

MORNING WORSHIP

The Acolyte this morning – Stephen Ribustello
Children’s Church – Nusara Spruill & Avery Sorie

THIS WEEK

TODAY 12:30 p.m. - Elder Training
4:30 a.m. - Youth Ensemble
5:30 p.m. - Youth Group/dinner
Wednesday 6:00 p.m. - Children’s Activities
7:30 p.m. - Adult Choir Practice

NEXT WEEK AT HMPC

Sunday 9:30 a.m. - Children’s Communion Training
10:00 a.m. - Youth Celebration Service
3:00 p.m. - Youth Ice Cream Social at the Albemarle
Acolyte - Andrew Sessoms
Children’s Church - Andrea & Anderson Sessoms

BIBLE STUDIES

Tuesday 7:30 a.m. - Men’s Morning Bible Study
8:30 a.m. - Women’s Morning Bible Study
2:30 p.m. - Women’s Afternoon Bible Study,
Wednesday 9:15 a.m. - Women’s Small Group Bible Study

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 25 - Children & Communion Workshop 9:30am
Children 3 years - 5th grades and their parents will begin this second
Children & Communion Workshop in the Wondrous Wednesday room.
The younger children will be taught by Cindy Brittain and the older
ones by Diane LeFiles and Kathy Wheatley, who will be helping them
make (with some help from their parents) the bread for World
Communion Sunday. Because materials will be bought, registration is
encouraged. **Please stop by the church office, call 823-4183, or**
email jacree@howardmemorial.org to register your child.

TIME CHANGE

The Youth Ensemble will meet at **4:00 p.m.** on October 2, instead of
4:30 p.m.

SAVE THE DATES

October 2 thru November 20 - 9:30 a.m. - Catechism
(children & youth 4th -6th grades)
October 2 Youth Coffee House
World Communion Sunday and Homebound
Communion Sunday
Stewardship Sunday
Congregational Life Picnic
October 16 Baby Baptism of Ava Pierce
Youth Spaghetti Lunch with Dessert Auction
October 30 Dedication Sunday and Celebration Reception in Burns Hall
Youth Pumpkin Carving in Burns Hall

Cents-Ability offering will be taken the last Sunday
of this month, September 25.



HOWARD MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

303 East St. James Street
Tarboro, North Carolina 27886
Telephone: 252-823-4138/4139
Website: www.howardmemorial.org

THE SESSION

Benjamin Kane, Moderator
C.W. Mayo, IV, Clerk of Session (2018)

Committee Moderators of the Session

Christian Education Lynn Taylor (2016) Bonnie Whitehurst (2018)	Membership Development Ellington Smoot (2017)
Congregational Life Ellen Clark (2018) Martha Creech (2016)	Mission and Christian Witness Kelly Parker (2016)
Facilities Harry Doughtie (2017) Greg Sessoms (2017)	Worship Carnell Lamm (2016) Adam Schultz (2018)
Finance and Stewardship Tom Cordle (2017) Beth Brinson (2018) Bill Clark (2017)	

(Elder Class in parentheses)

Staff

Pastor.....Rev. Benjamin E. E. Kane
Children’s Education & Music Director.....Katie Schultz
Director of Music/Organist.....Bill Hilderbrandt
Finance Administrator.....Gail Hussey
Office Administrator/Facilities.....Joy Acree
Sexton..... Arthur Walker

A NOTE ABOUT THE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. we gather in the sanctuary to worship God. Our hope is that we enter this sacred space with our hearts, minds and souls focused on the Triune God. The prayers, hymns, scriptures and homily are our guides, helping us focus us on glorifying God. But we don't stay in this space forever. After the Benediction, we are sent into the world to be God's people. So you'll notice that our announcements are at the end of our worship service, right before the Benediction. We did this because this is the part in our worship service when we hear God's call to serve as a disciple of Christ and we want that call to come as we are sent into the world to be God's people.



HOWARD MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“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.”

September 18, 2016
18th Sunday after Pentecost
Rev. Benjamin E. E. Kane

GATHERING

WELCOME

The Lord be with you!
And also with you!

As we gather together to worship God, we invite you to quiet your hearts and your minds as the Prelude begins our worship of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

PRELUDE A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing P. Manz

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Gracious God as we gather to worship you,
**we clear our minds, hearts and souls
of anything that separates us from you.
And we trust that you are a faithful God.**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

**We come to you as ordinary people who
worship an extraordinary God. Our words are
our offerings to you this day. We look to you for
guidance and confirmation and in response we
ask for your presence in this place as we seek
to worship you. Amen.**

***HYMN #49**

The God of Abraham Praise

CALL TO CONFESSION

**We are full of doubt and forgetfulness
but we believe in a God of certainty and steadfastness.
Let us confess our sins against our neighbors and
our God as we seek forgiveness.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Abram wanted a sign that he wasn't following you in vain;
and we want that same sign.
But we are impatient and anxious, so we follow other signs.
We look for easy access and well-worn paths that lead
us away from you and toward loneliness, distraction
and dishonesty.
Slow us down and remind us to look up and count the stars.
And when we do we'll remember that you've never
forgotten your promise to Abram that he would be
the father and Sarah would be the mother of nations.
And you would be our God.**

HYMN #71 (Refrain Only) Surely, It Is God Who Saves Me

**Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my strong-hold and my sure defense,
and God will be my Savior.**

DECLARATION AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

**God is faithful and just.
Slow to anger and abiding in steadfast love.
So we stand before God as forgiven people.
Bathed in the waters of baptism that remind us we are God's
people.**

***RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE**

Hymnal #583

Glory to God
Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia! (Sung Twice)

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Katie Schultz

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lillie Anderson

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

FIRST READING

Luke 3:8 (p.60)

CHORAL RESPONSE TO THE WORD It Began In the Silence J. L. Salter

**All: It began in the silence, God said, "Let a world be born!
Now life I give you. I will be your God!"**

Choir: *God said, "Abram, look above. Count all the stars you see.
The number of the stars and more will your descendants be!"*

**All: It began in the silence, God said, "Let a world be born!
Now life I give you. I will be your God!"**

SECOND READING

Genesis 15:1-6 (p.12)

HOMILY

"Being Ordinary" Rev. Benjamin E. E. Kane

***HYMN #24**

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Brief Statement of Faith, Part 3.
Hymnal page 37-38

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERING

*Our offering to God takes many forms, one of which is our presence in worship.
As you offer a gift and a portion of your life, we also invite you to sign the
Friendship Pad.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Glorious Is The Lord Almighty J. Haydn

***DOXOLOGY**

Hymn #606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Chauncey Leggett

The Lord be with you
And also with you
Let us pray.

**These gifts are our response to your gracious word.
You call us to participate in the Kingdom you are creating
and we give you thanks by offering a portion of our lives.
Make it more than we can imagine and may it bear fruit
that we wish to share with the world. Amen.**

***THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)**

SENDING

***HYMN #19**

God of Great and God of Small

***ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***BLESSING/BENEDICTION**

**We leave this place as blessed, forgiven people,
showered in the Word and renewed in the promises of God.
Whenever we forget who we are, may we be reminded to look up
and count the stars. Then we'll know that we are ordinary—and
loved.**

POSTLUDE

Psalm 19

B. Marcello

*The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are
given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Cecil G. Batchelor, Sr.*

**All late arrivals to worship will be seated during the first hymn, after the
time with Children or during the hymn following the Homily. For those
who exit the sanctuary during worship please remember that all the
doors of our church are locked during worship, except the Sanctuary
doors that lead directly into the narthex. If you need access to any other
doors, please see an usher who would be glad to accommodate you.**

THE USHERS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER ARE:

Bonnie Whitehurst, Head Usher
Rob & Tammy Burns, Chauncey & Tammie Leggett,
Steve & Beth Love and Jim & Kathy Winslow