



The Mustard Seed

"... If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed,
nothing shall be impossible to you."

Matthew 17:20

The newsletter of The Hermitage Presbyterian Church, 421 Highland View Drive, Hermitage, TN 37076

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LES IS MORE

Written by Tom Jones, made famous by the likes of Patty Page, Perry Como, Andy Williams, and others:

*Try to remember the kind of September
When life was slow and oh, so mellow.
Try to remember the kind of September
When grass was green and grain was yellow.
Try to remember the kind of September
When you were a tender and callow fellow.
Try to remember, and if you remember,
Then follow.*

What memory comes to mind when you "hear" this song? Memory. So odd. Why do we remember certain events, but blot out others? Why do we seem to "self-edit" our memories? I recently read a piece about the now-famous "Brian Williams and the helicopter" mis-memory. It seems that mistakes in memories like this are common, non-malicious, unintentional, and maybe even socially beneficial. Experts tell us that the sense of smell is the strongest provocateur of memories (several churches bake bread on site on communion mornings for this purpose).

Why does God remember some things, but blot out others? I don't know, but this is yet another delight of God's grace. In the book of Isaiah, God tells us through the

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prophet, "I, I am He who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins. (Isa 43:25 RSV) And lest we fear, that in erasing our sins, God will also erase us, God assures us, "Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. (Isa 49:15 RSV)" God keeps mind of us, and through this grace, God further bestows grace on us.

As we get older, we have more "senior moments" and "middler moments" - lapses in memory. But God keeps hold of us and remembers us – always!

See you in worship.

Yours in Christ,

Leslie

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL TO START ON SEPTEMBER 3

Our two adult Sunday school classes will resume on September 3. Rev. John Kaufman will continue his class studying *Matthew's Gospel from Scratch* by Donald L. Griggs. That class will return to the classroom next to the library. Mike Jones will resume his class in the conference room next to the church office. They will read *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom. Throughout August you are invited to attend the interesting discussions of the book of Matthew led by Rev. Kaufmann. Thanks to Malinda Burns for teaching the youth Sunday school this summer. Ellen Deathridge will return as the main teacher on September 3.

Malinda Burns will take over scheduling Children's Church. If you are interested in helping once a month or as an alternate, please contact Malinda. Children's Church is an option for young children to have a short lesson, perhaps a craft project, and time for free play while their parents attend worship.

FLOWER CALENDAR

There are still open days available for you to supply flowers from your garden or florist, or a plant during worship on Sundays. Check out the open dates on the calendar in the narthex and put your name down. Let the church office know if you are providing flowers in memory or honor of someone.

The following people have signed up to provide flowers in August:

August 06	Joe Falce
August 13	Bob Hausman & Linda Douglas
August 20	Margaret Cantrell
August 27	John & Sally Robertson

LITURGIST NEEDED

We are in need for people to sign up to be the liturgist on Sunday morning. This is a great opportunity to participate in your church and anyone (even youth) can do this! All materials are provided so that you just have to read your part to lead the worship. You can choose whether or not you want to lead the Children's Sermon; we welcome you to do this, but it is NOT a required part of the liturgist's responsibilities. Please reply to the church office, or to Renee Dugger (ireneedugger@gmail.com) to volunteer or for more information.

THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you for your generous donation of the use of your property. We can't thank you enough!

Hermitage District Day Camp
Jennifer Crockett and John Hawkins

Dear Presbyterian Church members,

Thank you for remembering my birthday! You all are so wonderful.

I do miss going to church services. I'm just not what I use to be! Hopefully I am not feeling my age! Looks like maybe I do.

God bless you all,
Anne Kent

To HPC friends,

The biopsy of the mass inside my kidney was more aggressive than the biopsy in May – guess it was growing quickly! But, thankfully, all the cancer was removed! Praises! We will watch carefully and have a scan in three months, but the doctor is confident that all cancer was removed and there was a large margin of normal tissue surrounding it.

Thanks to the congregation for so much support! Cards and visits have been so appreciated by our entire family.

Judy Stephenson

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>August 2017</h1>						
		1 7:00 pm - BSA Roundtable	2 10:00 am - Good Sam 10:30 am - Senior Games	3 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	4 10:00 am - Food Closet	5
6 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Communion 12:15 pm - MOE Team 7:00 pm - A.A.	7 10:00 am - Good Sam 11:00 am - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	8	9 10:00 am - Good Sam 10:30 am - Senior Games	10 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	11 10:00 am - Food Closet 7:00 pm - Venture Crew	12
13 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship Noon - Fellowship Coffee 7:00 pm - A.A.	14 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	15 6:30 pm - Cub Scouts	16 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Pizza & Game Night	17 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	18 10:00 am - Food Closet 6:30 pm - Barbie Doll Club	19
20 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 12:15 pm - Session 2:00 pm - MTLA 7:00 pm - A.A.	21 10:00 am - Good Sam 11 am - 1 pm - Eclipse Watch Party, McKendree Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	22 11:30 am - Lunch Bunch, Sam's Sports Grill 6:30 pm - Cub Scouts	23 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Supper 6:30 pm - Children, Youth 6:45 pm - Adult Study 7:30 pm - Chancel Choir	24 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	25 10:00 am - Food Closet 7:00 pm - Venture Crew	26 8 am - 4 pm - Rummage Sale
27 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 7:00 pm - A.A.	28 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	29 6:30 pm - Cub Scouts	30 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Supper 6:30 pm - Children, Youth 6:45 pm - Adult Study 7:30 pm - Chancel Choir	31 6:30 pm - Barnlofters		



- 05 Emily Deathridge
Ray Speer
- 10 Carrie Gregory
- 11 Bo Bengtson
- 13 Melissa Dumont
- 18 Sonny Griffin
Ruth Speer
- 19 Amanda Bolivar
- 27 Steven Kirk
Sierra Richie
- 30 Jason Robertson

In order to keep our birthday list accurate & up-to-date, let the office know of any corrections & additions.

AUGUST SCRIPTURE READINGS

- August 06 Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21
- August 13 Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33
- August 20 Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:(10-20) 21-28
- August 27 Exodus 1:8-2:10; Psalm 124; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

NEWS FROM THE SESSION

The Session held its regular Stated Meeting on Sunday, July 16. Here are the highlights from that meeting.

Warren and Sharon Bragg expressed their desire to join Hermitage Presbyterian Church and were received into active membership. They will be introduced to the congregation in the near future when their schedules allow them to be in town.

The Business Team was given approval to accept a bid to repair the roof over Pastor Leslie's office and the roof of the breezeway at a cost not to exceed \$5,000. Work will begin as soon as it can be scheduled with the contractor.

Our church historian, Malinda Burns, will be gathering all the plaques that are in various rooms around the church and will hang them in the library. This will make it convenient for everyone to find them in one place.

Robert Hay, the Ministry Relations Officer of the Presbyterian Foundation, will make a presentation on planned giving on Sunday, November 5 following worship. This was previously scheduled in February and postponed until our new pastor arrived. The Business Team will provide a light lunch for those attending.

The Session has accepted a six-foot wooden cross that Mike Dugger has made for the church. When an appropriate place is found, the cross will be available for permanent display.

The Session is grateful for the financial support of the members and friends of Hermitage Presbyterian Church. Your generous contributions allow us to continue the missions of the church.

Kathy Johnson, Clerk of Session

FOOD CLOSET FOOD OF THE MONTH

Throughout the month of August, HPC will be collecting *boxed macaroni and cheese* for our Food Closet. We greatly appreciate your generosity, either by donating purchased food items or monetary donations that enable us to purchase needed supplies for the food closet. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex if you would like to help.

FELLOWSHIP AND MORE

It's time for school to start again! The solar eclipse will be this month. And Wednesday night suppers begin again this month. Pretty major happenings that all have a place in the life of Hermitage Presbyterian Church. Come join us!

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| Wednesday,
August 2, 9 | Senior Table Games, 10:30 a.m. |
| Friday, August 4 | Cookie Table for Tulip Grove Elementary Faculty |
| Sunday, August 13 | Fellowship Coffee, following worship (If the air-conditioning unit is not repaired, we may cancel the coffee) |
| Wednesday,
August 16, 23, 30 | Wednesday Night Supper and Study, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. |
| Sunday, August 20 | Session, 12:15 p.m. |
| Monday, August 21 | Solar Eclipse Viewing Party,
McKendree 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. |
| Tuesday, August 22 | Lunch Bunch, Sam's Sports Grill, 2001 Lakeshore Drive,
Old Hickory, 11:30 a.m. |

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS, STUDY, AND YOUTH, 6:00 P.M.

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| Aug. 16 | Pizza and Game Night | Aug. 23 | Taco Bar
Refried Beans
Spanish Rice
Dessert |
| Aug. 30 | Spaghetti & Meatballs
Salad
Garlic Bread
Dessert | | |

MONTHLY MARVELOUS MEMORABLE MEMBER MOMENTS (FiveMs)

Starting this month, HPC will do a short article on one of our members, to introduce them to those that may not know them and to celebrate their lives. Anyone can suggest a member to highlight, better yet any member can draft a short article on another member and leave it with Edwina in the HPC office. Some portion of the FiveM articles may be in the monthly Mustard Seed, but pictures and maybe additional information will be published on the HPC web site www.hermitagepc.org. Hopefully this will encourage all of us to visit the site and see what is there on a frequent basis. The first FiveM will be our oldest member. Do you know who that is and how old they are?

CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday, August 26, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

We are receiving items NOW and you may leave them in the Fellowship Hall. If you need items picked up, please contact Linda Douglas (615-872-7931) before August 23. We also are accepting clothing (men's t-shirts, shorts, pants, jeans, underwear; women's casual dress shirts, leggings, pants & jeans) to donate to Downtown Presbyterian for their homeless ministry (this will be an ongoing ministry).

JUNE TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>MAY</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>	Year-to-Date Income over (under) Expense
Regular Giving	\$ 11,930	\$ 91,451	
Operating Expenses	\$ 21,391	\$ 89,845	\$ 1,606
Mission & Other			
Designated Giving	\$ 1,285	\$ 21,121	
Mission & Other Expense	\$ 581	\$ 4,885	\$ 15,236
TOTAL ALL GIVING	\$ 13,215	\$ 111,572	
TOTAL ALL EXPENSE	\$ 21,972	\$ 94,730	\$ 16,842

Jeff McCann, Sr, Treasurer

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Extend your hand and give a warm HPC welcome to our newest members Warren and Sharon Bragg. Welcome to Flint, Sharon's service dog, too!

ECLIPSE WATCH PARTY

McKendree Village will be holding an Eclipse Watch Party on Monday, August 21, from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. They will have tents set up on the front lawn of the manor and will have glasses available for looking at the eclipse.

DAY CIRCLE

HPC Day Circle will resume on Thursday, September 7, at 10:00 a.m. in the conference room. Our 2017-2018 Bible Study will be *Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews*, by Melissa Bane Sevier. After the Bible Study, we usually go out to lunch!

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. The community for which the letter, or homily, was written interacts, in a sense, with all communities of which we are a part, we bring these groups with us wherever we go. This ever-present "great cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1) strengthens and encourages us as we "run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith" (Hebrews 12:1b-2).

All women of the church are invited to attend. Come join us!

ROOM IN THE INN MISSION PROJECT

We will be assisting St. John's Lutheran Church again this year in providing bottled water for Room in the Inn program. You may begin donating cases of bottled water now through September 1. We exceeded our 100 case goal by 20 cases last year.