



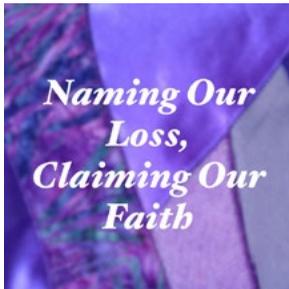
the weekly Window

March 14, 2021

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

Lenten Theme - What It Means to Me

One Year Ago Today



1 Year ago, today...

Every few hours I get this notification on my phone. It is from Google Photos; its program algorithm has put together a collection of photos

and movies from this specific day one year ago and two years ago. Last year these photos were a cute reminder of how much our children had grown or a reminder of the rhythm of life we had created: baseball, robotics, school programs, church, and the rare occasions of just sitting around the house. Now, this year we are coming upon the last days of that rhythm. Soon, March 15th will roll around and the pictures from 2020 will mark the halt of that lifestyle that was perpetuated for several years up to that date. Up to that date, the pictures are kind of a cruel reminder of what our life used to be. Full of smiles, action, activities, hard bleacher seats, wiggling babies cheering and fussing at baseball games, basketball games, musicals,

Throughout Lent the HMPC staff will be doing a weekly series on what our theme - *Naming Our Loss, Claiming Our Faith* - means to each of them.

and robotics tournaments. I loved that life! It was so fun, scheduled down to the second, so many moments of frantic phone calls asking friends to pick up or drop off one of the boys, meal decisions, mapping if we could make it from South Austin to North Austin during rush hour in less than 45 minutes (the answer to that problem was no, never).



The people in those photos are the same people I still see every day, but all of those activities have stopped and have not returned. Real-time photos now would show dance parties in the living room, the older boys playing video games talking to their

friends several states away, lots of YouTube marathons, some snapshots of family walks or bike rides on the greenways, and lots of pictures of Willie, our youngest, sitting in a high chair. Our lives used to revolve around doing things for our children. Taxiing them around to different sports practices, games, after-school clubs, children's and youth events at church, to and from friend's houses across town. In reality, it was exhausting and

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Lenten Theme - What It Means to Me

many of our conversations were just planning out what was going to happen next. We had short tempers from the stress of the go-go-go lifestyle, but we never second-guessed it because we just shrugged it off as the season we were in and it was for the children after all. We are all heavily mourning that lifestyle. We feel like a family without a country. We all struggled and are still struggling with who we are without our community, our extended family, our sports teams, our clubs, and organizations. Our identities, happiness, the rhythm of life, all were wrapped up in that lifestyle that no longer exists. During this pandemic, we have had to spend a lot of time with our children rather than spending our time “for” the children. We are all watching one another struggle, cope, re-evaluate, and live each day. My oldest Isaac said he had never lived each day “day-to-day” before quarantine, he said he was always anticipating the next thing, never really waiting for the surprises that each day could bring. I could empathize with that deeply. That kind of living was first introduced to me in the NICU, where our son Nathan lived the entirety of his life. Nothing could be anticipated, my mind was never rushing to the next thing, we were so absorbed in the present, every second. It also halted me from doing things “for God.” My work in ministry halted in the traditional sense. I was on leave from work, with no responsibilities. I found myself only spending time with God. Times of deep prayer: quiet and reflective or sobbing on my knees depending on that minute. Surrounded by the love of Christ through my friends who covered Nathan and all of us in prayer during visits full of joy and laughter. I could feel the Holy Spirit when I inhaled sometimes, releasing burdens too heavy to hold.

In the time of COVID-19 my heart has softened and grown for that of my family. Even if we can rub each other the wrong way or we are in need of some time apart, spending hours upon hours with them in the house has helped me see my children for who they are, not just what they can do. That was a shift I was not expecting at all and all I can think about is this shift Jennie Allen, discipleship expert extraordinaire, spoke about eight years ago, right as I was discerning serving in ministry as my vocation. She challenged the women who gathered that evening to evaluate if they were doing things “for God” or “with God.” I was convicted by this at that moment as I was about to enter seminary. How would I know the difference? Was it possible to do something for God, but not have the presence of the Spirit? It is not bad to serve others in loving, generous, and meaningful ways like Christ, but I can tell you there is a difference between doing something “for” in comparison to “with”: presence.

This Lenten season I am trying to re-orient my ministry, to spend time with God. To posture myself like Mary, at the feet of Christ, because it is hard to be like Martha in church ministry right now. And I never knew I liked a “to-do” list until this past year. As we mourn what and who we have lost in this past year, we can cling to the ever-present nature of God in moments where we might have been too busy to notice or know who God is.

As much as I am ready for the routines, rituals, and rhythms to return. I am drinking in the moments with the family that never in my fifteen years of motherhood, I had experienced before. I am not grateful for the pandemic that caused this season, but forever grateful to the God who moved my heart again to be open to being present in each minute.

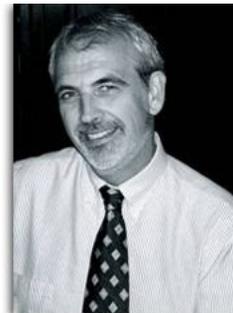
Save the Dates For Holy Week & Easter

- Online Maundy Thursday Worship Service April 1st
- Outdoor Good Friday Worship - Friday at 12 noon on April 2nd
- Outdoor Easter Egg Hunt for Children Saturday, April 3rd - 9:30 am to 12:30 pm
- Easter Sunday Worship - Sunday, April 4th
 - Sunrise Service - the Langley Chapel Property - 6:57 a.m.
 - Outdoor Easter worship & Communion - West Lawn - 9 a.m.
 - Outdoor Easter worship & Communion - West Lawn - 10:30 a.m.
 - Online Recorded Easter Sunday Worship from the HMPC Sanctuary

Ted Churn Preaching

Sunday, March 21st

The Reverend Dr. Ted Churn, Executive Presbyterian for the Presbytery of New Hope will be preaching on Sunday, March 21st (both outside & in recorded online worship). Ted recently announced that he was retiring in May of 2021 after serving a decade as the Executive Presbyterian & Stated Clerk. When Ted and his wife Moffett moved to North Carolina, Ted served a brief period of time as the Minister of Visitation at Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church. We hope you will give a warm welcome to Ted through your attendance at Outdoor Worship.



Lent

Congregational Devotional “Lent Micropractices” by Jo Nygard

Owens

A micropractice is a small spiritual practice. Instead of engaging the same spiritual practice throughout Lent, the micropractices are meant to give a sample across many different styles of practices. These are emailed on a daily basis.

[If you have not been receiving them, please contact Pat Cash.](#)

Wednesday Services of Evening Prayer 7-7:30 pm

On the five Wednesday evenings prior to Holy Week, the Deacons will host gatherings on Zoom where we can pray with and for each other. Each service will include reading of scripture, simple liturgy, and several forms of prayer for ourselves, others, our nation and the global community. You will receive the ZOOM link with the Wednesday emails of the Lent Micropractices.

Seeing the Word

Monday, March 22

This group uses the art work from the Saint John's Illuminated Bible to study scripture texts. We'll be studying Matthew 5:1-12 and an illumination for the Beatitudes. Presently it is meeting via Zoom at 12 noon. Contact [Mac Schafer](#) to receive the Zoom invitation.



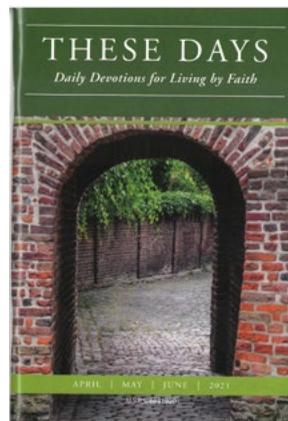
These Days

April - June

Issues Are Here!

The April - June issue of *These Days* has arrived. Copies are available at the north entrance in a weather protected bin.

[Please contact Pat Cash](#), 919-787-1086, if you would like one mailed to you.



Waking Up with the Word

March 16 - 6:30 am -

Waking Up with the Word will meet at 6:30 am via Zoom. The group studies the scripture text that will be preached on the following Sunday. No previous Bible study experience is needed. The group centers their study around three questions - 1. What is a word or phrase that stands out to you in the text? 2. Allow that word or phrase to prompt a memory from your life, a thought on the passage or a metaphor. 3. What is Christ calling you to through the scripture text? [Contact Mac Schafer](#) for more information.



Presbyterian Pint

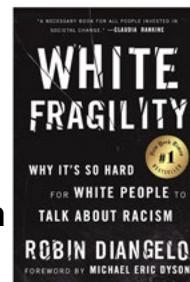
ZOOM Presbyterian

Pint Lenten Study:

White Fragility by Robin DiAngelo

Thursday 3/18 at 7 pm

- Lenten Discussion of the book *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism* by Robin DiAngelo - Thursday, March 18th at 7 p.m. via ZOOM.

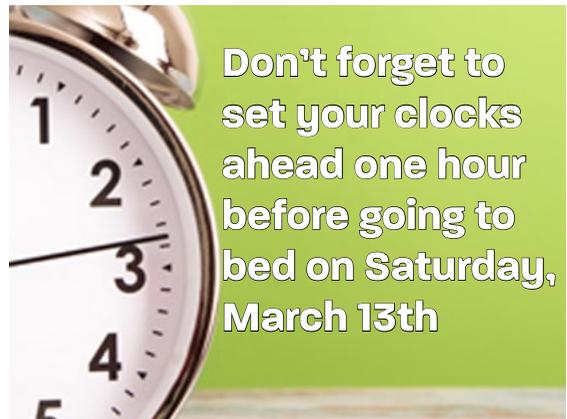


Youth Group News

Youth Programs This Week

- **The Explorers 5-6-7 Sunday School Class** will meet this coming Sunday, March 14, from 9:30-10:15 AM with teacher Matt Carlisle. If the weather is nice, we will meet outside at the church under the Twin Oaks. Please bring a mask, a lawn chair, and a water bottle. If the weather looks extra cold or wet, the class may meet on Zoom or meet outside for a shorter time-frame, so please watch your email and text messages on Saturday.
- **The Middle School Youth Group** will be doing a Micro-Mission Project this week with Dental Kits, Hot Dogs, S'Mores, & Games. Please join us this coming Sunday evening, March 14, from 5:00 - 6:00. Everyone is encouraged to bring the following supplies for our Dental Hygiene Kits that will go to Alliance Medical Ministry: Individually Packaged Toothbrushes (soft), Toothpaste (0.85oz. or larger), and Dental Floss. We will gather at 5:00 PM at the firepit and parent pick-up will be at 6:00 at the same place.
- **The High School Youth Group** will be Hiking to North Hills NEXT Sunday, March 21, for "Burgers & Ice Cream. (5:00-7:00). Wear comfy walking shoes and please bring a mask, a water bottle, and money for food and ice cream. Please bring your Montreat registration forms to turn in. If the weather is "iffy", please watch your phone/email for updates. Friends welcome.
- **Youth Committee Meeting** will be meeting this Sunday, March 14 at 11:30 at the Firepit.

- **Mission Trip Dates – June 15-18, 2021**
- All 8th-12th graders please mark your calendar and watch for details. This is a great way to accumulate community service hours that you will need for school
- **Graduation Sunday is May 16th**
- **Massanetta Middle School Conference is June 22-25, 2021.**
- **Montreat 2021 (July 18-24)** – Now is the time to sign up for current 8th -12th grade youth. Flyers can be found on the church website and have been emailed. This will likely fill up fast, so the sooner you sign the more likely it is that you will get to go. If you have questions, please contact Frank Boyd at the church office.



Easter Eggs Needed!

We're planning another safe version of a beloved annual tradition! And we need your help! Children's and Family Ministries are collecting pre-stuffed eggs. Find your stashes of plastic Easter eggs and stuff them full of your favorite nut-free candies or treats (stickers/tattoos). There will be collection baskets when in-person outdoor worship begins again in March. If you wish to drop them off at the church at another time, please call the church to be sure someone will be there. Mark your calendars for April 3rd 9:30 am-12:30 pm and look for a Sign Up Genius coming soon, as reservations will be required for this socially-distant event.



Children's Message This Spring: We need ALL (ages) of You!!

We're bringing the Old Testament to Life this Spring, in a fun and inter-generational fashion! We need all ages to help bring the Children's Message to the family of Christ which is Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church. Adults/Youth: We need you to record a reading of a script (provided!) of a favorite Old Testament Story.

Children: We need you to act out (no speaking needed) the story. We're going to put the two together and build the story! Just use what you have around the house as props, use your awesome imaginations and creativity!

If you feel like switching it up, go for it! If the younger members of the family want to read and the adults act it out, that is welcome too! We just want to come together and tell the great stories of how God and God's people

were in relationship and what they can tell us about how God loves us still today!

Once you sign up, Rachael McConnell will provide the script to the readers. Readers, please send Rachael the voice file by the date on the sign up.

Actors, Rachael will send you a copy of the reading so that you can act the story out while listening. Rachael will e-mail you a link to the MASV file drop once you sign up. Please send the video by the date on the sign up Genius.

[If you have any questions, please email Rachael McConnell.](#) [Sign up here to be a part of sharing the great stories of God!](#)



Fellowship

The Fellowship Committee is offering diverse opportunities for HMPC members to engage in fellowship safely this spring, adhering to all COVID 19 protocols.*

Upcoming we have planned a Golf Get-Together events at TriGolf Driving Range in Raleigh from 10 am - 12 Noon on Tuesday, March 16th. Members will meet at the range, pay \$5 cash upon arrival to a Fellowship Committee member, and have a two-hour window to hit balls and chat with the other participating members. Equipment is available to borrow at no additional cost. We will limit each event to 10 members, ages 7 & up. Email jeanna@firstteetriangle.org with questions. A more detailed confirmation email will be sent to those who sign up. TriGolf is located at 12201 Leesville Road,

Raleigh, NC 27613.

[Please sign up here](#)

*When considering whether or not to attend please keep in mind that, although HMPC and First Tee

— Triangle have put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19, neither entity can guarantee that you will not become infected with COVID-19. The CDC recommends wearing masks that cover mouth and nose, as well as keeping a physical distance of six feet even when outdoors. Please also keep in mind that there is risk of injury when participating in golf. By signing up for this event, you are assuming all risk of illness and/or injury.

Thank you!



Mission

Special Offering

General Mission Fund

We will be receiving a **Special Offering for the General Missions Fund**. Money raised for this offering will help provide area ministries with healthy food, quality, affordable healthcare, safe homes for children, home repair and renovation services, shelter, and food insecurity. You may mail your donation to the church, [donate online](#) or text to give. **Here is how to text to give:** Text amount 'genmission' to 888-906-0744. (example: 25 genmission). 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.

Tend My Sheep

Saturday 3/27 11 am - 1 pm

This month the Mission Committee and the Hunger Action Team are collecting goods for the Food Bank that will be distributed to two of our community's most vulnerable groups. There are 116,140 children facing hunger in the Raleigh Branch service area, and the same area has 65,881 seniors living at or below the poverty level. Please bring items from the following list to the Drive-Thru on 3/27 from 11am to 1 pm.

For Seniors - nutritional shakes, nutritional drinks, adult hygiene products

For Infants & Kids - pedialyte, infant cereal, fruit cups, granola bars, mac & cheese cups, crackers, juice boxes.

Deacon Ministry



Prayers for Households

During this time when we are physically apart, we can all benefit from the prayers of others. Starting at the beginning of our church directory, the Deacons are praying for 7 member households each week, with the goal of praying for each and every member of our congregation. These households are listed below so the congregation can have the opportunity to join in praying for them as well. In addition, each household will receive a positive note of encouragement from the Deacons in the mail. As always, if you have a specific request for prayer at any time, you can submit a prayer request from the website or you may call 919-787-1086 and press 2 for the Deacon's Prayer Line. Deacon on Call for February is Jeffrey Coonse.

Prayer Households for this week. Please keep these families in your prayers:

- *Alison, William, Caroline & Will Keever*
- *Anne Kelley*
- *McNeill, Pat & Nora Kelley*
- *Lynda & Glenn Kennedy*
- *Debbie Kirk*
- *Lauren Klimczyk*
- *Keto, Henriette, Darrin, Elisa, Tiya and Mia Elizabeth Komono*

Foundation

Thanks Be to God For Pat Clemmer

Many years ago HMPC charter members Ed & Louise Clemmer (along with many other members) took out life insurance policies in



honor of their children. At the end of 2019 Ed & Louise daughter Patricia Clemmer entered God's everlasting kingdom. In January 2021, the Foundation of HMPC received the proceeds of the policy made in Patricia's totaling \$25,999.99.

For those who are unaware, Ed Clemmer had a huge impact on the present building we use and appreciate. Ed was the job superintendent for the construction of the church sanctuary in 1964. His company Clemmer Construction built the connector wing of the church in 1977. Ed Clemmer died in 2009 and Louise died in 2014. Well after their death, they are still caring for the future of the church through the memory of their daughter Pat.

When Pat was a little girl, she looked at her Dad and said, "Daddy, why does the steeple have to be so tall?" Ed said to her, "Well, to reach to heaven..." Thanks be to God for the Clemmer family and particularly Patricia Clemmer.

Hudson Handy Helpers

Hudson Handy Helpers was started approximately 4+ years ago. Our goal is to respond to requests by Hudson members and friends for any home repair or for the help of a handy person job. If it is help to donate furniture, clothing or other materials to North Raleigh Ministries or others, and haul household materials to the dump, we will help you.

Even during the COVID pandemic, we have selectively been helping.

- If you are you moving and need assistance, give us a call
- Do you need someone to assist you in dealing with contractors? We are glad to assist you.
- We can help you with some repairs to your home. We can also handle electrical repairs

such as replacing lights, switches, plugs, etc. We can repair or replace toilets, or fix faucets and replace them. We clean decks, prune bushes or cut tree limbs.

There is no charge for our services. However, if you wish, you can make a donation to HMPC to Hudson Handy Helpers to defray future cost of brush dump at Raleigh Recycling yard waste, trash bags, or buying materials for repair for others.

If you are willing to become a Hudson Handy Helper, you can earn a HHH tee shirt by helping. Hudson Handy Helpers are here to help you in anyway we can.

You should contact the church office, your deacon, one of our ministers, or Mike Law at ddelaw1965@verizon.net or 919-615-4212.

Calendar

Sunday, March 14

- Online Worship - Anytime
- 9:30 am - Explorer's 5-6-7 Sunday School
- 10:30 am - Outdoor Worship
- 10:30 am - Children's Sunday School - Labyrinth Area
- 11:30 am - Youth Committee
- 1 pm - Inquirer's Class

Monday, March 15

- 12 Noon - Seeing the Word
- 7 pm - Diaconate
- 7 pm - Finance

Tuesday, March 16

- 6:30 am - Waking Up With the Word -
- 9:30 am - Staff Meeting
- 10 am - Fellowship Golf at TriGolf Driving Range
- 1 pm - Worship Committee

Wednesday, March 17

- 9:30 am - Women at the Well

Thursday, March 18

- 4 pm - Memorial Garden Committee

Sunday, March 21

- Online Worship - Anytime
- 9:30 am - Explorer's 5-6-7 Sunday School
- 10:30 am - Outdoor Worship
- 10:30 am - Children's Sunday School - Labyrinth Area

All meetings by Zoom unless otherwise noted.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Staff Directory

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

Aleta Ash, Minister of Visitation – aash@hmpc.org

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

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

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

Gina Hayek, Director of Joyful Noise – ghayek@hmpc.org

Carol Yeargin, Organist – yeargin@bellsouth.net

Pat Cash, Business Administrator – pcash@hmpc.org

Dorothy Roche, Preschool Director – droche@hmpc.org

Joyce Hawkins, Assistant Preschool Director – jhawkins@hmpc.org

Hope Parangi, Church Hostess – hparangi@yahoo.com