

April 2 Panel Discussion

Sara Stohler is a retired English professor from St. Augustine's College and member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church. She is Chair of the



Congregations for Social Justice task group on prison issues. Sara is also a mentor with the Interfaith Prison Ministry for Women. The mission of IPMW is to build bridges of hope for

women in prison before and after release through chaplaincy services, transitional programs and re-entry support.

Grace G. Hackney is an ordained elder in the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church

and founding Director of **Life Around the Table**, a ministry for individuals and congregations providing engagement around the topic of food and faith. Grace has



served churches in Cedar Grove and Bahama, NC, and was co-founder of Anathoth Community Garden in Cedar Grove in 2005. She is committed to building community through faithful, inclusive and sustainable ways of eating.



Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove is a celebrated spiritual writer and sought after speaker. A native of North Carolina he is a graduate of Eastern University and Duke Divinity School. He lives with his family at Rutba House, a Christian community

and house of hospitality in Durham where he directs **The School for Conversion**, where people come together across dividing lines of race, class, religion and incarceration. He also serves as Associate Minister at St John's Missionary Baptist Church.

For more information contact a member of the event planning team: Polly Bryant, John James, Andrea Mouw, Lindsey Ogden, Carolyn Scott and Debbie Kirk.



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**21st Century
Peace and Reconciliation
A Lenten Series
in Memory of Mike Bumgarner**

**Sundays
March 19, March 26, April 2
6 - 8 pm**

**Hudson Memorial
Presbyterian Church**

Remembering Mike Bumgarner



The Adult Education Committee is pleased to offer this series made possible by memorial gifts in memory of Mike Bumgarner and generously designated by his family. Mike was a member of HMPC for twenty one years, and as a committed follower of Christ he

put his faith into action. He served the church in numerous ways including as an Elder and as a beloved teacher of countless adult classes. A lifelong learner, he enthusiastically shared with his students, encouraging and inspiring them to identify their God given gifts and use them well. Mike's professional career spanned 30 years with the North Carolina Department of Corrections and in "retirement" he was a Professor of Criminal Justice at Mount Olive College. Mike was well respected as being fair, compassionate and wise, seeing in each person the potential for good. He well understood the complexities that lead to incarceration and while holding individuals accountable he was also committed to addressing the larger issues in society. He believed we are called as people of faith to advocate for peace and reconciliation in our personal and communal lives. This important topic was chosen for the series as a tribute to Mike's commitment to his faith and in recognition of his life as a passionate witness for truth, justice and forgiveness in the most challenging of circumstances.

A Lenten Series

Together we will engage in thoughtful consideration of the ways faith informs discipleship as we are led by outstanding scholars, theologians and community activists.

Beginning on March 19th we will consider what peace and reconciliation look like in the 21st century through the lens of the Old Testament. Then on March 26th, we will explore a New Testament perspective. On April 2nd, a panel of leaders will share with us what peace and reconciliation look like through the lens of three local ministries that address important areas of need: supporting prisoners who have completed their sentences as they re-enter society; building community around faithful and sustainable practices of eating together; and mending racial divisions. It is our hope that the series will empower participants to put faith in action within our local community.



Each evening will include a presentation with Q&A, followed by a time for conversation and fellowship with our guest presenters hosted by members of the Adult Education and Fellowship Committees.

The series concludes on Wednesdays, April 19 and 26 with round-table lunch conversations in Westminster Hall from 12 Noon to 1 pm (lunch provided) to discuss what we have learned and consider how we can respond.

We encourage all HMPC members to attend and to bring your friends and neighbors!

Guest Presenters



March 19
Dr. Brennan Breed is Assistant Professor of Old Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur GA. and is a graduate of University of Virginia, Princeton Theological Seminary and Emory University.

Well respected by his colleagues and students, Dr Breed brings his expertise in biblical interpretation and connection to the issues of our day to help us reflect on peace and reconciliation through the lens of the Old Testament.

March 26

Dr. Frances Taylor Gench is Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond VA and Parish Associate at The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church



in Washington D.C. She is a graduate of Davidson College and Union Presbyterian Seminary, and has served on the faculty of Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg PA. Dr Gench will guide our conversation as we consider what peace and reconciliation look like through the lens of the New Testament.