

# THE WEEKLY WINDOW

FEBRUARY 13, 2026

OUT TO THE LIFE  
AND MINISTRY OF  
HUDSON MEMORIAL  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



## New Director of Youth Ministry MERRITT LIEBMAN

The Youth Director Search Committee is excited to announce that we have concluded our search for our new Director of Youth Ministry. We believe everyone will be as thrilled as we are to see a familiar face among our ranks again. Please welcome Merritt Liebman as the newest staff member of HMPC. Merritt comes to us from Wake Forest Presbyterian, where she has served for a year and a half as the Director of Youth Ministries. Please see Merritt's bio below to read more about her history with Hudson and how she was called to youth ministry.

Merritt's first day will be Monday, March 16. Please join us in welcoming Merritt back to HMPC into this important leadership role!

Hi all! I'm Merritt Liebman, and I am thrilled to serve in the role of Youth Director here at Hudson. I grew up at HMPC and am so excited to return in a staff position. My faith has been deeply nurtured by the people of this church, through my time serving on the New Hope Youth Council, through working at conferences at Massanetta Springs and Montreat Conference Center, and through participating in Presbyterian campus ministry at NC State.

My husband, Paul, and I are members of HMPC, and we have two dogs who are not church members but have participated in a pet blessing. For the past few years I have served as Director of Youth Ministries at Wake Forest Presbyterian Church, where my love for youth ministry and sense of calling were affirmed. Prior to that role, I was actively involved here at Hudson as a youth advisor, youth committee member, and chair.

I believe that the youth of our church are the living church right now - not some future version of it. I feel deeply called to nurture their faith, build meaningful relationships, and point out God's presence whenever and however I see God working in their lives. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside our youth and their families, and come home to this church.

I am looking forward to meeting those of you I do not know, and reconnecting with those I have missed! Thanks be to God for this opportunity, and this place.



## Ash Wednesday WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18



Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent with a public act of confession and contrition. Acknowledging that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, we stand in solidarity as fellow creatures before our Creator, acutely aware of our mortality. In the face of our transience, we pledge ourselves anew to live unto God's Word in Jesus Christ, the eternal Word that remains forever. (PCUSA)



As in previous years, we begin the season of Lent with the opportunity for members and friends to drop in at HMPC for the Imposition of Ashes. Pastors and staff will be available for ashes and a prayer throughout the day at various locations around the church.

### Schedule of Imposition of Ashes:

- 8:30-9:15am - Preschool doors for student drop-off
- 12:00-1:00pm - Sanctuary
- 5:00-6:00pm - Chapel
- 7:00-8:00pm - Memorial Garden / Sayre Cross





## Lenten Sermon Theme

**FEBRUARY 22 - MARCH 29: "FULFILLMENT"**

Lent is that Christian season of discipleship where we acknowledge the ways we tend to sabotage ourselves and our world, giving into temptations that prevent us from fulfilling God's plan for us. The sermon series explores the idea of fulfillment - that word that many younger Americans use to describe what they're looking for in marriage and career, and the idea of God's vision for humankind coming to fruition - especially through Jesus Christ. In a time when Hudson Memorial is beginning a journey toward fulfilling its new vision and the goals needed to achieve it, we'll explore Biblical wisdom on navigating that journey with faith, hope, and love. - *Pastor Marguerite*

## Holy Week Updates for 2026

Friends, we wanted to let you know that at their last committee meeting, the Worship team decided not to have the Good Friday noon time worship service this year. We based the decision on two sets of numbers: the number of full-time pastoral staff we currently have, and the numbers of people who have been attending the service. Both are lower than we think they need to be to support this service in addition to our other planned Holy Week services - Maundy Thursday Tenebrae, ecumenical Easter Sunrise and two HMPC Easter Sunday services. Since Easter is on the first Sunday of April this year, Session also approved the Worship team recommendation for moving the sacrament of communion to the following Sunday, April 12. HMPC has traditionally chosen to do this. We appreciate all who would rather have communion on Easter, as well as those who've made the effort to attend the Good Friday service over the years. Worship would want to invite you and everyone to please mark your calendars for the Maundy



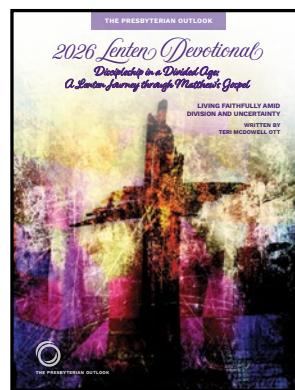
Thursday Tenebrae service which will include both a more intimate serving of communion and the reading of the passion story amidst gathering darkness. Please let us know if you have any questions about the schedule and we look forward to worshiping with you in faith and truth this Lenten and Easter season.

## 2026 Lenten Devotional: Discipleship in a Divided Age

**BY TERI McDOWELL OTT**

In a world marked by division, uncertainty and competing narratives, Matthew's Gospel speaks with striking relevance. Matthew's first audience — a young, fragile community navigating conflict, identity and fear — sounds a lot like the church today. This Lenten devotional by *Presbyterian Outlook* editor Teri McDowell Ott invites readers to journey through Matthew's Gospel to discover how Jesus leads us toward humility, courage, compassion and faithful discipleship amid the fractures of our age.

Grounded in Scripture and written with pastoral warmth, this resource guides individuals and congregations through daily reflections, including a weekly *visio divina* practice. Each entry includes Scripture, a focus verse, a theologically rich reflection, guided questions, and a closing prayer — making it ideal for personal prayer, small groups, session devotions, or congregational Lenten study.



A digital copy of the devotional is available on the Lent page of our website [HERE](#), and hard copies will be available at Sanctuary entrances this Sunday. If you would like one to be mailed to you, email Lesley at [lash-jacobsen@hmpc.org](mailto:lash-jacobsen@hmpc.org) and she will mail one to your home.

# SEASON OF LENT

## Lent Services

FEBRUARY 25; MARCH 4, 11, 18, 25

Lenten Suppers & Services

6:00pm Supper, 6:30 Service

MARCH 29 - PALM SUNDAY

10:30 Worship in the Sanctuary

APRIL 2 - MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:00pm - Communion & Tenebrae Service

## Easter

Sunday, April 5

7:00 - Ecumenical Sunrise Service  
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church



9:00 - Worship in HMPC Sanctuary  
8:00-10:30 - "Cancake" Breakfast  
11:00 - Worship in HMPC Sanctuary



Nursery for children in Kindergarten and under will be available from 8:45-12:15.

Please note there will be NO Adult Education, Children's Sunday School, Kids' Music or Youth activities on Easter.

## Lenten Prayer Services

**Simple Supper: 6:00pm in WH North**

**Service: 6:30pm in the Chapel**

HMPC Deacons invite you to join them on Wednesdays for supper and worship during Lent--Practices that began with the early Christians who gathered to share a meal and fellowship, then worshiped together where the rites of anointing with oil and communion were offered. Your participation may be a regular part of your Lent commitment or you can attend as you are able. Dates for these services are **February 25; March 4, 11, 18, 25**.

Each week we provide healthy, delicious, simple suppers and a time of fellowship around the tables in Westminster North. There is no cost for these meals. Following the meal, the services of evening prayer take place in the Chapel. These are contemplative, reflective times that include scripture, liturgy, several forms of prayer, music, and the opportunity to be anointed with oil for yourself or on behalf of someone else. The services conclude with the celebration of the Lord's Supper.



## HMPC CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

# EASTER EGG HUNT

**SATURDAY, MARCH 14**

**10:00AM - 12:00PM**

**COME ENJOY CRAFTS,  
SNACKS, A VISIT FROM THE  
EASTER BUNNY, AND MORE!**



## Easter Lilies

Lilies may be dedicated in honor or in memory of a loved one. Each plant is \$15. Order forms will be available in two weeks. The lilies may be picked up after the worship service on Easter Sunday.

## Adult Ed on Sundays

### Nine O'Clock Class

**Sunday, Feb. 15 | 9:00 | Room 200**

#### **"Abraham's Journey"**

**Facilitated by Don Slater**

We will be exploring Abraham's journey as he learned to walk with God. Join us for a full hour of learning and discussion!

### The Seekers

**9:30am | WH South**

**Sunday, February 15**

**"Growing Faith" Facilitated by Bob Stowe**



### Making Peace:

#### **A Special Adult**

**Sunday School Series - February 15**

**9:30 | WH North | Through March 15**



What do you do when it seems impossible to have a free exchange of opinions with your neighbors, your coworkers or even the person in the pew next to you? When it feels like outrage is the new national pastime, how do you find peace? When everyone is divided and everything is divisive, what can we do? Join us for a 6-week class focusing on navigating the negativity, finding common ground and disagreeing better.

**In Week 2 we will discuss the news media and social media -- its superficiality, sensationalism, and polarizing effects. What are the symptoms, and what are some solutions?**

This series is open to the whole Hudson community.

Questions? Contact Elizabeth Peeler ([elizabeth.peeler@mindspring.com](mailto:elizabeth.peeler@mindspring.com)) or John James ([james.nnva@gmail.com](mailto:james.nnva@gmail.com)).

## **Evening Women At The Well**

### **SPRING DATES**



The monthly group meets 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. The podcast for February is from *Poured Over* (a Barnes & Noble podcast). It features Anne Lamott, the author of *Somehow: Thoughts on Love*.

We would love to have you join us for fellowship and lively discussion! **Please RSVP for February (Winston's Grille) to Kay at [ckemanuel@gmail.com](mailto:ckemanuel@gmail.com)**

February 26 - Winston's Grille - 6401 Falls of Neuse Rd.

March 26 - Home of Beth Billman

April 23 - TBD

May 28 - Home of Grace Hutchinson

## TRANSITIONAL MINISTRY

### **Mission Study Report Approved**

Hudson's Mission Study Report, approved by Session last week, has now been approved by the Commission on Ministry of the Presbytery of New Hope, unanimously and without discussion. This paves the way for Session to create a Pastor Nominating Committee.

The Mission Study Report will be available for the congregation to read in the next few weeks. There will also be opportunities for the congregation to learn more about the report in discussions with church leaders. **Read the Window in upcoming weeks for announcements about when these will happen!**

The Mission Study Report includes the goals that emerged from our Brunch Church sessions, with a recommendation for Session to develop priorities among those goals, as well as to create the SAM criteria (Specific, Attainable, and Measurable) for the top goals and objectives. Once Session approves that way forward, they will delegate to the committees responsible for the various objectives the actual work to start guiding HMPC into fulfilling its vision.

This marks the end of the mission study phase of the pastoral transition process. The MST will be dismissed with thanks by Session, but team members will remain available for questions anyone has about the report. The next phase we're entering is the nominating phase, and that will be led first by the Session's nominating subcommittee, and then by the Pastor Nominating Committee once it is elected.

## Children's Music Director

As many of you know, our Children's Music Director, Rich Richards, concluded his 4.5 years of joyful leadership in December. We are deeply grateful for the creativity, energy, and care he shared with our children during his time at Hudson. In the interim, we have been blessed by the leadership of Sarah Bedini.

We are now beginning the search for a permanent Joyful Noise Children's Music Director. We are looking for someone who can provide a fun, faith-filled, and musically rich experience for children ages 5–10. We are seeking a person who loves working with children, encourages joyful participation, and helps young voices grow in confidence while discovering music as an expression of worship. The role involves leading weekly rehearsals, preparing children to sing in worship throughout the year, collaborating closely with staff and families, and nurturing a welcoming, life-giving musical community.

If you know someone who might be a great fit, please pass along the job description or contact Barbara Loehr-Fox. We would love your help in spreading the word as we look for the next leader of this joyful and meaningful ministry.

**Job description can be found [HERE](#).**

**Applications can be sent to:** [musicjobs@hmpps.org](mailto:musicjobs@hmpps.org) or [bloehr-fox@hmpc.org](mailto:bloehr-fox@hmpc.org)

## ARTS CAMP

**June 17, 18 & 19 | 5:30pm-7:30pm**

### **REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

Join us as we explore and celebrate God's creation through drama, music and visual art. Our theme hymn for this year is *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love.*

This camp is open to children currently in Kindergarten through 5th grade for the 2025-2026 school year. This event is open to the public so invite a friend to join you! Dinner

will be served each evening before we begin our art rotations.



We look forward to a time of faith and fun with your children!

**REGISTER [HERE!](#)**



**HMPC  
ARTS  
CAMP**



## A Note of Thanks FROM RICH RICHARDS

Dear HMPC family,

I just wanted to thank you for the generous LOVE GIFT that I received from you upon my departure this past December! These funds went straight into a "travel fund" for Lindsey and I to take the kids to different places for fun adventures. We believe that travel experiences, when able, are an important part of one's development and we thank you for contributing to that!

My hope is that you were able to read my letter to the congregation in the email and Weekly Window in December but I want to reiterate how much your love and care has meant to me and my family and you will never be forgotten for that.

I hope to see you around the church if you are there on Mondays when I'll be with the preschool leading music for them during those morning hours.

Peace and light,

Rich Richards

**Sign up to Volunteer!**

**VBS**

**SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE**

**9:00 - 12:00 AUGUST 3-7**

**Our 5-day volunteers will get a 50% tuition discount AND will receive a pre-registration link to skip the line and register their kids now!**



**Vacation Bible School is coming, and we can't do it without YOU!** Whether you love leading games, helping with crafts, serving snacks, or helping with Science, there is a place for all ages, abilities, and talents to serve! Whether you can serve 2, 3 or all 5 days, we would love to have you join us for a week of Snowball Mountain Challenge fun! **Sign up by scanning the QR code on the left or clicking [HERE](#).**



## New Texting Scam

### Impersonations of Pastor Marguerite Requests for gift cards



We want to make you aware of a text message scam that has affected several members of our congregation.

Some people have received text messages that appear to come from Pastor Marguerite, but these messages are not actually from her. Scammers are able to make a message look like it comes from a familiar name on your phone—this is called “spoofing.”

#### Please know this:

Pastor Marguerite and the church will never text you asking for money or gift cards.

### What These Scam Messages May Look Like

#### Scam texts often:

- Come “out of the blue”
- Say things like “Are you available?” or “I need a favor”
- Continue only by text (calling the number usually goes to a full voicemail)
- Eventually ask for gift cards or money
- Any mention of gift cards is a major red flag.

The church would only ever mention gift cards in very specific, public ways—such as in a newsletter or on a bulletin board, as part of a mission collection for PCM or a similar drive—never through a personal text message.

### What To Do If You Receive a Message Like This

- Do not reply to the text
- Do not send money or gift cards
- If you are unsure, write a new email (do not reply to the text) to Pastor Marguerite at: [msirrine@hmpc.org](mailto:msirrine@hmpc.org) and ask if the message was truly from her.

Scams like this are one of the reasons we removed the church directory from our website and have strengthened other online safety measures. Thank you for helping keep yourself and our church community safe. If you ever have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

## Staff Announcement

### LESLEY ASH JACOBSEN



The Personnel Committee is pleased to announce that Lesley Ash Jacobsen has been promoted to Communications Manager and will be working full time!

As you may be aware, Lesley started working as our part-time Communications Coordinator back in October 2021.

Since that time, she has worked tirelessly and has been instrumental in advancing our communications here at Hudson.

Please join us in congratulating Lesley and thanking her for all her hard work!

## GIVING

### Foundation Birthday Gifts

Thanks to the members and friends who have recently donated to the Foundation Birthday Fund:

Lauren Parikh  
Bob & Heather Monroe  
Gretchen McDuffie  
John & Lisa Williams  
Nancy Law Rogers



MISSION IS COLLECTING  
OATMEAL & CEREAL  
FOR THE FOOD BANK!  
YOU MAY PLACE IT IN THE  
BINS LOCATED BY THE  
SANCTUARY DOORS DURING  
THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY.



# FAT TUESDAY



Join us for traditional Fat Tuesday food (Gumbo, Jambalaya, rice, and more), crafts, and fellowship on February 17th at 6:00 in Westminster Hall. \$6 per person.

[CLICK HERE](#)

TO RSVP

or call the church office

919-787-1086



## Amazing Grays

Thursday, February 19 | 11:30am  
Brig's Great Beginnings Restaurant



Join us for lunch and fellowship at 11:30am on Thursday, Feb. 19, at Brig's on Creedmoor. New folks always welcome!

Please let Mike Law (717-439-0677) or Sandy Cole (276-708-5010) know if you plan to attend so we can get an accurate headcount.

## Young-ish Adult Outing

Saturday, February 21st  
5:00-7:00pm | Edit Beer Company

Food can be ordered from Scooter's Bar and Grill.

As always, if you are unable to find childcare please do not

let that deter you from coming. This place is family friendly with activities for kids. Contact Christine Bond ([cnoldenburg@gmail.com](mailto:cnoldenburg@gmail.com)) with any questions you may have.



Hello, Hudson Memorial!

The Property Committee is glad to share another Monthly Property Summary to help keep the congregation connected with the upkeep of our facilities. As the staff liaison, I am here to answer two questions each month:

- *What did we accomplish in the past month?*
- *How much did it cost to maintain our church property?*

Here's your January Property Summary!

— Hannah Woodcock, Administrative Coordinator

## January Property Summary

### WHAT DID WE ACCOMPLISH IN JANUARY?

- Continued an ongoing project from December after a leak was discovered in the ceiling of the 2nd Floor Library (Air Handler 13 as part of our HVAC system). Replacement part delivery took longer than we would have liked, and in the interim, Hannah and Dorothy managed the leak with a bucket system! The repair required TriSouth to go into the attic space above the preschool.
- Ken Krause and Hannah are currently addressing resulting water damage to ceiling tiles and insulation.
- Completed routine winter property care, including sidewalk treatment during freezing conditions. Sidewalk treatments were performed both by our landscapers and by Todd Wadford. Remember to tell him, "Thank you, Todd!"
- Continued regular lawn care and cleaning services.

### January's Property Expenses:

Utilities: \$4,081 (*This includes water, electricity, garbage, and gas.*)

Monthly Cleaning Fee: \$3,200

Insurance: \$3,085

Elevator Bi-Annual Fee: \$1,231

Lawn Care: \$1,014

Sidewalk Treatment (Freeze Prevention): \$427

Cleaning Supplies: \$380

HVAC Air handler Repair: \$195

# CALENDAR

## Tom Bradshaw Memorial Service

### RESCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 14



Hudson member, Tom Bradshaw, entered God's everlasting kingdom on December 30, 2025. His obituary is [HERE](#).

#### A Celebration of Life and Service of Witness to the Resurrection will

be held at 11:00am on Saturday, February 14, at **Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church**, 4921 Six Forks Rd., Raleigh, NC 27609. A reception will immediately follow at North Ridge Country Club, 6612 Falls of Neuse Rd., Raleigh, NC. For those unable to attend in person, the livestream can be found [HERE](#).

In lieu of flowers, to celebrate Tom's life and commitment to service, memorial gifts may be made to [Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Foundation, Inc.](#) or the [YMCA of the Triangle's Annual Campaign](#), 801 Corporate Center Dr., Suite 200, Raleigh, NC 27607.

## Annual Congregational Meeting Set

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Our annual congregational meeting will take place on **Sunday, February 22, at 11:30am**. The agenda includes:

- A review of 2025 finances
- Presentation of the 2026 budget
- A report from the HMPC Foundation
- Update on the Pastor Nominating Process
- The annual meeting of the corporation
- Presbytery Commissioners Elected – The Session elected representatives to attend the first two 2026 Gatherings of the Presbytery, ensuring our church remains engaged in the broader work of the Presbyterian Church.

### Sunday, February 15

9:00 am - Nine O'Clock Class - Room 200  
9:30 am - Making Peace - WH North  
9:30 am - The Seekers - WH South  
10:30 am - Worship - Sanctuary  
10:45 am - Children's Sunday School - Geneva Hall  
11:30 am - Fellowship - WH North  
11:30 am - Joyful Noise - Geneva Hall  
11:45 am - Coffee and Conversation - Chapel  
11:45 am - Youth Bells - WH South  
2:30 pm - Spanish for Pilgrims (Camino) - Room 200  
5:00 pm - Youth Group/Bible Exploration

### Monday, February 16

#### *Office Closed*

9:00 - Preschool Chapel  
6:00 pm - Property Committee - WH South  
7:00 pm - Diaconate - Room 200  
8:00 pm - Al-Anon/Alateen - Geneva

### Tuesday, February 17

6:30 am - Waking Up with the Word - Zoom  
10:00 am - Sewing Guild Association - WH South  
6:00 pm - Youth Committee - Welcome Lounge  
6:00 pm - Fat Tuesday Dinner - WH North  
7:00 pm - Boy Scouts Troop 376 - Geneva Hall  
7:00 pm - Fellowship Committee - Zoom

### Wednesday, February 18

#### *Ash Wednesday*

8:30 am - Ashes - Preschool Entrance  
9:15 am - Women at the Well - Chapel/Zoom  
12:00 pm - Ashes - Sanctuary  
5:00 pm - Ashes - Chapel  
6:00 pm - Session PNC Sub-Committee - WH North  
6:00 pm - Youth Director Search Committee - Rm 200  
6:15 pm - Hudson Handbells - WH South  
7:00 pm - Ashes - Memorial Garden  
7:30 pm - Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

### Thursday, February 19

10:45 am - Staff Meeting - Welcome Lounge  
11:30 am - Amazing Grays - Brig's Restaurant

## Join Our Social Media Community!



@HudsonMPC @HudsonMemorialPC