

THE WEEKLY WINDOW

OUT TO THE LIFE
AND MINISTRY OF
HUDSON MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 3, 2025



This Sunday, October 5

World Communion Sunday & Children's Sabbath

10:30am Worship: World Communion Sunday, celebrated by the PC(USA) and other denominations on the first Sunday of October, is a day to celebrate global Christian unity and oneness in Christ through the sacrament of Holy Communion. This tradition first began in 1930. Today, it serves as an opportunity to share in the universal Christian practice of communion, reflecting on unity with believers across all cultures and backgrounds.

The children and youth will help lead worship by assisting in liturgy and sharing world music. Pastor Marguerite will preach a sermon called "What It Takes" based on Lamentations 1:3-6, 3:19-26, and 2 Timothy 1:1-7.

In the afternoon: Hudson is sending 60 volunteers of all ages to the Rise Against Hunger Warehouse to package 12,000 meals to help those in need around the world. This is part of our mission as a Hunger Action Congregation.



Next Weekend

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 - HMPC Campus Work Day

Join us next Saturday from 9:00am-12:00 for a work day! The Property Team needs your help with indoor & outdoor chores (trimming, painting, tidying, de-cluttering). There will be many indoor tasks for those who wish to stay inside. High school students are welcome - Great opportunity to get service hours! Please note: We are looking for someone who has a power-washer and is willing to help with power-washing. Come help keep our campus beautiful!



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12

10:30am Worship: Pastor Marguerite will be preaching a sermon entitled "Remembering What We Have", based on Luke 17:11-19, and the letters written to our leaders (during the Offering of Letters) will be blessed.

11:30am - Presbyterians & Executive Power: Lessons from Scotland



Join us in Westminster Hall after worship for Scottish fare, fellowship, and a presentation from Mark and Marguerite Sirrine. "Executive Power" is very much in the news these days. Presbyterians, and indeed all people, have a long history of wrestling with how much power to invest in individual rulers versus elected representatives - not just in government, but in the church as well! Join Marguerite and Mark while they share what they learned in tracing Marguerite's maternal and paternal ancestors from Glasgow/Northern Ireland and the Isle of Arran, Scotland. What possessed them to leave their native land in 1718 and 1774? What political, economic, and material realities influenced their decision? Why did their descendants dedicate their lives to the American Revolution and the American experiment? The answers link us surprisingly to today's headlines.

What is Brunch Church? Brunch + Church!

As Pastor Marguerite introduced in last week's Window, we are looking forward to Hudson's first Brunch Church on **Sunday, Nov. 9, beginning at 9:30 am.** What to expect? Come hungry for brunch and hungry for a worship experience to help us hear God's plan for Hudson. We will gather in Westminster Hall. Over a delicious brunch catered by Panera, we will have fellowship and begin to share our thoughts about the future of our church with old and new friends. Members of the Mission Study Team will be available to help guide the discussions.

We will begin worship right where we are with congregational singing, prayer, confession, and scripture, with individual and group responses. We will learn what a vision statement is and read and discuss examples. Worship will continue with prayer. In small groups, we will consider who we are called to be as a community and how we will serve Christ. The responses to these questions will become vision statements to be shared with the assembled congregation. Differences and similarities among the shared statements will emerge and we will seek consensus on major points.

More details:

 Brunch is furnished by the Mission Study Team—no need to bring anything or pay. Some vegetarian and gluten-free options will be available.



 Children are welcome to eat with their families and participate. There will be some children's activities, and the nursery will be open for smaller children.

 You will be receiving more information from the Mission Study Team between now and November, including insights from the congregation's CAT survey and details from the demographic and community studies. We hope these will stimulate ideas and discussion about Hudson's strengths and needs as well as community needs.



We need to know who is coming to Brunch Church in order to plan food and seating. Please complete the form below and leave it at the church entrances or offering plate or click [HERE](#) (or scan QR code) to respond online. There will also be paper RSVP slips at Sanctuary entrances for the next couple of weeks.

November 9 - Brunch Church RSVP

Number attending: Adults & Youth _____ Children (3 years-4th grade) _____

Names _____

Do you need nursery care (infants, toddlers, 2-year-olds)? Let us know how many children, their ages, and their names.

MISSION

Offering Of Letters: Faith In Action To End Hunger

On September 28, the Mission Team welcomed 41 Hudson congregants to participate in HMPC's annual Offering of the Letters. For the first time, we were thrilled to welcome middle and high school participants. Also, three non-member guests joined us. Fifteen participants wrote to both Senators and their Representatives. Thirteen wrote two letters, some dividing these between Representatives and Senators, and others writing both Senators. The letters requested that the government continue the SNAP benefits which were previously cut in a piece of national legislation. In total, **84 letters** were written and will be sent to the Senators and Congressmen/women in the next ten days. This was the largest group we have had to write letters and we thank each person who participated. If you were unable to participate, you can still write to your US Senator or Congressional Representative. We pray for the over 600,000 people in Central and Eastern North Carolina, about 18% of the population, who are food insecure. Thank you for the letters that speak up for them.



We are deeply grateful to our organizers, Roger Howard and Steve Jesseph, and to everyone who took the time to write, reflect, and act.

We will bless these letters with a special liturgy during worship on Oct. 12, and continue living into our vision as a Hunger Action congregation!



THE GATHERING - SUNDAY ADULT ED

The Nine O'Clock Class Resumes THIS Sunday, October 5 9:00am | Room 200



Have you ever wondered where the Bible came from? When Jesus referred to his Bible, he talked about the Torah, the Prophets and the Writings. What exactly was he referring to? Are these the Old Testament?

The 9:00am Sunday school class will resume on October 5 in Room 200. This class was originally designed to provide a learning opportunity for choir members and worship leaders and those for whom the 9:30 classes were difficult to attend, but all are welcome.

In this class, we will view videos from the Bible project and discuss the material that is presented. The class will be moderated by Don Slater.

Last Sunday in The Seekers

The "Women in Religion" series concluded with a thoughtful and engaging panel discussion featuring three ministers who shared their unique experiences and insights from their pastoral journeys. Thanks to Pastor Marguerite, Aleta Ash, and Nancy Howard for their reflections.



This Sunday, October 5 at 9:30 Combined Ponderings & Seekers Class (As well as anyone else who would like to attend!)

Frankie Lemmon School Presentation

Join us in Westminster Hall North as we hear from FLS Executive Director, Marsha Hargette, and FLS Resource Development Manager, Amy Blackwelder. The Frankie Lemmon School was founded at/by HMPC in 1965 —A success story of an early and important mission project for Hudson.



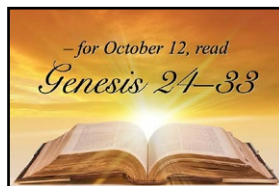
The school's namesake, Frankie Lemmon (pictured on left), son of Frank Lemmon, was born with Down syndrome in the 1960's. When Frankie became of age to begin kindergarten, there was no school in the area that would accept children with special education needs. To fill this void, Frankie's father, minister of Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church, and the congregation united with the community to create Hudson Memorial Kindergarten, which went through many changes and moves, and eventually became the current Frankie Lemmon School & Developmental Center in Raleigh.

LATER THIS MONTH

The Seekers

Starting October 12 at 9:30 | WH South Multi-part Series on Jacob

Get fired up for a participant-led series convened by Rev. Jimmy Hulsey using Genesis 24-33, the Jacob story.



For the first class (October 12), read Genesis 24 (just 67 verses using only 1,340 words!)

Teaser: *Why was Jacob, who came out of his mother's womb after Esau, holding on to his brother's heel?* [Gen. 25:26]

Presbyterian Ponderings

Resuming October 12 at 9:30 | WH North "Jesus Is Gone! Now What Do We Do?"

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

This fall, the Presbyterian Ponderings class is studying the Acts of the Apostles, guided by *Life Lessons from Acts* written by Max Lucado. We will look at the struggles and successes of the early church and examine how the foundations of our faith, established by Christ, were shared. The Presbyterian Ponderings class is discussion-based, and team-led.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT LAST WEEK

Update on Associate Pastor Position

This past summer, we shared that Session had asked the Personnel Team to explore whether it was the right time to fill the Associate Pastor position. We'd like to let you know where that stands.

Our Presbytery has encouraged us to wait until a new Head of Staff is called before adding another pastor. That counsel makes sense. A lot has changed in our church and in Wake County since we last filled this role in 2005, and we want to shape our staff to meet today's opportunities, not yesterday's.

To do that, Session has formed a group to learn from other churches in our area about how they are staffing for ministry in 2025 and beyond. We're also building space into our 2026 budget for a position that may look different than before, making sure we are financially ready when the time is right.

In the meantime, Rev. Marguerite Sirrine and the Personnel Team are carefully reviewing the Associate Pastor's former responsibilities—deciding what can be reassigned and what might be set aside—so that our ministries remain focused on what matters most.

We know staff transitions can feel uncertain, but they can also be a time for renewal. Our goal is not simply to replace what was, but to shape a staff team that will help us grow as a community of faith—deepening our worship, strengthening care for one another, and serving our neighbors in meaningful ways.



Thank you for your prayers, patience, and support as we walk through this season. We welcome your questions and your insights as together we discern the best way forward.



October Tend My Sheep RALEIGH RESCUE MISSION

For nearly 60 years, Raleigh Rescue Mission has served over 750,000 men, women, and children seeking shelter, hope, and a new start. Rooted in faith, their mission is to break the cycle of poverty and walk with people on their journey to rebuilding their lives by acquiring the skills and support needed to find long term employment and stability.

This month we are collecting:

- Body wash
- Tissues
- Women's antiperspirant
- Hair gel and hair products (their recommended brands are: Eco Style hair gel, argan or coconut oil for hair, Black Magic hair cream conditioner, and Cantu Leave-In Conditioning Hair Cream)



Items can be placed in Sanctuary bins throughout the month of October.



TRANSITIONAL MINISTRY

Save the Date: Second Zoom with MST

The Mission Study Team's second church-wide Zoom meeting will be **Oct. 30 at 7:00 pm**, with the results of our CAT survey presented, followed by brief



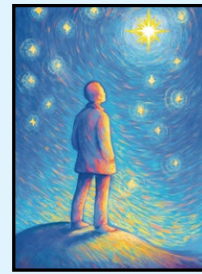
brainstorming sessions to identify the church's strengths and needs, as well as the needs of the community, based on information from the 9/21 meeting.

ASK • SEEK • KNOCK

2026 PLEDGE CAMPAIGN

By Sharon Cole, on behalf of the 2026 Giving Ministry Team

JoLee Carpenito, Sharon Cole, Jeffrey Coonse, Gretchen McDuffie,
Ann Oldenburg, Tim Peeler, Yvonne Peterson; Session Liaison, Dan Vig



What is the annual “Pledge Campaign” / “Giving Campaign”?

Each Fall, HMPC calls on its members and regular visitors to “pledge” their planned giving amount for the upcoming year. Everyone’s pledged totals are then added together to set the church’s budget for January 1 – December 31, 2026.

Why does HMPC request my annual pledge?

An annual pledge is a Christian practice of gratitude to God. We celebrate God’s abundance in our lives and commit to giving a portion back to the church to glorify God and participate in God’s mission at HMPC in the coming year.

What is funded by my pledged annual giving?

Everything at Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church is made possible with your prayerful giving, including staff salaries, building and grounds upkeep, and all church ministries such as Music, Worship, Children and Youth, Mission Outreach, and Adult Education. HMPC receives no operational funds from Presbytery or our denomination.

How do I submit my pledge for 2026?

There are several options to submit your 2026 planned giving amount to HMPC:

- Fill out the paper 2026 Pledge Campaign brochure (*Ask, Seek, Knock*). Place your completed brochure in the offering plate; drop it into the lockbox on the wall in Karl Hudson Room; or mail it to HMPC, 4921 Six Forks Road, Raleigh, NC 27609.
- Email your 2026 pledge amount to HMPC Business Manager, Erica Hairston, at ehairston@hmpc.org. Please include in the email your planned method of giving (monthly EFT bank draft initiated by HMPC; Bill Pay initiated within your online banking service; cash/check donations throughout the year).
- Pledge online [HERE](https://hmpc.org), at hmpc.org (home page), or hmpc.org/donateonline.

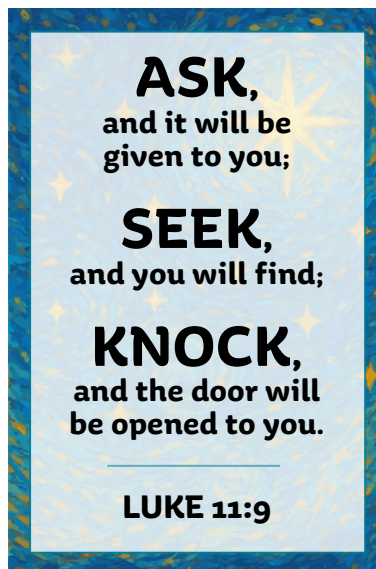
What and when is “Commitment Sunday?”

Commitment Sunday is November 2, 2025, and this is the day by which HMPC asks for 2026 pledges to be submitted. HMPC encourages a tradition on Commitment Sunday for the symbolic placement of pledge brochures into the offering plate, though the majority of 2026 pledges are received earlier during the Pledge Campaign.

Could you tell me more about the theme verse for this year’s Giving Campaign?

Luke 11:9 - **ASK**, and it will be given to you; **SEEK**, and you will find; **KNOCK**, and the door will be opened to you.

HMPC is navigating a transformational time, supported by the career experience and guidance of Marguerite Sirrine as our Transitional Pastor. Marguerite’s summer series of worship lessons focused on Mission and Vision, and key verses that offer guidance through times of uncertainty. Marguerite’s lesson series helped us to discern the difference between Mission and Vision, and why God provides us examples of both when facing an outcome that is yet unknown.



The core themes of Luke 11:9 are persistent prayer, diligent engagement to understand God’s will, and active faith to trust in God’s generosity. The verse, “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you,” forms a structural part of Jesus’ teaching to his disciples who seek instruction.

(Continues on the next page)

ASK, SEEK, KNOCK 2026 PLEDGE CAMPAIGN (Continued from previous page)

The Mission of Persistent Prayer*



Asking: To ask involves openly communicating with God as an earnest practice of faith and trust in His wisdom.



Seeking: To seek is a deeper, more active pursuit of God's truth, involving diligent searching and engagement with God's word.



Knocking: To knock is the unwavering perseverance of listening for God's will even when an immediate answer does not seem close at hand.

The Vision of God's Generosity*

- **A Promise of Response:** The repetition of "ask," "seek," and "knock" is a framework for consistent and earnest effort that will ultimately reveal God's blessings and guidance.
- **Personal Growth and Trust:** Engaging in persistent prayer fosters spiritual growth, cultivates trust and patience, and deepens our understanding of God's purpose.
- **Alignment with God's Will:** Through the practice of "ask," "seek," and "knock," believers gain confidence that God will provide direction, leading to a path forward that is aligned with God's will.

The framework of "ask," "seek," and "knock" is given to reveal God's Mission and Vision in times of uncertainty. Jesus' words and teachings from the Old Testament demonstrate the importance to persistently seek God's will. We are taught to keep going, even when it's hard.*

* Credit, Dr. Robert A. Eubanks, "Persistent Prayer: How God Answers Those who Ask, Seek, Knock."

FALL FESTIVAL



Mark your calendars and join us for an evening of food, fun, games and community at our annual Fall Festival, co-hosted with our neighbors at St. Mark's! Grab a friend or neighbor and join us for Trunk-or-Treating, an inflatable obstacle course, mini pumpkin painting, a free hotdog dinner, and more!



Date: October 26th

Location: HMPC Campus

Time: 3:00-5:00pm



We need your help to make this event a success!

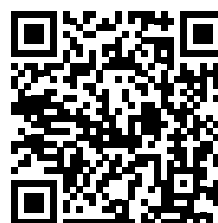
- **ATTEND THE EVENT:** Simply show up with your family as a part of our church community.
- **DECORATE A TRUNK:** Sign up to decorate a trunk and hand out candy to our trunk or treaters!
- **VOLUNTEER:** Sign up for a short shift to help with pumpkin painting, greeting guests, or preparing food! There are volunteer opportunities appropriate for all ages. Great opportunity for youth seeking service hours!

[SIGN UP PAGE HERE](#)

(or scan the QR code below)

- **DONATE:** We will be accepting donations of peanut-free candy and trinkets at the main church entrances. Or donate items from our [Amazon wish list](#) and have them shipped directly to the church!

Let's shine God's light in our community this fall!



Weekday Faith Formation NEXT TWO WEEKS

Tuesday, October 7

6:30am - Waking up with the Word - WH Patio
Men's Bible Study outdoors, around a fire

Wednesday, October 8

Women at the Well - 9:15am in the Chapel
Women's Book & Bible Study

Tuesday, October 14

6:30am - Waking up with the Word - WH Patio
Men's Bible Study outdoors, around a fire

Wednesday, October 15

Women at the Well - 9:15am in the Chapel
Women's Book & Bible Study



October Single Way

Tuesday, October 7 | 11:30 | Winston's



Single Way is a group of mostly retired singles that meet once a month for lunch and fellowship. We are meeting at Winston's Grille on October 7 at 11:30 (6401 Falls of Neuse Rd, Raleigh, NC 27615).

Please contact Lucille Nicholas by

October 4 (570-614-3291) 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!



This Week at HMPC

Sunday, October 5

9:00 am - Nine O'Clock Class - Rm 200
9:30 am - Ponderings/Seekers - Westminster North
10:10 am - Joyful Noise warm-up in Sanctaury
10:30 am - Worship - Children's Sabbath - Sanctuary
11:30 am - Fellowship - Westminster North
11:45 am - Hudson Connects - Rm 200
11:45 pm - Youth Bells - Sanctuary
11:45 am - Coffee and Conversation - Chapel
4:00 pm - Rise Against Hunger - RAH Warehouse

Monday, October 6

9:30 am - HMP Chapel - Geneva, Sanctuary
5:30 pm - HMPC Foundation - Westminster South
6:30 pm - Children's Committee - Zoom
7:00 pm - Personnel Committee - Zoom
8:00 pm - Al-Anon/Alateen - Geneva Hall

Tuesday, October 7

6:30 am - Waking Up With The Word - WH Patio
11:30 am - Single Way - Winston's Grille
6:00 pm - ACA (Adult Children of Alcoholics) - Rm 200
7:00 pm - Boy Scouts - Geneva Hall

Wednesday, October 8

9:15 am - Women at the Well - Chapel/Zoom
6:00 pm - Mission Study Team - Westminster North
6:15 pm - Hudson Handbells - Westminster South
7:30 pm - Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

Thursday, October 9

10:45 am - Staff Meeting - Welcome Lounge
6:30 pm - Mission Committee - Westminster South

Saturday, October 11

9:00-12:00 - Property Work Day