



*Hillwood Presbyterian
Church
Highlander*

March, 2018

This church exists to be a community of faith that
Serves God by Serving Others!

*We envision a growing community of Christ
where individuals experience connection to God and the world.*

We value:

- Being a loving, caring community of believes in Christ
- Welcoming all and including all who seek a faith community
- Striving for continual spiritual growth
- Searching for oppourtunities to serve our neighbors and those in need while being good stewards of our resources
- Having liturgically-based worship and music

Scripture Readings

March 4

3rd Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Exodus 20:1-17
Response: Psalm 19
Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25
Gospel Lesson: John 2:13-22

March 11

4th Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Numbers 21:4-9
Response: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
Second Lesson: Ephesian 2:1-10
Gospel Lesson: John 3:1-21

March 18

5th Sunday of Lent

First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:31-34
Response: Psalm 51:1-12 or 119:9-16
Second Lesson: Hebrews 5:5-10
Gospel Lesson: John 12:20-33

March 25

Palm/Passion Sunday

First Lesson: Isaiah 50:4-9a
Response: Psalm 31:9-16
Second Lesson: Philippians 2:5-11
Gospel Lesson: Mark 14:1-15:47 or
Mark 15:1-39 (40-47)



PRAYER CONCERNS

"Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Jesus Christ."

(Philippians 4:6-7)

New Concerns: Bill Boyte; Val Moore, Dave Ricci, and Anne Maier —
friends of Cindy Wedel and Sheila Sferrella

Ongoing Concerns: William Ridley, Brian Warford's mother-in-law

Homebound Concerns: Gail Allen; John Wannamaker;
Ann Swift, Ed Hogg's mother



WAYS TO SERVE THROUGH CARING

Gloria Bennett has a new address. Contact the church office for her address to send her cards of care.

THIS YEAR EASTER BUNNY HELPERS are needed the week of Holy Week to deliver Easter Treats to our homebound members. The children of the church will be preparing these special treats in March, and adult or teen BUNNY HELPERS are needed for delivery! Contact Pastor Jule or the church office to sign up to deliver Easter Treats to homebound members.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Adjust

Things have been a bit different these past few weeks for Hillwood PC. For starters, we are sending this newsletter later than we typically would due to Beebe's recent medical leave. I am grateful to Jan Diehl for the great help she has given in the office in the meantime. And we appreciate your patience while she temporarily has been trying to learn the ropes! At the same time, Playcare was in a search for new help for their office. After witnessing Angel Buchanan alongside Director Darlene Williams this week at Angel's first staff meeting as the Administrative Assistant, it looks like spring will include a wonderful unfolding for Playcare staff, children, and parents. If we all can just hang in a few more weeks until the HVAC replacement finally arrives, we might just experience the joy of Eastertide in a whole new way this year!

February certainly has proven to be a time of adjustment!

It has me pondering the process of adjusting. While adjusting can be physically, emotionally, and mentally wearisome; I believe a level of adjustment can prolong our lives. Adjusting to new situations that arise literally keeps our brains functioning better. Learning to do things a little bit differently than we always have done them builds different muscles and keeps a body more alert. Adjusting to people we haven't known well before gives us an opportunity to expand our worldview even as it has us call upon different skills than the ones we might otherwise use. While we may not like all the adjustments we face on a daily basis, navigating adjustments that arise keeps us growing in ways we might not have chosen for ourselves.

I wonder if adjusting is woven into the very fabric of life as a gift for our journeys. After all, adjusting offers us the opportunity to remain open to whatever comes. Things like trust and cooperation and patience have the chance to deepen in our lives every time we face a situation that causes us to adjust. As we adjust, we loosen the vice-grip too many of us have on how we want our lives to be. We're left to settle back into a little bit larger reliance upon God – resting in God's ability to weave it all together for a higher good than we ever could imagine.

As March continues and life brings opportunities for daily experiences of adjusting, I invite you to remember the benefits of adjusting. Maybe even look for the gifts that result due to your willingness to adjust. Before we know it, even our spiritual lives could be overflowing as we realize that we have mastered the art of adjusting!

Blessings for the rest of March and here's to a very meaningful Holy Week and Easter!
Peace, Pastor Jule

ANNOUNCEMENTS



FROM THE RENEWAL TEAM

THE RENEWAL TEAM invites all Hillwood Presbyterian Church members and friends to a **MEMBER GIFTS POTLUCK ON SUNDAY 11 MARCH IN THE PARLOR** after worship. All are encouraged to attend and bring a potluck item to share. The time together will include ways to discover your own talents and interests for use in Hillwood ministries and beyond. Contact Renewal Team leader Jennifer Stootsberry with questions. Can't make the potluck? Look for additional upcoming tools to use in discovering and employing your talents for ministry.

THE RENEWAL TEAM is organizing classes for the congregation and neighborhood to be held in the church facility (for a fee to participants). Please contact the Renewal Team regarding interest in any of the following potential classes: Yoga, Chair Yoga, Balance Class, Meditation, Tai Chi. Other suggestions? Please let the Renewal Team know. (Team leader Jennifer Stootsberry, Beth Cooper, Cynthia Palmer, Sheila Sferrella, and Kendra Watkins).

WAYS TO LEARN THIS LENT

During the season of Lent, make plans to attend Sunday School from 9:30 – 10 a.m. in the Media Room. Pastor Jule continues to lead a Lenten study of the resource: *The God We Can Know*. The study includes a DVD by Rob Fuquay followed by class discussion. The study explores Jesus' "I am" statements about his identity in the gospel of John. The video, which was filmed in the Holy Land, shows the sites where Jesus made several of the "I am" statements. Contact Pastor Jule with questions. OR: Can't make it Sunday mornings, consider getting the resource for use at home this Lent. Go to Bookstore.UpperRoom.org for a paperback, eBook, or Kindle version of *The God We Can Know*. To sign up for an eCourse, go to eLearnings.UpperRoom.org.



Learn on your own this Lent by committing to read at least one of the following resources. Pastor Jule makes the following book recommendations for Hillwood members and friends – all of which are sure to enrich your own faith life while giving a helpful framework as the church undergoes a season of renewal.

March Recommendations:

The Jesus Way: A Conversation on the Ways that Jesus is the Way, Eugene Peterson; Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2007. A way of sacrifice, failure, the margins, holiness. Peterson explores the ways Jesus is the Way compared to the distorted ways the church today has chosen to follow. A great pre-Easter read!

When the Heart Waits: Spiritual Direction for Life's Sacred Questions, Sue Monk Kidd; Harper One, 1990. A blend of Monk's experiences and grasp of spirituality that relates to the moving tale of her spiritual crisis and longing for a hasty escape from the pain yielded to a discipline of *active waiting*. Profound wisdom for deepened trust of Spirit's transformative process!

Reckoning with Dust, local author Jennifer Pirecki; Redfern Ink, 2018. Voices of the ancients speak from their personal crossroads and crises in these contemporary renditions of familiar scriptural stories. Beautifully written insights into the souls of scripture characters.

After Heaven: Spirituality in America Since the 1950s, Robert Wuthnow; University of California Press; 1998. A description of how spirituality has changed since the 1950s. Affected by unsettledness in society during the last half of the 20th Century, Wuthnow proposes a spirituality based in *practice* as the transformative path for people of the 21st Century.

Previous Reading Recommendations:

An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith by Barbara Brown Taylor (2009). Beloved author and storyteller The Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor presents ways to wake up the sacred in our everyday lives. With everything from the practice of waking up to God (vision) to the practice of paying attention (reverence) to the practice of living with purpose (vocation); Taylor weaves the wisdom of her own path with the common experiences of daily life to help readers embrace all of life as the ground for encountering God.

Christianity After Religion by Diana Butler Bass. Written in 2012, this book explores the challenges for churches in contemporary culture. It also outlines the new Spiritual Awakening that is taking place and key understandings for congregations as they seek to have a vibrant ministry today and into the future.

Searching for Sunday: Loving, Leaving, and Finding the Church by Rachel Held Evans (2015). Blogger and Millennial spokesperson Rachel Held Evans takes readers along on the personal experience (common to many millennials) of searching for a community of faith with balm enough to calm her misgivings over church scandals, hypocrisy, and politics. Centered around sacramental living; her memoir leads through the liturgical year with stories and insights of baptism, communion, confirmation, confession, marriage, vocation, and death. With the honesty of a millennial cynic who continually is returned by grace to the pull of belonging in community; Evans invites readers to deepen their own *search for Sunday*.



EASTER BUNNY HELPERS

Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 10 a.m.

Everyone is invited to be a part of stuffing eggs at the Potluck on March 11. Helpers also are needed March 17 at 9:00 to hide eggs and prepare for the hunt.

Can't make it on the day of the hunt, THIS YEAR BUNNY HELPERS ALSO are needed the week of Holy Week to help deliver Easter Treats to homebound members. The children of the church will be preparing these special treats in March, and adult or teen BUNNY HELPERS are needed for delivery! Contact Pastor Jule or the church office to sign up to deliver Easter Treats to homebound members.



To the children of Hillwood Presbyterian Church:

Thank you so much for the nice warm blanket you made for me and brought to me in February.

I am enjoying it very much.

With thanks,
Gloria Bennett

From the bottom of my heart, I extend sincere gratitude and thanks for the cards and phone calls. A huge THANK YOU to Jan Diehl for the office help, hope you did not get too confused.. The visit from the children and Pastor Jule was a pleasant surprise with the blanket and candy. Mrs. Shepherd: the dinner was delicious and a welcome change. Patty thanks for the vocal support, visits, lunch and multiple dinners. Casey the food (I am hooked on the lemon cookies), shopping, and house work were a great help. Holly you were a God-send — I would not have made it without you.

Sincerely, Beebe Bryant

Highlights of Stated Meeting of the Session February 25, 2018

- Faye Collins died on 25 January. Her memorial service was held on Sunday, 4 February at Hillwood PCUSA. Visitation with family & friends followed in the parlor.
- Approval was given to install a push bar on the interior front sanctuary door. The work will be done by 24 Hour Locks & Keys. Cost to be paid by private donation.
- Pastor Jule's interim contract, February 21, 2018 to February 20, 2019 was approved.
- Maundy Thursday service will be held on 29 March 2018 at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary with the Lord's Supper. Fellowship Coffee in the parlor will follow.
- Renewal Team update:
 - Approval of HPC Renewing Community logo (see below).
 - There will be a potluck lunch on 11 March in the parlor. Discover your talents questionnaires will be distributed & discussed. Easter eggs will be filled for the Egg Hunt, which takes place on Saturday 17 March at 10 a.m.
 - All are welcome to participate in the Rise Against Hunger Mission Activity at First PCUSA Nashville on 7 March.
- Approval was given to install door locks on 3 rooms: nursery, children's Sunday School room & the sacristy room.
- COM Liaison Terry Denton & COM Member Nolan Huizenga were present to discuss Pastor Jule's interim contract and the potential for her to become HPC's Designated Pastor.
- HPC updated Bylaws were read, discussed, and approved.
- HVAC loan for \$200,000 was approved by Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program.
- There will be a Called Congregational Meeting on Sunday 4 March following worship. The purpose of this meeting is to approve the updated Bylaws, approve the PILP loan, and update the congregation on Pastor Jule's contract renewal.
- Prayer requests: Bill Boyte, Beebe Bryant, Bob Cooper & family on death of his Uncle Tommy, Tom Diehl and family on the recent death of his cousin Kenny Diehl.

Jennifer Stootsberry
Clerk of Session



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Our Study guide for 2017-2018 is titled “Cloud of Witnesses.” *In nine lessons*, author Melissa Bane Sevier invites us to explore major themes found in Hebrews, relate these themes to other parts of our faith tradition, and tie them together with the overarching motif of *community*. In our March meeting we will be discussing lesson Six and Seven.

Lesson Six titled “*In Community with the Reality of the Present*” considers how communities of faith support each other during troubled times. Hebrews was written to a people suffering under persecution. The scriptures for this lesson are Hebrews 2:10-18 and 10:34-35; Mark 8:31-38.

Lesson Seven titled “*In Community with the Hope of the Future*” centers our attention on God’s Sabbath rest, where we find hope and support for the future, as well as our current situation. The scriptures for this lesson are Hebrews 11:1-3; Psalm 95; Hebrews 4:1-11 and 6:9-12.

If anyone wants to join us this month; we are meeting on Tuesday March 13 in the Church library at 10:00 am. Remember: in case of bad weather, we follow the lead of Metro Schools – if school is out we will not have our meeting.

Linda Bozza
Secretary



Chancel Flowers

Sign up on the list in the parlor to provide **Flowers for the Chancel** area for worship. You may bring your own arrangements of any type on the Sunday morning for which you have signed up. If you order flowers, please make arrangements with the office for delivery during office hours. No florists have access to the building for weekend deliveries.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMEMBER the 5 cents-a-meal, the HPC Living Waters mission, and the Pastor’s Discretionary Aid Fund donations. All can be given weekly in the containers in the narthex.

Donations for NATURAL DISASTER RELIEF can be given to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA). Go to pcusa.org online, or write checks for disaster relief to Hillwood Presbyterian with memo line marked: PDA.

SECURITY: If you are coming to the church building, please call 352-6310 or press the RING doorbell when you arrive. Someone will be with you as soon as possible. For security reasons, Playcare is NOT able give access through the downstairs entrance.

SUNDAY MORNINGS: If you arrive after 10:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings, please enter at the sanctuary main door. Press the bell, which will flash as a light in the narthex to alert an usher that you need entrance. Thank you for helping to keep our facility safe for all ages on Sunday mornings!



Hillwood Presbyterian Church has new Wi-Fi.
Search for *Hillwood– Guest* to have access. No password required.

YOU ARE INVITED

- Wednesday, March 7 5:00 Rise Against Hunger Mission, First PCUSA Nashville
- Sunday, March 11 11:45 Member Gifts Potluck in Parlor
1:30 P.R.A.Y. Class for children/teens
- Tuesday, March 13 10:00 Women of the Church (WOC)
- Saturday, March 17 9:00 Easter Egg Hunt Set Up
10:00 Easter Egg Hunt
- Sunday, March 18 2:30 P.R.A.Y. Class for children/teens
- Sunday, March 25 10:30 Palm Sunday Worship Celebration—Holy Week Begins
- Thursday, March 29 7:00 Maundy Thursday Worship Service in sanctuary
followed by Fellowship Coffee in the parlor



MARK THE CALENDAR

- Sunday, April 1 10:00 Fellowship Coffee in parlor
10:30 Easter Sunday Worship Service in sanctuary
ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING SPECIAL OFFERING RECEIVED
- Sunday, April 15 3:00 Playcare Musical (fundraiser)
- Sunday, April 29 11:45 Potluck & Renewal Team Ministry Plans

THANK YOU FOR YOUR UPCOMING SERVICE

March 4

INTERIM MINISTER: The Rev. Dr. Jule M. Nyhuis; LITURGIST: Bernie Palmer
MUSIC DIRECTOR: Brian Warford; ORGANIST: Michael Hooper
USHERS: *Walter Crawford, Jan and Tom Diehl
COMMUNION PREPARER: The Palmer’s
COMMUNION ELDERS: Linda Bozza, Lisa Houx, Martha Garman,
Jennifer Stootsberry, Cindy Wedel

March 11

INTERIM MINISTER: The Rev. Dr. Jule M. Nyhuis; LITURGIST: Cynthia Palmer
MUSIC DIRECTOR: Brian Warford; ORGANIST: Michael Hooper
USHERS: *Clyde Cole, Kathy Bright, Lisa Houx, Bernie Palmer

March 18

INTERIM MINISTER: The Rev. Dr. Jule M. Nyhuis; LITURGIST: Lisa Houx
MUSIC DIRECTOR: Brian Warford; ORGANIST: Michael Hooper
USHERS: *Mary Allen, Linda Bozza, Carl Hopper

March 25 — Palm Sunday

INTERIM MINISTER: The Rev. Dr. Jule M. Nyhuis; LITURGIST: Beth Cooper
MUSIC DIRECTOR: Brian Warford; ORGANIST: Michael Hooper
USHERS: *Barbara & Bill Oonk