



the weekly Window

October 7, 2022

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

Hunger Action at HMPC



Three years ago, HMPC made a commitment to be a Hunger Action Congregation. Not surprisingly, the number of people across the country who are food insecure is increasing, and the need is greater than ever. On October 2, World Communion Sunday provided us with an

image of the Lord's table, where we remember Jesus, celebrate the sacrament, and are reminded of all the people he shared meals with and empowered to go forth from the table to provide a place and the means for everyone to eat.

Here are a few comments from some of our ministry partners:



North Raleigh Ministries: Over the past eight months we have seen a 77% increase in the utilization of our food pantry. We are seeing

more new individuals and families than ever before. It is a daily challenge to keep up with the need as food supply shortages become more apparent, with nearly 1/3 of children in Wake County Schools facing food insecurity. We want to help ensure that all children in our service area have access to the food they need when they need it most. By helping to put food on children's plates, we are taking that stress off parents' plates so that they can focus on achieving a more stable future for the entire family.



A Place at the Table: Over five years, more than 125,000 meals have been served to people who are food insecure. We build community around tables, sharing healthy, sustainably sourced food to all, regardless of means.



The Interfaith Food Shuttle and Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina: In partnership, the Food Shuttle and the Food Bank are striving to address the needs of our neighbors who are facing impossible choices between food and other crucial needs, such as electricity, childcare, or medicine. Together, we raise awareness, assist neighbors in need, and have many programs that address the multifaceted issues of hunger.



The Mission Committee encourages everyone to educate, volunteer, advocate, and donate in whatever ways work for you. The committee sponsors educational events that help us better understand the root causes of hunger, directs service activities to alleviate hunger, and provides opportunities to advocate for a more just and sustainable world. Donations of food and money are always needed.

During worship on Sunday, October 9, we will reflect on the Biblical witness that God created enough resources for all of earth's inhabitants, that Jesus addressed the physical needs of his followers, and our call to ensure all have access to what they need.

"The breaking of bread at the Lord's Table is the central act of our faith where we are invited to see all the rest of our meals as occasions when Christ can be known. The most ordinary thing we do--prepare food and eat it--can be the opportunity to recognize and experience the life God wants for us--the joyful feast of the people of God."

- Cynthia M. Campbell

Faithfully,

Debbie Kirk, Associate Pastor

Welcome New Members!

15 New Members Joined Hudson on Sunday, October 2nd

Eric & Katie Dunlap



Eric and Katie have 3 children: Anna (3rd grade), Nick (Kindergarten), and Reagan (Pre-K at HMP). Eric is originally from Grosse Pointe, Michigan, and enjoys music,

cooking, and cheering for the Detroit Lions. Katie is from Kentucky and enjoys running, reading, spending lots of time outside (with her kids, doing yard work, going on walks, just being in nature). Eric is Vice President of Treasury at Corning Credit Union. Katie works as an art therapist at Bowman Family Services working with children and adolescents. She is passionate about her work and helping others!

Natascha Genova



Natascha Genova works for Wake County Public Schools, and is married to Thomas. She is originally from Virginia, and she enjoys reading, travel, and walking. They have a son named Joseph (and he turns one year old on October 21st!).

Angus & Sallie Hinson

Angus and Sallie have 3 children - Walt (6th grade), Frances Gray (3rd grade), and Rebecca (Kindergarten). They also have a dog named Rosie. Angus is originally from Quincy, Florida, and enjoys golf, sports, hunting, and fishing. Sallie grew up in Eden and Gastonia, NC, and has also lived in Martinsville, Virginia. She enjoys working, family, travel, friends, yoga, and walking. Angus and Sallie both work in Marketing.

Barbara Loehr-Fox & Winter Fox



Barbara Loehr-Fox is Director of Music Ministries at HMPC, originally from Gainesville, Florida. Winter Fox is a freelance photographer originally from Charleston, South Carolina. They have two little dogs (chihuahua/rat terrier mix) – Venus and Serena. Barbara enjoys pottery, hiking, reading, working out, and music. Winter also

enjoys music, and sings in the Chancel Choir and rings with Hudson Handbells (both of which Barbara directs!). Winter also enjoys Bible study, photography, pottery, hiking, wood working, cooking/baking, computer science, astronomy, reading, and having good conversations with people.

Patricia Mack

Pat Mack was born in Ohio and spent her youth growing up in Pennsylvania. She grew up on a farm with horses, chickens, and dogs. She participates in water aerobics, listens to all types of music (she says music is her therapy!), and attends her grandchildren's school/sporting events. She moved to Raleigh one year ago to be closer to her daughter and her family.

Lindsey Richards



Lindsey was born in Northern California but grew up in Michigan. She is a General Contractor for GreyHouse Inc, and is also a realtor. She enjoys playing tennis, and is a musician (and has played flute and Irish whistle at several services and concerts at Hudson over the past year!). Lindsey is

NEW MEMBERS

married to Hudson's Director of Youth Ministries, Rich Richards, and she is the "Bonus Mom" to Olsen (7th grade). She has a spirited rescue kitty named Blue.

Bob & Iva Stowe



Bob and Iva Stowe recently relocated to Raleigh from Wadesboro to be closer to family. Iva was a minister of music and organist for over 40 years prior to her retirement. Iva loves to travel, read historical novels, watch sports and movies, walk, and attend concerts and theatrical productions. They have a cat named Gracie. Bob was born in Hamlet, NC, and has also lived in Atlanta, GA. He has lived all over North Carolina, including Wadesboro, Monroe, Statesville, and Hendersonville. Bob enjoys travel, hiking, and reading. Bob especially enjoys fishing and other water activities, and he enjoys playing pool, going to the gym, cooking and grilling. Bob has served his community in faith-based organizations as a charter board member of the Anson Crisis Ministry (food pantry) and Anson Prison Ministry. At retirement, he volunteered in the food distribution programs at the Crisis Ministry and the utility assistance program at First Presbyterian.

Bryan & Holli Swenson



Bryan is originally from Kansas City and works as a pilot for American Airlines. He loves working with his hands and playing golf. Holli grew up in Ahoskie, NC. She loves history and reading, and she plays tennis. She is currently a stay-at-home mom, and she is also a lawyer. They have 2 children, Elliette (3rd grade) and Adeline (3 years old), as well as a miniature poodle named Laddie. They were a military family and lived in Japan before they moved to Raleigh.

Libbie & Steve Toth



Libbie was a member of HMPC from 1983-1996, and has returned! She is originally from Wilson, NC and is retired from working as an insurance agent. She enjoys working in her yard (she said "digging in the dirt is my mental therapy"), spending time with girlfriends from childhood and St. Giles. She also enjoys being with Steve and her son when he visits. They have a rescue dog named Jake (and he's a mama's boy!). Steve is a retired Entomologist at NCSU. Steve is from Greensboro and he enjoys reading. Libbie said, "Steve and I met when we were youth advisors, he at St. Giles and me at Hudson. We did not date until after we were no longer in these positions. But when we attended joint youth group activities, we made arrangements to sit together and chat. We kept the flirting under wraps until we started dating." Steve and Libbie were married at Hudson by Bob Fields in 1995.

Pictured: New members joining on Sunday, October 2.



Welcome to Hudson!

Release, Receive, Return

by Morgan Dickinson



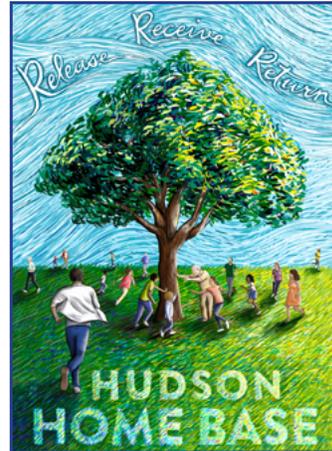
Stewardship is something that has been important to Melinda and I throughout our marriage and we have encouraged each other at times to stretch how we utilize our time, talents and treasures at Hudson as well as in other areas of our lives.

My initial thoughts on how to approach my message when I was asked to speak is much different than what I am going to speak about today.

This is not about pushing folks to support the church financially, although that is certainly important. That is simple economics and we all understand the necessity for that. This is about something deeper than that. I think that we can all agree that last week's message from the stewardship team encouraged all of us to reflect on what convicted us to join this congregation, what we received when we made the decision to join, and how we deploy our faith not only here, but outside these walls. A little bit of background on my family and how we came to be here: We moved to Raleigh in 2002 and we immediately began searching for a church home. We visited Hudson as well as several other churches in the area. All had a lot to offer and the congregations were welcoming and friendly. I will admit that we were very indecisive on which church home would be best for our family. How did we decide? Was it a voice from above, or was there a shaft of sunlight shining on Ken Krause in the choir loft? No, it was our oldest daughter, Maddy who was in 2nd grade at the time, telling us that she wanted a permanent name tag when she went to Kids Praise. Hudson it was, then. That was in 2003.

Release.

When we made the decision to join, we also made the decision to plug into the life of the church. This was a vitally important part of becoming part of the community of faith, and not just a member of the church. There is a difference. We put ourselves out there and we put our children out there, becoming involved in the life of the church. Relationships began to form, and they persist to this day. This community permeates our lives in every way imaginable and it goes far beyond Sunday mornings. We worship together, we laugh together, we break bread together, we cry together, we have mourned together, we encourage one another, we



fuss on occasion, and then we reconcile. In short, we love one another. This did not just happen and it did not occur overnight. We had to meet it halfway and be open to it and I am so very thankful that we did.

Receive.

So, what are we supposed to do with all of this? How are we supposed to respond? Beats me. That is a question for each of us individually.

That is the beauty of it. In my opinion, there is no one correct answer to this question. What I do know to be true is that this community does provide a "home base" where we can all take a minute to breathe and receive and reflect on these questions. For Melinda and I and our family, the answer lies in plain sight, manifest in the relationships that we have with so many of you, and the countless examples that you all have provided to us on how to journey in faith through this life. And it continues to evolve, which is a wonderful metaphor for our faith journey. I want to thank you for that—for making something that is supposedly unseen so very real and tangible. That is what keeps us fed and fulfilled, and I hope and pray that it does for you all as well.

Return.

New and Old Friends of Hudson:
JOIN US!

HMPC
**HOMECOMING
 CELEBRATION
 BARBECUE**

Food • Fellowship • Entertainment

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6 | 11:45am

Sabbatical Update: Rome

On Thursday, September 29th, after 52 days and 1,178 kilometers of hiking, I arrived in Rome at St. Peter's Basilica. Seven pilgrims I had gotten to meet along the way arrived in Vatican City at the same time. Two pilgrims in our group began their journey in Canterbury, England. They walked over 2,200 kilometers! The group paused in their celebration and photo ops in St. Peter's Square for a brief liturgy and time of reflection. Several pilgrims in our group had asked me to lead this a few days prior to our arrival.



Following our time of reflection we went into St. Peter's Basilica to collect our "testimonium," a certificate pilgrims receive from the Vatican for completing the pilgrimage. *(Photo left: Mac's testimonium being signed by Vatican official.)*

Arriving at St. Peter's Basilica was an interesting bookend to the beginning of my trip in Wittenberg, Germany. The selling of indulgences by Pope Leo X to build St. Peter's in the 16th century was one of the major events that set off Reformer Martin Luther's writing and posting of his 95 Theses. Having



said that, it was important for me to be at the location where the disciple Peter's bones are laid to rest.

Following our visit to St. Peter's, the group of pilgrims had a joyful celebratory lunch together! *(Photo left: Group of pilgrims arriving at St. Peter's Square)*

One of the great pleasures of pilgrimage are the incredible people you meet along the way.

After a good night's rest, I took Rome by storm for the next three days: I started at the Catacombs of Priscilla. Rome is filled with catacombs. I chose these particular catacombs because of the very early Christian art in them. They claim to have the earliest image of Madonna and child that exists today. It is from the 2nd century. More than 15,000 tombs are in the Catacombs of Priscilla.

That afternoon, I visited the Basilica of St. Clement. Clement is mentioned in the Book of Acts and is considered the third Pope, after Peter and Linus. Below the present day basilica structure lie two other levels, a 4th century church and a 1st century Mithras Temple. The worship of Mithras is an ancient Roman mystery religion.

That evening, we went to the Vatican Museum and

Sistine Chapel. I was stunned at the size of the Vatican collection. Highlights for me included works by Raphael, Chagall, Matisse, Van Gogh, Dali, Rouault, and of course, Michelangelo. Because of the labyrinths association with Greek mythology, I also enjoyed stumbling across two Etruscan vases featuring Theseus slaying the Minotaur. The museum deserves at least a full day.

Over the next few days, I hunted down churches associated with the remains of the apostles: Bartholomew on Tiber Island, Philip, and James "The Lesser" at Church of the Holy Apostles and, of course, Paul of Tarsus at the Basilica of St. Paul.

Another highlight was finding Carravaggio's paintings of Conversion of St. Paul on the Damascus Road and the Crucifixion of Peter in Cerasi Chapel in the Basilica of Santa Maria del Popolo. I have wanted to see these works for years. My final day in Rome was Sunday, October 2nd. I decided to attend two worship services conducted in English: The first, a Catholic Mass just outside St. Peter's Square at Church of Santo Spirito in Sassia. The second (surprisingly), at The Presbyterian Church of Scotland in Rome!

At Santo Spirito I had a lovely conversation with a nun from Australia who is beginning five years of study in Rome. She was a part of a group of English-speaking nuns acting as ushers and greeters for the service. I found myself quite emotional and thankful at the singing of the opening hymn, *All Creatures of our God and King*.

I left the Catholic Mass a bit early to make it over to the Presbyterian Church. Interestingly, this church was started in secret 160 years ago, when Protestant churches were "less welcome" in the Holy City. You literally cannot tell it's a church from the look of the building from the outside and this is true of the few other Protestant churches in the city, with the exception of one Episcopal church apparently funded by J.P. Morgan, who lived in Rome for a time.



The Presbyterian Church of Scotland in Rome *(pictured to left)* was a small, but wonderfully diverse congregation made up of Presbyterians from Scotland, various countries in Africa, South Korea and a large contingent of regular weekly visitors like me.

On this World Communion Sunday, I met American Presbyterians from Athens, Georgia, and Austin, Texas during fellowship hour on the roof of the church building following worship.

The congregation is presently looking for a installed minister and so the guest preacher was a Methodist living in Rome who is engaged in ecumenical work on behalf of the United

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A NOTE FROM MAC

Sabbatical Update: Rome

(Continued from Page 5)

Methodist Church. His sermon was on Luke 17:5-10. What spoke to me was verse five: *The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"*

Indeed, one of the important themes of my sabbatical has been walking through ancient places associated with the history of Christianity and the church. This pilgrimage through history has indeed increased my faith as I head home and return to my vocational calling.

Hudson, thank you again for this time of sabbatical. It has been restorative to my mind, body and spirit in important ways.

With Care,



Mac in front of Constantine's Arch

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth News for Sunday, October 9 Sunday Morning

Join us in the balcony for worship!

MS/HS Sunday School This Week

Explorers' Class: 5th-7th grade youth
Sundays, 11:35am - Room 226

Growing Disciples Class: 8th-12th grade youth
Sundays, 11:35am in the High School Room

Sunday Evening

Youth Music

4:15-5:00pm - Youth Bells with Barbara - WH South

Youth Group

No HS/MS Youth Group this week.



HMPC Youth Group can now be found on Instagram! Follow us! Our handle is [@HMPCYM](https://www.instagram.com/HMPCYM)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Fall Festival

TRUNKS, CANDY & DESSERT NEEDED!

Our Fall Festival is **Sunday, October 23rd, from 4:00-6:00pm**. We host this annual event with St. Mark's United Methodist, and it will be held on their campus this year.

We need a few things to help make this event a success!

- **20 decorated trunks** for Trunk or Treat. There will be a trophy for best trunk that will live in the recipient's home church for the year!

- **Donations of Halloween candy** and bottles of 2 liter soda (full). Donations can be left in the designated basket in the Karl Hudson room.

- **Desserts** for entry in the Best Dessert contest. Categories are Cakes, Pies, and Cookies. Entries can be delivered to Hudson's kitchen on the morning of the 23rd or brought directly to St. Mark's no later than 3:45pm.

Please sign up for trunks [here](#)



We will also need volunteers to staff games and activities. Contact [Cary Dickerson](#) if interested.

New Communion Class Date!



We have had so much interest in our Communion Class, but we are hearing that due to the long weekend the date will not work for many families. So we have rescheduled the class for immediately following Worship on **November 20th**. As before, a light lunch will be served, so **please RSVP [here](#)** to help us know how many to expect.

Sunday Adult Education

THE GATHERING

9:00-10:00am | Room 200

Hosted by
Susan Bradshaw and Linda Meeks

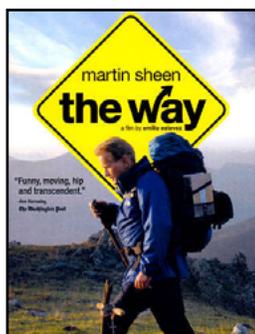
"The Nine O'Clock Class"

Pilgrimage - The journey begins.

Join us as we explore the different facets of pilgrimages.

October 9: Northern Spain and Camino de Santiago
(with Rick Steves)

October 16, 23, and 30: "The Way"



We will show the movie *The Way*. Synopsis: A father heads overseas to recover the body of his estranged son who died while traveling the "El Camino de Santiago," and decides to take the pilgrimage himself.

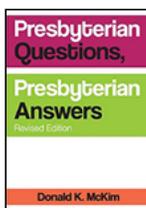
This class is not just for backpackers, but for all those with an adventurous spirit!

9:30-10:20am | WH North

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

"Presbyterian Ponderings"

From a Presbyterian perspective, we will look deeply at big concepts of our faith such as the Bible, Humanity, the Church, and Salvation. We use *Presbyterian Questions, Presbyterian Answers* by Donald McKim as a primary resource.



9:30-10:20am | WH South

Facilitated by Susan Grigg, Jimmy Hulsey, Ron Ash

"The Church and Social Issues"

Discussion class based on various Scripture selections each week as we think about how we as Christians should act in our public lives. How do we deal with the world that we live in today? Each session is a separate study and you are welcome to attend any Sunday.

October Tend My Sheep

BREAKFAST FOR NRM



Breakfast is the most important meal of the day and sadly, not everyone is fortunate enough to regularly have access to it. Please consider bringing breakfast items to donate to North Raleigh Ministries. They are looking for boxed cereal, shelf sustainable milk, packaged oatmeal, jelly, and apple juice. **Please bring items to the church by October 28.** The mission committee thanks you for not only your offerings, but also your prayers and support. We are a hunger-centered congregation and strive to feed those who are in need.

Hunger Action Event

JOIN US OCTOBER 20!



The NC State Fair is coming up soon, and the Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC has partnered with Smithfield Food for the Annual Hunger Relief Day, **Thursday, October 20.** Since 1993, this has become one of the largest one-day canned-food drives in the state. **Come volunteer** at one of the gates – register at Smithfield Foods Hunger Relief Day at the NC State Fair - Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina (foodbankcenc.org) or simply come with 6 cans to donate, and enjoy the fair! This volunteer opportunity also gives community service hours for students.

Children's Opportunity

at the Food Bank

OCTOBER 22

Please join us for a family-friendly volunteer day at the Food Bank! This event is for children from 5 to 11 years old and guardians are required to attend. Projects include labeling donations and sorting produce.

The next date is **October 22** from 2:00-4:00 pm. Registration link can be found [here](#).



CALENDAR

This Week...

Sunday, October 9

9:00 am - Adult Ed "Nine O'Clock Class" - Room 200
9:30 am - Adult Ed Classes - WH South and WH North
10:30 am - Worship - Sanctuary
10:45 am - Children's Sunday School - GH/Playgarden
11:30 am - Fellowship - WH North
11:30 am - Children's Music - GH
11:30 am - Coffee & Conversation for Parents - Chapel
11:35 am - Youth Sunday School - GH
4:15 pm - Youth Music - WH South
5:00 pm - Book Study with Debbie - Room 200

Monday, October 10

6:30 pm - Grandparents of Children w/ Autism - Chapel
8:00 pm - Al-Anon/AlaTeen/AlaKid - GH 227, 236

Tuesday, October 11

6:30 am - Waking Up With the Word - Zoom
9:30 am - Staff Meeting
11:00 am - Elizabeth/Rachel Circle - WH North
11:30 am - Hannah Circle - Room 200
5:30 pm - HMPC Foundation - WH South
6:30 pm - Preschool Board - Chapel
7:00 pm - Boy Scouts - GH 234
7:00 pm - Adult Education - Zoom
7:30 pm - Miriam Circle

Wednesday, October 12

9:15 am - Women at the Well - Chapel
6:15 pm - Handbells - WH South
7:30 pm - Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

Thursday, October 13

7:00 pm - Mission Committee - WH South

Friday, October 14

6:00 pm - ACA Support Group - Room 200

Saturday, October 15

6:00 pm - Family Movie Night - WH/West Lawn

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CELEBRATIONS

Congratulations!

Congratulations to new grandparent
Debbie Bumgarner on the birth of
Evelyn Nicole Pascucci, born Sept. 3
to Leslie Bumgarner & Dan Pascucci

AND

To new grandparent Nancy Brenner on
the birth of
Brooklyn Lee Malafronte, born Sept. 22
to Becca & Frank Malafronte.