



# the weekly Window

August 6, 2021

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

## Youth Retreat

### Montreat 2021

Hi everyone, I am somebody. My name is also Tory Schafer but I am somebody. Montreat has burned this saying into my mind, and I could not be more grateful that it did. The week of July 18th I went with our youth group to Montreat, and to say I had great time would be the understatement of my summer.

I had no idea how many types of connections there were until this week at Montreat. We have connected, interconnected, disconnected, well connected, and biconnected. Each day we focused on one type, and each day the connection of our youth group, small group or every church at Montreat grew closer.

For the past year and a half our world has been disconnected, divided, and drained. In the words of Rev. Damon we were a “smart phone, with no charger”. The further you get from the source, the weaker you get. This week we all plugged back into the loving grace of God. We spent our days in small groups, at the house playing cribbage, cooking meals, singing songs, dancing, and most importantly connecting every night during devotion.

Everyday day during keynote, and every night during worship I built up my knowledge of God’s love: Understanding it, reaching for it, and securing it. I reminded myself that my voice matters, that I am somebody, that to love is to sacrifice, and that God gave us all our different type of human and nonhuman connections to enhance the gifts she gave us.

I also found my new favorite story in the Bible: The Tower of Babel. God purposely spread out the people of Babel because the town was no longer united but uniform. God has put different types of people in our lives for a reason, because in diversity there is harmony. If we all looked the same, believed in the same thing, and talked the same, life would be boring. We would not learn as much or love as much as we do. At some point in our life we

have all dimmed our light of uniqueness to fit in, but once you realize that you’re uniqueness was a gift of God and you should let it shine through, life could be a whole lot brighter.

One morning we watched a clip from the Tom Hanks movie “Castaway”. We watched the creation of Wilson his best friend who was a volleyball. Chuck made Wilson his best friend because he was longing for connection. We need connections, we need each other, whether we are complete opposites or exactly the same, we bring out each other’s

gifts, and bring love and joy into each other’s lives, and we are placed by God into each others’ lives.

God gives us each other. God gave Mary and Elizabeth to each other. When Mary was told she would be having a baby, Elizabeth was having one too. They went through the process of childbirth together. We all connect in different types of ways. Different types of grief, pain, tragedy, but we also relate in different types of love, belonging, and friendship. No matter what you are going through odds are someone in the

room has gone through it too and if not, there is someone in the world who has and we can thank God for she gave us those connections, you are never alone.

The last night we went to worship, and Rev. Damon made a very good point. He said Montreat doesn’t end here, it’s just starting. This week started my thought process of how to go out into the world and forgive, connect, and love.

We then went onto the lakeside for the candlelight part of the service, and during the last song “Open Up” the clouds moved and a full moon came through the mountains. It was a beautiful way to end our time. Candle lit, full moon, song, and the benediction. As we all started to blow out our candles and the benediction was reaching its last words, the moon was covered back up by the clouds. You could say it was a coincidence, but I don’t think it was. This was one of the best weeks of my life and I would not have wanted to do it with anyone else. Thank you Hudson and thank you Hudson youth group.



# Waking Up with the Word

**August 10 - 6:30 am**

Waking Up with the Word will meet at 6:30 am at the WH Patio. The group studies the scripture text that will be preached on the following Sunday. No previous Bible study experience is needed. The group centers their study around three questions - 1. What is a word or phrase that stands out to you in the text? 2. Allow that word or phrase to prompt a memory from your life, a thought on the passage or a metaphor. 3. What is Christ calling you to through the scripture text? [Contact Mac Schafer for more information.](#)



# Women at the Well Fall Schedule

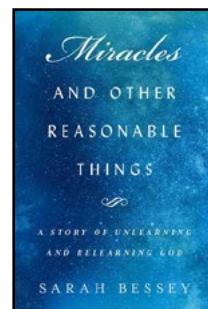
Women at the Well begins the fall schedule this month and welcomes women of all ages and stages to join us! The two groups have a different format, time and content.



**The weekly group** meets Wednesday morning from 9:15-10:30am and uses a particular book chosen each semester as a guide for shared conversation, reflections, and prayer. **The monthly group** meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm (sometimes the third Thursday to avoid holidays etc.) and uses a podcast as the basis for discussion on topics of interest. Both groups are wonderful opportunities for women to get to know each other as we discuss the intersection of culture and faith and our own spiritual journeys. Each group met on Zoom until recently and while current plans are for in person meetings, this may be amended to return to Zoom if the Covid Delta variant continues to spread and local numbers continue to rise.

**Wednesdays - August 25 - December 8. 9:15-10:30 am HMPC Parlor or Zoom**

The weekly group is using *Miracles and Other Reasonable Things: A Story of Unlearning and Relearning God* by Sarah Bessey. Current participants do not need to re-register. Books may be purchased for \$12.00, [you may pay online](#) by cash or check to HMPC with Women at the Well notated, or you may get the book on your own. [If we are ordering a book for you let us know no later than August 18.](#) Participants in the morning group typically commit to the entire semester.



**Thursdays - August 26, September 23, October 21, November 18 and December 16. 6 pm at a local restaurant or Zoom**

Participants can attend regularly or occasionally and will receive the podcast the weekend before our meeting. Current participants do not need to re-register. [For more information or to register for either group beginning with the August meetings contact Debbie Kirk](#)

## Fellowship

### Single Way

Join this group of never-married, widowed, or divorced adults (60+) for fun, food, and fellowship. Contact Phyllis Cheeley, for more information. Their next lunch out will be Tuesday, August 17th at 1 pm at [Bahama Breeze](#).



## Session Policy & The Pandemic

As we continue to go through the pandemic we want to remind the congregation of the following policies set by the Session.

Masks are:

- to be worn in the sanctuary for worship, weddings and memorial services.
- to be worn when walking the hallways of the church while Hudson Memorial Preschool is in session (M-F 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.)
- no longer required for group meetings in rooms at the church for those **who have been fully vaccinated**.
- not required for any church gathering/meeting outdoors.
- to be worn when working with children under the age of 12 indoors.



## Chancel Guild

# Flower Donations

Secure a date to honor or remember someone with a floral arrangement. To sign up, or for more information, refer to the flowers bulletin board outside room #103 or call Pat Cash at 919-787-1086.



## HM Preschool

# Olympics & Camping

We have been celebrating the Olympics and Camping at school the past few weeks. The children enjoyed relay races, rhythmic gymnastics and painting gold, silver and bronze metals! The camping unit involved painting "camp fire" pictures with gathered sticks, had s'mores and built tents in their classrooms.



## Worship & The Arts

# Live-Streaming Sunday Worship

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

[Click here to live-stream this Sunday's 10:30 am service.](#)

**Sound Technicians Needed** - We are in great need of people to help run our sound system and stream our service. All that is required are good ears and a willingness to learn. If interested, contact Pepper or someone at the soundboard. We so appreciate our present sound team: John Whisler, Brian Hnat, Libby Hnat, Barton Meeks, plus new streamers, Sarah Bedini, Erik Jacobsen, Tiya Komono, Mia Komono.

## Worship & The Arts

# Nursery is Open on Sundays!



Our nursery is open during worship. Your children from birth to 3 years old will be safely taken care of by our compassionate,

trained, and responsible childcare workers.

[Contact Rachael McConnell if you have any questions.](#)

## Memorial Garden

# Progress on the Memorial Garden Renovations



# Interim Director of Youth Ministries



The Personnel Committee is pleased to announce that Rich Richards began on August 2nd as the new Interim Director of Youth Ministries. Rich is a graduate of the College of Wooster in Ohio and has degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music and Hochschule für Musik in Munich, Germany. He has served as Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries at the Presbyterian Church

of Lawrenceville in N.J. and was Director of Music and Assistant Director for Youth and their Families at Oak Ridge Presbyterian Church in NC. Rich's faith journey has been deeply impacted by Montreat, where he has helped write curriculum for their small group leader manual and be a music director for their youth conferences. Rich is a creative and out of the box thinker with skills in relationship building. He will be a tremendous help during this time of transition.

Barbara is a loyal Florida Gators fan. Her husband, Winter Fox, is a videographer and (we hope!) will be a big part of Hudson's music and arts programs himself. Barbara and Winter have family in the Raleigh area and are looking forward to getting settled.



Our Search Committee appreciates the prayers and support received over the past few months from Hudson's staff, the Session, and the Personnel Committee. Through our hours of work, prayer, and conversation, we have strengthened our friendship, and we are gratified that God has brought Hudson and Barbara together through this process.

Music Director Search Committee

Bruce Cox (Co-Chair), John James (Co-Chair), Emily Brown, Sean Cole, Lynne Dawkins, Kate Fertin, Judie Greenawalt, Mac Schafer, Ex-officio

# New Director of Music Ministries

The Search Committee is delighted to announce that Barbara Loehr-Fox will be the new Director of Music Ministries at Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church. Her starting date is Monday, August 16th.

Barbara comes to Raleigh from Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church in Mount Pleasant, SC, where she has served as Director of Music Ministries since 1999, leading a large and diverse music program. Previously, she served churches in Hattiesburg, MS, Rochester, NY, Springfield, IL, and Galesburg, IL. She has extensive experience with handbell and voice choirs of all ages. Barbara holds a Bachelor of Music (Voice Performance) from the University of Florida and a Master of Music (Choral Conducting) from the University of Illinois.

Early in her career, Barbara held roles in Christian education and this experience helped form her approach to church music. She writes: "I like to make rehearsals relevant to our shared Christian faith journeys... My hope is to create a small group/family atmosphere which deepens our relationships and gives everyone the opportunity to use their musical talents for the worship of God."

## Youth Ministry

# Youth Programs

- **Rising Fifth Grade Youth and Parent E-mail Information Needed** – The Explorers 5-6-7 Sunday School Class (for grades 5-7) and the Middle School Youth Group (grades 5-8) are excited about the rising fifth grade youth that will be moving into the church's youth program this fall. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please e-mail the following information to Interim Youth Director [Rich Richards](#): the youth's name, school, and e-mail address, and parent's name, telephone number, address, and e-mail address.
- **2021 – 2022 Confirmation Class - Current 7th Graders and Older** – It's time to start thinking about Confirmation for the 2021-22 Program Year. Please respond to the letter or email that was sent to all potential confirmands recently regarding registration for the confirmation class starting in late August/Early September. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Interim Youth Director [Rich Richards](#)



# Thank you Hudson!

Thank you, Hudson for the wonderful send-off last week. It was a perfectly shaped bow on top of a wonderful 8 years with you. Your kind words, funny stories, memories shared, cards, gifts, and generosity were so meaningful and appreciated. I adore the scrapbook with all of your pictures, notes, and letters. Words cannot describe how much I have enjoyed my time here with you. It has been a perfect place for me to end my 40+ years in ministry and it has been a privilege and an honor for me to serve here with you. My work here would not have been possible without the wonderful committee members, church school leaders, youth volunteers, supper parents, cooks, hosts, confirmation leaders, chaperones, and countless others. Your patience with me, your commitment to the youth of this church and your passion for inclusivity and issues of faith, justice, and community have simply amazed and humbled me. Thank you.

I'm also thankful to have had the opportunity to work with a fabulous staff here at Hudson. They have been phenomenal colleagues and a joy to work with. Their vision, experience, wisdom, support, check & balance, sense of humor, and commitment to Christ have been a real blessing.

I especially want to thank the youth of the church for the simple joy and honesty that you bring to us all. You've kept me thinking laughing questioning and growing and I will always remember your smiling faces, your stories and the incredible things that you've taught me. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your world - it is in you that I see God most clearly. To the parents, I simply want to thank you for your trust - you have amazing kids.

Thank you Hudson, from the bottom of my heart.

*Frank*



## Missions

# August Special Offering

## Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Your gifts to this offering provide core funding for the work of PDA, enabling immediate response to national and international disasters and strengthening ongoing work such as training and development, refugee ministry, and response to disasters that do not receive media attention.

Funds are divided among Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Self-Development of People, and the Presbyterian Hunger Program. You may mail your donations to the church, [donate online](#), or text to give (text amount PDA) example (25 PDA to 888-906-0744).

# August Tend My Sheep

## Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina

In August we will collect cereal, pasta, and rice for The Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina. This will also be the Mission focus of VBS to tie the two together and promote our Hunger Action focus among non-member families attending VBS. Please bring your donations to church with you on Sunday, August 22nd or you may drop off your donation during the week to the church office.



# Hunger Action: Share Your Bounty With Others

Calling all gardeners! Too many tomatoes, zucchini, etc.? Did you know that you can donate what you don't need to the Interfaith Food Shuttle through their Plant a Row for the Hungry program? Plant a Row for the Hungry encourages garden communities and individuals to donate fresh vegetables, fruit, and herbs to people in need. The Food Shuttle is the Plant a Row partner in the Triangle, distributing your home-grown produce to local food pantries, shelters, and other hunger-relief organizations. Just one pound of your fresh produce supplements four meals. We cannot accept produce grown with animal manure not composted to USDA Organic standards or sprayed with pesticides within two weeks of harvest. If you have food from your gardens to share, contact Andrea Mouw [armouw@gmail.com](mailto:armouw@gmail.com). You can drop your produce off at her home (near Carroll Middle School) Scott Mouw will take it to IFFS on Fridays.



## Personnel

# Part-time Communications Specialist

Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church is looking for a part-time (25 hours per week) Communications Specialist. This position will be responsible for all marketing and publication materials put out to the public and members of the church. The position supports staff, officers and ministry leaders in conveying the church vision and message to their target audience.

Responsibilities include branding, electronic resources and printed materials. Hudson is looking for an excellent communicator with the capacity to produce high quality work and juggle multiple projects.

Applicants should have proficient knowledge of social media and strong technical skills with Adobe Creative Suite and Microsoft Office. A Bachelor's degree with concentration in Communications or Marketing is preferred.

If you know someone who might be interested in the position please have them send a cover letter and resume to [jobs@hmhc.org](mailto:jobs@hmhc.org). The successful candidate will not be a Hudson member or family member.

## Staff Directory

**Mac Schafer** – Pastor & Head of Staff -

[mschafer@hmhc.org](mailto:mschafer@hmhc.org)

**Debbie Kirk** – Associate Pastor, Spiritual Growth & Nurture -

[dkirk@hmhc.org](mailto:dkirk@hmhc.org)

**Aleta Ash**, Minister of Visitation –

[aash@hmhc.org](mailto:aash@hmhc.org)

**Pepper Choplin**, Interim Music Director –

[pchoplin@hmhc.org](mailto:pchoplin@hmhc.org)

**Rich Richards**, Interim Director of Youth Ministries –

[richards@hmhc.org](mailto:richards@hmhc.org)

**Rachael McConnell**, Director of Children & Family Ministries –

[rmccConnell@hmhc.org](mailto:rmccConnell@hmhc.org)

**Gina Hayek**, Director of Joyful Noise –

[ghayek@hmhc.org](mailto:ghayek@hmhc.org)

**Carol Yeargin**, Organist –

[carolyeargin@gmail.com](mailto:carolyeargin@gmail.com)

**Pat Cash**, Business Administrator –

[pcash@hmhc.org](mailto:pcash@hmhc.org)

**Cheri Thomas**, Bookkeeper -

[cthomas@hmhc.org](mailto:cthomas@hmhc.org)

**Dorothy Roche**, Preschool Director –

[droche@hmhc.org](mailto:droche@hmhc.org)

**Joyce Hawkins**, Assistant Preschool Director –

[jhawkins@hmhc.org](mailto:jhawkins@hmhc.org)

**Hope Parangi**, Church Hostess –

[hparangi@yahoo.com](mailto:hparangi@yahoo.com)



## Fellowship

# Fun Times at Friday Fellowship Bingo



## Deacon Ministry

# Prayers for Households



Prayer is foundational to the ministry of the Deacons and we consider it a privilege to pray with and for our church family.

The Deacons are praying for 7 member households each week,

with the goal of praying for each and every member of our congregation. These households are listed below so the congregation can join in praying for them as well. Each household will receive a positive note of encouragement from the Deacons in the mail. If you have a specific request for prayer, you can submit a prayer request at [HMPC.org](http://HMPC.org) or you may call 919-787-1086 and press 2 for the Deacon's Prayer Line. Tony Bedini is the Deacon on Call for August. Please keep these families in your prayers:

- Elaine Thomas
- Jeri Thomas
- Maureen Thomas
- Michelle Thompson-Mann
- Ann & Rob Tice
- Tillie Tingen
- Georgia Towns

## Calendar

### Sunday, August 8

- 10:30 am - Worship
- 10:45 am - Children's SS - Playgarden
- 11:30 am - Fellowship

### Monday, August 9

- 8 pm - Alanon, AlaTeen, AlaKid - GH, 227, 236

### Tuesday, August 10

- 6:30 am - Waking Up With the Word - WH Patio
- 9:30 am - Staff Meeting - Zoom
- 4:30 pm - Memorial Garden Board
- 5:30 pm - Foundation
- 6:30 pm - HMP Board
- 7 pm - Adult Education Committee - Zoom
- 7:30 pm - Boy Scouts - GH, 234

### Wednesday, August 11

- 6:15 pm - Handbells
- 7:30 pm - Chancel Choir

### Thursday, August 12

### Sunday, August 15

- 10:30 am - Worship
- 10:45 am - Children's SS - Playgarden
- 11:30 am - Fellowship



4921 Six Forks Road, Raleigh, NC 27609  
(919) 787-1086 Fax (919) 510-9990  
www.hmpc.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## Notary

Pat Cash, Church Business Administrator, is a Notary Public. If you have a need for a Notary, [please contact her](#), or give her a call at 919-787-1086 to set up a time to have your document notarized. We will follow Hudson's guidelines to safely distance.

## From the HMPc Staff

### Staff Email Addresses

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

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

## Online Community

Stay in community with us. We can be found online at:

- facebook (HudsonMPC)
- Twitter (Hudson Memorial PC)
- Instagram (hudsonmemorialpc)



Follow us and like us!



## Three Ways to Give at Hudson Memorial



Mail to  
HMPc  
4921 Six Forks Rd.  
Raleigh 27609



Online at HMPc.ORG



Text to Give to  
888-906-0744