

The Echo

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF HILLSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MAY 2017 – VOLUME 62 NO 5

From the Pastor's Desk

Recently I was having a conversation with a young couple from the area. Their story was a compelling one: after a lifetime of broken relationships, run-ins with the law, and drug abuse, they met Jesus (and one another), and their lives started to turn around. I rejoiced with them in how God's grace had been at work in their lives and asked them, since they were now believers, where they attended church. "We haven't gone anywhere for years now," they replied, "we used to go somewhere, but we felt like they were judging our parenting. We didn't have great role models growing up, and we thought that church was supposed to be a place where we could be ourselves and people would understand that we don't have it all figured out yet."

Naturally, I told the couple that they would always be welcome at Hillside. They asked, "Is it the kind of place where we won't be judged for not being perfect parents and where we can struggle openly with what it means to be a disciple?" The only thing I could think to say was, "I believe so, and I certainly hope so." But their question gave me pause because I have heard stories from some of our own young people about times when they felt unwelcome in their own church.

At our most recent presbytery meeting, our executive presbyter, the Rev. Dr. Ralph Hawkins, led us in a discussion about the struggles of having multiple generations represented in a congregation. The conversation recognized that, for many of us, the highest value in many of our churches for many years has been doing our duty and being reverent. Now many churches are struggling with how to balance those values with being welcoming.

I was reminded of my first experience with a Roman Catholic mass when I was a thirteen year-old attending a Catholic school. In most Presbyterian churches I had been a part of growing up, we chatted with those around us until the service was ready to begin, so, naturally, I was behaving the only way I knew how, quietly making small talk with my neighbors while waiting for worship to start. Before I knew what happened, a nun sitting in front of me spun around like a top and, with her face red and contorted with rage, screamed at me, "YOU WILL BE SILENT IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD!" The words echoed off the cathedral walls as all of my classmates turned to stare at me as the horror and embarrassment of what had just happened became burned in my memory forever. Needless to say, it would be years before I willingly stepped foot in a cathedral or felt welcome at a Catholic mass.

I hope my experience can be instructive for how we as a congregation welcome outsiders into our midst because my assumption is that most young people will not have the same understanding or values about how to behave in church. We now live in a society where the majority of young people do not attend church and a significant percentage have no knowledge of what it is to be

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"reverent" in worship; fewer still believe that it is their "duty" to attend at all. For the young people who do come to worship on a regular basis, I can assure you that they are in a minority of their friends. Like the couple I spoke with recently, most of them are looking for a place where they can be honest about the struggles in their lives, and for most of them, they had so many different choices for what to do on Sunday morning that convincing their family that worship is worth the extra effort made it a struggle to show up at all.

Now the question is, when we do find some young people in our church who may not share our values or (even if they do) are struggling to follow (and get their children to follow) our unspoken rules about what it means to be reverent towards God, how are we to treat them? I certainly share the belief that worship is a time to honor God, and it is one of the only times in my day-to-day life where I am dressed up and well-behaved. But as much as I value acting in such a way as to honor God, I believe that God is honored when we are welcoming and gracious to those who are struggling to honor God in their own lives. I would encourage each of us to think about how we might want to be treated if we were outsiders or just struggling in our day-to-day lives. Angry stares and harsh words are hurtful and send a message that the family is not welcome.

That being said, church is a place where we help one another to grow as disciples, so there is a time and place to help one another do better. Allow me to suggest that a better way to help young families in our community is to befriend them. Advice, when needed, is generally better received from someone we know loves us without question, but an offer to help is generally received even better. An understanding smile and a simple, "Is there anything I can do to help you?" is a way to serve others, make a stressful situation better, and make the family feel welcome all at the same time. However we choose to treat our young families, the goal should always be to encourage them, help them to grow as disciples, and make them feel like Hillside is a great place to call home.

I hope that in the years to come we will see many previously unchurched families coming to worship, but this naturally means that life might get messy. When it does, I am confident that Hillside will be a place where young people will feel welcome, even if their manners aren't perfect.

In Christ,
Pastor Sean

**JUNE
ECHO DEADLINE:
SUNDAY, MAY 21**



**STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
HOSTED BY THE DEACONS
SUNDAY JUNE 11**

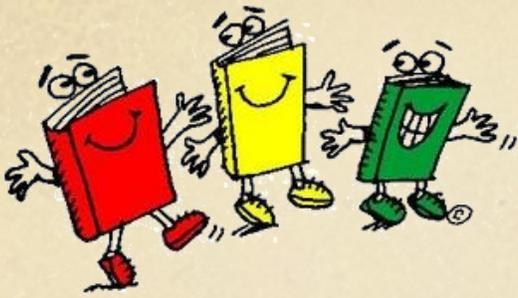
**Immediately following worship
Bring your favorite strawberry dish to
share.**

Ice cream sundaes provided for dessert

**SUBS ON SALE UNTIL 5/14
DELIVERY 5/21 \$6 EACH**

**6 KINDS ON WHITE OR WHEAT
SALE BENEFITS YOUTH CHURCH CAMP**





Anyone interested in placing a book in the library in memory of or in honor of an individual, please see Chuck and Nancy Herrick.

MORNING CIRCLE

Fifteen ladies met at the church for their Circle meeting. Nancy Herrick and Pat Herrick were co-hosts.

Dr. Ray Brugler taught Lesson 8 on "Who is Jesus?" The new study will be on the book of Hebrews, "Cloud of Witnesses".

Pat Brugler stressed that the Easter Offering, "One Great Hour of Sharing" is a very important offering and should be emphasized. Birthday Offering was \$102.71. \$94.85 of that amount was from the congregation.

.. Sue Mathieson chaired the business meeting.

All Women's Dinner will be May 4. It will be a Pot Luck dinner. Pam Maloney and the Grace Notes will be the entertainment. We voted for the Woman of the Year. She will be revealed at the dinner.

Andrea Hall will be installed as Moderator June 27 at Presbytery meeting. Volunteers are needed to make pies.

**PENTACOST SUNDAY JUNE 4
CELEBRATE BY WEARING RED**

**JOINT WORSHIP WITH
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
JULY 23
THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL SPEAKER**

VBS

JUNE 19-23

Brief meeting for volunteers

Sunday May 7 after worship

Wii Bowling

May 20, 4:00 pm

Please come and support the BLAST class at this game night for all church members.

SAVE THE DATE

Tech and Communications Team is hosting an "All American Picnic" May 28 following worship.

**SUMMER HOURS BEGIN MAY 28
WORSHIP AT 10:00 THRU SEPTEMBER 3
RALLY DAY SEPTEMBER 10**



May Greeters

Folding Door

7 Tom & Gay McKenzie
14 Bonny Sheesley
21 Janet Kirk
28 Still Available

Front Door

Lynn & Madge F.
Pat Herrick & LeAnn
Jessica Dick & Kids
Still Available

A big thank you to all who helped with the "75 And Over" luncheon April 19th. You were a fun group, great workers, and without all of you none of this would be possible. This is an event appreciated by our members much more than you know. A special thanks to Sonny Shannon, our in-house photographer, for taking all the pictures. God bless you all.

Thank you everyone for remembering me the past few months. The cards, calls visits, flowers and food all were so appreciated by me, most especially the heartfelt prayers. A special thanks to the deacons. Everything and everyone really lifted my spirits. God bless you all.

Ruth Hill

I would like to thank each and every one of you for being so willing to provide food for our funeral dinners. This makes my job easy. We have a very caring church and everyone is so kind when I call on them. Again, I say thank you.

Catharine

Hometown Heroes

Please continue to pray for these loved ones who are serving our country. Keep them, their families, our country, and our world situation in your constant prayers.

HANNAH BATTLES
RAYMOND PELSH
JASON COATS
JOSH PIPP
PATRICK DANGROW
MICHAEL PSCHIRER
KENNETH BUCKLEY

JUSTIN SMITH
CRAIG TRUMBULL JR.
KRISTOPHER HIRSCH-
MANN
DAVID TURNER
JON LEXINGTON
BRIAN GEARHART

Recipe Corner



SIMPLE ASIAN GLAZED CHICKEN THIGHS

6 chicken thighs

1/3 cup rice wine vinegar

1/4 cup soy sauce

3 TBL honey

2 TBL brown sugar

2 TBL sesame oil

4 garlic cloves, crushed

1 teaspoon fresh ginger, grated

Sliced green onions

Heat oven to 425°.

Whisk together vinegar, soy sauce, honey, brown sugar, oil, garlic and ginger.

Bring to a rolling boil. Reduce heat to low and simmer until thickened.

Place chicken in a baking dish, cover with 2/3 of sauce and turn to cover evenly.

Cook skin side down 30 minutes.

Turn and cook 15 minutes.

Change oven setting to broil. Broil until deep golden brown, about 5 minutes

Allow chicken to rest 10 minutes. Serve with additional sauce and green onions.

May Good Shepherd Item:
Peanut Butter or Breakfast
Item

OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE

Beginning with this issue, The Echo will feature an " OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE" each month.

Hillsiders always step up to the plate to volunteer when the need is known.

Please submit your volunteer needs to the Echo.

Our "Opportunity for Service" focus for May is:

THE NURSERY

The Nursery is an important service which allows parents of young children to fully participate in worship. We are required by law to have two adults on duty each week.

With our current roster of volunteers, each serves every 4-5 weeks.

All members (that means you too, men of Hillside) are urged to consider this chance

to help with the Nursery and get to know Hillside's wee ones.



Interested? Contact Sue Peterson or the church office.

MAY

	6:30 Membership Mtg.	2-4 Knitting 7 Nominating Mtg.	5:30 Bells 6:30 Choir	7 E.R. 6 All Women's Dinner		4:45 North Salem at North Salem 6 Zions at North Salem
	1	2	3	4	5	6
9:30 SS 10:45 Worship— Communion 12 VBS Mtg. 6 Praise Team	7	2-4 Knitting 6 Trustees 6:30 Deacons 7:15 Church of God at Grace Baptist	5:30 Bells 6:30 Choir	7 E.R.		9:15 Clarks Mills 2 at Clarks Mills 10:30 Clarks Mills 1 at Clarks Mills 1 Grace Mennonite at Clarks Mills
	8	9	10	11	12	13
9:30 SS 10:45 Worship 6 Praise Team	6:30 PW Mtg. 6:30 Christian Ed.	2-4 Knitting 6:30 Session 7:15 Bethel Life 1 at Cooper Field	5:30 Bells 6:30 Choir	7 E.R. 7 p.m. Tech & Comm. Mtg.		4 Wii Bowling/ Gaming Fundraiser 4:45 Clarks Mills 2 at Clarks Mills
	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:30 SS 10:45 Worship 6 Praise Team Echo Articles Due	21	2-4 Knitting 6 Bethel Life 2 at Grace Baptist 7:15 Clarks Mills 1 at Grace Baptist	5:30 Bells 6:30 Choir	7 E.R. 6 Commodore Perry Graduation 7 Nominating Mtg.	25	26
	22	23	24	27		
9:30 SS 10:45 Worship 6 Praise Team	28	7:15 Sandy Lake at North Salem	30	31	Find up-to-the-minute updates at www.hillsidepresby.com/calendar where you can find details and even add items to your personal calendar.	

Birthdays

5/2 Bo Arthur Mosconi
5/9 Catelynn Titus
5/10 Adrienne Ferguson
5/18 Jason Ealy
5/20 Laurel Dangrow
5/25 Pat Bees
Raina Tokar
5/30 Chris Mentch



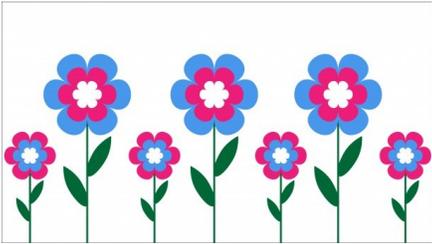
MAY

6/2 Matt McClimans
6/3 Eva Sicignano
6/5 Sandy Barr
Jane Heile



Anniversaries

5/3 Tina & Gary Jones
5/8 Lynn & Madge Ferguson
5/15 Martha & Joe Piper
5/18 Steve & Linda Pinney
5/19 Barb & Dan Shrock
5/23 Mark & Marianne Holiga
5/24 Tom & Joanne Knapp
5/30 Rod & Jenny Daughterty
Debbie & Ralph Jones
6/7 Carl & Bonny Sheesley



MAY

The Hillside Echo

Hillside Staff

PASTOR – Rev. Sean Hall (cell: 724-638-7381) revseanhall@hillsidepresby.com

MUSIC DIRECTOR – Karyn Kirchhofer (724-253-2061)

SECRETARY – Jessica Dick hillsidepresby@verizon.net

TREASURER – Colinda Titus colindatitus@gmail.com

CUSTODIAN – Mary Battles

PRAYER CHAIN – Linda Pinney lpinney@neo.rr.com

ECHO NEWSLETTER EDITOR – Sue Peterson sbpete@verizon.net

Church Office

Office Hours:

Mon—Fri from 8:30-12:30

Phone:

724-588-4920

Check us out on the web at

www.hillsidepresby.com