



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

Christmas Joy Celebration



***SINGING** – Carly Prentis Jones (left) will perform at the Christmas Joy Celebration, Sunday, December 15th. Children (right) sing at last year's Christmas Joy event.*

Christmas Joy Celebration is Just One Week Away

Sunday, December 15

Get in the Christmas mood with Hudson's wonderful music ensembles and talented church members.

Our special guest this year is Carly Prentis Jones, who has blessed us in song so many times at Hudson over the past several years. Carly, a graduate in voice performance from Miami University, has been featured in

numerous vocal/dramatic productions in the Triangle area, and is currently music director for the North Carolina Arts Council.

Be sure to put this special date in your calendar – **Sunday, December 15th, at 6 p.m.** – to be blessed with Hudson's fine music ensembles and soloists, and special guest artist Carly Prentis Jones.

Holiday Events

Advent Devotionals

Available Now

The Advent Devotional produced by *Presbyterians Today* is available to everyone this Advent season. *Straw for the Manger* includes scripture, reflection, and questions for your faith journey, and a prayer. Devotionals are located at the entrances to the sanctuary and in the hallway outside of the Karl Hudson room (#100).

Christmas Ornaments Available

Hudson three dimensional brass ornaments are available. These miniature replicas of the HMPC sanctuary make beautiful Christmas tree ornaments and gifts. Ornaments are available all week through the church office at a cost of \$15. Shawn Jackson and Sharon Cole will also have the ornaments available for sale at Sunday services through December 15th.



Christmas Joy Fellowship Volunteers Needed

Sunday, December 15

Presbyterian Women will host the fellowship reception following the Christmas Joy Concert December 15th. To sign up for a volunteer position and/or to contribute a food item, e-mail your selected post to Sharon Cole (sharoncole@carolina.rr.com) or at Signup Genius (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044BAFAF2BA6F94-2019>)

Order Poinsettias and Greens

By Monday, December 16

The Chancel Guild invites you to honor or remember a special person with a donation of \$15 toward Advent preparations, including poinsettias and greenery. Names will be listed in the December 22nd Weekly Window. Return an information form (located on the flower calendar board outside of room #103) with your check to the office, or place it in the offering plate **by Monday, December 16th**. Designate 'poinsettias' on your check.



Christmas Eve Services

December 24

This year we are offering three Christmas Eve services for members, friends and neighbors to worship. Below is a description of the services:

- **3 p.m.** – This service is for those who may have plans in the evening or do not like to drive at night. The service will feature Christmas carols and communion.
- **5 p.m.** – This service has a children's message, the chancel choir will participate in this service, the nursery is open and it will conclude, as in the past, with candle light.
- **9 p.m.** – This service will feature a string quartet, the chancel choir, communion and conclude in candle light.

The Gathering: Forming our Faith Sunday Morning Learning Opportunities

December 15

- **Westminster Hall: Today's Sermon Text and Theme** facilitated by Barry Cobb, John James and Gil Graybill. If you are interested in learning more about today's theme, join us for this engaging and informative conversation.
- **Room 200:** Using media, music, and devotional readings we will reflect on **the meaning of Advent** in our lives as individuals and community. Facilitated by Debbie Kirk
- **John Knox: The book of Romans** is the bible study for the fall led by Nancy Law. This offering is a "deep dive" into the book of Romans. We will review the context of the apostle Paul's letter to first century Christians, as through study and conversation we will seek to discern how to interpret it for our 21st century lives.



ADVENT DECORATIONS – Jerillyn Jennings, Davis Jennings, Jeanna Gatten and Roger Howard show the advent wreath and angel ornaments they created last Sunday for use at home during Advent.

Spiritual Growth & Nurture Seeing the Word @ Springmoor

Friday, December 13

Seeing The Word @ Springmoor will be a different date - Friday, December 13th @ 10:30 a.m. in the auditorium at Springmoor. We will be watching a DVD about the making of the *Saint John's Illuminated Bible*.

Missions Tend My Sheep

Sunday, December 29

Each month we come together as a congregation to collect one pre-selected item to benefit a local group in need. When combined our individual contributions can make a huge impact!

This month we are collecting new (sealed in plastic) bed pillows for children who do not have one, which will be distributed by the Green Chair Project.



Worship & the Arts

Hanging of the Greens



DECORATING – Children, youth and adults participated in Hanging of the Greens last Sunday, December 1st.

Property



UPGRADING – Thanks to Scott Sipprell for upgrading the lights to LEDs in the downstairs men's bathroom!

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

– John 1:5

Preschool



Polar Express

Preschool children enjoyed several fun activities at Hudson Memorial Preschool's second Annual Polar Express Day Wednesday, December 4th.

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



Mission Task Force

HMPC to Become Hunger Action Congregation

By Carol Clemens

Following last week's article on Hunger Alleviation, the second topic of Development Assistance. As defined by PCUSA Hunger Action Committee Development Assistance addresses the root causes of hunger and poverty through equitable and sustainable development.

Food Insecurity is a result of many external factors. These include education, homelessness, domestic issues and economic inequalities. So, it's not just a matter of feeding those in need, we must also address the peripheral programs that help eliminate the root cause of food deficiency. We are inviting our Christian community to join in, to rectify the unfair system that exists today and help to create supportive and sustainable solutions.

Today, many of you may already be working with groups that fall under this umbrella, for example: North Raleigh Ministries, Family Promise, and Jobs for Life. We would like to hear from you and communicate the

good work that is being done. But there is more that can be done. In the months to come we will identify and communicate opportunities for you to participate, such as programs that address economic justice, proper shelter, job skill development and food cooperatives.

The work being performed is not only on a community level but also globally. The United Nations and World Bank have established many great programs to assist needed countries with aid and relief. We will have more information available at our January 12th kick-off.

"Alleviating hunger and eliminating its causes is at the core of our lives as people of faith."

Foundation Birthday Gifts

November

- John Hall

Giving Ministry 2020 Pledge Campaign Update

November 10th was Commitment Sunday, the day members and friends commit their time, talent and financial resources to Christ through the church. Currently there are 177 households that have pledged out of 370 member households for a total of \$680,291.96. The ministries of the church have requested \$964,000 for 2020.

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. Thank you if you already pledged.

Memorials Gifts Given

November

Memorial gifts were given in memory of Bonnie Greer by Frances Massey.

Youth Middle School

Today

Middle school Progressive Christmas party tonight, 5-6:30 p.m. We will gather in Westminster Hall promptly at 5 p.m., eat, hop in the van and head to a nearby home (Colby Guy's house) for dessert and games, and be back at the church for parent pick-up at 6:30 p.m. Check e-mail and text messages for details.

High School

Today

The High School Christmas Party is tonight at Emsley Jackson's house from 6:30-8 p.m. Join us for food, yummy desserts, fellowship, and holiday memories. Check e-mail and text messages for details.

Looking Ahead

Sunday, January 5

The Rise Against Hunger meal packaging program is from 4-6 p.m. Please let us know if you would like to participate by signing up at this link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044eabaa238-rise>.



***DANCING** – Middle school youth hip hop dancing at a recent gathering.*

Monday, January 20

Ski Trip to Wintergreen is on the MLK Holiday. Register now. Friends and parent chaperones are welcome. St. Giles Presbyterian Youth will be joining us. Flyers can be found on the church website and in the wall pockets outside of Frank Boyd's office. Registration deadline is December 15th!

July 19-25

Montreat Youth Conference (8-12 graders) is July 19-25, 2020. It is filling up quickly, so if you want to avoid the wait list, please sign up ASAP.

June 23-26

Massanetta Middle School Conference is June 23-26, 2020. It is for rising 6-9th grade youth. Flyer can be found on the church website under Youth Forms and also in the wall pockets across from Frank Boyd's office.

Calendar News

- **January 26**, Tacos, Tunes, & Tiramisu Fundraiser Luncheon
- **February 23**, Youth Sunday
- **March 13-15** – High School Retreat at Camp Don Lee

Calendar



Sunday, December 8

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	11:45 am
Nursery Wing Closes	11:45 am
Nominating Committee (JK)	12:00 pm
Phil & Friends	4:00 pm
MS Youth Christmas Party	5:00 pm
HS Youth Christmas Party	6:30 am

Monday, December 9

Organ Tuning (Sanctuary)	2:30 pm
Property (KH)	6:00 pm
Autism Grandparents Group (JK)	6:00 pm
Al-Anon, Alateen, Alakid (GH)	8:00 pm

Tuesday, December 10

ROMEOS (Bojangles)	7:45 am
All Staff Meeting (Library)	9:30 am
Esther Circle (Parlor)	10:00 am
Elizabeth/Rachel Circle (JK/WH)	11:00 am
Hannah Circle (200)	11:30 am
Boy Scout Troop #376 (WH)	6:00 pm
HMP Board Meeting (Library)	6:30 pm
Adult Education (JK)	7:00 pm
Miriam Circle (Margaret Alexander's home)	7:30 pm

Wednesday, December 11

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

Thursday, December 12

Boys & Girls Homes of NC (200)	6:30 pm
Mission Committee (KH)	7:00 pm

Friday, December 13

Seeing the Word @ Springmoor (Springmoor)	10:30 am
Preschool Christmas Program & Reception (Sanctuary/WH)	11:00 am

Saturday, December 14

Christmas Joy Celebration Reception Set Up (WH)	10:00 am
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Sunday, December 15

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
Bagels in the Balcony	10:30 am
Children's Education (Children's Wing)	10:30 am
Worship	10:30 am
Nursery Wing Closes	11:45 am
Christmas Joy (Sanctuary)	6:00 pm

Inclement Weather

In case of inclement weather, the church will notify the local ABC (WTVD) and NBC (WRAL) television stations if church will be delayed or cancelled. Please check the closings before venturing out in bad weather. We will do our best to have the sidewalks and steps cleared, but there is no guarantee that there will not be slippery spots. It is also possible that there will not be child care on Sunday morning.

