

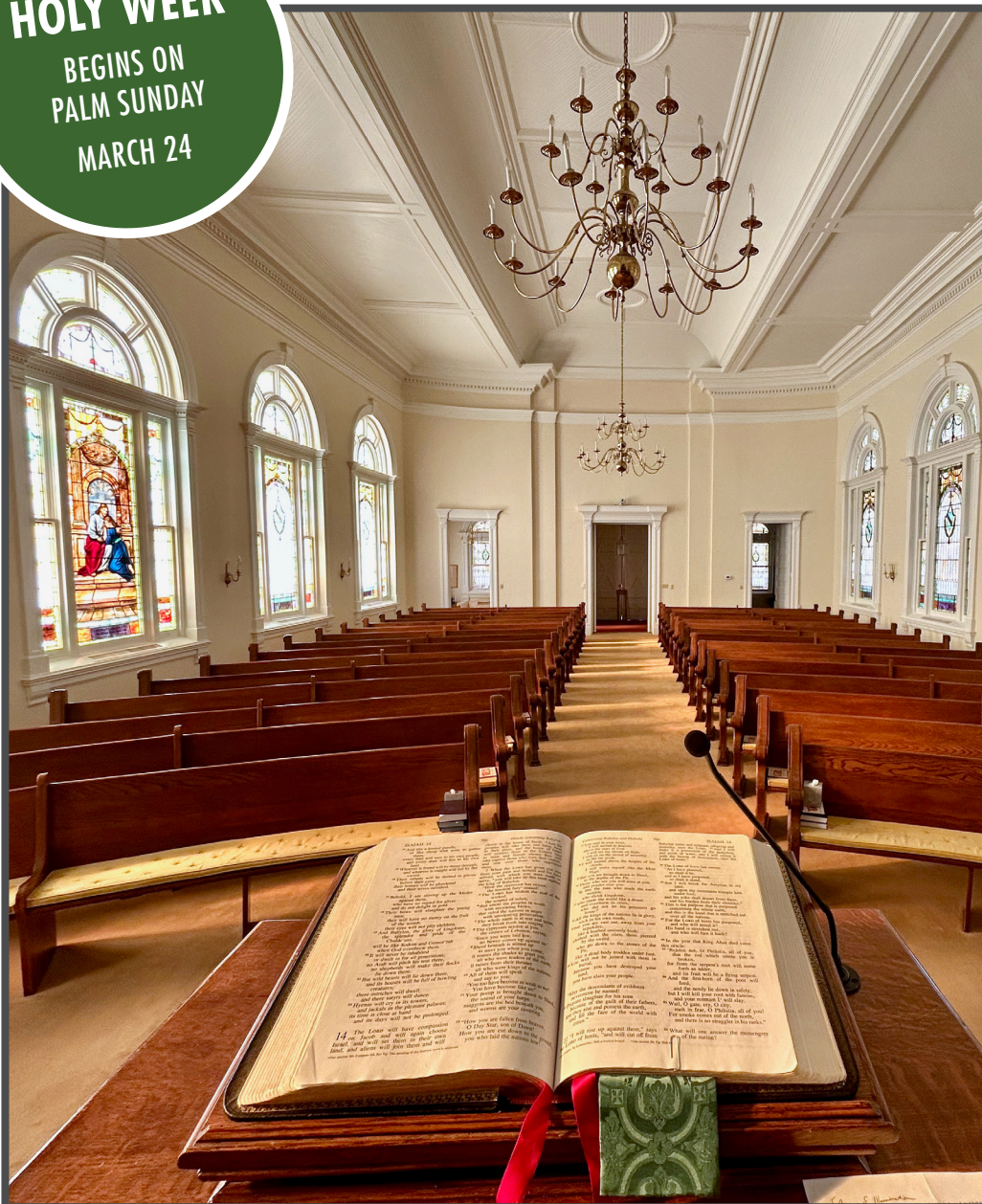


# THE MESSENGER

HOWARD MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

• MARCH 2024 •

**HOLY WEEK**  
BEGINS ON  
PALM SUNDAY  
MARCH 24



"We are united in the belief that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior, and in the transforming power of God's love and grace. We seek to follow the Word of God and remain committed to service and mission both locally and beyond."

## CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Rebekah Maul  
Interim Pastor

Bill Hilderbrandt  
Director of Music/Organist  
[bhilderbrandt@howardmemorial.org](mailto:bhilderbrandt@howardmemorial.org)

Andrea Drake  
Director for Children  
and Youth Ministries

Angie Gregg  
Office Administrator  
[angie.hmpc@gmail.com](mailto:angie.hmpc@gmail.com)

Leigh Moore  
Office Assistant

Anna Vaughn Kincheloe  
Communications Coordinator

Kate Allen  
Nursery Director

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday – Thursday: 9a - 5p

Friday: 9a - 1p

The deadline to submit items for  
The Messenger is the  
15th of each month.

Be sure to check out our website — including the blog, which regularly features writings and photographs by Derek Maul. His most recent post is entitled "Taking the Light from the Stained Glass Out into the World."



**TUNE INTO OUR  
YOUTUBE PAGE**  
[@HOWARD MEMORIAL  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH](https://www.youtube.com/HowardMemorialPresbyterianChurch)

*Our YouTube page is where you can  
find Worship Services, Lenten Lectures  
& Wondrous Wednesdays videos!*





# A WORD FROM YOUR CLERK

What an interesting year this is in the life of our church! We're having a big 150th Anniversary Celebration and an Interim Year at the same time. On Sunday, February 11th we celebrated the dedication of the 1874 Tarboro Presbyterian Church with a wonderful worship service and a "back in time experience" meeting the founders of what would become Howard Memorial. Since that day, church members and previous members, families and friends have been sending old photographs, telling stories, and researching facts about our history. It's fascinating to watch the "threads being pulled."

The Mission Study Team is also doing research about HMPC – looking at who we are, how we've grown in the past, and how we can grow in the future. They'll be hosting focus group events, sending out a survey and asking you to participate in their work. The report they will write will inform our Pastor Nominating Committee in their search for our installed minister.

In 2024, we're looking at our past, assessing the present, and imagining our future. We're coming together as a congregation on this journey.

In *The Presbyterian Outlook* this month, there is a wonderful article by Christian Shearer, "The Interim Labyrinth," that describes the interim journey as a walk into a labyrinth. "It is only solved by walking," is the statement by St. Augustine that describes how a labyrinth works. It's an ancient spiritual practice, a practice that dates back to 2600 B.C., that is finding new popularity.



There are four stages of the walk:

1. Prepare to enter – the "warming up phase"
  2. Travel inward – Shearer describes this as "exploration, discussion and rumination"
  3. The center – pause and ask, "God, what do you want us to do with all that we've discussed and gleaned on our way here?"
  4. Travel outward and exit – leaving the experience with potential energy to move forward
- Throughout the labyrinth walk, it's important to remember that we're walking together, on the same mission. It's all about "we," not "I."

Christian Shearer describes the end of the journey this way:

*Imagine the labyrinth or spiral image again – can you see that it resembles a spring? During the earlier phases, that coil becomes taut with potential energy. In phase four, the spring gets released, creating powerful momentum. Ideally, the change from the interim pastor to the next installed pastor will be like swapping engineers on a moving train: the church is accelerating into what lies ahead, the interim jumps off and the installed pastor clammers on to keep things chugging along.*

Let's walk through this year together and build momentum for the next 150 years!  
Cindy Brittain, Clerk of Session, HMPC

## HIGHLIGHTS FOR MARCH

**5K for TCO, March 23 at 8:00am**

Sign up: <https://runsignup.com/Race/NC/Tarboro/MovinforCommunityOutreach5K>

**Palm Sunday, March 24**

Worship at 11am

Children's Easter Egg Hunt at 4pm,  
followed by pizza and egg decorating

**Easter Sunday, March 31**

Sunrise Service at 7am followed by  
Breakfast provided by Men of the Church  
Easter Worship at 11am

## LENTEN LECTURES

**Wednesdays at 6pm  
March 6, 13, 20**

**Sign up in the church office  
or on our website.**

# HMPC HAPPENINGS

Dear Fine People,

How in the world can it already be March? Time stops for no one, but this year, the month is full of all sorts of marvelous things. Daylight Savings Time begins again on March 10th. Make a note of that so you won't be late to church. March Madness gets underway on the 17th, and everybody goes crazy. We have "the Ides of March", and Shakespeare told us to "beware the Ides of March" or, "beware of March 15th". Because of the assassination of Julius Caesar back in 44 BCE the day is seen as a warning of doom and gloom. This was certainly true for Julius Caesar.

"Ides" is a Latin word translates as "to divide", or "to split", meaning the middle of any given month... ordinarily the 15th. Each month the "ides" was the day for worship and celebration of Rome's main god, Jupiter. It was also the time to settle one's debts; a day to pay taxes (thus April 15 as tax day for Americans); opening of gladiator games.

This year is also significant for all Christians around the world. It's a month of "high holy days" where we will continue to observe the season of Lent which leads us to the cross. Holy week begins with Palm Sunday, March 24th, Maundy Thursday March 28th, Good Friday March 29th, and March 31st. We'll be covering all the emotions from triumph, to fear, to crucifixion... and Resurrection.

This is a perfect time to be aware of those around us who are seeking... seeking purpose, direction, relief, results, peace, security, faith, hope, love. The church has a message to give. Invite them to join us as they seek, where we are not alone, where we can doubt, question, heal, hopefully find restoration, reconciliation, renewal, rest for our souls.

If you haven't been present recently, if you are someone who is waiting for something to happen, someone to invite you back, the new pastor to be called and received... well, that's fine. But, in the meantime, we're still here at Howard Memorial where the presence of God is clear, the doors of welcome are open, the heart of Christ surrounds us, and this is our church home. Don't wait to come back. Be an active part as we move into this anniversary year. You are missed.

This edition of the *Messenger* has many opportunities unfolding. Read about them, and mark your calendars. Wednesday dinners have begun and the first of the Lenten Bible study begins this Wednesday on Luke's gospel. Come nourish your bodies and minds with the Good News.

I'll look for you in worship.

Peace and love to you all,  
Rebekah



## 2024 EASTER LILIES

Potted Easter lilies will be available again this year for members of the congregation to give as Memorials or In Honor Of. The cost to members will be \$15.00 per unit. The cost will be the same whether it is a double or single name. For example: Mr. & Mrs. John Smith [\$15.00] or Miss Jane Doe [\$15.00]. Please contact the church office or a member of the Worship Committee from February 25 through March 24 if you are interested in reserving/purchasing an Easter lily to be used in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, March 31. You may remove your lily after the worship service.

## NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

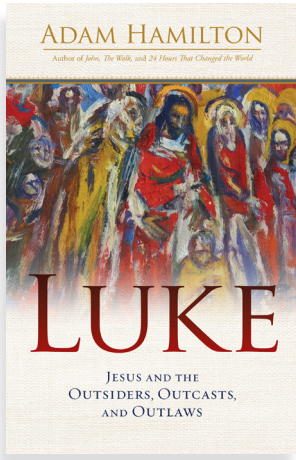
The Music Department is busy getting ready for Lent, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. If you would like to be part of the Chancel Choir, please contact Bill Hilderbrandt. We will have our rehearsals at 7:30pm on Wednesday evenings during the Lenten Bible Study, February 21 until the week of Easter, March 27. Choir rehearsal is a time of singing and learning our vocal music and a time of Fellowship. Please consider being part of the choir. - Bill Hilderbrandt

## BURNS SCHOLARSHIP

Attention graduating seniors: The Robert E. Burns, III Scholarship application is available in the church office. Applicants should be members of Howard Memorial Presbyterian Church, a graduating senior from a public or private high school and be selected for admission to an accredited college or university or community college in the United States. A completed application and supporting documents must be returned to the church office by May 6, 2024.

# HMPC HAPPENINGS

## LENTEN LECTURES



Wednesdays, beginning at 6:00pm in Burns Hall with dinner; followed at 6:30pm with the multi-age study: Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws by Adam Hamilton. Rebekah Maul will lead the adults in the sanctuary (with live-stream). Andrea Drake will lead the children K-5th grade in the

Wondrous Wednesday room. Grace Whitehurst and Cindy Brittain will lead the youth in the Youth Room.

### SCHEDULE:

Wednesday 3/6, Potluck

Wednesday 3/13, Baked Potato Bar/Salad  
Christian Education Committee

Wednesday 3/20, Penne Pasta/Salad  
Worship and Mission

Desserts are included, bread is at the discretion of each committee. Committees are responsible for food prep, serving and clean up. A nursery will be provided. Cost \$8/person and \$25/family max. Sign up is encouraged and may be done in the church office or online: [www.howardmemorial.org/newsevents](http://www.howardmemorial.org/newsevents)

### SAVE THE DATES

#### Sunday, April 21 & Sunday, April 28

Bill Goode will be taking photos for an updated Pictorial Directory! We will be scheduling photos during the following times on April 21 & 28: 8-9 am, 10-11 am and 12:15-1:30 pm. Detailed information will follow in our April "Messenger" and other emails.

#### Sunday, May 12

Our worship service will be led by the Youth of HMPC on this Youth & Senior Sunday!



*What could be more fun than a beautiful spring Saturday morning in our lovely Memorial Garden surrounded by 13 gifted members of our congregation, showcasing their talents?*

This will happen on Saturday, April 27, as part of our 150

Anniversary Celebration! The artists will be doing a variety of activities: "how to" demonstrations, "make and take" crafts, explanations of techniques, mini-performances and much more, all for the benefit of "Project 150 - Helping Children and Families."

A commissioned piece by Maureen O'Neill will be a part of a Silent Auction along with two paintings by Motsie Brooks. Many of the artists will have items for sale at their booths, including Bill Goode's matted and framed photographs of the stained-glass windows in HMPC's sanctuary. Items for sale in the Session Room of the church will be: *Susan Fecho's HMPC Collage Prints, Mayo Mill's 150th Celebration Socks and HMPC T-shirts.*

Along with the activities of the artists, there will be an Art Scavenger Hunt along with other projects in a special area for children. Miss Mattie's Chapel will be open for prayer and meditation.

Tickets go on sale, March 13, on the website or in the church office. Adults \$25 (18 and above). Children \$15 (children under 10 years of age must be accompanied by an adult). A box lunch is included and will be available after 12:00p.

### PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

#### PAINTERS:

Motsie Brooks

Susan Fecho

Gail Hussey

Anna Vaughn Kincheloe

Maureen O'Neill

#### PHOTOGRAPHY:

Bill Goode

#### POETRY:

Lori Drake

#### WOODWORKING:

Ben Brinson

Carnell Lamm

David Gammons

Edward Roberson

#### DANCE:

Pat Petruzzello

Lily Peters



# MARCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 9:30a Youth Coffee House 9:45 Sunday School 11a Worship	4	5 7:30a Men's Bible Study	6 9:00a Women's Bible Study 6p Lenten Lectures 7p Choir Rehearsal	7	8	9
10 9:30a Youth Coffee House 9:45 Sunday School 11a Worship 5:30p Youth Group	11	12 7:30a Men's Bible Study	13 9:00a Women's Bible Study 6p Lenten Lectures 7p Choir Rehearsal	14	15	16
17 9:30a Youth Coffee House 9:45 Sunday School 11a Worship	18	19 7:30a Men's Bible Study	20 9:00a Women's Bible Study 6p Lenten Lectures 7p Choir Rehearsal	21	22	23 8:00a 5K for TCO
24 9:30a Youth Coffee House 9:45 Sunday School 11a Palm Sunday Worship 4p Children's Annual Easter Egg Hunt	25	26 7:30a Men's Bible Study	27 9:00a Women's Bible Study 6p Lenten Lectures 7p Choir Rehearsal	28 7p Maundy Thursday Service	29 12p Good Friday Service	30
31 7a Sunrise Service & Breakfast 11a Easter Worship						

## GREETERS

March 3 The Michael Peters Family  
March 10 Sherri & Gil Alligood  
March 17 Amy & Bill Goode  
March 24 Debbie & David Gammons  
March 31 The Greg Sessoms Family

## WORSHIP LEADER

March 3 Debbie Lamm  
March 10 Diane LeFiles  
March 17 Chauncey Leggett  
March 24 Jim Winslow  
March 31 Youth

## THE JANE TRANSPORTATION

March 3 Ellen Clark  
March 10 David Anderson  
March 17 George Whitehurst  
March 24 Chauncey Leggett  
March 31 John Keck Moore

## ACOLYTES

March 3 Usher  
March 10 Cooper Schultz  
March 17 Turner Cobb  
March 24 Duncan McFadyen  
March 31 Knox Braxton

## CRUCIFER

March 3 Usher  
March 10 Conner Schultz  
March 17 Davis Cobb  
March 24 Colin McFadyen  
March 31 Joseph Lewis

## USHERS

Head Ushers, Diane LeFiles  
& Susan Roberson  
Harry Doughtie  
Scott Burnside  
Debbie & Carnell Lamm  
Lenny LeFiles  
Sam Noble

## COMMUNION SERVERS

March 3, Class of 2025: Lillie Anderson, Cindy Brittain, Jerome Creech, John McFadyen, Katie Schultz  
March 28, Class of 2026: Debbie Gammons, Bill Goode, John Keck Moore, Susan Roberson, Bonnie Whitehurst

**TIME WITH CHILDREN:** Andrea Drake  
**NURSERY:** Kate Allen

Thank you for being an active and vital participant in the worship of the Triune God. We understand that life happens, and plans change and ask that if you need to switch roles and/or dates, to please do so and let Angie or Leigh know so we can make those changes in the bulletin.

You can reach Angie in the office:  
252-823-4138 or by email:  
angie.hmpc@gmail.com

# *Birthdays* IN MARCH



Men of the Church provided the Ash Wednesday Pancake Dinner.

## CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

### ONGOING CONCERNS

Mary Eleanor Daniel  
Motsie Brooks  
Mary Alice Fountain  
Michelle Keen Eudy  
Eloise Clark  
Linda Goines  
Jim Marrow  
Rabbit Summerlin  
Lori Drake  
Trish Wilson  
C.W. Mayo

### RESIDENTS OF THE JANE

Jeri McCranie  
Marj Prescott  
Carol Hansen Blankenhorn  
Margaret Burlew  
Lea Cutler  
Jean Parker  
Gwen Moore  
Ed Jolley  
Grace Fishel  
Deliah Boyd

### SOMERSET COURT ROCKY MOUNT

Celia Allsbrook

### CAROLTON OF NASH

Martha Muse

### Marriages

Anna Keck Moore to Sheldon Roberts  
on December 2

### Births

Owen Scott Anderson was born on  
October 22. He is the son of Deanna &  
Cameron, and the grandson of Judy &  
Bryan Mayo.

Minerva Wrenn Winslow (Minnie) was  
born on November 17th. She is the  
daughter of Jenifer & Franklin Winslow &  
the granddaughter of Kathy & Jim Winslow.

Lance Wayne Cherry III and Lauryn Wren  
Cherry, born February 27.  
Son and daughter of Brittany and Lance  
Cherry, Jr. and grandchildren of June and  
Lance Cherry.

### Deaths

Dianne Evans, November 24  
Clarence Weeks "Buddy," December 7  
Lynn Hemingway, December 15  
Edgar Benjamin "Ben" Gammons Jr.,  
January 15

Sara Whitehurst 1  
C.W. Mayo 4  
Michael Taylor 4  
Greg Sessoms 5  
Lisa Weathersby 6  
Sarah Blount 8  
Anderson Sessoms 11  
Carter Sessoms 11  
Chauncey IV Leggett 12  
Stefan Spruill 14  
Jodie Crawford 14  
Brandyn Sorie 14  
Owen Marrow 17  
Maren Harris 19  
Debbie Lamm 20  
Bill Goode 22  
Todd Shirley 22  
Betsy Williams 22  
Blake Brittain 22  
Beth Brinson 23  
Hector Garcia 23  
Penelope Hanson 23  
Mark Petruzzello 26  
Derek Maul 26  
Elizabeth Miller 27  
Porter Petruzzello 27  
Tiffany Clark 29  
Mary Eleanor Daniel 31

# BUDGET REPORT

HOWARD MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ANALYSIS OF RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS				
One Month Ending January 2024				
RECEIPTS	January	YEAR-TO-DATE	BUDGET	%
Pledges -(includes prepayments of \$91,401)	24,484	115,885	365,397	32%
Unpledged	1,400	1,400	25,000	6%
Plate Loose	498	498	3,000	17%
Session Funds-Youth Director			10,000	0%
Marrow Music Funds-Support			2,000	0%
Undesignated Sessional Funds			13,732	0%
Habitat for Humanity Reimbursement			10,000	0%
Prior Year Pledges	50	50	4,000	1%
Session Funds-Youth Camp Supplement				
TOTAL	26,432	117,833	433,129	27%
EXPENDITURES:				
Presbytery & Mission Program	- 0	- 0	20,058	0%
Assembly per Capita(300 x \$9.85)		- 0	2,685	0%
Synod per Capita(300 x \$1.15)			255	0%
SUB-TOTAL	- 0	- 0	22,998	0%
OPERATING DISBURSEMENTS				
Worship Committee	2,902	2,902	7,410	39%
Christian Education Committee	(558)	(558)	14,000	-4%
Congregational Life Committee	143	143	4,600	3%
Membership Development Committee	- 0	- 0	1,500	0%
Mission and Christian Service Committee	320	320	23,850	1%
Finance and Stewardship Committee	18,927	18,927	316,321	6%
Facilities Committee	4,598	4,598	43,950	10%
Contingencies				
SUB-TOTAL	26,332	26,332	411,631	6%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	26,332	26,332	434,629	6%
REVENUE:(OVER/UNDER) EXPENDITURES:	100	91,501	(1,500)	
Other Revenue	- 0	- 0	1,500	
Other Expenses	(216)	(216)		
TOTAL	(116)	91,285	- 0	
CASH IN BANK BEGINNING	184,002	184,002		
Prepaid Pledges 2024		(91,401)		
Accrued Expenses				
Certificate of Deposits	(140,000)	(140,000)		
<b>CASH IN BANK ENDING</b>	<b>43,886</b>	<b>43,886</b>		
Other Funds Available				
2023 Certificate's of Deposit	104,418	104,418		
2024 Certificate's of Deposit	140,000	140,000		
<b>Total Other Funds Available</b>	<b>244,418</b>	<b>244,418</b>		



# THE MESSENGER

Howard Memorial Presbyterian Church  
303 E. St. James Street  
Tarboro, NC 27886