



# 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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**MARCH 2019**

## **LES IS MORE**

Lent, the 40 days of preparation before the resurrection of Our Lord, is upon us. Lent begins March 6 (soup supper at 6 p.m., Worship service at 7 p.m.).

Of course, you knew that the practice of this preparation has its origin in Judaism – Exodus 12:15 gives instructions to remove all leaven from one's house in preparation of Passover - Spring cleaning! These are roots of Lent.

Getting rid of extra stuff. That's what spring cleaning is all about. And that's what getting ready for Passover is all about. And Lent.

Let's take a leap - What are you holding onto that is holding you back spiritually? Emotionally? Relationally? Sometimes we hold onto things that have spiritual power over us. We hold on to stuff that we no longer need.

This year the church rummage/yard sale (April 6) is piggybacking onto Lent. Every day of Lent choose one item from your house to give away. Clean out! Spring cleaning! Place it in a box or a special place and bring the items to the church for the sale. Make sure your items are good enough that you would not be embarrassed to give them to a friend.

At the Ash Wednesday worship service, Emily Morrison will explain to us how this practice will also be spiritual preparation for God's blessing of the Resurrection.

I hope to see you in worship!

Yours in Christ,  
**Leslie**

## NEWS FROM THE SESSION

The Session held its regular Stated Meeting on February 17, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. Here are some highlights from the meeting.

Through the end of January, operating income is 14% behind budget while operating expenses are favorable to budget by 2% for the year. The annual audit performed by Dale Eckler was presented to Session and we were encouraged by the positive report. The audit confirmed that we have good processes in place and there is no evidence of church moneys being mishandled. We will continue these annual audits and if anyone is interested in reading the audit report, please stop by the church office.

The Business team reported that bids are being requested for electrical work to finish installation of a heater in the women's restroom in the fellowship hall. Pricing is also being gathered to replace windows in both buildings with energy efficient units or to just replace the storm windows.

The MOE Team reported plans for an Ash Wednesday service on 3/6/19 at 7:00 p.m. to be preceded by a soup dinner at 6:00 p.m. Plans for the Community Easter Egg Hunt are under way and there is a need for plastic fillable eggs and candy to fill them.

We have at least two young men who have signed up for summer camp at NaCoMe this year. Funds from the Easter breakfast and the church yard sale will go to help with scholarships.

**Jennifer Bingham**  
Clerk of Session

## KUDOS FROM THE SESSION

The Session would like to recognize Sandra Jost this month for all the work she does for our congregation and community. Among many other things, Sandra works diligently each month to put together The Mustard Seed to keep all of us up to date with what is going on in our church.

Thank you, Sandra for everything you do and your faithful service to Hermitage Presbyterian Church!

## WELCOME VISITORS

Christy Adcox  
Racquel Shutze

## FLOWER CALENDAR

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

March 03	Sally & John Robertson
March 10	Joe Falce
March 17	Open
March 24	Open
March 31	Lew & Amy Alley

You can place flowers or a plant in honor or in memory of someone or a special event. Please let the church office know what you would like to have printed in the bulletin.

## LITURGIST NEEDED

We still need people to volunteer to serve as the liturgist during worship on Sunday mornings. This is a great opportunity for you to participate in worship and anyone can do this! All materials are provided so that you just have to read your part to lead worship. You can choose whether or not you want to lead the Children's Sermon; 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)).

## THANK YOU

Thank you so much for the generous Christmas gift.

Thank you to whomever guided our little camel back to the ark in the Nursery. Noah, Easton and I really appreciate it.

May God Bless,  
**Sandra Riggan**

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I want to thank you all for the recent tribute to me for my work as your treasurer. I especially appreciated our choir and their personalized rendition of "Bohemian Rhapsody," one of my favorites!

I truly enjoy being your treasurer, and I couldn't do it without the help of so many, especially Edwina and the counting teams in particular.

Again, thanks for your support and encouragement. I appreciate it so much!

**Jeff McCann, Sr.**

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Michael Bengtson for earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Michael's Scout Court of Honor was held on Sunday, February 24. We are all very proud to be his church family.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>March 2019</h1>					1 10:00 am - Food Closet 5:30 - 9:00 pm - Private Function	2
3 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Communion 12:15 pm - MOE & BT 2:00 pm - MTLA 7:00 pm - A.A.	4 10:00 am - Good Sam 11:00 am - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	5 7:00 pm - BSA Roundtable	6 <b>ASH</b> WEDNESDAY 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Soup Supper 7:00 pm - Ash Wednesday Service	7 10:00 am - Day Circle 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	8 10:00 am - Food Closet 7:00 pm - Venture Crew	9
10 ↑ Time Change → 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship Noon - Fellowship Coffee 7:00 pm - A.A.	11 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	12 6:30 pm - Cub Scouts	13 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Supper 6:30 pm - Children, Youth 6:45 pm - Adult Study 7:30 pm - Choir	14 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	15 10:00 am - Food Closet 6:30 pm - Barbie Doll Club	16
17 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 1:00 pm - Session 7:00 pm - A.A.	18 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	19 6:30 pm - Cub Scouts	20 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Supper 6:30 pm - Children, Youth 6:45 pm - Adult Study 7:30 pm - Choir	21 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	22 10:00 am - Food Closet 7:00 pm - Venture Crew	23 9:00 am - 1:00 pm - Barnlofters
24 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 7:00 pm - A.A.	25 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	26 11:30 am - Lunch Bunch, El Toro Loco, Hermitage 6:30 pm - Cub Scouts	27 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Supper 6:30 pm - Children, Youth 6:45 pm - Adult Study 7:30 pm - Choir	28 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	29 10:00 am - Food Closet	30 9:00 am - Noon - CPR Class
31 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 7:00 pm - A.A.						



- 04 Joe Falce
- 07 Ashley Edge
- Caitlin Bender
- Tyler Kwitkowski
- 10 Jason Falce
- 15 Mark Billingsley
- 24 Mildred Nabors
- 25 Doug Bingham
- 27 Corky Smith
- 28 Isabel Noblin
- 29 Taylor Jackson
- 31 Lew Alley

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

## MARCH SCRIPTURE READINGS

March 03 Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)  
 March 10 Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13  
 March 17 Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35  
 March 24 Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9  
 March 31 Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

## MOE RUMMAGE SALE, APRIL 6

Are you setting aside items for another Rummage Sale? It has been two years since our last successful sale. And the next one is scheduled for Saturday, April 6. We will begin collecting items in the extra Sunday school room by the library. If you have large items, please hold them until Friday, April 5, when we will begin setting up.

This year the money raised from the sale will go toward the NaCoMe Scholarship Fund. We are so excited to have three boys from our Wednesday Night Youth Group who want to go this year. We will pay at least the down payment for two of the boys. Junior Dominguez has gone for the last two years; PJ Johnson went with him last year; and Jaheim Brown will join them this year. As many of you know, NaCoMe is a natural, inspirational site like no other. And now it has been upgraded to include nice cabins, a swimming hole with a beach, and several new outdoor games that challenge the kids to get outside their devices (which, by the way, are not even allowed at NaCoMe) so they have a chance to unplug and meet God and new friends in nature.

Please consider donating to and shopping at the Rummage Sale to help us offer this life-changing experience for some of our youth.

## CHURCH WORK DAY

We have scheduled a church work day for Saturday, April 6, 2019, 9:00 a.m. until noon. We will plant a new flowering cherry tree to replace the chestnut tree that was removed, and spruce up the campus before the Easter weekend activities.

## FOOD CLOSET FOOD OF THE MONTH

Throughout the month of March, HPC will be collecting *Jiffy corn bread mix* 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 hand out food bags to those in need in our area.

## FELLOWSHIP AND MORE

**Ash Wednesday, March 6, and the beginning of Lent.** March certainly means spring is coming! We will begin collecting your items for the April 6 Rummage Sale. Join us on Wednesday nights for a good supper, fellowship, and a new Lenten study.

Wednesday, March 6, 13, 20, 27	Prepared Supper, 6:00 p.m. Bible Study, 6:45 p.m.
Thursday, March 7	Day Circle, 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, March 10	Fellowship Coffee following worship
Saturday, March 16	Dinner Club, hosts Case, Goddard/Traylor, McFadden/Bartlett, Burns/Williams
Sunday, March 17	Session, 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 26	Lunch Bunch, El Toro Loco, Hermitage, 11:30 a.m.

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

March 06	<u>Ash Wednesday</u> Homemade Soups Salad/Crackers Dessert	March 13	Ham Apples Green Beans Salad/Rolls Dessert
March 20	Sloppy Joes Scalloped Potatoes Cole Slaw Dessert	March 27	Publix Fried Chicken Macaroni & Cheese Green Veggie Salad/Rolls Dessert

Answers: garden; oak; dawn; stars; camel; river; Eden; Adam; thunder; insects; owl; night.



In the spring we see God's creation coming alive again!  
 Fill in the blanks below with the names of things that God created. Use the Scripture references to help if needed.

- G \_\_\_\_\_ where vegetables grow  
 (Deuteronomy 11:10)
- O \_\_\_\_\_ a tree to rest under (1 Kings 13:14)
- D \_\_\_\_\_ when Mary went to the tomb  
 (Matthew 28:1)
- 'S \_\_\_\_\_ lights in the night sky (Genesis 1:16)
- C \_\_\_\_\_ provided clothing for John the Baptist  
 (Matthew 3:4)
- R \_\_\_\_\_ flowing water (Matthew 3:6)
- E \_\_\_\_\_ name of a garden (Genesis 2:8)
- A \_\_\_\_\_ the first man (Genesis 2:20b)
- T \_\_\_\_\_ sound made by lightning (Exodus 19:16)
- I \_\_\_\_\_ hopping, flying, crawling creatures  
 (Leviticus 11:20)
- O \_\_\_\_\_ a "wise" bird (Psalm 102:6)
- N \_\_\_\_\_ begins at sunset (Genesis 28:11)

## JANUARY TREASURER'S REPORT

### YEAR TO DATE

Regular Giving	\$ 12,933
Operating Expenses	\$ 16,926
Mission & Other	
Designated Giving	\$ 4,598
Mission & Other Expense	\$ 2,009
<b>TOTAL ALL GIVING</b>	<b>\$ 17,531</b>
<b>TOTAL ALL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 18,935</b>

**Jeff McCann, Sr.**  
 Treasurer

## CPR/EMS TRAINING CLASS

We will have a CPR/EMS training class at the church on Saturday, March 30 at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex. The cost will be \$55. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Douglas.

## EASTER EGG HUNT DONATIONS

Last year's Easter Egg Hunt was a huge success. We had many more children from our community attend than we anticipated. We could have used many more filled plastic eggs to place on the church lawn. So, this year, we are trying to get a lot more candy and plastic eggs donated. You can donate filled or unfilled eggs plus the candy to fill empty eggs. There are boxes located in the narthex and fellowship hall to place your donations. Please help if you are able!

We are continually amazed and thankful for the contributions from the congregation for the many community projects at HPC.