changing the title for Cary Dickerson from "Interim Director of Children and Family Ministries" to "Director of Children and Family Ministries". Approved the Mission, Vision, Values, and Goals plan and communication plan.

April: Examined a class of nine confirmands and approved membership for the class. Also received the 2020 annual financial review summary completed by the Finance committee. Approved the expenditure of \$25,000 from the 2021 budget surplus to fund various mission programs of the Interfaith Food Shuttle.

September: Engaged the services of an eminent domain attorney to represent Hudson in the City of Raleigh Six Forks road-widening project.

November: Approved a proposal from the Property Committee to repair the walkways in the attic. Approved a proposal from the Personnel Committee to pay the HMPC staff bonuses equal to 2% of their current salaries.

December: Approved the housing allowance determination for 2023 for Mac Schafer and Debbie Kirk.



Session talking to member and ordination candidate Matt Moorman via Zoom



Session celebrates Roger Howard's birthday

MISSION, VISION, VALUES & GOALS

THE MISSION, VISION, VALUES & GOALS TEAM

In 2021-2022 the MVVG Team was Carol Clemens, Chris Page, Mac Schafer & Glenn Schindo. In 2022-2023 it is Dottie Burch, Jay Cummins, Mac Schafer & Glenn Schindo.

The MVVG Team is a sub-group of Session which helps Session establish and implement goals as they relate to the church's Mission, Vision & Values. In 2022, the MVVG Team did the bulk of their work beginning to communicate to ministry chairs goals set by Session. Typically Session sets new goals every two to three years. The three goals set in 2022 were: 1. Establish the best (transforming/excellent) programming in Raleigh, 2. A staffing strategy to build to the top range of a managerial size church (200-400 worshipers) and, 3. Become a Matthew 25 congregation. Matthew 25 is a PC(USA) initiative that highlights building congregational vitality, eradicating systemic poverty, and dismantling structural racism.



COVID-19

THE COVID-19 SUB-TEAM

The COVID-19 Sub-Team is an advisory group put in place by Session in 2020 to handle questions raised by committees and advise the Session on matters related to COVID-19. The sub-team is Morgan Jackson, Mac Schafer (Head of Staff), Glenn Schindo (Clerk of Session), and Caroline Smart (Personnel Committee Session Liaison). The COVID-19 Sub-Team met 5 times in 2022. Below are some of the items it advised Session on:

- Updates to the staff and volunteer COVID-19 Policies
- Going "Mask Optional" on Sunday, March 7th
- Communion practices
- Indoor food & drink practices
- Reviewing vaccination policy



DEACONS



Debbie Kirk (Staff Liaison), Joan Lester (Session Liaison)

Class of 2023

*Pat Balletta
Wilson Cheeley
Denise Crosson
Judie Greenawalt
Keto Komono*

Class of 2024

*Ron Ash
Tony Bedini
Martha Chapman
Susan Krause
Elizabeth Rankin*

Class of 2025

*Billy Branch
Ruth Herpich
Joanna Hulsey
Gretchen McDuffie
Carolyn Scott*

The Deacons of Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church provide a ministry of care and presence to our members. While building relationships, offering encouragement and giving support to members is our core, our reflection with one another shows that we receive more than we give from those with whom we connect. Prayer is the foundation of the ministry of the Deacons. We recognize and appreciate that those who we pray for are praying for us as well. Lifting up compassionate and confidential prayers through Prayer Partners is one of the ways we care for our congregation. We make in-person visits for those members who would like them, make numerous phone calls, and send notes and cards. We also serve in-home communion to the homebound.



The Deacons host and support congregational events centered around faith and care. During Lent, the Deacons held 5 Wednesday evening prayer and scripture services which included communion and anointing with oil for those requesting special prayers. Each service was preceded by a simple supper and fellowship.

In December we offered a prayer and scripture service "Blue Christmas: A Service of Shadows" in our chapel. This was a special time of reflection and care for everyone, and especially those with heavy hearts which may be difficult to unburden during this season.

In mid-October, the Deacons had a one-day retreat led by Katherine Kussmaul at the New Hope Camp and Conference Center (*Photo above*). The theme of the retreat was "Parched and Porous" and was a time of sharing, fellowship, and personal reflection with opportunities to walk the lovely labyrinth, walk the many trails, or simply meditate in the worship space.

The Deacons are looking forward to 2023 and where we are called to serve. We plan to continue our Lenten services and Blue Christmas service. We are always striving to provide care in many ways to our congregation and welcome suggestions from members of the congregation. The Deacons continue to "Go Forth and Serve" as our campus signs direct.

MINISTRIES SUPPORTED BY THE DEACONS:

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Pat Balletta

In partnership with the Memorial Services Guild, Deacons assist and support the grieving family before, during, and after a memorial service. Seating is reserved for Deacons during a memorial service, and all available Deacons attend the service. The Deacons assist with greeting guests and host a reception for guests following a service. During 2022, there were 12 memorial services at Hudson; the Deacons hosted 8 receptions and assisted with greeting guests for 2 services in the Memorial Garden.

PRAYER PARTNERS

Martha Chapman (Jan-Jun); Denise Crosson and Wilson Cheeley (Jun-Dec)

Prayer Partners is a ministry in which the Deacons, Pastors and members of the congregation that have agreed to join the ministry, are contacted to lift members and their loved ones in prayer because of a prayer request. Currently, there are 75+ members of the congregation receiving the prayer requests and lifting the folks in these requests in prayer. The prayer ministry keeps us all connected and helps strengthen our relationship with God as we identify the needs, named and unnamed, of those in our congregation and beyond. Some prayer requests are for Deacons and Pastors only; these requests are forwarded only to them. Some prayer requests are marked "OK for PP" or "okay for Prayer Partners;" these are then forwarded by the PP Deacon that month to the Prayer Partners contact list. Most requests are received through Pastors and staff or the Deacons via emails, texts, phone calls and the Deacon Prayer Line, or link on the HMPC website. Prayer requests are also submitted on the blue prayer request cards in the pews.

DEACON CARD MINISTRY

Judie Greenawalt (Jan-Jun); Carolyn Scott (Jun-Dec)

Deacons send cards to those who need care, compassion, support or nurture during time of crisis, need or transition. This ministry also sends grief booklets (series of 4 booklets) to members for one year after the loss of a family member.

During 2022, the Deacon Card Ministry provided care and support by sending:

- 60 Grief Booklets to 26 family members
- 28 Healing, recovery, and comfort cards
- 19 Sympathy cards; 7 Thinking of you/prayers cards; 2 Miscellaneous cards

MEAL MINISTRY

Elizabeth Rankin, Joanna Hulsey

Deacons offer to provide meals for members recovering from illness, undergoing treatment and experiencing other situations when meals would be helpful. The Deacons assigned to the meal ministry coordinate the delivery of meals through numerous members in the congregations who have volunteered to prepare and deliver meals; depending on individual circumstances or requests, meal cards are a welcome alternative since they can be used any time.

Three families were served in 2022:

- 8 meals (member experiencing temporary mobility issues)
- 2 meals (member who had surgery)
- 3 meals (family member accident) and extended into 2023 for as long as needed

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Wilson Cheeley, Tony Bedini, Ruth Herpich, Joanna Hulsey

The goal of the Special Projects team is to create and/or support meaningful special projects for our congregation and community. All Deacons participate as available with special events.

- During 2022, HMPC was a co-sponsor of the care, healing and wellness event "Healing Together: An Evening with Dr. Hillary McBride" held at White Memorial Presbyterian Church on May 11. The focus of this event was to provide the practical ways to better understand and deal with the some of the issues Covid-19 was causing and/or making more acute.
- Nominate the Older Adult Recognition recipient from HMPC. The recipient is honored by New Hope Presbytery in May each year. Sandy Geiger was the recipient in 2022. *(See photo on the cover!)*
- Arrange for delivery of poinsettias to members who may need extra cheer during the Christmas season. Deacons delivered over 25 poinsettias to members in 2022.



PERSONNEL



Connie Atkinson, Bruce Cox (Moderator), Will Crone, Becky Hughes, Joanna Hulsey, John James, Karen Melling, Caroline Smart (Session Liaison), Mac Schafer (Pastor & Staff Liaison)

THE MISSION OF THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

To develop value-added personnel policies and to provide leadership consultation and resources necessary to meet congregational needs and goals.

In 2022, the Committee was focused on the transition of multiple staff positions, along with the appropriate management and oversight of Hudson personnel policies. In light of this, it is important to begin this report by thanking God for the service of the following people to Christ's church:

- Pat Cash stepped down as Church Business Administrator in May 2022 to be a "full time" caregiver to her grandchildren. She served Hudson for 21 years (since May 21, 2001), first as Publications Director, then as Church Business Administrator.
- Carol Yeargin retired as church organist in January 2022. Carol had faithfully served HMPC in that capacity since September of 2007.
- Cheri Thomas concluded a two year tenure as Bookkeeper due to changes in schedules with her family.

SOME OF THE ACTIONS TAKEN IN 2022 INCLUDED:

- Provided 2023 benefits and salary recommendation to Session.
- Oversaw the transition of several staff positions:
 - Director of Children and Family Ministries – Cary Dickerson (permanent)
 - Business Administrator – Amy Claprod
 - Organist/Accompanist – Al Hyde
 - Interim Bookkeeper – Susan Gressel
- Provided direct assistance with annual performance reviews (including participation in face-to-face discussions) and solicited individual staff members to attend select monthly personnel committee meetings.
- In accordance with Hudson policy, reviewed and approved 2023 Sabbatical for Mac Schafer (Pastor & Head of Staff)
- Updated the Staff Policy Manual to include new guidelines for credit card use and reimbursement.
- Drafted job descriptions for two new part-time positions [opportunity to be evaluated in early 2023 based on defined need, priority and budget]:
 - Audio/Visual Coordinator – to support and manage the the various forms of 'hybrid' worship now utilized and expected [audio/visual live stream, pre-recorded, Zoom,..]
 - Facilities Manager – for maintenance of building, grounds and columbarium

MISSION

MISSION COMMITTEE

Members of the Mission Committee: Beth Billman (Moderator), Lizzie Graybill, Lauren Parikh, Delinda Eubanks, John Oldenburg, Chris Page, Steve Jesseph, Roger Howard (Session Liaison)

2022 was a productive year for the Mission Committee. We were able to offer in-person events, as well as ways for our members to support worthy causes with financial donations and donations of tangible goods. We became a certified **Hunger Action Congregation** in the spring of 2022. This designation by Presbyterian Missions is proof of our commitment to help alleviate hunger and end its causes.

Through our monthly **Tend My Sheep** collections we supported: Green Magnet Elementary School (school supplies), Diaper Train (diapers), Green Chair Project (bathroom accessories), Note in the Pocket (pants), Capital Towers (toiletries), and Healing Transitions (toiletries). We also continued our support of the Food Bank, Interfaith Food Shuttle, and North Raleigh Ministries with the collection of tangible food items.

We continued our monthly **Special Offerings** with donations to: Capital Towers, Food Bank, Presbyterian Campus Ministries, North Raleigh Ministries, shelter ministries, and adult mission trip support. We also support many of our denomination's projects; One Great Hour of Sharing, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Peace and Global Witness, and Christmas Joy.

Hands-on volunteer opportunities included: HMPC members were able to volunteer their time at the Food Bank with regular dates set by the committee. We packaged breakfast bags for Meals on Wheels during events held at the church. Members continued to support Meals on Wheels by covering monthly driving routes. Hudson members returned to Avery County for an adult mission trip. We once again provided volunteers for the Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Build.



A **\$25,000 donation** was made to the Interfaith Food Shelter. *(Photo to left.)* These funds were possible due to an overage in the 2021 budget. These funds were presented to IFS representatives during worship on July 10. We designated this donation to be used to support a school food pantry for one year, for their senior grocery bag program, and for educational programs. **Additional financial donations** were made to the Food Bank, North Raleigh Ministries, Habitat for Humanity, Ukraine Relief, and to support PCUSA mission programs.

We facilitated four of the summer adult education weeks. We brought in speakers from the Food Bank and Interfaith Food Shuttle. Members who attended our adult mission trip to Avery County spoke to the class about their experience. We also held a hands-on volunteer opportunity for our members during class. *(Photo to right.)*



We continue to see God's hand in all of the work we do. Everything we do is our effort to make the world a better place for all of God's people. We see his work with every item we collect and deliver to our amazing community partners, with every dime we donate to worthy causes around the world, and in every face that works at one of our hands-on projects. God is good. All the time.

"To Know, Love and Serve God in Jesus Christ"



Avery County Mission Trip Team 2022



Mike Law was awarded "for having ably and faithfully for many years led our Avery County Habitat for Humanity Mission Trips."



Interfaith Build



*Delivery of canned good to North Raleigh Ministries
(collection from Easter "Cancake" Breakfast)*

HUDSON HANDY HELPERS

Mike Law (Coordinator)

Hudson Handy Helpers (HHH) was started about six years ago as a result of a member with cancer asking for help with her home repairs. The church was supplying meals and transportation. Over the years we have helped both church members and others supported by Hudson Memorial, and have had outside requests from organizations such as Step-Up Ministries and Rebuilding Together of the Triangle, as well as individual friends of our congregation. Even during the pandemic, we have selectively and carefully responded.

We help people move into retirement communities, make donations to North Raleigh Ministries and ReStore, make dump runs, help older members with their yards, do minor home repairs, and consult (if needed) where outside contractors are being hired. We have installed grab bars in bathrooms, built ramps and steps, replaced lights and faucets, picked up and delivered furniture and bedding.



Our congregation has been generous in supporting HHH and as a result funds have been used by the Mission Committee to fund local needs.

In 2022 we had 20+ men and women and teenagers in Handy Helpers on about 35-40 projects. It is important when we are helping for us to interact with the people we are helping. This is a blessing for the Helpers.



HMPC PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Gary Alexander (Co-moderator), JoLee Carpenito, Glenn Grigg, Steve Jesseph (Co-moderator), Allie Maples, Mary Schindo, John Whisler, Dottie Burch (Session liaison), Amy Claprod and Mac Schafer (Staff Liaisons)

2022 was a very busy and productive year. Harry Bowles rotated off the committee as co-chair having extended his leadership by 13 months due to the pandemic. Gary Alexander agreed to remain as co-chair along with newly elected co-chair Steve Jesseph. Harry Bond joined the committee for 2 years, along with Glenn Grigg and Steve Jesseph for one year terms for the class of 2024.

Significant Projects Completed in 2022:

- Second Floor Admin Wing and Room 200 -- new ceiling and lighting installed
- Screening for the dumpster area installed
- A number of minor repairs to the facility, including roofing repairs at the Administration wing and the Narthex and repairs to the main sanctuary
- Sidewalk drains were added to alleviate flooding issues at the Memorial Garden
- Monitoring and participation in community meetings with NCDOT and the City of Raleigh regarding the planned widening of Six Forks Road
- A new drain system added next to the breezeway on the Six Forks Road side of the property to stop rainwater from flooding the east side of the building
- Significant improvements to the attics to allow for safer movement for members and contractors doing work in the attics
- A new HVAC contractor selected to repair and maintain our systems
- A number of electrical and plumbing problems addressed, including new electrical outlets in the Geneva Hall classrooms and repairs to the kitchen dishwasher
- A new pulpit was designed and ordered for the sanctuary, funded by memorial gifts
- Replaced an air conditioner/heat unit for the Karl Hudson room
- New wall-mounted TVs installed in Geneva Hall, Westminster Hall and Room 200; ceiling speakers added in WH

MEMORIAL GARDEN

The Memorial Garden of Hudson Presbyterian Church is under the care of a Board of Directors. Current members are Debbie Bumgarner (Secretary), Emily Cobb (Finances), Doug Goodale, Ruth Herpich, Mike Law (Chairman), and Dottie Burch (Session Liaison).



Highlights from 2022 included completing the pergola over the patio in front of the new Columbarium, as well as adding new benches. The new plantings took hold and gave us a beautiful garden for church events, meditation, and a quiet space to enjoy God's beauty.

In 2022, there were purchases of 4 plaques for the Memorial Tablet, and 6 niches in the Columbarium. There are 61 niches available for members.

In 2023, plans are underway to complete the Memorial Garden design with the installation of a commissioned art sculpture and patio furniture, thanks to the Garden & Glass Campaign and special donations. This should be completed before the summer in 2023.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Karen Melling (Coordinator)

Over the past year, the Capital Projects that have been completed are as follows:



- Westminster Hall has seen a few more upgrades with televisions and AV equipment. There have been shelves added to the niches and closets for better storage.
- The Parlor has been converted to a flexible chapel space and now has a beautiful labyrinth carpet. *(Photo to left)*
- The staff offices have been rearranged. Pastor Mac is now conveniently located on the first floor and the other program staff are located on the second floor.
- All the offices have been given a fresh coat of paint and carpet along with some other minor upgrades.



- The second floor has also been upgraded to new ceilings and new LED lighting.
- There is now a work room/library located upstairs next to the choir room. *(Photo to left)*

We have been truly blessed to have been able to continue to upgrade our church facility over the past year. Thanks be to God for our congregation members who give so generously.

TECH IMPROVEMENTS

John Whisler (Coordinator)

Westminster Hall Audio/Visual

New A/V equipment was put in service in 2022 as the final step of the renovation. First, **two 85" display screens** with powerful **Sonos speakers** were added and have been used for VBS, receptions, youth and children's activities, adult education classes, presentations and hybrid zoom meetings. Later in the year, a PA system with **15 JBL ceiling speakers**, **2 wireless microphones** and the ability to play music from any Bluetooth source was added to play in either half individually or both halves of the room together. The project was completed under budget thanks to the many volunteers who helped mount TVs, run cable and install ceiling speakers.

Geneva Hall



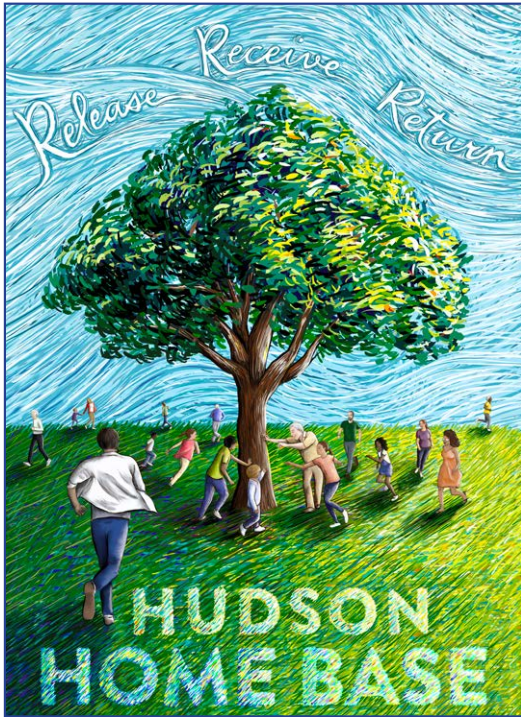
A 55" display screen was added to Geneva Hall for the fall Kick-off to add educational material from the internet to the hands-on instruction in the Children's and Youth programs. *(See photo to left - Screen being used during music time!)*

At the end of the year, advance work for an anticipated 2023 Network Upgrade was completed including upgrading building network cables to current speeds and bringing in Google Fiber to replace Spectrum for internet service. When completed, this work is expected to pay for itself in 3 years from savings on internet and phone service and the maintenance cost of our local file server, as well as improving network reliability, speed and wifi coverage for all of our ministry programs.

STEWARDSHIP

GIVING MINISTRY

Shawn Jackson (Moderator), Ron Cole, Jeffrey Coonse, Fred Woodward, Scott Baker (Communications Officer), Matt Carlisle, Sharon Cole (Clerk), Tom Bradshaw (Session Liaison)



The 2023 Pledge Campaign theme was "Hudson Homebase: Release, Receive, Return". It provided several opportunities to highlight how our congregants feel at home at Hudson. A continuing theme was that many generations have called and do call Hudson their home. We were reminded to release the many thoughts that occupy our minds when we come to Hudson so that we are open to receive God's messages, which will carry us through as we return to our everyday lives. The Giving Ministry is grateful for Pastor Debbie, Morgan Dickinson, Nancy Eyre, John Oldenburg, Becca Fisher-Gabbard and Ken Cates for sharing their experiences calling Hudson their home base.

In coordination with our pledge campaign, the Giving Ministry Committee organized a Homecoming Celebration. It was a joyful time with past and present friends, enjoying barbecue, listening to music, crafting, sharing, and making memories. It is estimated that we welcomed 275 guests who made the reunion so very special.

As of this report, **185 households have pledged \$751,878 for the 2023 operating budget.** This is the second highest amount pledged to the church since 2008. This blessing will strengthen the pillars of Hudson as home base – worship, ministries, community and fellowship.

In addition to sharing treasure, many members pledged their time and talents to the church. Our ministries and committees will follow up on these pledges. Thank you to the Hudson congregation for the many ways in which it contributes to the richness of our church!

Commitment Sunday
was
November 6





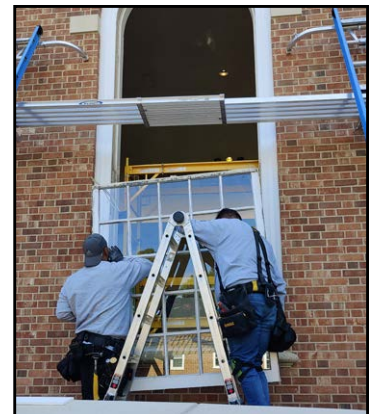
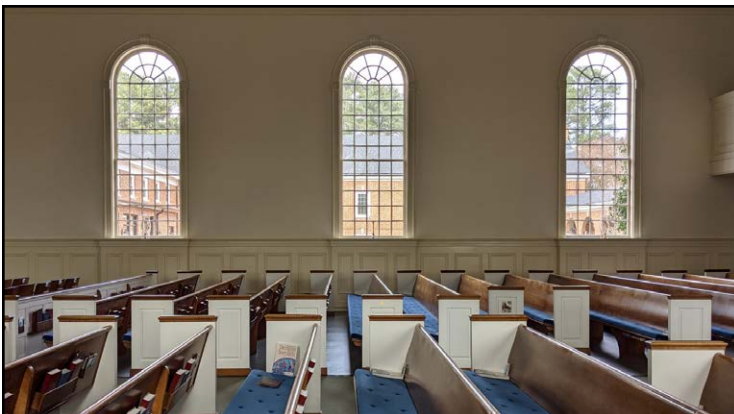
HMPC HOMECOMING CELEBRATION - November 6, 2022



THE 2022 GARDEN & GLASS CAMPAIGN



In May and June of 2022, the congregation had a Session approved short-term capital campaign called Garden & Glass. The campaign raised funds for the following items: Four sanctuary windows plus a pergola, new seating, a sculpture, and reserve funds for maintenance and repairs for the Memorial Garden. The campaign was a wonderful success, raising over **\$86,000 by 84 households**. Special thanks to members Debbie Bumgarner and Lizzie Graybill for coordinating this campaign. As of the writing of this report, the sanctuary windows, pergola and benches have all been installed. Plans are set for more seating in the spring of 2023 and a sculpture installation by the summer of 2023. Thanks be to God!



Last of the old windows being removed

HMPC FOUNDATION

The Foundation is administered by a Board of Directors. The current members of the Board are: Anish Banerjee, Nancy Brenner, Lynne Dawkins, Steve Guy, Don Haydon (President), Allie Maples (Secretary), Laura Perry (Treasurer), Don Slater, and Lou Yates (Vice President). Pastor Mac Schafer is the Staff Liaison.

The Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Foundation is the Church's endowment, or long-term investment vehicle. The Foundation was created as a separate corporation in 1978 to receive gifts, invest those gifts for long-term benefit, and make earnings from that investment available to supplement the annual operating budget and to fund critical projects. The Foundation Board of Directors seeks to balance the long-term goal of building up the endowment for the benefit of future generations, with the near-term goal of supporting needs for expanded outreach and mission, and for building projects.

The Foundation's funds are invested in the Vanguard Balanced Index Fund, which invests 60 percent in stocks and 40 percent in bonds. While the fund's share price increased significantly in prior years, its performance in 2022 reflected the broad investment market and realized a loss for the year. The total value of all Foundation monies at the end of 2022 totaled approximately \$1,200,000, as compared with \$1,461,000 at the end of 2021. Last year's results are disappointing, but the focus is on the long term.

In 2022, the Foundation provided \$30,000 to support the operating budget, and will be able to increase that support to almost \$43,000 in 2023. This contribution helps expand mission and outreach programs of the Church, beyond what might otherwise be afforded. In addition, in 2022 the Foundation approved grants to pay for renovation of second floor administration offices, piano repairs and tuning, and other property projects.

The Foundation Board also oversees the Memorial Gifts program. These gifts are given throughout the year in memory of Hudson members, whose families have asked that remembrances be designated for the Church. The Board considers requests for use of Memorial Gifts funds to support projects or initiatives that cannot be funded within the annual operating budget.



The Board is thankful for the congregation's continued generous support of the Foundation. Previous additions to the endowment from the recent capital campaign, and gifts from the Ragan, Harris, Welby, and O'Rorke estates, and many other families have made it possible for the Foundation to significantly increase its financial support of the operating and capital budgets of the Church.

Gifts to the Foundation may be made through a wide variety of means, such as: cash gifts at any time (and some have found it rewarding to make annual donations on their birthdays); bequests of money or real property to the Church in wills; purchase of life insurance policies with the Church named as beneficiary; and other ways that are agreed by the Session and the Board.



FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Fellowship Committee: Susan Bradshaw (Chair), Sonia Allen, Beth Billman, Emily Cobb, Kay Emanuel, Nancy Eyre, Jeanna Gatten, Sandy Geiger, Jill Hovis, Hope Parangi, Dickens Sanchez, Debbie Kirk (Staff Liaison), Joan Lester (Session Liaison)

What the Fellowship Committee was up to in 2022 : Serving others with a cheerful heart!

The Fellowship Committee began using the newly renovated space of Westminster in March of 2022 to host Fellowship after worship and events throughout the year. We also helped other committees host events, some of these outdoors. We continue to plan for activities that will appeal to all, and try to anticipate the needs of those that attend these events. We welcomed 4 new members this year to add to our team: Sandy Geiger, Jill Hovis, Kay Emanuel, and Dickens Sanchez! Sandy, Jill, and Kay were contacted in connection with the Time and Talent sheet that Mac sent to committee chairs at the end of 2021! Some members of Hudson Connects (Roger Howard, Grace Hutchinson, and Andrea Mouw) joined us as alternates in helping out with the Sunday after worship schedule. This was a big help.

January-March 2022 - Arranged hosts and also hosted Fellowship Hour after worship/outdoors

- Began hosting Fellowship after worship indoors.

April - In addition to hosting Fellowship after Worship:

- The committee decorated the dining area for Easter 4/16/23, and assisted with the Easter Pancake Breakfast 4/17/22 - 100 in attendance!

May - In addition to hosting Fellowship after Worship:

- The committee hosted Fellowship Friday on May 27, Memorial Day weekend. We had grilled hamburgers & chicken, sides, & desserts. The movie "Waking Ned Devine" started at 6:45. Lots of laughter! The weather was stormy that night; we had 28 show up.

June - In addition to hosting Fellowship after Worship:

- The committee helped in organizing and planning three outdoor events that were held on the patio in the front, at the breezeway, as well as in the Memorial Garden. The three events were the Garden and Glass campaign, High School Graduation, and recognizing Pat Cash! Whew.
- The Committee also hosted a Summer Supper on June 8. 28 People attended.
- Fellowship Friday was held on June 24. We had a meal and played bingo. Sean Cole was the bingo caller. 38 people attended.
- Our answers to the questions on Becoming a Matthew 25 congregation were turned in on June 27.

July - In addition to hosting Fellowship after Worship:

- We hosted Summer Supper on July 13th. 40 in attendance
- July 22 - Fellowship Friday - Co- hosted with the Children's Committee. It was an ice cream social and games. Over 30 attended, lots of younger families

August - In addition to hosting Fellowship after Worship:

- We hosted Summer Supper - August 3rd. 38 people attended
- August 28 - Kick off Luncheon/Renamed End of Summer Lunch (at least for 2022 per staff)- Boxed lunches served in Westminster. Over 90 people attended.

October - Hosted Fellowship after worship

November - In addition to hosting Fellowship after Worship:

- Fellowship Committee members helped with the Homecoming celebration on November 6, 2022 after worship.

December - In addition to hosting Fellowship after Worship:

- We hosted a special Fellowship after worship on Christmas Day. About 26 in attendance!

The Holy Spirit was present this year as we plan, enjoying each other's company and friendships that have "blossomed" as a result of serving on this committee together. As we work together hosting our many events we see members and guests connecting, visiting, and enjoying each other. Our events are designed to be inclusive to all. This year we have enjoyed the willingness of the Hudson Connects Committee to help host Fellowship After Worship. We also worked closely with Presbyterian Women, the Children's Committee, The Giving Ministry Committee, and the Youth Committee.



Wonderful Fellowship events in 2022 -
From Bingo Night, to the Ice Cream Social, to Pat Cash's Farewell Reception

AMAZING GRAYS

Mike Law & Sandy Cole (Coordinators), Marsha Flueckinger (Session Liaison)



Amazing Grays "lunch out" meetings have resumed after having been on hold since the COVID pandemic. Lunches are scheduled the third Thursday each month at some of the group's favorite restaurants. The Amazing Grays meet-and-eat at HMPC (at the church) with programs in Westminster Hall has not resumed.

New leaders are needed to coordinate this event. Please contact Mike or Sandy for information or details.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Officers – Grace Hutchinson (Moderator), Sharon Cole (Secretary), Judie Greenawalt (Treasurer)

Our Purpose

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves

- to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study,
- to support the mission of the church worldwide,
- to work for justice and peace, and
- to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom

We develop our connection with each other while working to fulfill the purpose of Presbyterian Women within our circles. We currently have 4 active circles. Three are daytime and one meets at night. Several circles are studying the Horizon Bible Study Celebrating Sabbath. We have a circle currently studying the book Holy Envy by Barbara Brown Taylor.

We commit ourselves to mission both locally and globally through our time, talent and resources. We support the work of Presbyterian Women nationally through our Mission Pledge, as well as the Thank and Birthday offerings. We also coordinate mission efforts and provide funding to Church Women United, a national ecumenical women's organization. We connect with women throughout our denomination through local presbytery gatherings and available webinars. The Hannah Circle sends birthday cards and delivered Christmas gift bags to residents of Capital Towers.

We supported several local charities that focus on the needs of children, youth and families with financial gifts. These included the following:

- Family Promise of Wake County
- Women's Center of Wake County
- Note in the Pocket
- Read and Feed of Wake County
- Hope Center of Pullen

We support church-wide events which included the coordination of both the receptions following our spring choir concert and the Christmas Joy Concert.

Through our Baby Ministry, coordinated by Christine Bond, we support families that welcome new babies at Hudson by arranging for a meal to be provided by our circles. We welcomed three new babies during 2022.



Several PW Circles celebrating Christmas

IN SADNESS, PW MARKED THE LOSS OF MEMBERS

Lucy Rhame - March 2, 2022

Joan Harrod - April 13, 2022

Dorothy Gall - July 3, 2022

Betty Moser - July 13, 2022

Mildred Brinson - October 11, 2022

Dorothy McDermott - October 11, 2022



HUDSON SINGLE WAY

Phyllis Cheeley

- Single Way has approximately 15 active members, who met semi-monthly 2022 at local restaurants, occasionally at members' homes, and at the church. Restaurants include about 15 restaurants in the North Raleigh area, where a designee calls ahead for a reservation. All members participate in restaurant selection and date/time for luncheons or dinners.

-One Single Way member (9th year project-head from Hannah Circle) participated in Capital Towers Christmas Gift project, where 25 gift bags were delivered to Towers residents of greatest need.

-In 2022, a representative from the SHIIP (Senior Health Insurance Information Program) presented a PowerPoint and gave handouts to assist Single Way seniors for Medicare choices in the health benefit program

-For 2023, the Single Way group is considering different options for organizing events and luncheons among its members. Suggestions for discussion:

1. Church projects or other group activities of interest to Single Way
2. Single Way bulletin board
3. How to handle communications for church notification of events, and communications to Single Way members: email, phone call
4. Meal (brunch, lunch, dinner) decisions for frequency and time. Leadership designee responsibility

MEMORIAL BOOK

Elizabeth Rankin

The Memorial Book is a lasting record of gifts that have been given to Hudson in memory or in honor of friends and loved ones. The book is organized chronologically, with all gifts given on any particular date recorded on the same page. It includes the name of the person(s) who gave the gift and the person the gift was given to honor. The book is displayed in the narthex and is opened to a different date every Sunday.



In 2022, the Memorial Book was updated to reflect gifts through November 30, 2022. In 2021, 124 individual gifts were given to Hudson in memory or in honor of others. In 2022, between January 1 and November 30, a total of 188 gifts were given.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Teri Morris, Office Volunteer Coordinator

Our Office Volunteer Ministry was a blessing to the church this year! After a hiatus due to Covid, the Office Volunteers returned at the end of April 2022. We had a rotation of volunteers come in several times a week and do the following tasks:

- Sit at the reception desk, answer the phone, open the door to greet guests and accept packages
- Collate the bulletin and newsletter, put together visitor welcome bags, stuff envelopes for mailings
- Help with Children's Ministry projects and Vacation Bible School preparation
- File and shred documents for the Bookkeeper
- Ready the Sanctuary for Sunday morning
- Give keys to the drivers of the vans to assist with Capital Towers



The days and hours shifted throughout the year, but volunteers were regularly in the office 2 or 3 days each week, always ensuring office coverage during the weekly staff meeting. Currently we are there each Monday, Tuesday and Friday. This ministry has been an important way for church members to get to know one another more deeply and make new connections. We saw some terrific team work in the Karl Hudson room this year! We look forward to expanding our team and inviting new people into our rotation in 2023.

Thanks to our crew of 2022 volunteers: Olene Franks, Sandy Geiger, Judie Greenawalt, Ruth Herpich, Margaret Lockard, Linda Measamer, Lucille Nicholas, Elizabeth Rankin, and Yana Soler.

VAN MINISTRY

Dave Smart



The Van Ministry got back in the saddle last summer, restarting our runs driving seniors from Capital Towers to the Food Lion (and back) every Tuesday. We currently have 5 volunteers... Leigh Magee, Chip Magee, Daniel Ward, Bill Flueckinger and myself. (*Always looking for more!) I do the monthly scheduling and correspond (when necessary) with our liaison over at Cap Towers. We've been having 9 or fewer riders since we restarted the program post-Covid, down from our pre-Covid run numbers. All of our drivers agree that our efforts are greatly

appreciated by the Cap Towers residents, and as much as anything it's an outing they look forward to. In my view, the blessing is ours as much as theirs!

ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Adult Ed members: Susan Bradshaw, Jay Cummins (Liaison and chair), Linda Meeks, and Lindsey Ogden work under the guidance of Pastor Kirk. Thanks to Ron Ash, Susie Bradshaw, Dottie Burch, and Keto Komono who faithfully served out their terms on the committee this May.

The Adult Education Committee, "Adult Ed", is responsible to the Session for ministering to the Christian nurture and faith formation of adults at HMPC working alongside the youth and children's ministry teams.

The wide scope of Adult Ed includes both lay and pastor led programs including Adult Sunday School, New Members classes, Coffee and Conversation, Sunday Night Book Study series, Presbyterian Pint, Seeing the Word, Brown Bag Lunch, Women at the Well, and Waking Up with the Word (...and more).

The new class year began in May getting initiated to the Matthew 25 initiative with the objective of providing best in class programming which leads to building congregational vitality and eradicating structural racism. We are positioned well to lead the educational efforts of Matthew 25 in that we have a solid mission carried out by a strong core group of educators providing a variety of options at various venues with a flexible approach.

Highlights of 2022 included a successful 12-week summer series including memorable Bible character skits (shout outs to Joanna, Lizzie, and Grace), a bee-keeper presentation (love those bees!), Hunger Action updates, Old and New Testament fundamentals, and the adult Mission Trip report from John Oldenberg. We also offered a special session on pilgrimage led by John Whisler and Carolyn Scott recounting their trip along the Camino de Santiago earlier in the year.

Kudos go out to all the leaders who helped guide the educational process while Mac was on sabbatical, and, if you happened to attend the early January combined Sunday School 9am program you were treated to a presentation by Mac on his trip to reformation sites in Germany and trek from Switzerland to Rome along the Via Francigena.

This Fall we expanded the Adult Sunday school offerings to include a 9 o'clock class that has focused on pilgrimage as its theme using videos, movies (*Same Kind of Different Me* and *The Way*), and discussion. The Presbyterian Ponderings class, a discussion group, has been working with the book *Presbyterian Questions, Presbyterian Answers* by Donald McKim and has had many lively discussions. The Seeker's class revolves around theological themes led by a crack team of facilitators (Susan Grigg, Rev. Jimmy Hulsey, Rev. Aleta Ash, and Ron Ash).

The 2023 first quarter programming is kicking off with gusto as the Nine O'Clock Class focuses on The Power Nine and the Blue Zones Projects, while the Seekers will be creating C.H.A.O.S. We encourage you to consider attending as we grow the participants in each offering.



PASTOR-LED ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Mac Schafer and Debbie Kirk



WAKING UP WITH THE WORD (WUWTW) – WUWTW is a Men's Bible Study that meets weekly, alternating between Zoom and In-person on the Westminster Hall Patio. Special thanks to Fred Woodward & Ken Krause who led the in-person group, and Don Slater who led the Zoom group while Mac was on Sabbatical. This group met 51 times in 2022.

BROWN BAG LUNCH – The Brown Bag Lunch group studied *Heaven & Hell: A History of the Afterlife* by Bart D. Ehrman during the first half of 2022. The group did not meet the second half of 2022 while Pastor Mac was away on Sabbatical.



COFFEE & CONVERSATION was a new offering created in 2022. It is for parents of children and youth and goes on while children are in music and youth are in Sunday School after worship. Pastor Mac regularly taught and facilitated this group last spring and Cary Dickerson led it in the fall while Pastor Mac was on Sabbatical.

SEEING THE WORD – A Visio & Lectio Divina group that used the *St. John's Illuminated Bible*; it met once a month from January to July, then stopped due to Pastor Mac being on sabbatical. It restarted in January of 2023.



PRESBYTERIAN PINT – The Presbyterian Pint is a men's group that meets on the fourth Thursday of the month. They studied *Being Reformed: The Theology of Presbyterian* at the beginning of 2022. This group met once a month at Mordecai Beverage Company. Special thanks to John James who led the group from July through December.

LENTEN FRIDAY LABYRINTH WALKS IN THE CITY OF RALEIGH - Every Friday of Lent in 2022, Pastor Mac met members of Hudson for guided labyrinth walks at locations like Millbrook Baptist, Transitions LifeCare, St. Marks UMC, and more.



WOMEN AT THE WELL - Two groups, two times and formats, diverse groups of women of all ages and stages. Each of these groups had new church members join in 2022. The Wednesday morning weekly group became a hybrid of in-person and online formats to accommodate group members. Each week approximately 18 women met in person with 4-6 online for conversation, reflections and prayer using a selected book as a guide. In 2022 we used *If God is Love Don't Be a Jerk* by John Pavlovitz and *Wholehearted Faith* by Rachel Held Evans. The group meets Sept-May.

The monthly group meets on one Thursday a month for dinner and discussion on the intersection of faith and life with a podcast or other online source providing content. This group has 26 women on the roster and gatherings range from 6 or 8 to twice that. Podcasts included selections by Kate Bowler, Brene Brown, Glennon Doyle, Bishop Michael Curry, Brian McLaren, Anne Lamott, David Lamotte, Diana Butler Bass, Barbara Brown Taylor, Krista Tippett, and John Meacham through NPR, podcasts, TED Talks and other online sources.



BOOK STUDIES - Debbie facilitates Sunday evening offerings on an occasional basis, typically one in the spring and one in the fall, meeting for 90 minutes and diving deeply into challenging topics related to peace and justice. In 2022 the spring series used *Holy Envy: Seeing God in the Faith of Others* by Barbara Brown Taylor and was attended by 14 people who considered the rich blessings in interfaith relationships. The fall selection was *How to Have an Enemy: Righteous Anger and The Work Of Peace* by Rev Melissa Florer-Bixler, pastor of Raleigh Mennonite Church. The Biblical witness as translated for our life and times was very challenging for the 8 participants, who found it helpful as we discern how to do the necessary work of addressing systemic issues, particularly those associated with race and gender.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY COMMITTEE

Children's Ministry Committee: Angie Bell-Morris (Moderator), Christine Bond, Laura McHenry, Meredith Dalzell, Polly Bryant, Bonnie Miller, Leslie Baker, Sandy Cole, Cary Dickerson (Director of Children's Ministries), Carol Cox (Session Liaison).

Cary Dickerson provides exceptional leadership in service to our children and families at Hudson. Among her strengths is her ability to maintain communication and coordinate programming with both the church and preschool staff. Cary has been instrumental in establishing very successful program and fellowship opportunities for our children and families. She is creative, but is also caring and nurturing. She not only guides the faith journey of our children, but models the Christian life for them.

A new Joyful Noise music program for children is being led by Rich Richards and Barbara Loehr-Fox. While the children practice with Rich and Barbara, parents meet together for a time of conversation and fellowship. With considerable expertise and patience, Rich and Barbara have inspired our children and the congregation as a whole with their musical gifts. Our Christmas children's pageant this year was again a blessing. We had enthusiastic participation from children of all ages in this ageless story of Christmas, and their contributions to worship throughout the year are inspirational.



Our Vacation Bible School experience was another resounding success with 80 children in attendance and more than 40 volunteers. Cary's leadership from initial planning in early 2022 to the August week and afterward was the key to that success. Through music, art, Bible study, science and recreation, the children learned how the light in our lives that comes from faith enables us to shine our light as inspiration to others. We traveled each day to "Adventure Island" to experience together the love, joy, trust and hope that comes from faith.

Other highlights of the year included our annual Easter Egg Hunt where over 1000 eggs were hidden and children celebrated Easter through crafts and games.





We had our first Arts Camp (over 3 evenings in June) where Barbara Loehr-Fox, along with volunteers, helped children explore their faith through music, drama and art. We participated in our joint Trunk-or-Treat with St. Mark's Methodist. We had an abundance of trunks, fun and fellowship for families and children of all ages. Our special family Christmas Celebration was a wonderful way to celebrate the season with a focus on the birth of Christ as the special gift of Christmas.

The Children's ministry at Hudson is supported by a wonderful group of volunteers. Those serving on the Children's committee and all who give of their time and talent to provide the leadership so vital for the faith journey of our children. There is always a need for additional volunteers. We as a congregation are indebted to these individuals because they are securing the future of ministry at Hudson.

When our children share with us in worship, it is indeed a blessing, but most important to our church is the presence of our children among us. When we support our children in their faith journey, we receive a blessing as well.



YOUTH MINISTRY REPORT

HMPC Youth advisors: Merritt Dickerson, Nancy Eyre, Lydia Fisher-Gabbard, Paul Liebman, Monica Maxwell, Rich Richards, and Johan van Die

HMPC Youth Committee: Sean Cole, Wilson Cheeley, Jay Cummins, Kessler Dickerson (youth) Merritt Dickinson (vice chair), Ashley Edmister (Session Liaison), Nancy Eyre (chair), Rich Richards (staff), Elizabeth van Die

HMPC Sunday school teachers: Matt Carlisle, Nancy Eyre, Becca Fisher-Gabbard, Wilson Cheeley Dickens Sanchez

Confirmation Class of 2022: 12 confirmands and mentors. Confirmation 2023 was put on hold for a year due to low numbers on the rolls in the rising 8th grade class. In turn, a Confirmation Ministry Team was formed. The members of that team are as follows: Sean Cole, Becca Fisher-Gabbard, Karen Melling, Tim Peeler, Yana Soler.



EXAMPLES OF ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE FOUR QUADRANTS OF YOUTH MINISTRY AT HMPC:

Mission and Outreach:

- Christmas Caroling while collecting food for North Raleigh Ministries.
- Collected coats for "Coat Sunday"
- College Student Exam Time Care Packages

Recreation/Arts:

- Game/Recreation nights, Pastors and Staff on the Hot Seat
- God and Art Canvases and Acrylic with Cyndi Harris
- Fall Festival Trunk or Treat Decorating (and van washing) with St. Mark's (Photo to right)

Worship/Spiritual engagement:

- Weekly "Candle Time" prayer time
- Christmas Joy Concert participation

Christian Education:

- Youth Sunday School 5th-12th grades - We are trying this new time after worship and pairing it with youth handbells. This new schedule is on a "trial" basis so that at the end of a semester, we'll be able to assess whether this time works for families.
- "Questions and Answers JENGA"



2022 Summer trips:

- The two summer trips, Middle School Conference at Massanetta and the Montreat Youth Conference had good registration numbers and it was definitely a plus to be safely "in person" at those locations. We had a total of around 18 youth that participated in these conferences.

College ministry: (16 in attendance) Met for a dinner which followed the Christmas Joy Concert at Chuy's! In January, 3 attended **Montreat's College Conference** in Montreat, NC with members of the NCSU PCM (Presbyterian Campus Ministry), which HMPC supports financially.

"Already Launched" in 2023 - One Sunday a month (9 total per year), families will gather around a table for a meal in their homes OR at a restaurant for an "off campus" youth ministry initiative called "Sabbath Sundays". They are given a one-page (front and back) with prayers, discussion questions and sometimes songs to listen to.



WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Wilson Cheeley (Ushers), Carol Cox (Sacristy Guild), Marsha Flueckinger (Session Liaison), Sandy Geiger (Chair), Judie Greenawalt (Choir President/Memorials), Barbara Loehr-Fox (Director of Music Ministries), Grace Hutchinson (Chancel Guild), John Whisler (Audio Visual Board), Mac Schafer (Pastor)



This committee, which encompasses all of the groups listed, meets every other month to discuss all aspects of worship and ways to improve. We also monitor attendance and address any changes in worship that we feel should be considered.

MEMORIAL SERVICES GUILD

Memorial Services Guild: Judie Greenawalt (Chair), Nancy Eyre, Karen Gaither, Sandy Geiger, Glenn Grigg, Lucille Nicholas, Elizabeth Rankin; Pat Balletta (Deacon Memorial Liaison), Mac Schafer (Staff Liaison), Melinda Dickinson (Session Liaison)



The Memorial Services Guild chair assists the grieving family with part of the planning for a memorial service: flowers for the Sanctuary, details of a reception/greeting guests, memorabilia table/media, reserved seating in the Sanctuary, meals for the family if needed, day of service details and any questions or requirements from the family of the loved one. Guild members prepare the Sanctuary for a service, usher during the service and help direct guests to the reception/greeting area and support the grieving family. Deacons also assist and support the grieving family before, during and after the memorial service.

The Memorial Guild chair and Deacon Memorial Service Liaison coordinate support for the needs of the family and service, greeting/directing guests, and reception details. During 2022, the Guild and Deacons were honored to serve 12 families with in-person services in the Sanctuary or Memorial Garden. The Deacons hosted 8 receptions in Westminster Hall or the Memorial Garden.

CHANCEL GUILD

Grace Hutchinson (Moderator), Judy James, Pat Balletta, Kelly Boone, Jeanna Gatten

The Chancel Guild at Hudson is on standby throughout the year to support the worship experience for our congregation. We are grateful for our staff who lead us in worship and work to support their creative approach to ministry. We provide special assistance during the Lent/Easter and the Advent/Christmas seasons of the church year. The colors of the church season represent special seasons in the life of our church which are observed throughout our denomination. We are indebted to Pat Balletta who consistently monitors this special calendar and ensures that paraments presented are appropriate to the season.

We have returned to in-person worship and have once again restored traditions that support our worship consistent with the church season observed. The season of Lent had many special worship experiences that were coordinated with the staff to provide visual reminders to enhance the worship



experience. The services throughout our Advent season featured festive decorations from our beautiful Christmas tree to the many poinsettias given in honor or memory of loved ones. The efforts of all who contributed time, climbed ladders, prepared and decorated trees, and placed garlands and wreaths, both at the beginning and end of our holiday season, are invaluable in this effort.

When it comes to the work of the Chancel Guild, our dedicated Chancel Guild members, along with all ages and stages in our congregation provide the needed support to enhance the worship experience of all who enter our doors. When God's presence comes to us, it overflows onto the whole community.

Something begins to change. Like a flame passed at a Christmas Eve service, it illuminates us all.

USHERS

Wilson Cheeley (Head Usher)

The Ushers have faithfully served on Sundays and in special worship services to welcome members and visitors to HMPC. We were on a weekly schedule in 2022 and have switched back to a two-week schedule for 2023. We currently have seven four-person teams. Many of our ushers serve multiple roles and volunteer in several areas at Hudson, and we count on one another to substitute when we can't be two places at once. We count the number of congregants and turn this number in each week along with the names of attendees who signed the Service of Friendship pads.

I have seen the Spirit of God working through our ushers as we care for the Congregation. We have a large number of worshipers who are elderly and require extra assistance and special care, and we strive to make them feel comfortable and provide any extra support that is needed. We are here for our worshipers to answer questions and make sure the worship space is presentable and has Service of Friendship pads ready to use each week.

This past summer, we hosted a well-attended AED (Defibrillator) training session.

SACRISTY GUILD

*Melinda Dickinson, Sandy Geiger, Becky Hughes, Leigh Johnson,
Lucille Nicholas, Blanche Wenge, Carol Cox (Chair)*

Another exciting year of seeing the Spirit of God at work! Here are a few ways:

Welcoming new members Mary Cates Bevier and Lesley Ash Jacobsen to our team! Also welcoming returning member Elizabeth Peeler who will be leading the Sacristy Committee starting in 2023!

On the first Saturday morning of each month, three of the committee members meet to prepare the elements for the Sunday sacrament. While we bond over fulfilling our important task, we also enjoy the fellowship, the laughs, and being with one another. *(Continued on next page...)*

Precautionary measures due to COVID-19 were still in place, therefore the Lord's Supper was served in the following manner:

- **January, February**-individual baggies of the elements were available at each entrance
- **March**-individual baggies on Communion trays were passed
- **April**-traditional passing of the bread and cup resumed, without the baggies. (Note: we continued then, and currently still provide individual baggies of elements available at each entrance at each Communion service for those who prefer)
- **Maundy Thursday**-a modified Intinction (individual cups of juice were provided instead of "dipping" the bread in the chalice)

- **May**-traditional passing of the bread and cup
- **June through September**-modified Intinction
- **October**-traditional passing of the bread and cup
- **November**-modified Intinction
- **December**-traditional passing of the bread and cup
- **Christmas Eve**, 8 pm service-traditional Intinction resumed (dipping of the bread in the chalice)



- **World Communion Sunday** was celebrated on October 2, 2022. Rich Richards provided lovely fabric pieces from places around the world. *(Photo to left)* The children and youth carried various kinds of breads representing different countries as they processed to the Communion table. What a wonderful service representing the bonds of Christian love throughout the world on this special day.

• **Confirmation and Communion service** on Sunday, May 1, 2022- The Confirmands were provided glass communion cups in which they could keep as a token of this important sacrament on that special day in their Confirmation journey, as well as in their continued journey of faith.

• There are many insightful hymns sung in celebration of the Lord's Supper. The Spirit of God at work can surely be felt in the verse (from the hymn "We Come as Guests Invited"), "One bread is ours for sharing, One single fruitful vine, Our fellowship declaring Renewed in bread and wine: Renewed, sustained, and given By token, sign, and word, The pledge and seal of heaven, The love of Christ our Lord."

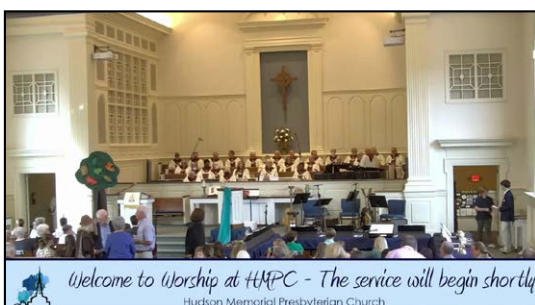
TECH TEAM

John Whisler (Coordinator)

IMPROVEMENTS TO LIVESTREAM WORSHIP - HMPC posted 69 worship services to YouTube in 2022 including Sunday and special services, concerts and memorial services. In January, we started adding banners in the lower third of the livestream *(images below)*, a QR code for giving, images and videos sometimes in split screen with a speaker. Many wonderful moments were shared this way.

The number of viewings rose steadily through 2022. Typically, each livestreamed service is viewed by 100 – 150 households live or on playback during the following week. Typically, a third to a half of new members now report watching our livestream as part of deciding to visit and join.

This was done for the glory of God by the faithful team of soundboard and livestream volunteers in 2022 (John Oldenburg, Davis Boone, Gil Graybill, John Whisler, Steve Jesseph, Olsen Richards, Barton Meeks, Tiya Komono, Skye Schafer, Lucille Nicolas, Erik Jacobsen and Darrin Komono) and by the staff.



Our livestream has been enhanced with banners & graphics!





OUTREACH & ASSIMILATION

WELCOMING TEAM

*Davis Jennings (Chair), Sarah Edge, Marie Wallden, Elizabeth Rankin,
Roger Howard, Cary Dickerson (Session Liaison), Pastor Mac Schafer (Staff Liaison)*

Welcome to Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church! In 2023 the Welcome Team continued a variety of activities that encourage visitors to become better acquainted with Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church, as well as to make Hudson more visible. Visitors see Welcome Team members as Sunday morning greeters at the Narthex, Cranbrook and North Parking Lot doors as well as seeing all HMPC members wearing name badges. Welcome Team is charged with preparing our pineapple-adorned Welcome Bags. The banner near the Six Forks/Cranbrook intersection invites commuters to join us by sharing uplifting messages.



2022 Fall Festival

Each Fall Hudson and St Mark's Methodist share hosting the Fall Festival attended by both congregation's members and folks from the larger community. In short, the Welcome Team attempts to provide anything and everything that leads to New Member Inquirers' Class. And again, "Welcome, we're glad you're here."

HUDSON CONNECTS

*Joanna Hulse (Moderator), Marsha Flueckinger, Bill Flueckinger, Grace Hutchinson,
John Oldenburg, Roger Howard (Session Liaison)*

"Since you cannot do good to all, you are to pay special attention to those who, by the accident of time, or place, or circumstances, are brought in closer connection with you." - St. Augustine

When a visitor walks into our sanctuary, when someone makes an inquiry about our congregation, Hudson Connects is part of the team who welcomes them to Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church. Such people, whether by accident or by the will of God, are seeking a place to believe and to belong. Along with pastors and other church staff/members, we strive to offer opportunities for that to be possible. Our task is to guide new members in assimilating into the life of the congregation and to assist all members in continuing and enriching their involvement. We have worked closely this year with Rev. Dr. Kirk to make contact with all those who have attended the Inquirers Class. We have participated in the Zoom class sessions and have followed up by email or personal conversation with each one. Thirty adults became members of our congregation in 2022 and we have nurtured connections as we walk with them in "finding their places" at HMPC. We believe these connections are powerful and work to make us community. New members continue to be of varied ages and stages and household configurations. We observe that many are already participating here when they decide to intentionally pursue membership: they attend worship; they may have children and youth connected to those programs; they have joined one of the faith formation groups; they attend fellowship activities. We believe this important and are intentionally encouraging this process. Many find us initially through our live stream worship.

As we look to 2023, we will be gathering for a planning meeting to assess what we have been doing and evaluate what we may need to amend. We will consider what changes are desirable so that we can be more effective in honoring our commitment connecting members to one another and to the ministries they find most valuable.

Zoom meetings plus emails and telephone calls taught us that together we can accomplish our mission faithfully. As a result, HC is encouraged that, in spite of the seeming obstacles we faced, we welcomed 4 classes of new member families in 2022!

HUDSON MEMORIAL PRESCHOOL BOARD

HMP Board of Directors: Emily Cobb (chairperson), Connie Akinson, Tom Carpenito, Ronnie Apple, Trish Richardson, Morgan Dickinson, Marylou Rawling, Lydia Fisher-Gabbard, Leslie Baker

Over the past year HMP has emerged from the shadow of Covid!



We began 2022 with drop-off and pick-up at the door. As numbers moved in a positive direction in the spring, we were able to drop the indoor mask requirement. Each staff member was supported in the personal decision of whether they chose to continue wearing a mask or not.

We transitioned to parents coming in the building for pick-up in June. This change was well received as some parents had never been in the building. The door drop-off has continued with parents coming in for pick-up. Parents are welcome to come to enter the school but the majority appreciate the convenience of door drop-off.

Registration for the 2022-2023 school year was challenging; tours were limited as some prospective parents still did not feel comfortable coming in person. Most of our classes were close to capacity with waiting lists in the infants and toddlers. We have 15 classrooms and 40 staff members.



Our summer program was great! Somewhat challenging with staffing but we ended up with a strong crew. We did not offer the single week in August; less than 5 teachers took us up on the offer to work to make up for the change.

Fall kick-off was strong: We held an in person Open House, Back to School pizza night and a Scholastic book fair all in September. The school earned enough "scholastic dollars" to order three birch cabinets valued at \$400 each, we are still awaiting delivery. We also had a large part in updating Geneva Hall. We had Geneva Hall painted and had a large monitor installed, replacing the projector.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS THROUGH THE FALL:

- Picture Days
- Parent/Teacher Conference Day
- Preschool Sunday
- Attendance at Fall Festival
- Canned food drive benefiting North Raleigh Ministries
- Thanksgiving celebration with parents
- Threes and Fours Christmas program and reception
- Teachers received a Christmas bonus
- The preschool purchased 5 oval rugs for classrooms
- Teachers have continued with both in person and virtual trainings through Project Enlightenment and The American Heart Association.
- Plans were put in place in October to upgrade the Toddler side of the Playground. We are working with Creative Playscapes and are scheduled to have this project complete in the Spring.





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