



# The Mustard Seed

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

Matthew 17:20

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

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## LES IS MORE

Jesus is risen! He is risen indeed! Now what????

How do I respond to him? How do I live my life in gratitude for what Jesus has done for me? Jesus alone has the words of eternal life – as Peter said, where else can we go? He has set us free from the power of sin – Jesus gives us the *chutzpah* to say no to evil and injustice in the world. In Jesus we have the boldness to call a spade a spade – and even though we may not be supported, we know the right way – and we know that we, too, will be vindicated. Resurrection Life has the final word. In Christ we stand up for the way of love in the world.

But sometimes life here-and-now is not very easy or pretty. There are personal tragedies – and a precursory view of the morning TV news broadcasts or the newspaper (or whatever your news source) tells of death, violence, hatred, wars.

There is always risk – and even more-so when we choose the way of love, when we choose to live in response to God's love for us. Look what happened to Jesus. Why do we think it would be any different for those of us who choose to live God's way?

Back to the first question – now what? If we choose Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, our lives will be richer, fuller, and more satisfying than ever – not to speak of the promise of eternal life. **BUT**, frankly, there are huge risks. Life is turned upside-down. Priorities change. Relationships shift and change. Temporal safety and a rosy life are not guaranteed.

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Consider Jesus' words:

*28 "If one of you wanted to build a tower, wouldn't you first sit down and calculate the cost, to determine whether you have enough money to complete it? Otherwise, when you have laid the foundation but couldn't finish the tower, all who see it will begin to belittle you. They will say, 'Here's the person who began construction and couldn't complete it!...' In the same way, none of you who are unwilling to give up all of your possessions can be my disciple." (Lk. 14:28-30, 33 CEB)*

I pray that you all live into a fuller, more satisfying life through Christ.

Hope to see you in worship!

Love in Christ,

Leslie

## JANUARY TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>FEBRUARY</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>	Year-to-Date Income over (under) Expense
Regular Giving	\$ 16,191	\$ 64,854	
Operating Expenses	\$ 16,733	\$ 31,941	\$ 32,913*
Mission & Other			
Designated Giving	\$ 240	\$ 6,219	
Mission & Other Expense	\$ 903	\$ 2,362	\$ 3,857
<b>TOTAL ALL GIVING</b>	<b>\$ 16,431</b>	<b>\$ 71,073</b>	
<b>TOTAL ALL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 17,636</b>	<b>\$ 34,303</b>	<b>\$ 36,770</b>

Jeff McCann, Sr.  
Treasurer

*\*this amount includes \$25,500 bequest*

## WELCOME FRIENDS

Becky & Thomas Shanklin

## FLOWER CALENDAR

The 2018 Flower Calendar is posted and ready for you to sign up to provide flowers/plant in the sanctuary during worship. There are plenty of open dates. Pick the dates that you would like to save for special days or in memory of someone.

Please let Edwina know what you would like to place in the bulletin about whom or what you are placing flowers.

## LITURGIST NEEDED

We are in need for people to volunteer to be the liturgist during worship on Sunday mornings. This is a great opportunity for you to participate in worship 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.

If you would like to volunteer, please reply to the church office, or to Renee Dugger ([lrneedugger@gmail.com](mailto:lrneedugger@gmail.com)).

## SYMPATHY

We extend our prayers and sympathy to Arlene Brown at the death of her husband Donald Everett Brown on February 27, 2018.

## CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Ashley and Nick Edge at the birth of their son, James Lewis Edge, on March 6, 2018. Siblings are Mitchell and Sydney. Lew and Amy Alley are the proud grandparents.

## BAPTISM

On March 25, in front of family and friends, Easton Henry Morrison was baptized. Easton is the son of Chris and Emily Morrison and Vivienne is the proud big sister.

## NOTE OF THANKS

Thank you to my HPC family for your kindness and gifts during the passing of my husband. My family thanks you too. God Bless.

Arlene Brown

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>April 2018</h1>						
1 7:00 am - Sunrise Service 8:30 am - Breakfast 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Communion 7:00 pm - A.A.	2 10:00 am - Good Sam 11:00 am - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	3 7:00 pm - BSA Roundtable	4 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Pizza & Game Night 7:30 pm - Choir	5 10:00 am - Day Circle 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	6 10:00 am - Food Closet 6:00 pm - Fix-It Team	7
8 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 12:15 pm - Business Team 2:30 pm - Private function 7:00 pm - A.A.	9 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	10 6:30 pm - Cub Scouts	11 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Supper 6:30 pm - Children, Youth 6:45 pm - Adult Study 7:30 pm - Choir	12 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	13 10:00 am - Food Closet 7:00 pm - Venture Crew	14
15 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 7:00 pm - A.A.	16 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	17 6:30 pm - Cub Scouts	18 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Supper 6:30 pm - Children, Youth 6:45 pm - Adult Study 7:30 pm - Choir	19 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	20 10:00 am - Food Closet 6:30 pm - Barbie Doll Club	21 DINNER CLUB
22 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 7:00 pm - A.A.	23 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	24 11:30 am - Lunch Bunch, The Goat, Mt. Juliet 6:30 pm - Cub Scouts	25 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Supper 6:30 pm - Children, Youth 6:45 pm - Adult Study 7:30 pm - Choir	26 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	27 10:00 am - Food Closet 7:00 pm - Venture Crew	28 1:00 - 8:00 pm - Boy Scout BBQ Dinner
29 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship Noon - Congregational Mtg 7:00 pm - A.A.	30 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263					



- 03 Arlene Brown
- 05 Abigail Elizabeth Riggan
- 14 Elizabeth Alley Ethridge
- Molly Wood
- 17 Teresa Kirk
- 21 Betty Griffin
- 25 Taylor Jones
- Edwina Ulmer
- 28 Susan Harris
- 30 Katherine McCann

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

## APRIL SCRIPTURE READINGS

- April 01 Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8
- April 08 Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31
- April 15 Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48
- April 22 Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18
- April 29 Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

## NEWS FROM THE SESSION

The Session held its regular Stated Meeting on March 18, 2018 following worship. Here are some highlights from the meeting.

A Congregational Meeting has been called for April 29 following morning worship to elect two Elders for the Class of 2021.

The Business Team presented the results of the Stewardship Audit conducted by Eckler Consulting. The report was very complementary of the controls and procedures put in place since the last audit. A copy of the audit report is available in the church office for review.

A proposed change to the Facility Use Agreement submitted by the Business Team was approved. The revised Facility Use Agreement limits use of the Church facilities to non-profit groups and organizations.

The MOE Team is reviving the Fix It team to assist members of the congregation with clean up and fix up tasks

A recommendation from the MOE team to take up an offering at the Easter Breakfast to fund youth scholarships to Camp NaCoMe was approved.

Received from the MOE Team revised Christian Education responsibilities, as well as Sunday School Teacher job descriptions.

The Session approved the use of the following two books:

- "The Natural" by the Literature Class
- "Children in The Bible" by Children's church

The April Session meeting will be on April 15 following morning worship.

**Hank Sweetman**  
Clerk of the Session

## FELLOWSHIP AND MORE

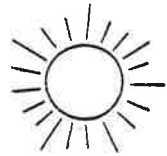
Welcome to spring and renewal!! We have been reborn through Easter. Let it show in our renewed commitment to the life of the church, to Sunday school, to service in our neighborhood. The adult Sunday school classes are beginning new studies. Plan to join Mike Jones in the Literature Class with a spring baseball study of *The Natural* or Rev. John Kaufman in a new study of the Gospel of Luke.

Sunday, April 1	Easter Sunrise Service, Old Hermitage Church, 7:00 a.m.
	Easter Breakfast, Fellowship Hall, 8:30 a.m.
	Easter Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Thursday, April 4	Day Circle, 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, April 4, 11, 18, 25	Wednesday Night Supper, Study, and Youth Activities 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 15	Session, 12:15 p.m.
Saturday, April 21	Dinner Club, hosts Alley, Hausman/Douglas, Robertson
Tuesday, April 24	Lunch Bunch, The Goat, Mt. Juliet

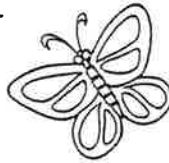
## WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS, STUDY, AND YOUTH, 6:00 P.M.

April 4	Pizza & Game Night	April 11	Publix Chicken Mac & Cheese Salad/Rolls Dessert
April 18	Chili & Baked Potatoes Hot Dogs Salad/Toppings Desert	April 25	Creamed Chicken & Veggies Biscuits Salad Dessert

# Just for Kids



Each year in March or April, Christians celebrate an important event in the life of Jesus. This is celebrated on Easter and is remembered every day in the life of a Christian!



Write the word that fits the picture or definition given. The letters in the darker boxes spell this important event. Write the word on the line below.

G A R D E N Where plants grow

The Son of God .....



E A S T E R

The door of Jesus' tomb



Where Jesus was buried

A spring flower .....



..... The Creator of the world

..... The season after winter

Celebrate Jesus'

\_\_\_\_\_!

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

**CAMP NACOME** – NaCoMe Camp & Retreat center offers great weekly camps for children Pre K – 12 grade. If you are interested in any of the following camps, please contact Ellen Deathridge at [edeathridge@hotmail.com](mailto:edeathridge@hotmail.com) or pick up a brochure in the narthex. Camp dates are as follows:

- Pre K family camp, June 29 - July 1
- (Springs) Rising 3 - 5<sup>th</sup> grade, June 10 - 15 or 17 - 22
- (Village) Rising 6 - 8<sup>th</sup> grade, June 3 - 8, 10 - 15 or 17 - 22
- (Ridge) Rising 9 - 12<sup>th</sup> grade, June 3 - 8

At our Easter Sunrise breakfast, donations will be collected to develop a NaCoMe scholarship fund to send interested children from the church. If you would like to give to this fund, please make checks out to HPC and designate your gift by writing NaCoMe on your check.

**Other news in Christian Education** - Volunteers are needed for the Christian Education department and will be posted on the narthex bulletin board. We are in need of a list of willing servants to act as substitute teachers and/or teach a class in the summer. Please prayerfully consider how you could contribute to this important ministry.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** – The Bible Study Sunday School (led by John Kaufman) will begin an in depth examination of the Gospel of Luke beginning Sunday April 8, the first Sunday after Easter. If you have felt the urge to begin attending Sunday School and to learn more about the Bible, this study of Luke offers a wonderful opportunity.

## REVIVAL OF THE FIX-IT TEAM

Do you have some spring clean-up projects that you could use some help with? We have a team of willing adults and teens who would be glad to help you. We can provide strong backs and helpful hands for small projects around your yard or home. There will be no charge, but if you would like to make a small donation to the youth activities, that would be appreciated. Call **Nancy Provost at 615-516-8117** for more information or to schedule a time for help.

## FOOD CLOSET FOOD OF THE MONTH

Throughout the month of April, HPC will be collecting canned fruit 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.