



# the weekly Window

March 27, 2020

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

## Love of Neighbor

### Ways to Help Others During the Pandemic

**WHILE DEALING WITH THE UNCERTAINTY** of the pandemic, we can all continue to reach out and help those around us, even if it isn't face-to-face. The ministries listed below are helping those in our community who need it most. Know you are making an impact by giving.

#### **North Raleigh Ministries**

When a crisis hits, local charities and vulnerable members of our society, like our low-income clients, can really struggle to get by. Many of these people will go without food so that they can pay their rent or keep their lights on.

You can make a difference in these challenging times. Donate from home online to fill the food pantry. For more information, go to <https://www.northraleighministries.com/pantry-donations>.

#### **Meals on Wheels**

provides the delivery of healthy meals to local older adults, allowing them to live independently at home. For more information, go to <https://www.wakemow.org>

#### **Inter-faith Food Shuttle**

During this critical time, Inter-faith Food Shuttle (IFS) is more reliant than ever on donors. Consider a financial donation to support IFS's COVID-19 response. For more information, go to <https://www.foodshuttle.org>

#### **Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina**

Right now, people in central and eastern North Carolina don't have enough to eat. Your tax-deductible gift helps provide food and hope to families, children, and seniors right here in our community.

Together, we can help people in our community during their greatest time of need. Every \$10 you donate provides 100 meals! For more information, go to <https://foodbankcenc.org>

# Mac's Meanderings

## Staying Together When We Are Apart

**By Mac Schafer**

**H**Your Session met Monday night for their stated meeting.

After discernment and discussion the leadership decided it was in the community's best interest to keep our church campus closed to "in-person" gatherings through April 19th. Your Session will meet at least every two weeks to discuss our ministry during COVID-19 and reassess pathways forward.

Please know that despite the campus being closed, we will continue to offer regular Sunday worship online and will have all our planned Holy Week services (including Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday Worship) available for you to participate in on our church website ([hmpc.org/sermons](http://hmpc.org/sermons)).

Your staff is meeting via Zoom (an online video conferencing platform) weekly and discussing every aspect of our ministry, determining how we can stay



**“... church is not a building, it is a community of people doing the best they can to love God...”**

together while we are apart. Just in the past several days we have had multiple groups and events happen via Zoom. They include:

- Youth Group
- Preschool 3 & 4 year old chapel
- Waking Up with the Word
- Women at the Well
- The Preschool Board
- The Session
- The Deacons

• The Presbyterian Pint  
This is all evidence that “church” is not a building, it is a community of people doing the best they can to love God and love their neighbor during a time when we are culturally anxious about our own safety and the safety of others. The church is God’s evidence that we are not alone.

I want to close with a prayer HMPC member Rob Duggins shared with me yesterday morning. He got the prayer from former HMPC Associate Pastor Rosemary Noga Welton in the wake of September 11th: “Eternal God, you call us to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

*You are loved beyond your wildest imagination*

**Stay in community with us through worship ([hmpc.org/sermons](http://hmpc.org/sermons)) and on social media**

Twitter (Hudson Memorial PC), Instagram (hudsonmemorialpc), and facebook (HudsonMPC)

# Community

## Making Adjustments Due to COVID-19

**By Debbie Kirk**

**A**nother week has gone by and the news is still daunting. We are in an awkward place where community is front and center as we modify our behaviors and yet cannot gather in person in all the ways we normally would. As things are still evolving quickly, we are all getting lots of updates, perhaps more than we want. Some of it is necessary and helpful, a lot of it not so much. It does seem ironic that just a couple of weeks ago many families and groups of friends would sit in the same room each on their own electronic devices, and now we are craving more personal connections.

It feels strange for us to prepare worship in an empty sanctuary and I miss being with you all! That being said, I appreciated what this past Sabbath offered me. I enjoyed being able to watch several



**“... in these days we should be positive, while focusing on ideas and practices that give life.”**

services online and connect with colleagues near and far in their various worship settings. Almost everyone preached on the lectionary text Psalm 23, as Mac did, and it was interesting to hear the different messages, along with prayers and music. It was not lost on anyone how providential it was that the text appeared in the midst of the pandemic and more than one pastor noted how in times of anxiety and distress we often turn to our most familiar passages for comfort and encouragement.

Some wise counsel from Reverend MaryAnn McKibben Dana, the author

of a recent Women at the Well book selection *God, Improv and the Art of Living*, is that in these days we should be positive, while focusing on ideas and practices that give life. You may also find it helpful to be reminded of this perspective using the Serenity Prayer: *God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.*

In this unusual Lent season when we are not able to be physically present with one another, let us hold each other in the light of Christ.

### **How to Help in A Pandemic**

Our ministry partners need our financial support during this time. Go to <https://www.hmpc.org/ways-to-help-during-pandemic> to donate online.

# Giving

**By Bill Flueckinger**  
**Chair, Finance Committee**

Several people have asked questions about giving while services and meetings have been suspended. There are a number of ways to continue giving if you wish to take advantage of them. If circumstances prevent you from your customary giving that is perfectly understandable during these unusual times.

The church's finances started strong in 2020 so presently we can withstand this interruption and pay our ongoing obligations. Your continued support will assist us in maintaining a strong position.

Checks can be mailed to the church but please do not

send cash through the mail.

The address for mail is:

Hudson Memorial  
Presbyterian Church  
4921 Six Forks Road  
Raleigh, NC 27609

You also have the option of making donations online at the church's website [hmhc.org](http://hmhc.org) via credit card. You will have the option of donating one time, weekly or monthly. You will need to create a login if you have not already done so. The login will consist of your e-mail address and a password.

Bill-pay through your bank is another option.

You may also wish to consider setting up a recurring Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) directly from your checking account. Funds will be drafted from

your account on the 15th of the month or the next business day after the 15th. To set this up you will need to provide Pat Cash a voided check and instruction by written note or e-mail.

Text to Give – You may also text to give for your donations to the general fund. Here is how to text to give: Text amount to 888-906-0744. If you have not done this before, you will be prompted to enter your information. Once it has been entered, you will not have to enter it again.

We look forward to the time we will be able to meet and worship together on Sunday mornings. In the meantime please take all precautions to stay safe and healthy.

# Youth

## **This Week**

**Middle and High School Youth Groups** will meet on some Sunday evenings via Zoom. Watch for e-mail and text messages for e-gatherings and invitations. Download the Zoom App on your phone or tablet. These e-Youth Groups are a perfect cure for cabin fever; join us.

**Explorers 5, 6, 7 Sunday School Class** – *Feasting on the Word* curriculum will be sent out each week so that youth and their families have the resources needed to gather and explore the weekly lesson as your schedule allows. Contact Frank Boyd if you have any questions at [hmhcpcyouthgroup@gmail.com](mailto:hmhcpcyouthgroup@gmail.com).

**eConfirmation Class** – We will have an e-class Sunday morning, March 29, at 9:30. Watch your e-mail and phones for the meeting invitation. Continue to work on your Statements of Faith and Tri-Fold displays. Contact your mentors or any of the confirmation teachers if  
*(Continued on page 5)*

# Faith Formation

## Waking Up with the Word Goes Weekly During COVID-19

This men's bible study will meet every Tuesday morning at 6:30 a.m. while COVID-19 is going on. The group centers on the scripture that will be preached on the following Sunday. No previous bible study experience is needed. The group is meeting via Zoom. If you are not receiving an invite to the group and would like to, contact Mac Schafer at [mschafer@hmpc.org](mailto:mschafer@hmpc.org)



## Bonhoeffer Babes

The HMPC Bonhoeffer Babes will not meet in April, but we will begin discussing a new book the next time we meet – *Love Does*, by Bob Goff. We are planning to discuss Chapters 1-7 in May. Contact Kelly Boone ([boonekr@gmail.com](mailto:boonekr@gmail.com)) for more information. We welcome women of all ages who love books and informal conversation to come read with us!

## Youth

*(Continued from page 4)*  
you have questions. Thanks to those of you who sent in your Statements of Faith. Note that the Confirmation retreat that was scheduled for April 17-19 has been cancelled.

**Daily Devotional** – If you are looking for a short, profound, and relevant devotional, check out [d365.org](http://d365.org). The format of Pause, Listen, Think, Pray, and Go is refreshing.

**Spring and Summer Youth Events** – Some of the following events may eventually be cancelled or postponed. At this point, they are still a possibility so keep them on your calendars until further notice.

- Confirmation Sunday, May 3
- Graduation Sunday, May 17
- Massanetta MS Conference June 23-26

# Music



## Handbell Ringing Opportunity

The Hudson Handbell Ringers has openings for two handbell ringers for the upcoming fall season. If you read music well, have a good sense of rhythm, enjoy music making with others, and can commit to a weekly one hour rehearsal Wednesdays from 6:15-7:15 p.m., the Music Ministry would like to know. Openings are by audition. If you are interested, contact Phil Hayden at 919-931-5327, [phayden@hmpc.org](mailto:phayden@hmpc.org), or speak to him following a worship service. The Hudson Handbell Ringers are a caring, supportive small music ministry team that would love to know about you!

# Preschool



***DISCOVERY** – March was full of fun and discovery at Hudson Memorial Preschool, even with the abbreviated schedule. We look forward to returning to school and seeing all our friends soon!*

## **These Days Devotionals**

*These Days: Daily Devotions for Living by Faith* are now available. This issue includes devotions for April through June. To obtain a copy e-mail Patty at [pshaver@hmhc.org](mailto:pshaver@hmhc.org) or call the office at 919-787-1086. Devotionals will be mailed so be sure to include your address.



# Children's Ministry

## Vacation Bible School

**August 3-7, 2020**

Register for VBS "Rocky Railway – Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through" Join us for a fun week of music, crafts, experiments, games, and explore where God's power can take you!

VBS will be held August 3–7, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. with classes for children age 4 (by August 31) through rising 4th graders.

For registration packets, cost, and volunteer information, go to <https://www.hmhc.org/vbs-2020>.

## Fundraiser to Benefit Hudson

### **March-May**

Homewood Gardens is conducting a fundraiser for HMPC. When members of Hudson Memorial (or their family and friends) shop at Homewood Gardens, let the cashier know that the purchase should be entered under Hudson Memorial's name. This fundraiser will go through the end of May. In June, all purchases under Hudson Memorial's name will be tallied and 10% of purchases will be loaded on a gift card to add beautiful plantings to Hudson's campus.

# Birthdays

## April

- 1 - Bill Beacham
- 2 - Gail Brenner, Pam Glaub, Kate Dickerson
- 3 - Scott Brewer, Connie Atkinson
- 4 - Rowan Capps
- 5 - Eric Fertin, Davis Keen, Devohn Rhame, Ella James Bever, Zach Nduka, Ann Roberson
- 6 - Martie Surasky
- 7 - Bruce Morgen, Ric Clemens
- 8 - Joan Harrod, Alexander Magee, Johannes van Die
- 9 - Alan Frelich
- 10 - Gary Alexander, Ken Ross, Hannah Schafer, Anna Dewar
- 11 - Louis Fritsch, Elaine Cansler
- 12 - Linda Mathis, Russell Allen
- 13 - Andrew Roberson, Alice Chase, Sarah Duncan, Cary Krueger
- 14 - Curt Plyler
- 16 - Lynda Kennedy, Alison Page
- 17 - Carson Rogers, Anne Mushow, Piper Phillips, Nadine Parangi, Smith Ledwith
- 18 - Paulette Morrison
- 19 - Glenn Schindo, Belinda Keever, Justin Long
- 20 - Liam Playford, Matthew Williams
- 22 - John Whisler
- 23 - Abbie Schindo, Debbie Lamberson, Adeline Cesareo
- 24 - Riley Allen, Trevor Boone, Georgia Towns
- 25 - Cooper Plentl, George Conger, Alex Matthews
- 26 - Drew McDuffie, Quinten Roberson, John Oldenburg, Maria Ya
- 27 - Carole Larsen, Erin Bartow, Garrett Dawkins, Roger Morris
- 28 - Katherine Schneider, Emily Dawkins, Barry Cobb
- 29 - Sean Cole
- 30 - McLean Bradshaw, Mike Coffey, Brian Bentlage

## Finance

### Review of Actual vs Budget

#### February

#### HMPC GENERAL FUND (GF) YEAR TO DATE (YTD)

02/29/20

	YTD 2020 <u>ACTUAL</u>	YTD 2020 <u>BUDGET</u>	Favorable (Unfav) ACT VS <u>BUDGET</u>
PLEDGES	\$ 202,890	\$ 172,844	\$ 30,046
NON-PLEDGE/OTHER GF OFFERING	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ (20,000)
TOTAL GF OFFERINGS	\$ 202,890	\$ 192,844	\$ 10,046
TOTAL GF REVENUE	\$ 241,229	\$ 231,786	\$ 9,443
TOTAL GF EXPENSE	\$ 152,064	\$ 151,062	\$ (1,002)
GF SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ 89,164	\$ 80,724	\$ 8,440
AVAILABLE TO BORROW-NS BANK	\$ 50,000		

# Church Operations

## Accessing Staff and 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.

## 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 be posting regularly.

## Staff Directory

**Mac Schafer** – [mschafer@hmpc.org](mailto:mschafer@hmpc.org)  
Pastor & Head of Staff

**Carol Yeargin** – [yeargin@bellsouth.net](mailto:yeargin@bellsouth.net)  
Organist

**Debbie Kirk** – [dkirk@hmpc.org](mailto:dkirk@hmpc.org)  
Associate Pastor, Spiritual Growth & Nurture

**Pat Cash** – [pcash@hmpc.org](mailto:pcash@hmpc.org)  
Business Administrator

**Aleta Ash** – [aash@hmpc.org](mailto:aash@hmpc.org)  
Minister of Visitation

**Susan Gressel** – [sgressel@hmpc.org](mailto:sgressel@hmpc.org)  
Bookkeeper

**Philip Hayden** – [phayden@hmpc.org](mailto:p hayden@hmpc.org)  
Music Director & Composer

**Patty Shaver** – [pshaver@hmpc.org](mailto:pshaver@hmpc.org)  
Administrative Assistant

**Frank Boyd** – [fboyd@hmpc.org](mailto:fboyd@hmpc.org)  
Director of Youth Ministries

**Dorothy Roche** – [droche@hmpc.org](mailto:droche@hmpc.org)  
Preschool Director

**Lee Corbett** – [lcobbett@hmpc.org](mailto:lcobbett@hmpc.org)  
Children's Ministry Coordinator

**Joyce Hawkins** – [jhawkins@hmpc.org](mailto:jhawkins@hmpc.org)  
Assistant Preschool Director

**Gina Hayek** – [ghayek@hmpc.org](mailto:ghayek@hmpc.org)  
Children's Music Director

**Hope Parangi** – [hparangi@yahoo.com](mailto:hparangi@yahoo.com)  
Church Hostess



**Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church (USA)**

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