



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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AUGUST 2018

LES IS MORE

Last month we considered the story of Mary and Martha – Martha busied herself in the kitchen, getting ready for welcoming Jesus, while Mary, her sister, sat at Jesus' feet. Then Martha complained to Jesus; he told Martha, "She has chosen the better portion (Luke 120:38-42)."

Then we looked at a story which shone a slightly better light – moral of the story: the Mary's of the world need the Martha's of the world.

WHOA! Does that mean that some of us are stuck being Marthas – while the rest of us advance in spiritual maturity? That does not seem right.

Here is the take-away from this column: whatever you are doing, DO NOT do it just to get it done. DO IT just to do it. In other words, focus on the here and now.

Brother Lawrence was a 17th Century lay brother who lived in a monastery in Paris. He had the dubious distinction of working in the monastery kitchen and fixing his brothers' sandals for his entire life. Listen to his words of wisdom: *"We should fix ourselves firmly in the presence of God by conversing all the time with Him . . . we should feed our soul with a lofty conception of God and from that derive great joy in being his. We should put life in our faith. We should give ourselves utterly to God in pure abandonment, in temporal and spiritual matters alike, and find contentment in the doing of His will, whether he takes us through sufferings or consolations."*

See, the difference between Martha and Mary wasn't what consumed their time – it was what consumed their thoughts.

May each of us know God's presence in all we do!

Love in Christ,

Leslie

NEWS FROM THE SESSION

The Session held its regular Stated Meeting on July 15, 2018 following worship. Here are some highlights from the meeting.

Through the end of June, regular giving is 1% behind budget for the year but ahead of last year's giving by 3%. The Session would like to thank the congregation for continuing to give faithfully to support the operation of the Church.

Hank Sweetman was approved as Moderator of the Business Team. Jennifer Bingham was nominated and elected as Clerk of the Session. The election of corporate officers also occurred with Mark Provost as President, Margaret Cantrell as Secretary and Jeff McCann, Sr. as Treasurer.

Christian Education Sunday will be on September 16, with commission of all teachers during worship service.

Appreciation is expressed to Ellen Deathridge for all her work with Christian Education.

The August Session meeting will be on August 19.

Jennifer Bingham
Clerk of the Session

KUDOS FROM SESSION

This month session would like to recognize Ellen Deathridge for her faithful work with Christian Education. Thank you for all you do for our church family.

WELCOME VISITORS

Norma Spear
Joan Couch
Mildred & Jack Abbott
Janice Seabolt

FLOWER CALENDAR

The following people have signed up to provide flowers in the sanctuary during worship for the month of August:

August 5	Joe Falce
August 12	Open
August 19	James & Nettie Hayes
August 26	Open

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. 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 (lreneedugger@gmail.com).

SYMPATHY

We extend our prayers and sympathy to:

Jeff & Linda McCann, at the death of Linda's aunt, Margaret Young, in Illinois.

The family of Dorothy Willoughby who died July 20, 2018. Dot was a former member of HPC. She taught Sunday School and taught in the Youth Music Program. She later attended Cloyd's Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

THANK YOU NOTES

To HPC family,

I want to thank everyone at the church for what you have done for me.

I love you all.

God bless you,

Arlene Brown

Thank you for your generous donation of the use of your property.

We can't thank you enough!

Hermitage District Day Camp
Jennifer Crockett & Dan Phibbs
Directors

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>August 2018</h1>						
			1 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Potluck Dinner 6:45 pm - Scripture Bible Study	2 	3 10:00 am - Food Closet	4
5 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Communion 12:15 pm - MOE 2:00 pm - MTLA 7:00 pm - A.A.	6 10:00 am - Good Sam 11:00 am A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	7	8 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Potluck Dinner 6:45 pm - Scripture Bible Study	9 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	10 10:00 am - Food Closet 7:00 pm - Venture Crew	11
12 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 12:15 am - Business Team 1:00 pm - Pool Party 7:00 pm - A.A.	13 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	14 6:30 pm - Cub Scouts	15 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Potluck Dinner 6:45 pm - Scripture Bible Study	16 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	17 10:00 am - Food Closet 6:30 pm - Barbie Doll Club	18
19 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 1:00 pm - Session 7:00 pm - A.A.	20 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	21	22 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Potluck Dinner 6:45 pm - Scripture Bible Study	23 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	24 10:00 am - Food Closet 7:00 pm - Venture Club	25
26 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 7:00 pm - A.A.	27 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	28 11:30 am - Lunch Bunch, Martin's Bar-B-Que	29 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Potluck Dinner 6:45 pm - Scripture Bible Study	30 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	31 10:00 am - Food Closet	



- 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**

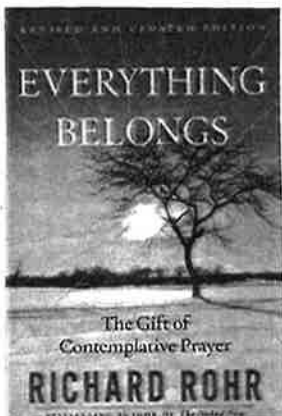
- August 05 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a; Psalm 51:1-12; Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:24-35
- August 12 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33; Psalm 130; Ephesians 4:25-5:2, John 6:35, 41-51
- August 19 1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14; Psalm 111; Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58
- August 26 1 Kings 8:(1, 6, 10-11) 22-30, 41-43; Psalm 84; Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:56-69

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Christian Education news will be posted on the bulletin board in the hallway of the church. There will be information on the board that will show class studies that are offered, information about the teachers as well as upcoming events.
- We continue to look for volunteers to teach the middle and high school class. If you are interested in serving in a short or long term commitment, please contact Ellen Deathridge at edeathridge@hotmail.com.
- Make plans to attend our Christian Education Appreciation breakfast to be held on September 16. We will start a breakfast at 9:00 a.m. and a time to show appreciation for the many volunteers that help in Sunday School, Children's Church, and our nursery.

MEET OUR ADULT LEADERS

Warren and Sharon Bragg:



During the summer months, Warren and Sharon are leading the reading of the book Everything Belongs by Richard Rohr.

Warren served in the U.S. Marines and served two Vietnam tours. Sharon, who is legally blind enjoys the companionship of her guide dog, Flint. Both enjoy the interaction and learning of God's word in Sunday School.

FELLOWSHIP AND MORE

Really?? School starts again this month?!! But many of our church activities will continue on the summer schedule. Are you finding ways to be involved? Water collection for the homeless will continue until October, when Room in the Inn begins. Our church has already sent 12 cases of water. Bring your cases to donate to the Fellowship Hall. We had a long table full of good food for the church picnic on July 8! Plan to stay for our next second-Sunday fellowship coffee on August 12. The Fix-it Team has completed seven jobs this summer and has two more to complete in July. Is there any way they can help you? And summer Sunday school continues with an overflow group in Rev. John Kaufman's class on Luke, and an interesting study of contemplative prayer led by Warren and Sharon Bragg in the Literature Class. Wednesday night potluck supper and study of troubling Bible verses will also continue through August. Wednesday night catered suppers with a study led by Pastor Leslie will resume in September.

Wednesday,
August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Tuesday, August 7

Sunday, August 12

Sunday, August 19

Tuesday, August 28

Potluck Supper, 6:00 p.m.
Bible Study, 6:45 p.m.

First day of school for Metro

Pool party, 1:00 p.m.

Session, 1:00 p.m.

Jazz Concert, Cumberland Park, meet at
church at 4:45 p.m.

Lunch Bunch, Martin's Bar-B-Que, 11:30 a.m.

DINNER CLUB KICK-OFF

It's time to start making plans for the 2018-2019 Dinner Club! Dinner Club is a great opportunity to enjoy food and fellowship with varied small groups of HPC folks in homes or restaurants, and is a wonderful way to get better acquainted with our church family. It is tentatively scheduled for the third Saturday of the months of September through May, but those dates are merely suggestions. Hosts and hostesses are free to adjust their dates to accommodate their own personal schedules and their guests.

Look for Dinner Club information and registration forms in this week's bulletin, and make plans to join other fun-loving folks who like to share meals and build relationships in addition to sharing pews on Sundays and building God's kingdom all year-round. We are always excited to welcome newcomers to our fellowship, and to Dinner Club!

Please, contact Linda Douglas with any questions: (615) 872-7931 or (615) 397-5406.

FOOD CLOSET FOOD OF THE MONTH

Throughout the month of July, HPC will be collecting *cereal and/or 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.

We need more people to assist on Friday mornings from 10:00 a.m. until Noon to hand out food bags to the needy in our area. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex or contact Sandra Jost.

JUNE TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>JUNE</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>	<u>Year-to-Date Income over (under)Expense</u>
Regular Giving	\$ 12,960	\$ 121,852	
Operating Expenses	\$ 15,534	\$ 94,065	\$ 27,787*
Mission & Other			
Designated Giving	\$ 1,405	\$ 11,014	
Mission & Other Expense	\$ 1,336	\$ 8,833	\$ 2,181
TOTAL ALL GIVING	\$ 14,365	\$ 132,866	
TOTAL ALL EXPENSE	\$ 16,870	\$ 102,898	\$ 29,968

Jeff McCann, Sr.
Treasurer

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

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING ABOUT SUNDAY SCHOOL AND WHY THEY ENJOY COMING!

“Challenging spiritual study and not the same old thing.”

“To learn to think beyond either/or perceptions.”

“I enjoy sharing our thoughts and ideas and experiences in a setting of love and fellowship. It helps me grow in understanding God’s word and brings me closer to others in class.”

“Fun to learn!”

“I enjoy how Sunday School is taught and learn something new every Sunday. I enjoy learning about the Bible.”

“I like the teacher and discussion on the verses in the Bible.”

“Education on Bible scriptures and fellowship.”

“The way John leads the class and getting a better understanding of the Word.”

“We have a GREAT teacher! He is so knowledgeable and always has a good lesson based on the Bible.”

POOL PARTY AUGUST 12, 1:00 P.M.

We will not have a Fellowship Coffee in August. Instead, we will be having a pool party hosted by Wendell, Teresa & Steven Kirk. The location is 5943 South New Hope Road. Please join us at 1:00 p.m. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. Please bring side dishes and desserts. There will be lots of fun – including games. Everyone is invited.