



# 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**

Consider this Bible passage: " Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her. (Luke 10:38-42 NRSV)"

If we were to ask people if they were more like Martha or Mary, the vast majority would say "Martha" – with a look of guilt on their faces and several "shoulds" coming out of their mouths – "I should meditate more often" – "I should be more regular in my devotions" – "I should slow down" – etc., etc.

But consider now this story from the desert fathers (4<sup>th</sup> Century):

*A brother came to visit St. Sylvanus at Mount Sinai. When he saw the other brothers working hard, he said to the old man, "Do not work for food that perishes, for Mary has chosen the good part."*

*Then the old man called to his disciple: "Zachary, give this brother a book, and put him in an empty cell."*

*Now when it was time to eat, the brother kept looking out of the door to see if someone would call him for the meal. But nobody called him, so he got up, went to the old man, and asked: "Abba, didn't the brothers eat today?"*

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*The old man replied: "Of course we did!"*

*"Then why didn't you call me?" he asked.*

*The old man replied: "You are a spiritual person, and do not need that type of food; but since we are earthly, we want to eat, and that's why we work. Indeed you have chosen the good part reading all day long, and not wanting to eat earthly food,"*

*When the brother heard this he repented: "Forgive me, Abba."*

*Then the old man said to him: "Mary certainly needed Martha, and it is really by Martha's help that Mary is praised."*

Let the Martha's among us take heart! (To be continued next month)

I hope you are having a refreshing summer – see you in worship!

Love in Christ,

**Leslie**

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Please be in prayer for volunteers needed in the Sunday School department. We are in need of substitutes for middle/high school as well as occasional teachers for visiting children. If you are willing to serve in this capacity, please contact Ellen Deathridge at [edeathridge@hotmail.com](mailto:edeathridge@hotmail.com). We are also looking for a high school teacher this fall.

We continue to have two adult classes in the summer and I invite you to join them. John Kaufman is teaching the book of Luke and Warren and Sharon Bragg are teaching the Literature class and studying the book, Everything Belongs: The Gift of Contemplative Prayer by Richard Rohr.

Please come us this summer!

## KUDOS FROM SESSION

This month session tips it hat to Bobby Hausman – the chief snake wrangler, sewer supervisor, electrician, etc., etc. Thank you for all you do, Bobby!

## WELCOME VISITORS

Brandy Waterston  
Melody & David Johnson

## FLOWER CALENDAR

The month of July has all Sundays open for you to provide flowers in the sanctuary during worship.

If you do choose a Sunday, 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 other 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](mailto:ireneedugger@gmail.com)).



Congratulations to James and Courtney Alley Baer at the birth of daughter, Harper Lynn Baer on June 14. She is the granddaughter of Lew and Amy Alley.

## NOTE OF THANKS

Thank you to HPC women for funding me and PJ for Camp NaCoMe.

Junior

## THANKS BOY SCOUT DAY CAMP

HPC would like to thank the Boy Scout Day Camp participants for their generous donation of food items for our Food Closet. They loaded up two tables with food. We were able to fill our shelves!

## YOU ARE INVITED

Old Hickory Presbyterian Church has invited our senior members to join them the second Thursday of each month. Starting at 11:30 a.m., they have lunch and either a speaker or music. Lunch is \$5.00. Our senior citizens can get to know their senior group.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>July 2018</h1>						
1 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Communion 2:00 pm - MTLA 7:00 pm - A.A.	2 10:00 am - Good Sam 11:00 am - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	3	4  OFFICE CLOSED	5 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	6 10:00 am - Food Closet	7
8 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 pm- Worship Noon - Picnic Business Team & MOE will meet after picnic. 7:00 pm - A.A.	9 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	10	11 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Potluck Dinner 6:45 pm - Scripture Bible Study	12 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	13 10:00 am - Food Closet 7:00 pm - Venture Crew	14 3:00 - 9:00 pm - Barnlofters
15 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 12:15 pm - Session 7:00 pm - A.A.	16 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	17	18 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Potluck Dinner 6:45 pm - Scripture Bible Study	19 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	20 10:00 am - Food Closet 6:30 pm - Barbie Doll Club	21
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, Demos, Lebanon	25 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Potluck Dinner 6:45 pm - Scripture Bible Study	26 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	27 10:00 am - Food Closet 7:00 pm - Venture Crew	
29 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 7:00 pm - A.A.	30 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	31				



- 08 Bobby Hausman
- 11 Chris Morrison
- 12 Gene Riggan
- 13 Emily Bengtson  
Martha Sweetman
- 21 Courtney Baer  
Amanda Dumont

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

## JULY SCRIPTURE READINGS

- July 01 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27; Psalm 130; 2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43
- July 08 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10; Psalm 48; 2 Corinthians 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13
- July 15 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19; Psalm 24; Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29
- July 22 2 Samuel 7:1-14a; Psalm 89:20-37; Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
- July 29 2 Samuel 11:1-15; Psalm 14; Ephesians 3:14-21; John 6:1-21

## NEWS FROM THE SESSION

The Session held its regular Stated Meeting on June 17, 2018 following worship. Here are some highlights from the meeting.

Through the end of May, regular giving is even with the budget and ahead of last year's giving by 3%. The Session would like to thank the congregation for the faithful giving to support the operation of the Church.

The Church Picnic will be held on July 8. This will be a casual Sunday.

Old Hickory Presbyterian Church would like to do some activities with Hermitage Presbyterian. Old Hickory has a luncheon for Seniors on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. Cost for the lunch is \$5.00.

Appreciation is expressed to Bob Hausman for all the work that he does around the church.

The Session is inviting anyone who would like to sing and lead the congregation in the singing of hymns to sit in the choir loft on the Sundays in the summer when the Choir is not singing. This would not involve wearing choir robes and would only be for the singing of the hymns with the congregation. The Sundays this summer when the Choir is singing are July 1 and August 5.

The June Session meeting will be on July 15.

Hank Sweetman  
Clerk of the Session

## FOOD CLOSET FOOD OF THE MONTH

Throughout the month of July, HPC will be collecting *macaroni & 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

Happy July Fourth and summer! We will have our annual church picnic on Sunday, July 8, in place of the regular Fellowship Coffee. Bring a dish to share and meet in the church pavilion or the Fellowship Hall after worship. This is a casual dress Sunday.

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|-------------------------------|---|
| Wednesday, July 4             | Church office closed, no Wednesday night activities.                        |
| Sunday, July 8                | Annual church picnic, church pavilion. Bring a covered dish to share.       |
| Wednesday,<br>July 11, 18, 25 | Potluck Supper, 6:00 p.m.<br>Understanding Scripture Bible study, 6:45 p.m. |
| Sunday, July 15               | Session, 12:30 p.m.   |
| Tuesday, June 26              | Lunch Bunch, Demos', Lebanon, 11:30 a.m.                                    |

## 2018 CHURCHWIDE GATHERING OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN!

The 2018 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women will be held August 2–5, 2018, in Louisville, Kentucky. 2018 is also the year that PW celebrates its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

This is an amazing event. It's an opportunity to hear from inspiring speakers, learn more about ways to live out our faith, connect with dear friends, kindle new friendships, and much more. But underneath all of those activities, we gather because we are women of faith responding to Isaiah's invitation: "Arise, shine, your light has come!"

Join us at the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky, to celebrate our light, Jesus Christ. The 2018 Churchwide Gathering will be time to not just bask in that light, but share that light with others.

There will be many opportunities for worship, education, inspiration, advocacy, connection and renewal at the 2018 Gathering. From shopping to book discussions, from community building to advocacy, there's something at the Gathering for everyone.



# Just for KIDS

## Celebrate Your Citizenship!

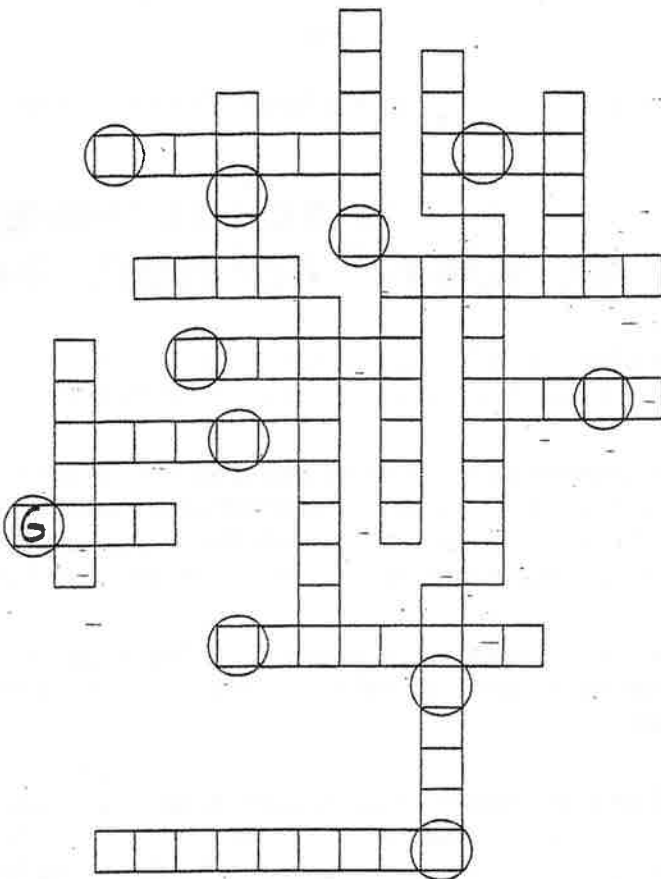
When we look at a globe or map, we see many different cities and countries. We are citizens of the place where we live. But we also hold another citizenship! Where?

Fit the names of these Bible-time places in the puzzle.

Write the circled letters on the lines below, in the order found.

Read the words!

- Tyre
- Cana
- Rome
- Gaza
- Sidon
- Berea
- Lycia
- Athens
- Kedesh
- Sychar
- Galilee
- Ephraim
- Ephesus
- Corinth
- Iconium
- Damascus
- Bethlehem
- Phillippi
- Jerusalem



Gods Kingdom

## CHURCH PICNIC

Fellowship Coffee on Sunday, July 8, 2018 will be the church picnic! Make plans now to attend!!

The church will provide hamburgers and hot dogs. Condiments will be provided also. So, plan to bring your favorite side dish or desert.

We will need someone to help with the grilling. We will need people to help clean up after.

We would like to have someone to head up games or activities.

Come join the fun and fellowship of being together. Please call Diane at 615-444-8668 or Margaret at 615-519-0475 if you can help. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex.

**NOTE:** The MOE Team will meet after the picnic.

## MAY TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>MAY</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>	<u>Year-to-Date Income over (under)Expense</u>
Regular Giving	\$ 14,266	\$ 108,893	
Operating Expenses	\$ 13,361	\$ 78,530	\$ 30,363*
Mission & Other			
Designated Giving	\$ 289	\$ 9,609	
Mission & Other Expense	\$ 735	\$ 7,496	\$ 2,113
<b>TOTAL ALL GIVING</b>	<b>\$ 14,555</b>	<b>\$ 118,502</b>	
<b>TOTAL ALL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 14,096</b>	<b>\$ 86,026</b>	<b>\$ 32,476</b>

Jeff McCann, Sr.  
Treasurer

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