



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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MAY 2018

LES IS MORE

Spring (I think) has finally arrived in Nashville.

So snow right now would be a huge surprise. The roses would certainly not appreciate the moisture in that form.

A few years back (!), when I was first made aware of Christian rock music, the band Petra had a song called "Summer Snow." They compared the coming of Jesus Christ to the delightfully surprising falling of a summer snow:

*Like summer snow
You were an unexpected sign
A blazing sun, you came shining through the night
When I really should have known
that you'd be coming home, home.*

Do we live in anticipation of being surprised by Christ's presence (the world ends for each one of us on the day we die)?

When we get to the end of the day, and we are reviewing what the day held for us, one question we might ask ourselves is "*Where did I experience the presence of Christ today?*" Being aware of Christ with us today will pattern us to be expecting Christ's presence tomorrow.

Besides looking for Christ's presence in our day, we are working on putting some new habits into our lives – so far, blessing 3 people each week and eating with 3 people each week. These are practical activities we can do to be salt and light in the world.

I hope to see you in worship!

Love in Christ,

Leslie

NEWS FROM THE SESSION

The Session held its regular Stated Meeting on April 15, 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 Nominating Committee will be presenting Mike Jones and Jennifer Bingham as nominees for the two Elder positions. Nominations can be made from the floor, but those desiring to place a name in nomination must first get the approval of the person being nominated.

The Session approved the use of "Ephesians, Your Identity in Christ" by the Jr. High Group

The Session approved the donation of the following surplus items to the Kids Country Club, a Christian pre-school where Theresa Kirk works:

- 22 small children's chairs
- 1 small children's table
- 1 bookcase

The Session clarified that the ages for Children's Church are age 4 through Kindergarten.

The Presbyterian Women's Salad Luncheon will be on May 20.

The April Session meeting will be on May 20 following the Salad Luncheon.

Hank Sweetman
Clerk of the Session

WELCOME FRIENDS

Micah & James Panzini
Brian & Pam Huff
Jan Goddard
Grover & Mary Ellen Alspaugh

FLOWER CALENDAR

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

May 6 Joe Falce
May 13 Karen Bengtson
May 20 Corky Smith
May 27 Sally & John Robertson

Please let Edwina know what you would like to place in the bulletin about whom or what you are placing flowers. Check out the calendar in the narthex for any open dates that you would like to sign up to provide flowers.

LITURGIST NEEDED

We are in need for people to volunteer to be the liturgist during worship on. 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.

To volunteer, please reply to the church office, or contact Renee Dugger (ireneedugger@gmail.com).

NOTE OF THANKS

To all at HPC:

I thank you for all you did during my absence. The prayers, all the visits, cards and phone calls were so special and brightened my days. I hope to be back soon with everyone. My love and thankfulness for HPC.

Shirley Woodroof

FIX-IT TEAM

If you have some spring clean-up projects you could use help with, please contact Linda Douglas, Linda McCann or Nancy Provost. We have completed four jobs and want to help with more. Donations to the youth camp scholarship fund are appreciated.

NEW ELDERS

Welcome to Jennifer Bingham and Mike Jones who were accepted by the congregation as elders of the Class of 2021 during the congregational meeting held on Sunday, April 29.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>May 2018</h1>						
		1	2 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Supper 6:30 pm - Children, Youth 6:45 pm - Adult Study 7:30 pm - Choir	3 11:00 am - Day Circle at Linda McCann's home 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	4 10:00 am Food Closet	5
6 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Communion 2:00 pm - MTLA 7:00 pm - A.A.	7 10:00 am - Good Sam 11:00 am - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	8 6:30 pm - Cub Scouts	9 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Supper 6:30 pm - Children, Youth 6:45 pm - Adult Study 7:30 pm - Choir	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 12:15 pm - Business Team 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 - Supper 6:30 pm - Children, Youth 6:45 pm - Adult Study 7:30 pm - Choir	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 Noon - Salad Luncheon 7:00 pm - A.A.	21 10:00 am - Good Sam 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 - Cookout 7:30 pm - Choir	24 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	25 10:00 am - Food Closet 7:00 pm - Venture Crew	26
27 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 2:00 pm - Private Function 7:00 pm - A.A.	28  10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	29	30 7:30 pm - Choir	31 6:30 pm - Barnlofters		



- 03 Cathy Hunt
- 04 Hank Sweetman
- 06 Matt Deathridge
- 09 Ruth Tippit
- 13 Nettie Hayes
- 16 Linda Douglas
- Henry Sargent
- 20 Sandra Jost
- 22 BP Woodroof
- 23 Michelle Bender
- 26 Mildred Carter
- 27 Vicki Jennings
- 28 Christy Lemon
- 31 Carl Bengtson

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

MAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

- May 06 Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17
- May 13 Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19
- May 20 Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21; John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15
- May 27 Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17

FELLOWSHIP AND MORE

May marks the end of our Wednesday Night Suppers and study for the summer. Plan to join us at 6:00 p.m. for the free cookout on this school year's final night, May 23. Dinner Club will also be wrapping up with dinner at the Cantrells on May 19; all are invited to bring something to share and join in the fellowship. Sunday school will continue through the summer, and worship will be at the regular time.

Thursday, May 3	Day Circle at Linda McCann's home, 11:00 a.m. Meet at the church at 10:15 a.m. if you want to carpool.
Wednesday, May 2, 9, 16, 23	Wednesday Night Supper, Study, and Youth Activities 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 20	Salad Luncheon, following worship Session, 12:15 p.m.
Saturday, May 19	Dinner Club, hosted by the Cantrells
Tuesday, May 22	Lunch Bunch, Sam's Sports Grill, Old Hickory

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

May 2	Taco Bar Refried Beans Spanish Rice Dessert	May 9	Rotisserie Chicken Potatoes Green Beans Salad/Rolls Dessert
May 16	Lasagna Salad Garlic Bread Dessert	May 23	Last Night Free Cookout Hamburgers/Hot Dogs Beans Chips Dessert

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

WANTED: Sunday School Substitute teachers and summer Sunday School. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Ellen Deathridge.

To access the needs of our congregation, the Christian Education committee has a survey we are asking you to fill out. You can mail the survey in this bulletin to the church, fill out and put in the offering plate on Sunday, or bring it to the church office. Your input is valuable to making plans for our church's educational programs.

THANK YOU: Thanks to our adult leaders, Rev. Kaufman and Mike Jones for their leadership in teaching the adult Sunday School classes this year as well as our Children's Church leaders: Malinda Burns, Linda McCann, Linda Douglas, and Donnie Williams. As always we appreciate the wonderful job Sandra Riggan does in taking our attendance for Sunday School and taking care of our church nursery every Sunday. Thanks to Nancy Provost for leading our Christian Education program this past year. Ellen Deathridge will be taking this on for the next year, so if you have suggestions for programs or concerns, please feel free to contact her with your Christian Education needs.

There has been a NaCoMe Scholarship fund established at the church. This fund will assist with camp fees for students wanting to attend summer or fall camps. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please send your donation to HPC and earmark your giving.

FOOD CLOSET FOOD OF THE MONTH

Throughout the month of May, HPC will be collecting *one pound bags of dried rice and beans* 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.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SURVEY

Do you presently attend Sunday School? Yes or No

If yes, answer the following questions:

Which class do you attend? _____

What is the primary reason for your attendance?

Is there a program or particular study you would be interested in seeing in the Sunday School program at HPC?

If you have children or grandchildren that attend HPC, please list below and their ages:

_____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

Is there a Sunday School class that your child can attend? Yes or No

Would you be interested in bringing your children if a class was developed for their age group? Yes or No

How could the Christian Education better meet your needs in this church?

HPC MEMORY GARDEN

Spring is here and it's the perfect time to take a walk through the Memory Garden to enjoy the weather, the fountain, and the many memorial bricks which have loving tributes to both past and present HPC members and friends. You are invited to spend some time in this peaceful space, and to reflect on all who have been honored and/or memorialized.

If you have friends or loved ones who you would like to pay tribute to with a lasting gift, you are invited to fill out the appropriate order form(s) and turn them in to Edwina or Linda Douglas. We like to have a minimum of 10 brick requests before submitting the order to avoid paying shipping charges. However, that shouldn't be a difficult goal with Mother's Day, Memorial Day, and Father's Day all coming up so quickly.

Thanks to everyone who has already supported this project, and thanks to all of you who will do so in the future! All proceeds from the Memorial Bricks go to the facility improvement fund and that's a win-win. The bricks enhance the beauty of the Memory Garden, and the proceeds help keep the entire church campus beautiful!

MARCH TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>MARCH</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>	<u>Year-to-Date Income over (under) Expense</u>
Regular Giving	\$ 12,760	\$ 77,606	
Operating Expenses	\$ 16,191	\$ 48,128	\$ 29,478*
Mission & Other			
Designated Giving	\$ 1,780	\$ 7,999	
Mission & Other Expense	\$ 3,005	\$ 5,367	\$ 2,632
TOTAL ALL GIVING	\$ 14,540	\$ 85,605	
TOTAL ALL EXPENSE	\$ 19,196	\$ 53,495	\$ 32,110

Jeff McCann, Sr.
Treasurer

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