



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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FEBRUARY 2018

LES IS MORE

Ahh, February. The month of cupid, hearts, arrows, and...love!

Used to be that when people asked me, "How's your love life." my all-too-smart answer was, "God and I are doing just fine!"

Probably that wasn't what folks wanted to know, but that is where love starts. "We love because (God) first loved us (1 John4:19)."

You all know that English is a very poor language for expressing love. We have one word which means "I love my dog," "I love red beans and rice," and "I love God."

Both Hebrew and Greek, the major languages in which the Bible was written, have love-words which are more nuanced in their meanings.

One of the Hebrew words for "love" is the same root by which we get the word "womb." The root refers to mercy, compassion, and tenderness. Think of parents adoring their infant child – the Bible tells us that this is one of the ways God loves us – God is tender, comforting, and compassionate.

So imagine my surprise when I saw Psalm 18:1: "(David)said, 'I love you, Lord, my strength.'" And the Hebrew word used for love? You got it! It is the word which means tender, compassionate, and comforting love. Do you feel this way about God?

So – how's your love life? Are you tender towards God? Do you endear God?

Hope to see you in worship.

Yours in Christ,
Leslie

PS This year Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent, falls on Valentines Day. That puts a new twist on love.

NEWS FROM THE SESSION

The Session held its regular Stated Meeting on January 21, 2018 following worship. Here are some highlights from the meeting.

The Session approved the use of the book *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by the Literature Sunday School Class.

Planning is starting on holding a Confirmation Class this year.

Nancy Provost would like to step down as Christian Education Moderator. Anyone who is interested in filling this position should contact MOE Moderator Diane Thurston.

Scout Sunday will be held on February 11, followed by a Fellowship Luncheon.

Ash Wednesday will be observed on February 14.

The February Session meeting will be on February 18 following morning worship.

Hank Sweetman
Clerk of the Session

FOOD CLOSET FOOD OF THE MONTH

Throughout the month of February, HPC will be collecting *dry cereal/oatmeal* 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.

SNACKS FOR TULIP GROVE

We are in need of snacks to help fill bags for students at Tulip Grove Elementary School. Items needed are granola bars, fruit cups, juice boxes and fruit rolls.

WELCOME FRIENDS

Nancy & Larry Spalluto
Brock & Donna Courtice
Mel Shoaf
Bonnie Latta

FLOWER CALENDAR

The 2018 Flower Calendar is posted and ready for you to sign up to provide flowers/plant in the sanctuary during worship. Sign up now so you can get the dates you would like!

THANK YOU NOTES

We want to express our love and appreciation for the wonderful Christmas basket. How did you get so many useful and delicious goodies in one basket? But, most of all, thank you for your love and caring.

Mildred & Tammy

Thank you so much for the gift basket. It is very much appreciated and will be thoroughly enjoyed.

Ray & Ruth Speer

Thank you all for all the cards and the Christmas basket. Love you all.

Jean Judd

THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you to all the members of the church. It is always a nice surprise to receive the lovely basket. I can use all of the goodies.

Johnnie Hunt

Thank you to the church for my Christmas gift. I am so honored to be able to serve a church and congregation that values people and loves the Lord. I look forward to what God has planned for Hermitage Presbyterian Church in the coming months.

Edwina

Thank you to the church for my Christmas gift. It was yet another reminder that I always feel appreciated at HPC. It's a pleasure to play on Sunday mornings and to work with a director and choir who are devoted to enhancing our worship services by sharing the gift of music.

Amy Alley

Dear Toy Fairy,

Thank you for leaving the box of toys in our Nursery. God Bless!

Easton & Ms. Sandra

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>February 2018</h1>						
				1 10:00 am - Day Circle 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	2 10:00 am - Food Closet	3 9:00 am - Noon - Barnlofters
4 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 12:15 pm - MOE 2:00 pm - MTLA 7:00 pm - A.A.	5 10:00 am - Good Sam 11:00 am - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	6 7:00 pm - BSA Roundtable	7 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Supper 6:30 pm - Children, Youth 6:45 pm - Adult Study 7:30 pm - Choir	8 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	9 10:00 am - Food Closet 7:00 pm - Venture Crew	10
11 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship Noon - Covered Dish Lunch 12:15 pm - Business Team 7:00 pm - A.A.	12 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	13	14 ASH WEDNESDAY 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Soup Supper, Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 pm - Choir	15 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	16 10:00 am - Food Closet 6:30 pm - Barbie Doll Club	17 DINNER CLUB
18 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 12:30 pm - Session 7:00 pm - A.A.	19 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	20 6:30 pm - Cub Scouts	21 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Supper 6:30 pm - Children, Youth 6:45 pm - Adult Study 7:30 pm - Choir	22 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	23 10:00 am - Food Closet 7:00 pm - Venture Crew	24 Noon - 8:00 pm - Blue & Gold Banquet
25 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 7:00 pm - A.A.	26 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	27 11:30 am - LongHorn, Mt. Juliet 6:30 pm - Cub Scouts	28 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Supper 6:30 pm - Children, Youth 6:45 pm - Adult Study 7:30 pm - Choir			



Look Who's Having
a Birthday!

- 11 Dawn Linn
- 13 Nathan Linn
- 14 Ann McGee
- 17 Ben Lemon
- 19 Sam Riggan
- 21 Amy Alley
- 28 Micaela Dominguez

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

FEBRUARY SCRIPTURE READINGS

- Feb. 04 Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39
- Feb. 11 2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9
- Feb. 18 Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15
- Feb. 25 Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

LIBRARY NEWS

Come and check out our history book by Rev. E. D. Finney, 1817 – 1866. The book will be on the table in the library.

SOUPER BOWL OF SHARING SUNDAY

Everyone is encouraged to bring cans of soup on Sunday, February 4, to donate to our Food Pantry at HPC.

SCOUT SUNDAY

Scout Sunday will be February 11. Our charter Scout Troop #263 will be taking part in our worship service. After worship, we will have a covered dish luncheon. Bring your favorite covered dish to share with friends and family.

DECEMBER TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>DECEMBER</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>	Year-to-Date Income over (under) Expense
Regular Giving	\$ 14,854	\$ 182,546	
Operating Expenses	\$ 13,301	\$ 169,751	\$ 12,795
Mission & Other			
Designated Giving	\$ (485)	\$ 58,167	
Mission & Other Expense	\$ 2,481	\$ 55,192	\$ 2,975
TOTAL ALL GIVING	\$ 14,369	\$ 240,713	
TOTAL ALL EXPENSES	\$ 15,782	\$ 224,943	\$ 15,770

Jeff McCann, Sr.
Treasurer

FELLOWSHIP AND MORE

Can you believe that Ash Wednesday is coming already – February 14, Valentine's Day! And so we start Lent. Surely spring cannot be far behind! Come join us. Mike Jones had started a new book in the Literature Sunday school class, *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*, by Mitch Albom, and Rev. John Kaufman is finishing a study on Matthew and will soon start a study on Luke. The middle school class is finishing a study on The Apostle's Creed and will begin a new study with Ellen Deathridge.

Thursday, Feb. 1	Day Circle, 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 7, 21, 28	Wednesday Night Supper, Study, and Youth, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 11	Scout Sunday, covered dish luncheon following worship
Wednesday Feb. 14	Ash Wednesday Soup Supper and service, 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 17	Dinner Club, hosts Anderson, McFadden/Bartlett, Provost
Sunday, Feb. 18	Session, 12:15 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 27	Lunch Bunch, Longhorn, Mt. Juliet, 11:30 a.m.

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

Feb. 07	Chili & Baked Potatoes Hot Dogs Salad/Toppings Dessert	Feb. 14	Ash Wednesday Soup Meal Homemade Soups Salad/Crackers Dessert
Feb. 21	Taco Bar Refried Beans Spanish Rice Dessert	Feb. 28	Whitt's Barbecue Potato Salad/Cole Slaw Baked Beans Dessert