



# From the Pastor’s Desk

As many of you know, my grandfather recently passed away. He was the one who took me on mission trips, most encouraged me to pursue ministry, and showed me what it meant to live as a disciple of Jesus. On the surface, we might not have had much in common. He worked with his hands for a living, barely graduated from high school, and wasn’t particularly eloquent, but I never met a man who had more of a heart for God or who lived day in and day out with an absolute certainty of who he was in relation to the grace of God in Christ.

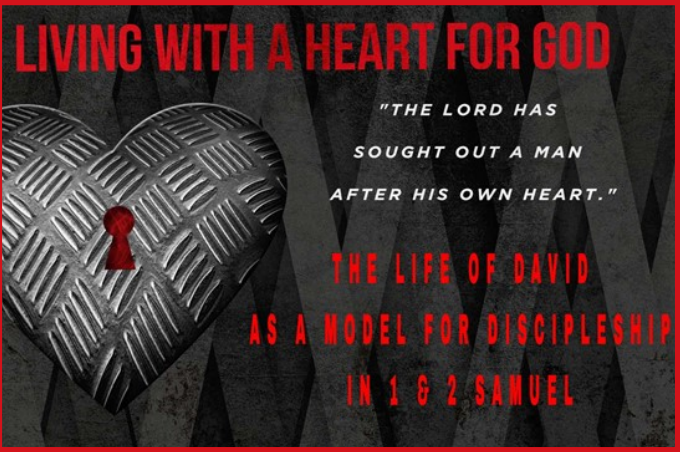
He had the kind of heart that the Bible describes in King David. We are going to be spending the next 6 months taking a look at David’s life, and learning what it means to live with a heart for God.

My grandfather taught me two important lessons that I will never forget. First, there is nothing so small or insignificant that we can not take it to God in prayer. I remember telling him once that I couldn’t find my keys. “Have you prayed about it?” was his reply. He told me that he prayed about everything all day long. Whether he was praying about tightening bolts on the machines he fixed or praying for important family matters, his life was a never-ending conversation with God. I see this same trait in the life of David, who was constantly stopping to ask God’s will over the smallest decisions.

The second great lesson that he taught me was tithing. When I got my first job, he said, “the first 10% of everything you earn belongs to God, and it will never be easier to start tithing than when you get your first paycheck. I have been blessed beyond measure with a good family and a successful business, and I firmly believe it has been because I put God first in all things and never held back what belonged to Him.” For him, giving to the church was a measuring stick for how much you were placing your trust in God.

Giving is by no means the only measurement for whether we are living as disciples, but it is one of the few tangible markers that shows us how close we are to living according to God’s will. On January 28, we will be having a congregational meeting to hear the proposed budget for 2018. The session has already recognized that we are going to need to step out in faith if we’re going to make this budget and if we hope to do meaningful ministry in Greenville. We are going to be taking a hard look at ourselves this year as asking what we need to do to live as disciples of Jesus. And the first of many steps, as the year begins, is to look at our annual household budgets and ask if our giving for last year was 10% of our adjusted gross income. Were we even in the ballpark? And if not, let’s ask ourselves what we can do to become the disciples we hope to be in 2018

Your servant in Christ,  
Pastor Sean





# Take Note:

# Thank You

Echo Articles Due:  
January 21

January Good Shepherd Item:  
Soups or Stews

The Deacons would like to thank all who donated to our Christmas bags for the shut-ins. It would be difficult to do this service if you weren't involved.

Thank you for the cards, meals, and visits while I am recovering from surgery on my shoulder. I appreciate all of you and know that Hillside has the best people. You are very special to me.  
~Bonny Sheesley~


## OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

It's said "Hillsiders always step up to the plate to volunteer when the need is known."  
Please submit your volunteer needs to the Echo so that Hillside knows of your opportunity for them to serve.


## Our focus for January: GREETERS

Hillside has always been complimented as being a warm and inviting church. One way we can remain a warm and inviting church is to greet our visitors each Sunday and be available to answer questions, give directions, etc. We like to have greeters at the front door and also the folding door in McPeak Chapel. There are sign up sheets on the bulletin board in McPeak. Please consider helping to maintain the warm and inviting feature of Hillside!


REMINDERS:



GIVING ENVELOPES for 2018 are available for pick-up in McPeak Chapel.



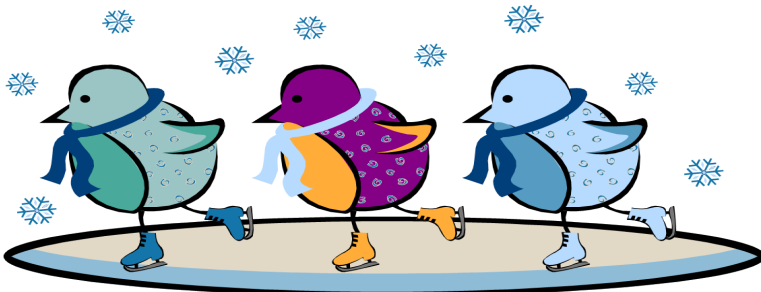
Hillside will be collecting toys for use in local foster care. Please bring your donations to the church.



ANNUAL REPORTS  
Descriptive and financial reports should be turned in to the church office by January 7, 2018



Presbyterian Church  
2 North High Street  
Greenville, PA 16125



# The Hillside Echo

Hillside Staff	Church Office
<p>PASTOR – Rev. Sean Hall (cell: 724-638-7381) <a href="mailto:revseanhall@hillsidepresby.com">revseanhall@hillsidepresby.com</a></p> <p>MUSIC DIRECTOR – Karyn Kirchhofer (724-253-2061)</p> <p>SECRETARY – Linda Pinney <a href="mailto:hillsidepresby@verizon.net">hillsidepresby@verizon.net</a></p> <p>TREASURER – Colinda Titus <a href="mailto:colindatitus@gmail.com">colindatitus@gmail.com</a></p> <p>CUSTODIAN – Mary Battles</p> <p>PRAYER CHAIN – Linda Pinney <a href="mailto:lpinney@neo.rr.com">lpinney@neo.rr.com</a></p> <p>ECHO NEWSLETTER EDITOR – Sue Peterson <a href="mailto:sbpete@verizon.net">sbpete@verizon.net</a></p>	<p>Office Hours:</p> <p>Mon—Fri from 8:30-12:30</p> <p>Phone:</p> <p>724-588-4920</p> <p>Check us out on the web at <a href="http://www.hillsidepresby.com">www.hillsidepresby.com</a></p>



# JANUARY 2018

	Happy New Year! Church office closed	2-4 Knitting	5:30 Bells 6:30 Choir	7:00 Early Risers 9:30 a.m. Circle 7:00 p.m. Circle		
	1	2	3	4	5	6
9:30 S.S. 9:30 Relationship Class 10:45 Worship	6:30 Membership 6:30 Worship & Sacraments	2-4 Knitting 6:00 Trustees 6:30 Deacons	5:30 Bells 6:30 Choir	7:00 Early Risers		8:30 AM LeaderFest
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9:30 S.S. 10:45 Worship	6:30 PW Coordinating	2-4 Knitting 6:30 Session	5:30 Bells 6:30 Choir	7:00 Early Risers 7:00 p.m. Tech & Comm.		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9:30 S.S. 9:30 Relationship Class 10:45 Worship Echo Articles Due	6:30 Christian Ed	2-4 Knitting	5:30 Bells 6:30 Choir	7:00 Early Risers		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9:30 S.S. 10:45 Worship Congregational Meeting		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.		
28	29	30	31			

## Birthdays: JANUARY

1/3 Sara Webster Mull	1/24 Elizabeth McCurdy
1/4 Nancy McCurdy	Tina Jones
1/8 Sue Mathieson	1/25 Andrea Hall
1/14 Tom Doan	1/26 Tom Knapp Jr.
1/16 Abigail Kiser	1/27 Connie Greenfield
Jane Lindemuth	1/29 Chuck Herrick
Charles Gill	Jerry Herrick
1/20 Michael Shannon	Barbara Stoyer
1/21 Melissa Daugherty	1/30 Nancy Griffin
Madge Ferguson	Victoria Satonica
1/23 Lidia Brocklehurst	

## Anniversaries:

1/29 Pat and Jerry Herrick



## Member Moment

*Never Thought I Would Meet an Angel*



Since I was quite young and taken to Sunday School, I heard about angels. In my childish way I pictured them as wearing fluffy white robes that if you would be able to touch them they would be so soft they would melt. I also pictured these angels as having harps tucked under their arms as they hurried off to give help to those in need. Many years have passed since these thoughts entered my mind, but I have recently come face to face with more angels than I can count and, believe me, they weren't what I expected! One wore blue jeans and rubber boots and had soup tucked under her arm. She came twice a day to keep watch on swelling in my leg for several days. Another came with her husband with soup and the best apple cake in Greenville. A neighbor brought lasagna—another vegetable soup, each bringing Christmas cookies with their offering. Yet another brought goulash and applesauce (which I could eat every day!) along with her husband that entertained us with his hunting stories. My friends from the Senior Center have also been supportive with cards and prayers. I had two spiritual visits—one angel made the trip to Erie twice—one to bring me communion and once just to make me laugh and “pep me up”. P.M. also made a visit to me once I was home, bringing me a fruit basket and cookies made by his wife—much appreciated! M family! What can I say! My Christmas tree was up and decorations out when I got home. My daughters and granddaughter were there at the snap of my fingers. Joe has decided that nursing is not his calling, but we have gotten through showers, support hose, etc.....all without killing each other (yet). So, he must be doing something right! I couldn't have gotten through this without him! I know I haven't mentioned everyone that has showed such kindness to us. Please forgive me, as I love all of you. I was in the hospital for 6 days before my surgery and, looking back, I had lots of time to think and pity myself, but I was never afraid. Why??

Martha Piper

## LeaderFest 2018

### The Master's Plan:

*We've all heard the alarming statistics about the church's demise in American culture. Even though the population is growing, the church seems to be dying. While many of the reasons are complex, one of them is very simple. We have moved away from the Master's plan, Jesus gives us a very clear model for the church and discipleship through his life and ministry. Join us as we explore what it means to be disciples*

All leaders are welcome to hear our guest speaker, Rev. Dr. Steve Franklin!



Steve Franklin has served as the Senior Pastor of Meridian Presbyterian Church in Butler since 2010. He is a 2006 graduate of Westminster College, a 2009 graduate of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and he completed his doctorate in congregational transformation at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in 2017. Steve's thesis focused on the impact of gospel-centered discipleship on the renewal and growth of the local congregation. Over the last 8 years, Meridian has experienced tremendous growth and renewal. While the church has more than doubled in size, the real growth has been found in their renewed approach to Biblical discipleship. Married in 2011 to Laura, they now have two young sons, JD (3) and Colt (1). If he isn't working or playing with his sons, you can find him training for a distance race, chasing his goal to reach all 30 Major League Baseball Stadiums, or relaxing on a golf course.



# THANK YOU!

Please accept our heartfelt thanks for your prayers, cards, calls and concern during Jerry's recent surgery and recuperation. Thanks also to the Children's Sunday School for their hand made get well wishes. Recovery is going well and he is looking forward to being back in church real soon. We are truly blessed to be part of such a loving, caring church family.

Sincerely, Jerry & Pat



## 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  
KENNETH BUCKLEY  
JASON COATS  
PATRICK DANGROW  
BRIAN GEARHART  
KRISTOPHER HIRSCHMANN

JON LEXINGTON  
RAYMOND PELSH  
JOSH PIPP  
JUSTIN SMITH  
CRAIG TRUMBULL JR.  
DAVID TURNER



## Recipe Corner

### SIMPLE SLOW-COOKED KOREAN BEEF SOFT TACOS

1-3 lb. beef chuck roast

½ onion, diced

½ cup dark brown sugar

1/3 cup soy sauce

10 cloves garlic

1 jalapeno pepper, diced (optional)

1" piece fresh ginger, grated

2 TBL. seasoned rice vinegar

1 TBL. sesame oil

Combine ingredients in slow cooker. Cook  
on high 8 hours, or on low, 10 hours.

Shred beef with forks.

Serve on soft tortillas with your favorite  
toppings.



12/11/17S

Steve & Crew!!

I just wanted to congratulate you and everyone on the Tech/Comm Department on a job well done! I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to be involved again this year!

Keep doing good things & being the awesome people God intended you to be!

God's Peace!  
BAM

Brett Allen Morgan  
President—BAMBAM Entertainment  
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Your future is in your mind; THINK ABOUT IT!



The Tech & Comm Team would like to take the opportunity to thank EVERY-ONE who participated in our 3rd annual Kaleidoscope of Carols.

We had a great turn-out, a tremendous amount of talent and everyone went away with the true meaning of Christmas in their hearts.

Thanks to all of our performers - without you we wouldn't have such a great opportunity to provide to the Greenville community.

