

What will happen after the sabbatical?

We will celebrate Mother Jennifer's return on August 20th with an Ice Cream Social at Coffee Hour! We will be able to share with her some products of our renewal time together as a congregation. With our renewed (and new!) connections as parishioners and Mother Jennifer's renewed spirit, we will forge ahead in exploring how those connections define us as a congregation and can help us shine our light for others.

The celebrations will continue into September with a special Gala evening, featuring a multimedia collection of parishioner stories, plus a Murder Mystery Night that you won't want to miss!



That is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine.

Romans 1:12



rest | reflect | renew

*Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me
the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.*

Psalm 51:10-12

We are embarking upon an exciting and learning opportunity. If you have any questions or would like more information, contact a member of the Sabbatical Team: Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly, Rector; Robin Axness, Parish & Communications Administrator; Judy Bristow, Vestry Liaison; Nancy Byrd, Len Calabrese, Terri Lensenmayer, Tori Otstot, Andrea Sheffield and Paula Simmons .



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SABBATICAL /CLERGY RENEWAL

Programs and Events

HICKORY NECK CHURCH

Introduction:

In April 2022, a team at Hickory Neck submitted an application for a Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Grant. The team spent time learning about clergy renewal programs, also known as sabbaticals. The process included considering the various impacts to the congregation and how to plan for those; brainstorming uses for our time as a congregation throughout Mother Jennifer's time for renewal; and hearing her plan for her own time. This brochure serves as a supplement to other "Sabbatical 101" programming to prepare the parishioners of Hickory Neck for OUR time of renewal!

What is a Sabbatical/Clergy Renewal Program?

According to the Lilly Endowment Inc., their clergy renewal programs "provide an opportunity for pastors to step away from the persistent obligations of daily parish life and engage in a period of renewal and reflection. Renewal periods are not vacations but times for intentional exploration and reflection, for drinking again from God's life-giving waters, for regaining enthusiasm and creativity for ministry."

A more objective definition would be that "a pastoral sabbatical is an extended period of time in which the pastor is away from the congregation pursuing a variety of intentionally renewing activities," to use Mother Jennifer's words.



Programs and Activities:

We have many programs and activities already scheduled and some are still in the planning stages. Each month you will find a variety of programming for all ages, from book clubs to a film series, a parish-wide retreat, ice cream social, to a murder mystery night. We hope you will participate in some or all of these fun events. The weekly ePistle and monthly Nuggets will have updated information and details for all the planned activities at HNC during this Sabbatical time.

MAY:

May 19-21: Kick-Off Weekend for the Sabbatical

May 19-21: Church-Wide Retreat: Facilitated by Chrissie Crosby; Friday night dinner and opening activity 5:30 pm-8:00 pm at HNC and Saturday 9:00 am-4:15 pm at Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center

May 21: Sabbatical send-off celebration at 11:00 am (Sabbatical toolkits available)

JUNE:

June 1: Chair Yoga with Camilla Farrand at 7:00 pm in the Narthex

June 3: Memoir Writing Kick-Off at 5:00 pm in the Wilkinson Center & Zoom (sign-up required)

June 4: Parish Community Picnic at 4:30 pm

June 4, 11, 18 & 25: Faith and Film Series 6:00 pm-8:00 pm in the Wilkinson Center

June 24: Gentle Flow Yoga on the Mat with Camilla Farrand at 9:30 am in the Narthex

JULY:

July 9 & 16: One Book One Parish with Tori Otstot at 9:00 am in the Wilkinson Center (sign-up required)

July 11 & 18: One Book One Parish with Tori Otstot via Zoom at 7:00 pm (sign-up required)

July 16: A Recital of Timeless Hymns Made New at 5:00 pm in the New Chapel

July 21: Meditation 101 Relaxation & Meditation with Atul Patel at 7:00 pm in Wilkinson Center & Zoom

July 22: Meditation 101 Cleansing with Atul Patel at 10:00 am in Wilkinson Center & Zoom

July 23: Meditation 101 Interconnection from within & with God with Atul Patel at 5:00 pm in the Wilkinson Center & Zoom

July 28: Game Night at 5:00 pm-7:00 pm the Wilkinson Center & Outdoor activities for all ages (food will be provided)

Memoir Writing Check-In for July Date TBD

AUGUST:

August 5: Labyrinth Day. Learn everything you have wanted to know about labyrinths from 8:00 am-10:00am AND 4:00 pm-6:00 pm. (Rain Day August 12th same times)

August 20: Ice Cream Social & Welcome back to Mother Jennifer at 11:00 am

Memoir Writing Check-In for August Date TBD

SEPTEMBER:

September 9: Gala & Video Screening at 5:00 pm-8:00 pm in the New Chapel (RSVP required)

September 29: Murder Mystery Night, a Fundraiser at 6:30 pm-8:30 pm in the New Chapel with Dessert and Beverages. Tickets (purchased in advance) go on sale August 20th at \$20 per person.