



# 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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Volume 48 No 11

MAY 2019

## LES IS MORE

### We really do want to listen to you!!!

Group Publishing once said that there is a new generation of kids every 3-5 years. Culture, issues, interpersonal dynamics change that rapidly. It has been that long since our church CAT Scan.

The world – *our world and God's world* – has changed since then. It is the Reformed imperative to determine where God is active in the world **today**.

As we continue in ministry with God, we ask: What are the passions which God is laying on our hearts? Where is God leading us? What matters to each one of us? How can we be "church" better for one another and for the community? How well do we really know one another?

We have recently been introduced to NOAH, Nashville Organized for Action and Hope. NOAH is a social justice initiative in the Nashville area. Part of their strategy is to enlist what is called a listening campaign.

We would like to conduct a voluntary listening campaign in this church, that is, you choose to be involved in this on a volunteer basis. A listening campaign is really nothing more than someone listening to you, asking questions like: Where were you born? Tell me about your childhood. What did that feel like? What is your passion? These questions will help the leadership in this church to get to know the congregation a little bit better. Seven of us have been trained to listen: Margaret Cantrell, Linda Douglas, Mark Provost, Sandra Jost, Nancy Provost, Jennifer Bingham, Leslie Traylor. As a part of the fellowship of this congregation, you will be given the opportunity to meet with one of these seven listeners and spend a little time answering questions like these.

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So... we want to find out what matters to you and get to know one another better. While we received this listening campaign as a tool of NOAH's, the information gained and the relationships building will be invaluable to us internally. No, this does not mean that HPC is now a member of NOAH. We are employing their listening strategy to direct us in our congregational work.

This listening campaign may lead us to become members of NOAH... or it may not. That is something that God knows, and the future will tell. But either way, we are excited about getting to know one another better.

Please let us know if you would like to be listened to. There are three ways to let us know: 1. Drop a card – usually used for prayer requests – into the offering plate at worship. Indicate your contact information and your schedule availability; 2. sign-up sheet on bulletin board in narthex – please just include contact info – someone will get a hold of you; or 3. notify the church office of your interest in being involved – again, someone will contact you.

We would like to have these listening appointments completed by the middle of May. Help us get listening to one another!

For the Listening Team,  
Leslie Traylor

### **And A Child Shall Lead Them...**

*News from Children's Church*

*By Malinda Burns*

In children's church you never know if they are learning anything.

On Easter Sunday five children are in Children's Church. The lesson is from Matthew 28:1-10. Some plastic eggs are hidden around the room, and I am holding two eggs. Let me set the scene: as I read the story, one child is sitting on the floor playing with an instrument, one is in the kitchen, one rocks the teddy bear, one child is coloring, and the last child wants to hunt for the eggs. As I read the lesson and talk about the tomb being empty, I have my two eggs: the first one I open is empty and the second one has candy. As we talk about the empty egg, a child comes back to the table. I ask which egg they would want.

Two children decide, "We need both eggs. We need the empty egg because Jesus is still alive, and we need the filled egg for our bodies to grow."

## **WELCOME VISITORS**

James Williamson  
Mallory & Hennk Schot  
Debbie Wheeler

## **FLOWER CALENDAR**

The following people have signed up to place flowers in the sanctuary during the month of May:

May 05 Joe Falce  
May 12 Mildred Nabors  
May 19 Bobby Hausman/Linda  
Douglas  
May 26 Sally Robertson

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. 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.

## **THANK YOU**

**Thank You** to all who helped with the Rummage Sale. We had great help sorting, pricing and getting things organized on tables. A special thanks to those who helped during worship to pack things up in time for a private party. We made more than \$1,400, which is more than enough to pay for all three boys' camp fees.

The youth group made more than \$260 with their bake sale, lemonade and water.

Thanks to the Kirks and the youth who were there throughout as well.

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A huge thank you to our HPC family. Once again you really stepped up! Thanks to those who donated money, candy, and eggs and the many hands that pitched in during the event. Our annual Easter Egg Hunt was a huge success thanks to all of you.

**Teresa, Steven and Wendell Kirk**

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Thank you for all the cards, calls, thoughts and prayers since my knee surgery. I appreciate it more than you know. Our wonderful church! I feel the love, concern and support and that is truly special to Michael and me!

Love,  
**Renee & Michael Dugger**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>May 2019</h1>						
			1 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Supper 6:30 pm - Children, Youth 6:45 pm - Adult Study 7:30 pm - Choir	2 10:00 am - Day Circle 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	3 10:00 am - Food Closet	4
5 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Communion 12:15 pm - MOE & BT 7:00 pm - A.A.	6 10:00 am - Good Sam 11:00 am - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	7 7:00 pm - BSA Roundtable	8 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Supper 6:30 pm - Children, Youth 6:45 pm - Adult Study 7:30 pm - Choir	9 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	10 10:00 am - Food Closet 7:00 pm - Venture Crew Set up for BBQ Dinner	11 4 - 7 pm - BSA BBQ Dinner
12 <i>Mother's Day</i> 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 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 - Supper 6:30 pm - Children, Youth 6:45 pm - Adult Study 7:30 pm - Choir	16 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	17 10:00 am - Food Closet 6:30 pm - Barbie Doll Club	18 9 am - 1 pm - Barnlofters
19 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship Noon - Salad Luncheon 12:30 pm - Session 7:00 pm - A.A.	20 10:00 am - Good Sam Noon - A.A. 7:00 pm - BSA #263	21 6:30 pm - Cub Scouts	22 10:00 am - Good Sam 6:00 pm - Supper 6:30 pm - Children, Youth 6:45 pm - Adult Study 7:30 pm - Choir	23 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	24 10:00 am - Food Closet 7:00 pm - Venture Crew	25
26 9:45 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 7:00 pm - A.A.	27  Noon - A.A.	28 11:30 am - Lunch Bunch, Famous Dave's 6:30 pm - Cub Scouts	29 7:30 pm - Choir	30 6:30 pm - Barnlofters	31 10:00 am - Food Closet	



## BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

- 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 05 Acts 9:1-6 (7-20); Psalm 30; Revelations 5:11-14; John 21:1-19
- May 12 Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelations 7:9-17; John 10:22-30
- May 19 Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; Revelations 21:1-6; John 13:31-35
- May 26 Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelations 21:10; 21:22-22:5; John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9

## NEWS FROM THE SESSION

The Session held its regular Stated Meeting on April 28, 2019 following worship. Here are some highlights from the meeting.

Ginnie Haldeman was examined by Session and received into membership by transfer of church letter. Please join us in welcoming Ginnie to the Hermitage Presbyterian Church family.

Through the end of March, regular income is 18% behind budget for the year and behind last year's giving by 29%. Operating Expense requires a giving average of \$ 3,733 per week. Actual regular giving is averaging \$ 3,053 per week which is a slight improvement over February. A bequest of \$45,534 was received from the estate of Janice Sweet and has been deposited in the savings account.

The Business Team did not meet in April but presented a need to the Session earlier in the month to replace the HVAC unit for the Sanctuary. The Session approved the purchase via email vote and money was taken from bequests to replace the unit.

The MOE Team reported that the Rummage Sale raised \$ 1,400, enough to pay for all three young men planning to go to summer camp at NaCoMe. Warren Bragg is taking over the Literature Sunday School class and will be reading the book Learning to Walk in the Dark. The Presbyterian Women Salad Luncheon will be held on Sunday 5/19.

There will also be another Congregational Meeting scheduled for 5/19 before the salad luncheon.

**Jennifer Bingham**  
Clerk of the Session

## KUDOS FROM THE SESSION

This month the session would like to recognize the congregation of Hermitage Presbyterian Church for stepping up after the announcement was made about the need for increased regular giving. A noticeable improvement was seen in April and we are thankful. Please continue to prayerfully give as you are led. We have such a wonderful church family!

## FELLOWSHIP AND MORE

**The Merry Month of May: Mother's Day, Salad Luncheon, and school out for the summer!** Please stay connected over the summer. One way is to participate in the Listening Campaign. And plan to join one of the Sunday school classes beginning new studies this month. Rev. John Kaufman's Bible Study Class is beginning a study of the Book of Acts. Warren and Sharon Bragg are beginning a study in the Literature Class of Learning to Walk in the Dark, by Barbara Brown Taylor. The youth class will be taught by Ellen Deathridge.

Wednesday, May 1, 8, 15, 22	Prepared Supper, 6:00 p.m. Bible Study, 6:45 p.m. We will begin a new study, led by Pastor Leslie, for the remainder of May.
Thursday, May 2	Day Circle, 10:00 a.m.
Saturday, May 11	BSA Barbecue Dinner Fundraiser, 4 - 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. BBQ, beans, cole slaw, potato salad, dessert or Root Beer floats. Adults - \$10; 6 and under - \$5.
Sunday, May 12	Mother's Day, no Fellowship Coffee
Sunday, May 19	Annual Salad Luncheon following worship. Session
Tuesday, May 28	Lunch Bunch, Famous Dave's, Hermitage, 11:30 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS, STUDY, AND YOUTH, 6:00 - 7:30 P.M.

May 01	Sloppy Joes Scalloped Potatoes Salad Dessert	May 8	Publix Fried Chicken Potato Salad/Cole Slaw Rolls Dessert
May 15	Spaghetti & Meatballs Salad Garlic Bread Dessert	May 22	Last Night Free Cookout Hamburgers/HotDogs Baked Beans/Chips Dessert

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS

The Presbyterian Women's Salad Luncheon will be on Sunday, May 19, 2019. This is an annual HPC - PW fund raiser. Come one, come all and bring your favorite salad/s – OR this would be a good time to try a new recipe to see how everyone likes it. So all cooks, this is your time to shine!!

Thank you in advance. Your salads and donations are much appreciated. Come join the fun and fellowship of being together with your HPC family!

## FIX-IT TEAM AND SPIRIT RIDES

As you look around your yard and home this spring, if there are any jobs you would like help with, please contact the Fix-It Team. We have willing workers who would be glad to help. Contact Nancy Provost (615-516-8117) or Linda Douglas (615-872-7931) or the church office. Donations can be made to the Hermitage Presbyterian Youth program or to the church.

And we are starting a new program, Spirit Rides. If you need a ride to the doctor or to get groceries or other need, please feel free to call Nancy Provost (615-516-8117) or the church office. We have several drivers who would be glad to help, depending on their schedules.

## TENNESSEE CENTRAL RAILWAY EXCURSION

This is a reminder to all of the people that have signed up for the Tennessee Central Railway Excursion Train Trip. The trip will be on Saturday May 18. If you have any questions, please contact Wendell Kirk. All aboard!!!

## MARCH TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>MARCH</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Regular Giving	\$ 12,886	\$ 37,214
Operating Expenses	\$ 17,027	\$ 50,825
Mission & Other		
Designated Giving	\$ 1,210	\$ 7,363
Mission & Other Expense	\$ 702	\$ 4,643
TOTAL ALL GIVING	\$ 14,096	\$ 44,577
TOTAL ALL EXPENSE	\$ 17,729	\$ 55,468

**Jeff McCann, Sr.**

**Treasurer**

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## FOOD CLOSET FOOD OF THE MONTH

Throughout the month of May, HPC will be collecting *canned tuna* 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.

## GRADUATES

Congratulations to our High School graduates:

Maya Bender, Mt. Juliet High School

Elizabeth Harville, Wilson Central High School