

It's part of the job. I have somewhat of a collection of marriage and relationship books. So at a recent pastors' retreat when several of my colleagues recommended the words of John Gottman, and I saw that he and his wife wrote a book called *The Man's Guide to Women*, I couldn't resist.

The longer I'm married (almost 10 years now), the better I know my wife but the more of a mystery she becomes. I just *knew* that reading this book would let me understand why she does the things that she does. I actually wouldn't recommend the book for various reasons because it wasn't nearly as helpful as I hoped it would be, and Andrea did *not* appreciate me trying out all the "tricks" I learned on her. The book opened with a disclaimer that all women are unique, so if your better half says something doesn't apply to her, you should listen to her and not the experts. I soon learned that Andrea is so unique, so special, that very few of my new "insights" applied to her, or they were so simple that I "should have known" them all along. \$13 well spent? I don't know.

The main point of the book actually wasn't what men need to know to understand women but how, whether or not men understand, they should change their approach to make their significant other feel more safe and valued. It argued that one of our biggest mistakes in communication is assuming that other people think the way that we do, or we assume their motives are hostile when they are not. One of the best pieces of advice I picked up is that when you don't understand why someone is doing what they are doing, try *asking*! After all, people are rarely offended when someone tries to get to know them better.

All this got me thinking about how we approach ministry in the church. How often do we talk about how people outside the church "ought" to think like we do? Do we ever secretly question their motives for how they value and spend their time or money? But more than that, why are we so reluctant to *ask* them why they do what they do, not from a place of judgment but out of a genuine interest in understanding and getting to know them better? I suspect that we would find, if we spent more time talking with our un-churched neighbors, that they are more like us that we could ever think possible. More importantly, maybe they would find that Christians aren't as judgmental or mysterious as they think we are.

Andrea may always be a mystery to me, which is lucky because otherwise life would get boring. But I would hate for the church to forever be a mystery to those outside it because Christians didn't take the time to have a friendly conversation. So have a conversation with your un-churched neighbor (or child). With any luck, it could be the beginning of a beautiful friendship.

In the love of Christ,
Pastor Sean

OVER 75 LUNCHEON



SPECIAL THANKS! Adequate words could never fully express my sincere thanks to everyone who assisted in the "Over 75" Luncheon. I send my sincere appreciation to those who came in on Tuesday for set-up and the initial preparation of food, and then returned on Wednesday, along with several others, to complete and serve the meal. Special thanks to Nancy Lutkemeier for her lovely decorations depicting a "Remember When" theme. Thanks to our men for their willingness to always assist with clean-up duties. Including our help, we served 49 and delivered to 9 shut-ins. Pastor Joel DiAngi provided the entertainment and "wowed" us with his outstanding piano talent. We extend a grateful thanks to our "resident photographer", Sonny Shannon, for taking individual and/or couple pictures as well as a group picture. As I always say, this event could never happen without our "Hillside Strong" who are always willing to step up and lend a hand at any time.

Thanks again ~ Pat Herrick



INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP

The Intercessory Prayer Group meets every Monday morning at 9:00 a.m. to pray for the needs of others. Did you know Abraham was the first intercessor mentioned in the Bible? He was God's friend and was quite bold in his intercession. It is communicating with God on behalf of those in need; whatever the need may be.

We pray for those on our church prayer list, missionaries, our Pastor, the committees of the church, our nation, first responders, our church family, those in care centers, shut-ins, etc.

Monday mornings have become the highlight of our week. It is a privilege to bring our joys and concerns to the Throne of Grace.

If you feel uncomfortable praying out loud, come join us in agreement, in silence. God hears you aloud or silently.

Prayerfully consider joining us on Monday's and your life will be blessed, refreshed, renewed and transformed as you intercede for others.

REMINDERS:

June Echo Articles Due: May 20, 2018

May Good Shepherd Item:
Peanut butter
Or Breakfast Items

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

It's said "Hillsiders always step up to the plate to volunteer when the need is known."

Our focus for May:

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR VOLUNTEERS

Looking for artists, hobbyists, Bible teachers, readers, science buffs, anyone willing to share their testimony, YOU!

Volunteer Opportunity Meeting:

Saturday, May 19, 2018 @ 9 a.m. Sans MOCO (above Fresh Grounds)

MISSION COMMITTEE

We are forming a new, updated Mission Committee, meetings will be beginning in May. We are asking everyone to prayerfully consider being a part of this committee. If you are interested, please contact Sue Mathieson or the church office.

BIBLE SPONSORS NEEDED



Help spread the Word of God with the 2018 graduating class of Keystone Charter School. Any size donation is welcomed and appreciated. Suggested donation per bible is \$10. You may place your donations in the offering plate with "Keystone Bibles" on the memo line. Donations accepted until May 2, 2018.



We will be celebrating Confirmation Sunday as we welcome four of our youth into membership.

The Confirmation Class of 2018 and mentors include:

Frankie Ellis, mentor Ron Sicignano

Garrett Hillard, mentor Steve Pinney

Abby Kiser, mentor Nancy Lutkemeier

Mickala Kiser, mentor Karyn Kirchhofer

ROAD TO RECOVERY

Mercer County is in need of drivers!

One of the biggest roadblocks to cancer treatment can be transportation. That's why the American Cancer Society Road to Recovery program provides patients in need with rides to treatment. For those cancer patients who cannot drive themselves or have no other means of getting to their appointments, we provide rides through volunteers or community partners we work with.

HOW IT WORKS:

To ensure that we have quality drivers for the Road To Recovery volunteer program, the American Cancer Society screens each person. They must also complete online training courses to prepare them for their new role.



REQUIREMENTS:

- A good driving record
- A current driver's license
- Access to a safe and reliable vehicle
- Proof of adequate auto insurance
- Schedule availability
- Regular desktop, laptop, or tablet computer access



VBS is just around the corner!

"Camp Out, Getting S'more of Jesus"
June 18-22, 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Anyone interested in helping should contact Kerri McCowien, call the church office, or sign-up in McPeak Chapel. If you're not available during VBS, help is always needed for prep work and set-up before the start of VBS.

Come and join us for this wonderful activity!



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
BRIAN GEARHART
KRISTOPHER HIRSCHMANN

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



STRAWBERRY POUND CAKE

1 cup butter

1½ cups sugar

2 eggs

1 teas. vanilla extract

1 teas. almond extract

2 cups flour

1/3 cup milk

1 cup quartered strawberries

¼ cup water

Preheat oven to 350°.

Grease 2 loaf pans

Beat butter and sugar until light and fluffy.

Add eggs one at a time, adding extracts

with last egg.

Mix in flour alternately with milk, just until combined.

Fold in strawberries and water.

Pour into prepared pans. Bake 1 hour or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.

Cool completely before removing from pans.



MORNING CIRCLE

There were 16 ladies present for the April Circle meeting, co-hosted by Janie Lindemuth and Jan Stratiff..

Onnalee Patterson continued the Bible Study, "Cloud of Witnesses", a study from the book of Hebrews. This lesson was on faith.

Sue Mathieson chaired the business meeting. Votes were cast for the "Woman of the Year". Catharine Crawford led the Fellowship of the Least Coin devotions. This offering was turned in at Spring Gathering on April 21.

All Women's Dinner plans were made. It will be May 3 at 6:00 pm. A pot luck dinner is planned. Morning Circle will host. Tickets are \$2.00, on sale in McPeak April 15 and 29. Evening Circle will be in charge of clean-up. The men of the church will serve and clean up.

Nancy Lutkemeier closed the meeting with prayer.



FINANCIAL NOTE

Through the first quarter of the year, the income shows \$38,246 with expenses of \$40,732 leaving a deficit of \$2,486.



SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS BEGIN SUNDAY, MAY 27, 2018 WORSHIP BEGINS AT 10:00 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENT E-MAIL BLAST!

We are trying something new with technology here at Hillside! We will be adding an "ANNOUNCEMENT" e-mail.

This will be very similar to the Prayer Mail, but ensures that the Prayer Mail stays only for prayer requests.

Our "ANNOUNCEMENT" e-mail will include items such as events happening at Hillside, news from Hillside, meeting changes/cancellations, & any other information we need to get out to folks before Sunday mornings.

This will be separate from the Prayer Chain that is in effect. You may be included in one or both e-mails.

If you would like to be included in the "ANNOUNCEMENT" e-mail and/or our Prayer Mail, jot an e-mail to the church office: hillsidepresby@verizon.net and we will add you.



MAY 2018

Find up to-the-minute updates at www.hillsidepresby.com/calendar where you can find more details.		2-4 Knitting	No Bell Practice 6:30 Choir	2	7:00 Early Risers 6:00 p.m. All Women's Dinner	4	5
9:30 S .S. 10:45 Worship	9:00 Prayer Group 6:30 Membership	2-4 Knitting	5:30 Bell Choir 6:30 Choir		7:00 Early Risers		
6	7	8		9	10	11	12
9:30 S.S. 10:45 Worship	9:00 Prayer Group	2-4 Knitting 6:00 p.m. Combined Board Workshop 7:00 Trustees, Deacons, Session	5:30 Bell Choir 6:30 Choir		7:00 Early Risers 7:00 p.m. Tech & Comm.		
13	14	15		16	17	18	19
9:30 S.S. 10:45 Worship - Confirmation / Pentecost Echo Articles Due	9:00 Prayer Group 6:30 P.W. Co-ordinating Team	2-4 Knitting	5:30 Bell Choir 6:30 Choir		7:00 Early Risers		
20	21	22		23	24	25	26
SUMMER HOURS BEGIN 10:00 Worship	Church office Closed	2-4 Knitting	5:30 Bell Choir 6:30 Choir		7:00 Early Risers		
27	28	29		30	31		

MAY BIRTHDAYS:

5/2 Bo Mosconi

5/9 Catelynn Titus

5/10 Adrianne Ferguson

5/18 Jason Ealy

5/25 Raina Tokar



Anniversaries:

5/3

Tina & Gary Jones

5/8

Madge & Lynn Ferguson

5/15

Martha & Joe Piper

(65 years)

5/18

Linda & Steve Pinney

5/19

Barb & Dan Shrock

5/23

Marianne & Mark Holiga

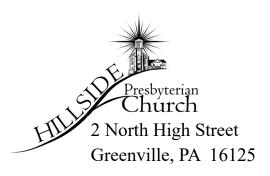
5/24

Joanne & Tom Knapp

5/30

Jenny & Rod Daugherty
Debbie & Ralph Jones







The Hillside Echo

Hillside Staff

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Check us out on the web at www.hillsidepresby.com