



# the weekly Window

January 13, 2019

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

## Mission

### Loaves & Fishes Chili Sale

#### Pick Up January 25 & 26

Loaves and Fishes' famous chili sale is happening again this year! Quarts of meat and veggie chili (\$13 each quart) will be offered for pick up just in time to stash it in the freezer for the Super Bowl!

**Deadline to order is 9 a.m. Monday, January 21st.**

Pick-up times are January 25th from 4 to 7 p.m. and

January 27th from 9 a.m. to 12 noon in Westminster Hall. This wonderful chili is made in our own kitchen!

For over 25 years Loaves & Fishes has been helping children succeed in Raleigh. A nonprofit organization, LAF runs after-school programs for grades K-12 and other services for at-risk children in Raleigh. Your purchase of chili helps continue Loaves & Fishes' wonderful work.

You may order by signing

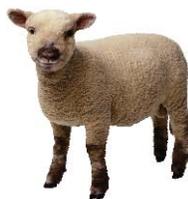


up online, <https://www.hmpc.org/loavesandfishes>, or on the Community bulletin board in the main hallway or contact Pat Cash at 787-1086.

## Tend My Sheep

#### January 27

In 2017, Hudson began our Tend My Sheep collection on the fourth Sunday of every month. We come together as a congregation to collect one pre-selected item to benefit a local group in need. When combined together, our individual contributions can make a huge impact! This month we are collecting canned goods to benefit North Raleigh Ministries Food Pantry.



## Thank You from Children's Hope Alliance

#### Thank You

Thank you for providing the incredible gift cards for our children and families. We appreciate your generosity and for remembering Children's Hope Alliance with your donations. Please know we are sincerely grateful. Your act of kindness makes a difference in the lives of these children in need.

# Mac's Meanderings

## Silence and Releasing in 2019

I was recently reading a section of Thomas Keating's book *Open Mind, Open Heart*. The book is about the spiritual practice of prayer and what it means to be in the presence of God. In one section Keating writes, "The attitude that reinforces the false self more than anything else is our instinct to possess something.... This instinct has to be relinquished."

We live in a culture where we are bombarded with requests for us to possess things, whether they are items for our home or experiences. We even want to possess spiritual experiences. But by possessing things and experiences we may be diluting the power and freedom they offer. When God appeared to people, particularly in the Old Testament, God often presented God's self as uncontainable: passing by, in a cloud, in a moving pillar of fire or in the silence. Even in the New Testament, Jesus can't be boxed in, possessed or controlled.

In a recent article I read

on silence by the former archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, he talks about our desire to break beautiful and hard silences with words in order to control and domesticate them. He says, "the more our humanity falls in love with this strange idea of domesticating, absorbing, and controlling, the less human we actually get."

The question is can we be more silent and less possessive of life? In resisting our desire to control with words or by purchasing, we will be able to enjoy the presence of God more fully.

Keating says, "We simply look around and realize that the divine presence is everywhere. It just is. We have opened ourselves wide enough to be aware of what is without being able to say what it is."

Williams says, "that's why I believe these moments of silence are so very important not only for our humanity

---

---

*"By possessing things and experiences we may be diluting the power and freedom they offer."*

---

---



generally but for our Christian humanity in particular.

They're important for our humanity in general because we habitually live in a world where the "right thing" to do with critical moments is to stop them from being critical. The right thing to do with a wild animal is to tame it, so to speak, and the right thing to do with any wild experience is to work out what I can do with it, what I can make of it, and, in short, domesticate it."

Respect God's wild, uncontrollableness in 2019. Stand back and honor it through silence and release.

With Care,



---

Sources: "Silence in the face of mystery" by Rowan Williams, *The Christian Century*, August 29, 2018, p.28-31  
*Open Mind, Open Heart: 20th Anniversary Edition* by Thomas Keating, p.84-86.

---

# Spiritual Growth & Nurture

## Waking Up With the Word

**Tuesday, January 15**

**Men's Morning Scripture Study** – The group will meet in the Parlor, at 6:30 a.m. Come join Pastor Mac and other men to do a simple reflection on a passage from the Bible before heading off to work! Mac will use three simple questions to frame the study. No preparation is needed, just show up, pour a cup of coffee and we will share our thoughts on the scripture passage. This is a great way to get to know other men of the church and deepen your faith.

## Inquirer's Class

**Sunday, January 20**

Inquirer's class for those interested in membership will be held following worship in the Karl Hudson Room (#100). Class covers what it means to be a Christian, a Presbyterian, and a member of Hudson Memorial. Childcare will be available. Reserve for the class or childcare by Wednesday, January 16th, by filling out the form on the membership bulletin board in the main hallway and returning it to the office.



## Fellowship

### ROMEO's

**Tuesday, January 15**

The ROMEO'S (Retired Old Men Eating Out) are seeking retired gentlemen to join them for breakfast, casual conversation and camaraderie at Bojangles (Atlantic Ave.) every Tuesday morning at 7:45 a.m. For more information, call Devohn Rhame at 919-847-0923.

## Single Way

**Meets Monthly**

Join this group of never-married, widowed, or divorced adults (60+) for fun, food, and fellowship. Contact Val Jones (919-878-0098) for more information.



## Music

### Lazarus: A Choral Drama

**Sunday, April 7**

The Chancel Choir will embark on a special musical journey this month, preparing a brand-new choral drama, Lazarus, composed by our music director, Phil Hayden. It will premiere in worship on Sunday, April 7th. Mark your calendar and plan to attend this musical drama.



# The Gathering: Forming our Faith

## Sunday Morning Learning Opportunities

All classes meet Sunday morning at 9:30. Class information can also be found on the Gathering bulletin board in the main hallway or on the church website at [www.hmpc.org/gathering](http://www.hmpc.org/gathering).



### January 20

- **Room 200: Current Issues in Life and Faith** – Led by John Oldenburg. Using a TED Talk or other media source, we will discuss current events through the lens of our faith.
- **Westminster Hall: Today's Sermon Text and Theme** – Led by Barry Cobb, John James, and Gil Graybill. This will be an engaging and informative conversation on Today's Sermon Text and Theme.
- **Parlor: The New Testament Prophets 1** Led by Susan Grigg. The class will study New Testament prophets using Scripture and commentaries.
- **John Knox: Women of the Bible** – Led by Nancy Law and Harriet Fletcher. The Bible study focuses on Women of the Bible, and how their lives inform and inspire our faith journeys.

### January 27

- **Room 200: Current Issues in Life and Faith** – Led by John Oldenburg. Using a TED Talk or other media source, we will discuss current events through the lens of our faith.
- **Westminster Hall: Today's Sermon Text and Theme** – Led by Barry Cobb, John James, and Gil Graybill. This will be an engaging and informative conversation on Today's Sermon Text and Theme.
- **Parlor: The New Testament Prophets 2** Led by Susan Grigg. The class will study New Testament prophets using Scripture and commentaries.
- **John Knox: Women of the Bible** – Led by Nancy Law and Harriet Fletcher. The Bible study focuses on Women of the Bible, and how their lives inform and inspire our faith journeys.

## Giving Ministry

### 2019 Pledge Campaign Update

Sunday, November 11th was Commitment Sunday, the day members and friends commit their time, talent, and financial resources to Christ through the church. Currently we have 188 households that have pledged out of 289 member households for a total of \$683,906.12. We need \$757,000 to meet the variety of ministry needs proposed for the 2019 budget. It is not too late to pledge. You can pick up a pledge form on the first floor hallway of the church or pledge on the church website at [www.hmpc.org](http://www.hmpc.org). If you have already pledged, we thank you.

# Youth

## Youth Group News

### Today

**Middle School Youth Group** will be earlier than normal. We will meet from 4:30-5:30 p.m. so that we have more sunlight for the “Canned Food Scavenger Hunt.” In the spirit of “thinking globally and acting locally”, this is our chance to help local folks who are experiencing hunger and homelessness by collecting canned goods for the Food Pantry of North Raleigh Ministry. We will gather at the van near the Westminster Hall doors. Bring 1 empty box, 2 cans of food, 3 empty plastic grocery bags, and dress in layers for being outside. If you have a “wagon”, bring that, too. Pick-up is at 5:30. Friends are welcome.

**High School Youth Program tonight is “Youth Sunday Prep – Starting Is Half Done!** Don’t miss this important evening of dreaming, brainstorming, and “finalizing our theme” as we continue to discern as a group what we think God would have us share as we lead worship on February 24th and sign up for specific parts. What is God calling you to do? How can you share your gifts with your community of faith? We will gather in Westminster Hall at 6 p.m. for supper and then go upstairs for the program. Parent pick-up is at 7:30 p.m. Please bring \$5 for supper. Friends are welcome as always!

### Upcoming Trips & Events

Listed below are upcoming Youth Programs. Please mark your calendars and watch for details. Flyers are on the church website and also in the wall pockets near Frank Boyd’s office.

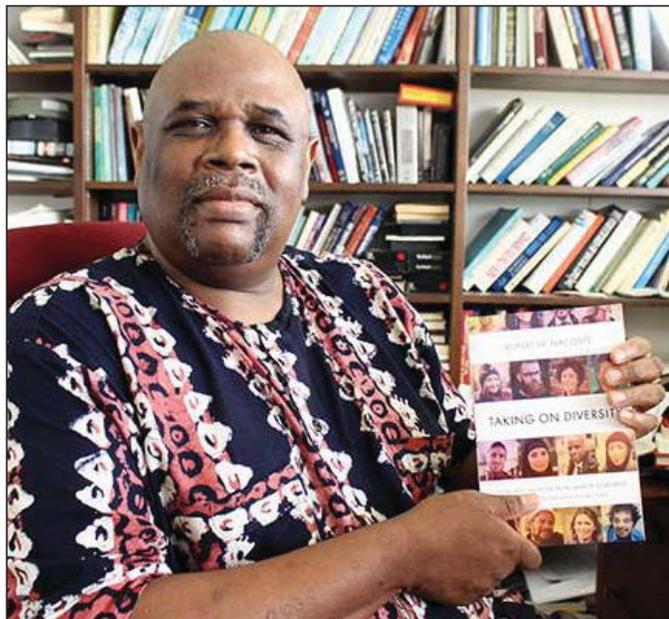
- **January 21** – Ski Trip to Wintergreen
- **February 24** – Youth Sunday
- **March 1-2** – Faith and Sexuality Retreat (all 8th-9th graders)
- **March 3** – Pies, Lies, Burgers and Fries. Tall tales, food and fellowship
- **March 15-17** – Camp Willow Run, High School Presbytery Retreat on Lake Gaston.
- **April 21** – Rock Climbing at Triangle Rock Club
- **April 26-28** – Confirmation Retreat at Camp Caraway
- **April 27** – Hire-a-Youth Day
- **May 5** – Confirmation Sunday
- **May 19** – Graduation Sunday
- **June 16-21** – **The Mission Trip to Washington, DC** (for 8th graders & older).
- **June 25-28** – Massanetta Middle School Conference (for all 6th-8th grade youth).
- **July 14-20** – **Montreat Youth Conference** (for 8-12 grade youth).



## Flower Donations

Secure a date to honor or remember someone with a floral arrangement soon. To sign up, or for more information, refer to the flowers bulletin board outside room #103.

# Deacon Ministry



announce our speaker Dr. Rupert W. Nacoste, Ph.D., Alumni Distinguished Undergraduate Professor of Psychology at North Carolina State University and the author of *Taking On Diversity: How We Can Move From Anxiety to Respect*.

Dr. Nacoste is an expert in helping people to understand the complexities of life in the 21st century and he will help us to consider this within the context of our faith. As we know Jesus welcomed all, consistently spoke truth to power, and challenged systems of oppression that divided people from one another pushing many to the outside or to the bottom of the social structure including women, those with physical, mental and emotional challenges, children, “sinners” and any others the predominant culture so designated as not being worthy of full inclusion. Dr. Nacoste will help us to imagine what it really looks like to be more inclusive of different races, gender orientations, ages, ethnicities, cultures, and economic statuses etc. – things we easily affirm but may not always do effectively.

Registration information will be coming soon!

## Congregational Workshop

**Saturday, February 16**

The Deacons invite HMPC members and friends, including high school and college students, to attend a congregational workshop to be held Saturday, February 16th from 9 a.m. –12 p.m. in Westminster Hall. We are excited to

## Session

### Update

#### December

- Tom Carpenito presented the plans and activities of the HMPC Foundation and Memorial Gifts team.
- Approved the church calendar for 2019 including holy communion dates and special offerings.
- Elder Harry Bond reported revenue exceeds expenses by \$ 3,000.
- Approved the proposed housing allowances for 2019 for Pastors Schafer and Kirk.
- Approved the potential use of Room 200 by an AA group named “Early Risers” on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings.

# Calendar



## Sunday, January 13

Nursery Wing Opens	9:15 am
Pre-Elementary Extended Care (218)	9:30 am
Elementary Joyful Noise (GH)	9:30 am
Explorers/Confirmation/HS Sunday School (227/234/236)	9:30 am
The Gathering	9:30 am
Children's Education (Children's Wing)	10:30 am
Worship	10:30 am
Fellowship	11:30 am
Nursery Wing Closes	11:45 am
Luke Bentlage Eagle Court of Honor (WH)	3:00 pm
MS Youth Fellowship	4:30 pm
Girl Scout Troop 921 (JK)	4:30 pm
HS Youth Fellowship	6:00 pm

## Monday, January 14

Grandparent Autism Group (WH)	6:00 pm
Property (KH)	6:00 pm
Worship Committee (Library)	7:00 pm
AI-Anon (GH)	8:00 pm

## Tuesday, January 15

Waking Up With the Word (Library)	6:30 am
Retired Old Men Eating Out (Bojangles)	7:45 am
Esther Circle (Springmoor)	10:00 am
Elizabeth/Rachel Circle (Parlor)	11:00 am
Hannah Circle (Library)	12:00 pm
Capernaum Young Life (WH)	5:30 pm
Fellowship Committee (KH)	7:00 pm
Miriam Circle (Carolyn Scott's home)	7:30 pm

## Wednesday, January 16

Women at the Well (Parlor)	9:15 am
Hudson Handbells (Sanctuary)	6:15 pm
Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)	7:30 pm

## Thursday, January 17

Amazing Grays Luncheon & Program (WH)	11:30 am
---------------------------------------	----------

## Friday, January 18

CPR, First Aid & Lunch (WH)	8:30 am
-----------------------------	---------

## Saturday, January 19

No activities scheduled

## Sunday, January 20

Nursery Wing Opens	9:15 am
Pre-Elementary Extended Care (218)	9:30 am
Elementary Joyful Noise (GH)	9:30 am
Explorers/Confirmation/HS Sunday School (227/234/236)	9:30 am
The Gathering	9:30 am
Children's Education (Children's Wing)	10:30 am
Worship	10:30 am
Fellowship	11:30 am
Nursery Wing Closes	11:45 am
Inquirer's Class (KH)	11:45 am

# Preschool

## Preschool Information

Children (right) lined up to get their tickets for the Polar Express train ride last month.

If you have any questions or would like to visit the preschool please contact Dorothy Roche at [droche@hmpc.org](mailto:droche@hmpc.org) or call 919-787-1792.





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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED