

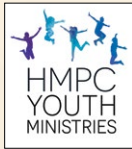
# THE WEEKLY WINDOW

OUT TO THE LIFE  
AND MINISTRY OF  
HUDSON MEMORIAL  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SEPTEMBER 18, 2026

## CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS KICK OFF SEPTEMBER 20



## Sunday, September 20 Schedule

9:30 - Presbyterian Ponderings - WH North  
9:30 - Seekers - Westminster South  
10:30 - Worship - Sanctuary  
10:45 - Children's Sunday School - Geneva  
11:30 - Children's Music - Geneva Hall  
11:30 - Fellowship - Westminster North  
11:45 - Youth Bells - Westminster South  
11:45 - Coffee & Conversation - Chapel  
5:00 - Youth Kickoff Dinner - WH North

## Staff Changes at Hudson

### Thank You, Aleta!



HMPC's Personnel team invites the whole congregation to say a big thank you to Rev. Aleta Ash for her amazing service as Minister of Visitation since 2019. Gifted with experience in nursing and hospice, Aleta has offered wise counsel and heartfelt pastoral presence to dozens of members

and their families. She is retiring from active service on September 30, but will stay a beloved friend and participant in HMPC ministries thereafter. You'll still see her singing in the choir on Sundays!

I especially want to thank Aleta personally. HMPC would not be in such great shape in its transition if not for her ability to take care of members whom I did not have time to know well enough for the best end of life care. She has been a friend and comfort to me and the best colleague in ministry I have ever had. Let me add my best wishes for Aleta and Ron – we are so grateful for the gifts that will continue blessing this congregation for many years.

- Pastor Marguerite

### HMPC Hires Parish Associate



Our Personnel team wishes to announce that our new half-time Parish Associate, Rev. Becca Kuiken, will begin ministry at Hudson on October 1, 2026.

Becca is a retired pastor with decades of experience and a desire to offer her gifts of congregational care in a more structured setting as Parish Associate. In

her twenty hours a week, she will work with deacons and Rev. Marguerite to call on those experiencing health issues, those who cannot make it to the HMPC campus for events, and others who need an extra pastoral presence.

She will also share her teaching skills beginning Oct. 11 with a six-week course on Christian Doctrine. Join the Ponderings class in WH North to get to know Becca and our Christian teachings better.

As a Parish Associate, Becca works on contract at the invitation of the Senior Pastor with the approval of the Session. Once the Senior Pastor leaves, her contract will come to an end, and can be renegotiated with the next Senior Pastor if both parties feel a call still pertains.

# HMPC August 2026 Financial Update: General Fund Performance

## Revenue & Surplus Performance



# \$4,852

## Net General Fund Surplus

This represents a +\$5,583 favorable variance against the budgeted deficit of -\$731.



## Investment Yields Provide Strategic Buffer

Other Income reached \$120,835 (+9.83% over budget), driven by Vanguard Money Market yields.



## Pledge Shortfall of -3.51%

Regular pledges reached \$495,879, trailing the budgeted target of \$513,892.

## Expense & Operational Health



# \$27,440

## Saved in Personnel Costs

Disciplined management of personnel expenses serves as the church's primary financial safety valve.



# Total Expenses \$13,837

## Under Budget

Actual spending of \$684,535 remains lower than the \$698,372 budgeted projection.



## Upcoming This Fall & Winter



### Sunday, September 20

Kick-off for Children's Music, Youth Music, Coffee & Conversation, Youth Group

### Sunday, October 4

World Communion Sunday - 10:30am  
Rise Against Hunger Workday - 4:00-6:00pm

### Sunday, October 11

Blessing of the Animals - Outdoor Worship - 10:30

### Sunday, October 25

Youth Trip Pancake Brunch Fundraiser - 11:30am  
Fall Festival - St. Mark's UMC - 3:00-5:00pm

### Sunday, November 1

All Saints' Sunday & Tolling of the Bell  
Commitment Sunday - 10:30 Worship

### Sunday, November 15

Children's Sabbath - 10:30 Worship  
Presentation of Bibles

### Sunday, November 29

Hanging of the Greens - After Worship

### Saturday, December 5

Family Christmas Celebration - 10:00-12:00

### Sunday, December 6

Christmas Pageant in Worship - 10:30am

### Sunday, December 13

Christmas Joy Music Worship - 10:30am

### Sunday, December 24

Christmas Eve Services - 5:00 & 7:00pm

## What's a Wiggle Room Anyway?

You may have noticed a new space at church called the Wiggle Room. So, what exactly is it?

The Wiggle Room is an updated take on what churches have traditionally called a “cry room.” It is an inclusive worship space where people of all ages can step out when they need a little extra room, privacy, quiet, or flexibility—while still remaining connected to the worship service through the livestreaming of the service inside the room. It is located in the Narthex near the Accessible entrance.

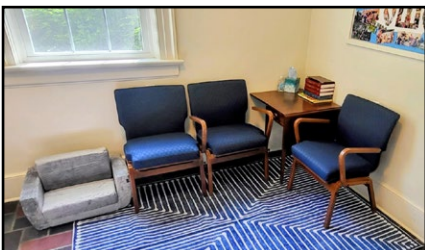
For families with young children, the Wiggle Room offers a place where little ones can move, play quietly, or take a break while parents and caregivers continue to participate in worship. It can also provide a more private and comfortable space for parents who need to breastfeed or care for a baby. There are diaper changing supplies, toys, and soft seating available to help make your family comfortable.

But the Wiggle Room isn't just for children. There may be Sundays when an adult has a tickle in their throat, needs a little extra space, or simply finds that worshipping from a quieter environment is more comfortable. The Wiggle Room makes it possible to still hear the service, participate in worship, and still be a part of the community. You will find Bibles, Hymnals, and a Friendship Pad on the table.

Most importantly, the Wiggle Room is not a place where anyone is being sent because they don't belong in worship. It is an extension of our worship space and another way we

can make room for one another.

As Presbyterians, we believe that the church is a community where all are welcome—and sometimes, welcoming means making a little extra room. Whether you are wiggly, nursing, feeling crowded, or simply in need of a different space, there is a place for you here.



## Youth Ministry

Youth kick-off is this Sunday! Merritt sends a youth email every Wednesday during the program year, and our youth Instagram, [@hmpcym](https://www.instagram.com/hmpcym), is another great way to see what we're up to and what's coming next.

### **Sunday, September 20 from 5:00-7:00 pm** **Kickoff for all Youth**

Youth (grades 5-12) and their parents, come to Westminster Hall for a potluck dinner, fun, and a chance to learn about the year ahead.

### **Wednesday, September 23 at 6:00 pm** **Chipotle Check-in**

High schoolers (grades 9-12) join us at Chipotle at North Hills for a free meal and a mid-week check-in.

### **Sunday, September 27**

#### **11:30-11:45 - Middle School Donuts/Check-in**

Middle schoolers (grades 5-8) join us upstairs in the youth room across from the game room for donuts and highs and lows!

#### **From 5:00 to 7:00 pm - Youth Group**

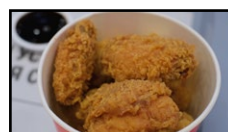
Our first 'regular' youth group meeting where grades 5-12 are invited for games, dinner and devotion. We will start off altogether and share a meal together in the middle of the evening, but middle schoolers and high schoolers separate for programming.

**Please invite friends** who might enjoy being part of our youth group! You do not have to be a member of HMPC to participate.

**Adults** - if you're interested in joining our advisor team and helping on Sunday nights, or if you'd like to join us on a youth trip this year, please reach out! There are never too many adults to love, support, and invest in our youth!

### **Help with Youth Group Meals!**

Each Sunday at youth group, our youth play games, participate in a time of devotion, and share a meal together. If you are interested in providing dinner for our youth on a Sunday evening this Fall, please sign up via the Signup Genius [HERE](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10-10-2020-youth) or email Merritt ([youth@hmpc.org](mailto:youth@hmpc.org)) for more information. We are so grateful for your support!



## Tend My Sheep

### COLLECTING FOR DIAPER TRAIN

This month we are collecting diapers, pull-ups, and wipes for Diaper Train. No family should have to worry about how they will afford their next diaper, yet this is the reality for 1 in 2 families. For more than 10 years, Diaper Train has been committed to improving the lives of children and families in Wake County by providing direct access to diapers, ultimately working to end diaper poverty.



**Their greatest need is 4, 5, & 6 diapers, 3T/4T & 4T/5T pull ups, and wipes** but they will accept any size diaper including opened packages (wipes must be unopened).

Please bring your donations to church during September and October and place them in the bins by Sanctuary doors.

## Meals on Wheels

### DRIVERS NEEDED - JOIN THE TEAM



If you're working from home with a bit of flexibility around lunch, retired and looking for a way to connect in your community, or a parent looking for opportunities to volunteer as a family-- consider delivering

a hot meal and a warm smile to a senior neighbor. Meals on Wheels routes take about an hour, and you can choose a route close to home - on a regular basis, or just an occasional shift when your schedule allows. It's a simple way to give back and brighten someone's day!

Apply [HERE](#) or contact:

Melissa Evers  
Home Delivery Site Manager - Main Office Blair Drive  
Meals on Wheels of Wake County  
Office - 919-390-1997  
Office Hours - 8.30am - 1:00pm

## A Stand for Dignity

If you are concerned about the way our nation is treating our immigrant neighbors, come to downtown Raleigh for A Stand for Dignity on Sunday, October 11 from 2:00–4:00 p.m. People of many faiths will gather on the South Lawn of the North Carolina State Capitol to proclaim the vision of dignity, decency, and due process that we know is possible.

Sponsored by Wake Interfaith Immigration Network, the program will include prayer, song, and shared witness and will provide you with ways to bring about the changes we seek. Free and open to all. Sign up at [wakeinterfaithimmigration.org](http://wakeinterfaithimmigration.org) to receive updates.

| Date               | Time            | Location                    |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Sunday, October 11 | 2:00 pm-4:00 pm | NC State Capitol South Lawn |

 Wake Interfaith Immigration Network

# Back-to-Church Lunch Last Sunday

What a wonderful Back-to-Church Potluck Lunch! We welcomed 140 people to Westminster Hall for an afternoon filled with delicious food, fellowship, and a joyful sense of community.

A huge **thank you to our Fellowship Team** and to all the energetic volunteers who jumped in to help with setup and cleanup. This event took a lot of work behind the scenes, and we are so grateful for everyone who lent a hand.

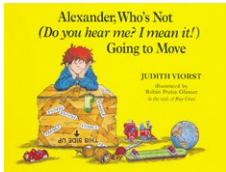
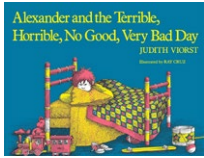
And thank you to everyone who brought a side dish or dessert - the spread was incredible! We loved celebrating the start of a new church year together.



## Women at the Well

### Weekly Group

**This Wednesday, September 23, at 9:15am**



*The Lives We Actually Have 100 Blessings for Imperfect Days* by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie states in the Introduction “Contrary to most of the advice of the self-help and wellness industry, our days are not simply a reflection of our choices. We are not a tally sheet of all or our yes and no decisions.” The authors go on to say, “We need a language of acknowledgment for the lives we have, not simply the lives we wish for. We need a spiritual account of time that is rich enough to name the breadth of our experience. Good. Bad. Difficult. Sublime. Mudane.

**This Wednesday, September 23,** WATW will be viewing and discussing Kate Bowler’s “Everything Happens” podcast that features her conversation with Kelly Corrigan about her book *Tell Me More*.

We hope you will consider joining us. For in person participation, we meet in the chapel each Wednesday from 9:15-10:30. If you are unable to attend in person you can email Judie Greenawalt for the Zoom link at [jkgreenawalt@bellsouth.net](mailto:jkgreenawalt@bellsouth.net). For other questions, contact Barbara Coleman at [colemanbar@gmail.com](mailto:colemanbar@gmail.com).

### Monthly Group

**Begins Thursday, September 24 at 6:00pm**

The monthly group meets over dinner at a local restaurant at 6:00pm on the third or fourth Thursday of each month. This group uses a podcast as the basis for discussion on topics of interest. We would love to have you join us for fellowship and lively discussion! If interested, contact Kay Emanuel at

[ckemanuel@gmail.com](mailto:ckemanuel@gmail.com) or Allie Maples [ajmfitnessworks@aol.com](mailto:ajmfitnessworks@aol.com).

**Our first meeting will be at the home of Allie Maples on September 24 at 6:00pm.**



## Presbyterian Pint



Men of the church are welcome to join us for fellowship and faith in a friendly environment. We discuss relevant questions of theology and culture one Thursday each month. Contact John James to be added to the distribution list.

### **NEXT DATES:**

**Thursday, September 24 - 6:45pm - Manchester's**

**Thursday, October 22 - 6:45pm - Manchester's**

## Waking Up With The Word

**Tuesday, Sept. 22 at 6:30am - WH Patio**



This is an early morning men’s Bible study. It meets via Zoom and in-person (on the WH Patio), alternating weekly.

No previous Bible study experience is necessary. At in-person meetings we provide coffee and Bibles. On Zoom we invite you to use an online Bible or pull out your own hard copy and brew some joe at home. It’s a great way to deepen your faith and develop friendships within the church! New participants are always welcome.

If you’d like to be added to the reminder list for the group, please contact Lesley at [lash-jacobsen@hmhc.org](mailto:lash-jacobsen@hmhc.org). Contact Tripp Bradshaw with any questions about the group you might have.

## Coffee & Conversation: A Time for Young-ish Adults

**Following Worship - Resumes Sept. 20**



Coffee & Conversation is a group that meets most Sundays following worship at 11:45 in the Chapel while children & youth music is happening. It's a great group of young-ish adults who talk about life, faith, and culture in a laid-back

setting. The group meets for a half hour. Grab a coffee in the Welcome Lounge or a snack in Westminster Hall and stop in. No preparation or homework! This group will start again on Sunday, September 20. If you have questions please reach out to Cary Dickerson.

# FAITH FORMATION

## SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION



### **Nine O'Clock Class - NO Class this Sunday, September 20**

Join us NEXT Sunday, September 27, for more discussion about Sermon on the Mount - Facilitated by Don Slater

### **Presbyterian Ponderings - Sunday, September 20**

**Faith and Fame - 9:30am - WH North**

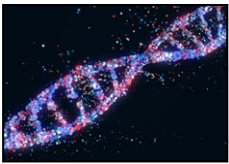


The Ponderings class is beginning the fall with a four-week series called "Faith and Fame," where we discuss well-known people from the past and present who are good role models for Christian living (whether they were active in church or not).

This week we will look at the extraordinary life of Jimmy Carter, and how he combined his training as an engineer, a compassionate heart, and the power of the presidency to tackle homelessness, eradicate disease, and resolve conflicts, all while keeping his personal faith at the forefront of his life.

### **The Seekers - Sunday, September 20**

**Science & Religion - Facilitated by Ron Ash - 9:30am - WH South**



Both religion and science are taken seriously by Presbyterians because both are seen as important in finding the truth about God's creation. Science and religion are different ways of knowing the world. Yet, many young adults leaving the church express concern that the church is anti-science. This class will explore the relationship between these two areas of understanding and how they fit into our reading of the Bible.

## FELLOWSHIP

### **Single Way**



Single Way is a group of mostly retired singles that meet once a month for lunch and fellowship. **Please contact Ruth Herpich at (919) 280-0049 at least three days prior to the lunch** if you plan to attend so she can give the restaurant a seating count. If you know of

anyone who would like to come enjoy fellowship with us, please extend the invitation. New people are always welcome, so please join us!

**Lunches this fall at 11:30 on:  
October 6, November 3, December 1**

## CHANCEL GUILD

### **2027 Chancel Flower Calendar has been posted!**



The 2027 calendar is ready for sign-ups! If you are interested in donating flowers for the chancel on a Sunday, please sign up on the flower bulletin board located in the main hall outside Room 103. You may also email Hannah Woodcock at [hwoodcock@hmpe.org](mailto:hwoodcock@hmpe.org) to make arrangements.

Donating flowers is a meaningful way to honor or remember a loved one while helping to make our sanctuary especially beautiful for Sunday worship.

# CALENDAR

## This Week at HMPC...

### Sunday, September 20

9:30 am - Presbyterian Ponderings - Westminster North  
9:30 am - The Seekers - Chapel  
10:30 am - Worship - Sanctuary  
10:45 am - Children's Sunday School - Geneva, Playgarden  
11:30 am - Fellowship - Westminster North  
11:30 am - Joyful Noise Music - Geneva Hall  
11:45 am - Coffee and Conversation - Chapel  
11:45 am - Youth Bells - Westminster South  
5:00 pm - Youth Kickoff - Westminster

### Monday, September 21

6:00 pm - Property Committee - Westminster South  
7:00 pm - American Pilgrims on the Camino - WH North  
7:00 pm - Diaconate - Room 200  
8:00 pm - Al-Anon/Alateen - Geneva Hall

### Tuesday, September 22

6:30 am - Waking Up with the Word - WH Patio  
7:00 pm - Boy Scouts - Geneva Hall

### Wednesday, September 23

9:15 am - Women at the Well (Weekly) - Chapel/Zoom  
6:15 pm - Hudson Handbells - Westminster South  
6:30 pm - Chipotle Check-in - Chipotle North Hills  
7:30 pm - Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

### Thursday, September 24

10:45 am - Staff Meeting - Welcome Lounge  
6:00 pm - Pastor Nominating Committee - Hudson Room  
6:00 pm - Women at the Well (Monthly) - Allie's House  
6:45 pm - Presbyterian Pint - Manchester's Grill

### Saturday, September 26

9:00 am - HMPC Retreat - Saint Andrews Presbyterian

## MEMBERSHIP

### Do you need a new name tag?



Contact Lesley Ash Jacobsen at [lash-jacobsen@hmpc.org](mailto:lash-jacobsen@hmpc.org) and let her know! Specify if you'd like a clip-on or a magnetic name tag.

*INTERESTED IN JOINING HMPC THIS FALL?*

### Our Next Inquirers' Class

will be NOVEMBER 15 after worship.



Sign up [HERE](#) or contact Cary Dickerson if you have any questions at [cdickerson@hmpc.org](mailto:cdickerson@hmpc.org).

### It's a great time to update your contact information!



Have you moved or changed your phone number? Let us know so we can keep the directory and our database up to date.

Fill out the contact info update form [HERE](#) or contact Hannah Woodcock at [hwoodcock@hmpc.org](mailto:hwoodcock@hmpc.org) or 919-787-1086.