

Mac's Meanderings



Ministry Updates During COVID-19

Worship, Gatherings & the Current Culture

DEAR FRIENDS AND MEMBERS:

I wanted to take a moment to update you on a few things your leadership have been working on.

Practice Outdoor Worship

This past week your Elders and Deacons did a “dress rehearsal” of outdoor worship in an effort to see what it might be like if implemented for the larger congregation. Please pray for your Session and staff as they discern the best and safest way to move forward with in-person outdoor worship. If and when we begin outdoor worship we will still continue online worship for

those who cannot or are not ready to worship in-person.

Outdoor In-person Gatherings

On Monday, June 15th your Session voted to allow outdoor in-person gatherings of 25 people or less on the church property or elsewhere. If your church group desires to do this, Session requires they follow the following guidelines:

1. You must wear masks and stay six to ten feet

away from each other (social distancing).

2. All members of your group/ministry team must agree to do this. If you have members of your group or ministry team that are uncomfortable with this, please continue to meet via video conferencing or conference call.
3. Your group must reserve the outdoor space by contacting [Pat Cash](#) so that the spaces are not overbooked. The group chair will keep a list of those who attended.

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Ministry Updates at Hudson

(Continued from page 1)

Building Still Closed

Presently our church building remains closed for everything but essential duties. We will give appropriate notice when our building opens again for worship and various group activities. Thank you for your understanding and patience. Worship, educational groups and other activities continue to happen virtually.

The Times We Are Living In

Your staff and leadership know these are difficult, exciting and anxiety-producing times we are living through, particularly around COVID-19 and Racial Equity. Many of you are saturated by these two topics on a daily basis via the television, newspaper and on social media. I know some of you want to come to church as a “sabbath” to get away from the news. When your staff or leadership write, talk, teach, preach and touch on these topics,

“I acknowledge that each of us needs sabbath and rest from the hard work we are doing culturally from time to time. However, our job is to tie real life to our faith.”

please know that we are trying to do it from the lens of our understanding of Christ’s call to us and our community. We understand that our church community has different perspectives. We all have a lot of learning and listening to do.

As I read scripture, it appears clear to me that Christ was always bumping up against the political powers of his day. I would even argue that it was what got him killed. His ministry spilled over into things the people of his day would call “political.” What each

of us consider as political is different. While I never think that I am right about everything, please know that I do not think we would be living into our calling if we did not tie our pondering on the scriptures to current events (at least some of the time). I acknowledge that each of us needs sabbath and rest from the hard work we are doing culturally, from time to time. However, our job is to tie real life to our faith. I believe Christ was born, lived, died and was resurrected for exactly times like these. Therefore, we must learn to be in community in the midst of differing views and talk about how it impacts our faith.

With Care,



Mac Schafer
Pastor & Head of Staff

How Can I Keep From Singing

By Phil Hayden

Last week’s Midweek Musical Meditation is the touching 19th century hymn *How Can I Keep from Singing*. This is an apt question for right now, during a time of social distancing and wearing of face masks in public. How can we, indeed, keep from singing when we begin to meet for worship outside or later, indoors?

Experts tell us that singing is a ‘super spreader’ activity. Singing, we expel microscopic particulate matter into the air which travels outward up to 15 feet or more, not falling immediately to the ground, as do water droplets. Indoors, HVAC systems carry this particulate matter throughout a building. Microscopic particulates linger in the air for a few hours.

When science professionals first shared this information with the American Choral Directors Association and the National Association of Teachers of Singing in a lengthy webinar two months ago, all the music professionals felt their

collective hearts sink. Would there be active college and high school choirs this fall? Would they be able to program fall concerts? Will singing teachers feel comfortable welcoming a succession of students throughout the day to their small studios? For us church music directors, the implications were just as dire; how can we in worship, of all places, keep from singing?

We do not yet have the answers to all these questions; progress against COVID-19 is a moving target. However, I am reminded of monks who commit themselves to lives of reflection, study and silence. Surely they find ways to express the joy of their faith. And so it must be with us in this most unusual time. The apostle Paul instructs us to ‘speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs’ (Ephesians 5:19a). But then he adds a further thought. ‘Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord’ (Eph. 5:19b). So it needs to be with us at the moment. We can listen to inspiring music. (This is one reason we share music with you each

“The apostle Paul instructs us to ‘speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs’.

– Ephesians 5:19b

Wednesday.) When we meet to worship together again in the near future, there may be no congregational singing for a while, even through face masks. We are concerned for each other, and we want to do our part to inhibit the spread of this virus that has already claimed too many lives. We can pray, giving thanks in our hearts for God’s goodness in our lives, and we can listen to music played, allowing our hearts to sing along with the instruments.

A perfect solution? No. But think how precious singing will be when we can, without fear of spreading disease, sing out our faith with joy, and without inhibition. I don’t think we will ever take singing for granted again.

Youth

Youth Group News

This Week
The High School Youth Group will gather outside at the Church this Sunday evening, June 28 from 7–8 p.m. for sunset fellowship, ice cream, celebrations and concerns. Please wear a mask, bring your own lawn chair, and plan to social distance.

Montreat@HMPC is July 20, 22, and 24 in the sanctuary. Registration flyers have been distributed to all rising 9th – graduated 12th graders. Anyone who would like to participate should turn in your forms by Friday, July 3rd. If you have any questions, feel free to contact [Frank Boyd](#).

Youth Committee Needs You – The Youth Committee is made up of youth, parents, and other HMPC folk. If you would like to learn more about possibly serving on this wonderful committee or getting involved in the Hudson youth program in some other way, contact [Monica Maxwell](#) or [Frank Boyd](#).

Children & Family

Vacation Bible School

By Sarah Edge
Chair, VBS Planning Team

This summer’s Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be a family event geared toward rising four-years olds through rising fourth graders. VBS will take place outside with social distancing observed. We will gather by family in the parking lot and in the grass on the backside of HMPC. The program will include a Bible lesson, music, movement and a craft and/

or science experiment. The program will be from 6–7:30 p.m. on Sundays, July 19, July 26, August 2 and August 9.



We understand not everyone will be available to attend each week so you may register for one or more weeks.

Registration is limited. Please complete [this registration form](#) by Friday, July 3rd to register for VBS.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Online Community

Stay in community with us. We can be found online at:



- facebook (HudsonMPC)
- Twitter (Hudson Memorial PC)
- Instagram (hudsonmemorialpc)

Our Twitter and Instagram accounts have quotes, poetry, prayer, scripture, and images. Follow us and like us!

Calendar

Zoom Meetings

Below is a list of upcoming Zoom meetings. If you are part of a committee or group, you should have received an e-mail invitation. If you have not received an invitation, contact your group leader.

Sunday, June 28

- 11:30 a.m. – Sacred Conversations
- 7:00 p.m. – Montreat Participant Meeting

Tuesday, June 30

- 6:30 a.m. – Waking Up With the Word
- 9:30 a.m. – Staff Meeting

Wednesday, July 1

- 7:00 p.m. – Surprised By Hope

Finance

Review
Actual vs Budget
May 31

HMPC GENERAL FUND (GF) YEAR TO DATE (YTD)		05/31/20		
PPP Funds Not Included		YTD 2020 ACTUAL	YTD 2020 BUDGET	Favorable (Unfav) ACT VS BUDGET
PLEDGES		\$ 368,031	\$ 358,415	\$ 9,616
NON-PLEDGE/OTHER GF OFFERING		\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -
TOTAL GF OFFERINGS		\$ 388,031	\$ 378,415	\$ 9,616
TOTAL GF REVENUE		\$ 439,225	\$ 449,598	\$ (10,373)
TOTAL GF EXPENSE		\$ 368,383	\$ 378,752	\$ 10,369
GF SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		\$ 70,842	\$ 70,846	\$ (4)
AVAILABLE TO BORROW-NS BANK		\$ 50,000		

Groups & Classes

Although we are social distancing due to COVID-19 many groups and classes are meeting online! Contact a group leader for an invitation.



Outgoing Ministry Team Chairs

Thank you to our outgoing Ministry Team Chairs. These individuals are concluding their service as Ministry Team chairs this summer. They have served Christ through the ministries of Hudson in very faithful ways:



Ken Krause

Property
Committee Chair

Ken has been chair for almost two years. Ken has been a strong force in getting multiple projects completed. Many include repairs on the exterior Geneva Hall stairs, the renovation of Westminster Hall, upgrades to second floor bathrooms and sanctuary lighting, new kitchen equipment, parking lot improvements, extensive soffett, facia and gutter work, new church windows and new church doors.



Yvonne Peterson

Deacons
Moderator

Yvonne has a heart for people as well as strong leadership skills. She thoughtfully assigned Deacons to members based on the needs of both. She supported individual Deacons and encouraged them to build relationships with each other. She was enthusiastic about doing our annual retreat a little differently with leadership and venue; using ArtSpace was her idea and it provided the context we had hoped for.



Steve Parker

Welcoming
Committee Chair

Steve has been chair for three years. Steve has done a wonderful job revitalizing this ministry team. This team has had its monthly meetings at Big Ed's North. Steve has been a great model of treating a ministry team like a small group. Deeper relationships have really developed on this team while still implementing important welcoming ministry to those walking in the door of HMPC for the first time.



Mike Law

Nominating
Committee Chair

Mike is concluding his tenure as chair along with active service on Session. Mike has superb knowledge of people. He was instrumental in making sure we were compliant with the *Book of Order* on the number of people serving on Nominating and helped the committee craft a proposal to the Session on the future possibility of a youth elder. This will be coming to the congregation in winter of 2021.

Outgoing Ministry Team Chairs

We ask that you please a a minute to thank these individuals for their service by phone, text, email or written card. These friends have been the hands and feet of Christ at HMPC. Thanks be to God.



Caroline Smart

Personnel
Committee Chair

Caroline has served as chair for eight years. Several highlights for Caroline's tenure is the vision and expansion of our paid Director of Children and Family Ministry position and the addition of a Pastor of Visitation. Caroline has spent countless hours leading the committee and session on benefits issues , personnel policy, staff reviews and facilitating committee meetings.



Tom Carpenito

Foundation Board
Chair

Tom is concluding two years of service as president of the Foundation Board. Under Tom's leadership we have seen significant growth to contributions to the Foundation from the 60th Capital Campaign. Tom helped lead the Board in significant policy and investment strategy conversations and helped the leadership see the importance of an endowment for the future vitality of ministry at HMPC.



Steve Guy

Preschool Board
Chair

Steve has been Board chair for two years. He has been instrumental in helping the Board process multiple complex issues. He has been a solid rock while the preschool has had to deal with the implications of COVID-19. Steve is a consensus builder, compassionate, extremely committed and a good financial mind. During Steve's tenure the preschool has continued to improve its facilities and policies.



John James

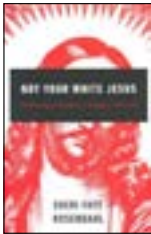
Giving Ministry
Team Chair

John concluded two years as chair of the Giving Ministry Team. He has overseen two campaigns where the number of pledgers have increased along with the total dollar amounts pledged. Under John's sensitive and spiritual leadership we added a congregational devotion for members to ponder themes of generosity in the weeks proceeding the annual campaign.

Sacred Conversations

Sunday, June 28

In light of the the current incidents of racial injustice in our nation and long history of the same, Pastor Debbie will use the book *Not*



Your White Jesus: Following a Radical Refugee Messiah by Sheri Faye Rosendahl as the basis for our conversations. Together we will prayerfully consider

the call to be faithful disciples as we follow the counter cultural, revolutionary Jesus. All are welcome to join us! [Join Zoom Meeting here.](#)

Waking Up With the Word

Tuesday, June 30

This men's bible study will meet on Zoom every Tuesday at 6:30 a.m. while we are sheltering in place

due to COVID-19. The group centers on the scripture that will be preached on the following Sunday. If

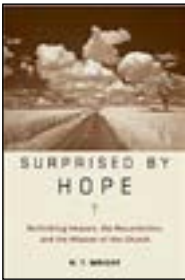


you have not received an invitation to the group and would like to, contact [Mac Schafer.](#)

Surprised By Hope

Wednesday, July 1

What does the Christian church have to offer the world in this time of uncertainty, confusion, and fear? Can we only offer hope for a better life in the world to come? Or is "Christian future hope ... deeply intertwined with how we live today?"



Don Slater will facilitate part four of a series of six weekly virtual classes on Wednesday at 7 p.m. The class will explore these ideas using a DVD series connected to the book *Surprised By Hope Rethinking Heaven, Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church* by N. T. Wright, biblical scholar

and Bishop of Durham, England. Each session will consist of watching a DVD presentation by Wright and a group discussion of the ideas presented. Purchasing the book might be useful but is not required. Contact Don Slater at dj Slater107@mac.com for more information and to express your interest, so that you may be invited to the virtual sessions.

Women at the Well

Wednesday, July 8 & 15

Women at the Well continues it's weekly group meetings at 9:15 a.m. *Fierce, Free and Full of Fire* by Jen Hatmaker is our book selection and can be found on Amazon and other retail outlets. The author is this year's keynote speaker at the Montreat Women's Conference which many of us will be attending in August. Current participants will receive the assignments and Zoom links and we welcome others to join us! For more information contact Debbie Kirk (dkirk@hmpe.org).



Thursday, July 9 & 23

The monthly Women at the Well group meets at 6 p.m. and will continue every other Thursday evening. Current participants will receive the podcast selection and Zoom link and we welcome others to join us! Contact Debbie Kirk (dkirk@hmpe.org) to be added to the participant list.

Giving

Your financial support is vital to the church. Here are ways you can give:

- Checks can be mailed to: Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church, 4921 Six Forks Road, Raleigh, NC 27609
- Online at hmpe.org via credit card
- Bill-pay through your bank
- Recurring Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) from your checking account. Contact Pat at pcash@hmpe.org to set this up.

Gifts Given

Month of

Memorial gifts were given in memory of:

- Jane McDougal by Mark & Frances Gass, Anonymous, Bill & Marsha Flueckinger, SOFSAFBI- Triangle Chapter (c/o Timothy & Marilla Gannon).



Care

Krause Family

Pray for Ken, Susan, Talley and Mary Glenn Krause as they grieve the death of Ken's mother Janice Krause. Janice had joined the church this past year and it was the privilege of many of us to appreciate your deep faith and love of her family.

Birthdays

July

1. Colt Jackson, Dottie Davis

2. Tiffany Wheeler, Wynne Long

3. Avi Banerjee, Billy Poole, Leigh Betancourt

4. Andrea Mouw, Kathy White, Cate Madden, Dan Street

5. Lacey Sandlin, Logan Randolph

6. Barbara Watts

7. Anna Keen, Susan Krause, Debbie Bumgarner, P. J. Conger, Jimmie Spell, Charlie Onaya

8. Maddox Johnson, Michelle Philips

9. Dick Ives, Beth Billman, Marie Martin

10. Susan Bradshaw

11. Lauren Parker, Walt Lang

12. Avera Acai, Jeri Thomas

13. Phil Hayden, Bailey Poythress, Shelly Ayers

14. Rick Melling, Lee Playford, Abbas Pirooszbakt

15. William Davidson, Karen Melling

16. Trish Richardson, Cathy Bentlage, Gloria Toler
17. Heidi Duggins, Sandra Acai, Sandy Cole, Kathy Seekamp, Ellie Vig, Richard Blanks, Tanner Hanks, Lisa Hoffman

18. Teri Morris, Phyllis James, Ethan Page, Hannah Cox

19. Bob Conder, Luke Dalzell, Nathan Edge, Jimmy Hulsey

20. Aleta Ash, Ogbeyialu Nduka, Morgan Plentl

21. Brooke Baur, Olivia Mercer, Robert Saleeby

22. Karen Layton

24. Ann Trent, Laura McHenry, Andrew Pate

26. Calesta Heres

27. Mitch Perry, Jenna Schindo, Katy Schafer, Keels Maxwell

28. Olivia Davidson, Terry Lamberson

30. Robert Atkinson, Ginny Conger, Patty Shaver

31. Brent Sharpe, Caroline Smart, Jackie Rogers

Accessing Staff & Deacon on Call

During the time that the office is closed due to COVID-19, please be assured that you can still get in touch with all staff and the Deacons’ Prayer Line. Below is a list of staff and their e-mail addresses. Staff is monitoring e-mails and voice mails multiple times a day, and the Deacon on Call is accessing voice mails left on the Deacon Prayer Line at least twice a day. We will continue to stay in touch, even though it is not face-to-face at this time. The Deacon on Call (DOC) for June is Tony Bedini. DOC for July is Hope Parangi.

Social Media

You may also follow Hudson on social media. Hudson Memorial is on Twitter (Hudson Memorial PC), Instagram (hudsonmemorialpc), and facebook (HudsonMPC). The staff will post regularly.

Staff Directory

- Mac Schafer – mschafer@hmpc.org
Pastor & Head of Staff

Debbie Kirk – dkirk@hmpc.org
Associate Pastor, Spiritual Growth & Nurture

Aleta Ash – aash@hmpc.org
Minister of Visitation

Philip Hayden – phayden@hmpc.org
Music Director & Composer

Frank Boyd – fboyd@hmpc.org
Director of Youth Ministries

Rachael McConnell– rmcconnell@hmpc.org
Director of Children & Family Ministries

Gina Hayek – ghayek@hmpc.org
Children’s Music Director
- Carol Yeargin – yeargin@bellsouth.net
Organist

Pat Cash – pcash@hmpc.org
Business Administrator

Susan Gressel – sgressel@hmpc.org
Bookkeeper

Patty Shaver – pshaver@hmpc.org
Administrative Assistant

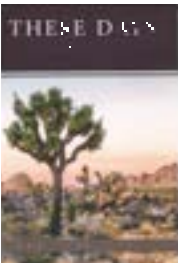
Dorothy Roche – droche@hmpc.org
Preschool Director

Joyce Hawkins – jhawkins@hmpc.org
Assistant Preschool Director

Hope Parangi – hparangi@yahoo.com
Church Hostess

Devotionals

These Days: Daily Devotions for Living by Faith for July through September are available outside the north entrance door. Stop by and pick one up, or contact Patty (pshaver@hmpc.org) to have one mailed.





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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED