

# The Echo

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF HILLSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
JANUARY 2017 – VOLUME 62 NO 1

## From the Pastor's Desk

Peter Drucker, a well known leadership and entrepreneurial expert, is famous (in part) for asking the question, "If we weren't already doing it this way, is this the way we would start?" The question is designed to identify where an organization has become stuck in a rut that is no longer serving them well. The question is such an important one for any organization to ask itself because it is so easy to find yourself doing something simply because it is comfortable or "we've always done it that way." Or perhaps, the way that we are doing things served us well in the past, and we had very good reasons for why we started doing it this way. The easiest course of action is to simply stay the course, but, Drucker says, organizations that hope to thrive will take time to evaluate and ask themselves this question. Naturally, the advice that follows is that if you would do things differently if you were starting over from scratch, then take immediate action to change the way that you are doing things.

Blockbuster Video is one of the most famous examples of an organization that failed to change course or ask themselves this question until it was far too late. At a time when Netflix was investing in instant streaming services and charging \$8 per month for all the DVDs you could watch, and Redbox was offering \$1 per day rentals from 24/7 kiosks, Blockbuster was asking \$4 per movie and still operating their brick and mortar stores almost the exact same way that they had 20 years earlier. And why not? Into the 1990's, Blockbuster was the (nearly undisputed) king of the video rental industry. The way that they had always done things had gotten them to the top, and no one wants to watch movies on their computer anyway, right!?

If Blockbuster had taken the time to ask themselves Drucker's question, they might have realized that their primary function was to bring the latest video entertainment into people's homes. And in the computer age, if you were going to set up a company to get entertainment into people's homes, would you start by renting out DVDs from a physical store? The answer is, as the economy has demonstrated, of course not. Between 2000 and 2010, Blockbuster's estimated worth dropped from nearly 5 billion to 25 million. Yet still, as recently as 2008, Blockbuster's CEO was saying, "I've been frankly confused by this fascination that everybody has with Netflix...Netflix doesn't really have or do anything that we can't or don't already do ourselves."

The reason I mention Drucker's question and lift up this story to you is to ask, "Where in the church, if we weren't already doing things the way we currently do them, would we choose to do them exactly the same way that we are currently doing them, and where would we do things differently?" If our organization is primarily about having a storefront that provides religious goods and services, could we do it better? If our organization were primarily about getting the gospel of Jesus into the hearts and lives of our neighbors and advancing God's Kingdom in Greenville, I wonder if we wouldn't start by doing things *radically* differently than we're doing them now!?

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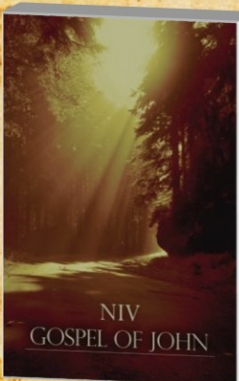
The landscape of ministry around the country is drastically changing as we advance into the twenty-first century, and for organizations still operating in basically the same way that they operated in decades past, it is all but guaranteed that those who do not ask the hard questions will find themselves as cautionary tales in the ash heap of history. So let's make our church a place where looking inward and asking the tough questions is not only tolerated but encouraged. If you have an answer for how we would do things differently if we started over, tell one of the church's elders (whose names are printed in the bulletin every Sunday). Let's make this year the one where we find news ways to share those timeless truths that have been entrusted to us for the glory of God.

In Christ,  
Pastor Sean



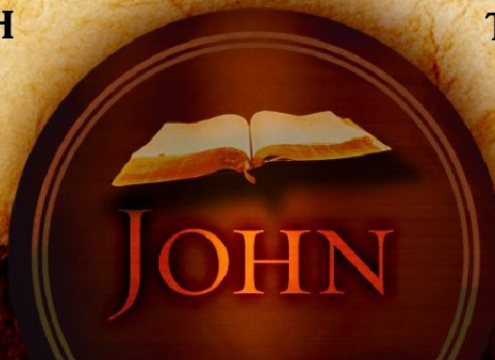
**IN 2017**

# **HILLSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IS GOING DEEPER AS WE SPEND AN ENTIRE YEAR GETTING TO KNOW JESUS BETTER THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF JOHN**



**WE WILL HAVE POCKET-  
SIZED EDITIONS OF THE  
GOSPEL AVAILABLE TO  
BRING WITH  
YOU EACH  
SUNDAY**

**EACH WEEK WE WILL  
EXPLORE A NEW PASSAGE  
IN-DEPTH AS WE WORK  
THROUGH EACH LINE  
OF JOHN'S GOSPEL,  
ENCOUNTERING THE  
RISEN CHRIST.**





# Thank You!

It is with deep and heartfelt thanks that we express our appreciation to Norma Lauffer for her contribution that enabled us to purchase the automated external defibrillator for the church. It has been installed on the wall near Sonny's desk. As schedules permit, Nancy Webster will conduct a training session for this life saving device which is not complicated and can be used by anyone.

We extend deep and heartfelt thanks to all those involved in the preparation of food, set-up, serving, and clean-up for the recent funeral dinners for Bob Hill and Marilyn Frazier. A special thanks to Catharine for making all the phone calls. As always, Hillside so willingly provides our need each time. Without you, we would not be able to offer this special dinner, and more importantly, the valuable family time spent together honoring their love one.

Additionally, following funeral dinners, take-outs are prepared for delivery to shut-ins. Adequate words cannot convey their grateful appreciation in receiving this meal and seeing a familiar face from their Hillside family.

Hillside Friends,

Once again, I can't thank everyone enough for your generous support of the teen program at the Salvation Army. This year we served 41 teens. Each received a sweatshirt, scarf & hat, lots of toiletries, comb & brush, etc. I wish each of you could share in the joy of handing these bags to the parents. For some I am sure this was their teens only Christmas. Even if it is a little thing, do something for which there is no pay but, just the privilege of doing it.

Our Hillside family has a very special place in our hearts.

- Scott & Sherry Hodge

Thank you to my Hillside family for remembering me during the Christmas season. The golden years have become much harder for me, but my faith and love of friends and family has grown. I attend church at Ridgewood, but truly miss the comfort of being at Hillside.

May you all have a blessed and happy new year.

- Marie Vener



## January Greeters

### Folding Door

1 Tom & Gay McKenzie  
8 Sheesleys  
15 Still Available  
22 Cornthwaits  
29 Still Available

### Front Door

Still Available  
Still Available  
Sheesleys  
Still Available  
Still Available

### Per Capita Offering for 2017

Presbytery of Shenango	\$28.06
Synod of the Trinity	2.30
General Assembly	<u>7.50</u>

**Total Apportionment      \$37.86**

### Annual Congregational Meeting

The meeting will be held Sunday,  
January 22, 2017.

#### New Board Member Nominees

Session: Steve Pinney, Colinda Titus, Nancy  
Lutkemeier and Karyn Kirchhofer.

Trustees: Nancy Herrick, Chuck Herrick and  
Jerry Gill.

Deacons: Janey Kirk, Judy Gill and Linda Pin-  
ney.

Nominating Committee: (Members-at-Large)  
Connie Greenfield, Martha Piper, Steve Pin-  
ney, Bonny Sheesley, Stephanie Zane, Gay  
McKenzie and Kyle Kirchhofer.

There is a proposed by-law change to raise  
the number of Deacons from 7 to 9.

## Hometown Heroes

Please continue to pray for these loved ones who are  
serving our country. Keep them, their families, our coun-  
try, 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

FEB.

ECHO DEADLINE:

SUN., JAN. 15

## Recipe Corner



### LOADED POTATO SOUP

2 lbs. russet potatoes, peeled and cubed  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  flour  
2 cups milk  
1 cup chicken stock  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  cup sour cream  
 $1\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoons salt  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon pepper  
 $\frac{2}{3}$  cup shredded cheddar cheese  
6 slices bacon, cooked and crumbled  
3 Tablespoons chopped chives

Place potatoes in Dutch oven. Cover with  
cold water, bring to a boil. Reduce heat and  
simmer until tender, 11-14 minutes. Drain

Return potatoes to pan and mash with a  
potato masher to desired consistency.  
Whisk together flour, milk and chicken stock.

Stir milk mixture into potatoes, cook over  
medium heat until thickened and bubbly.  
Remove from heat. Stir in sour cream, salt  
and pepper.

Ladle soup into 6 bowls. Top with bacon,  
shredded cheesed chives.

Jan. Good Shepherd Item:  
Soups or Stews



# January

9:30 SS 10:45 Worship		2-4 Knitting	5:30 Bells 6:30 Choir	7 E.R. 9:30 Morning Circle 7 Evening Circle		
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
9:30 SS 10:45 Worship 6 Praise Tm Annual Reports Due	6:30 Member- ship Mtg. 6:30 Worship Mtg.	2-4 Knitting 6 Trustees 6:30 Deacons	5:30 Bells 6:30 Choir 7 Tech & Comm.	7 E.R.		
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
9:30 SS 10:45 Worship 6 Praise Tm. Echo Articles Due	6:30 PW Mtg.	2-4 Knitting 6:30 Session	5:30 Bells 6:30 Choir	7 E.R.		
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
9:30 SS 10:45 Worship Annual Congrega- tional Mtg. 6 Praise Tm	6:30 Christian Ed	2-4 Knitting	6:30 Choir	7 E.R.		
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
9:30 SS 10:45 Worship 6 Praise Tm		2-4 Knitting		Find up-to-the-minute updates at <a href="http://www.hillsidepresby.com/calendar">www.hillsidepresby.com/calendar</a> where you can find details and even add items to your personal calendar.		
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

## Birthdays

1/3 Sara Webster Mull  
 1/4 Nancy McCurdy  
 1/8 Sue Mathison  
 1/14 Tom Doan  
 1/16 Abigail Kiser  
 Charles Gill  
 Jane Lindemuth  
 1/20 Michael Shannon  
 1/21 Melissa Daugherty  
 Madge Ferguson  
 1/23 Lidia Brocklehurst  
 1/24 Elizabeth McCurdy  
 Tina Jones



## JANUARY

1/25 Andrea Hall  
 1/26 Thomas Knapp Jr.  
 1/27 Connie Greenfield  
 1/29 Chuck Herrick  
 Jerry Herrick  
 Barbara Stoyer  
 1/30 Nancy Griffin  
 Victoria Satonica  
 1/31 Laura Brocklehurst  
 Ronald Stoyer

## Anniversaries

1/29 Jerry & Pat Herrick





# The Hillside Echo

## Hillside Staff

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

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ECHO NEWSLETTER EDITOR – Sue Peterson [sbpete@verizon.net](mailto:sbpete@verizon.net)

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Check us out on the web at

[www.hillsidepresby.com](http://www.hillsidepresby.com)