

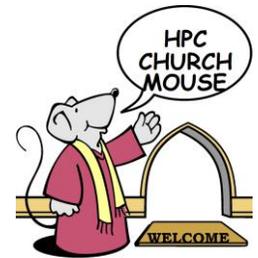
# HILLSBOROUGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

102 West Tryon Street  
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Rev. Marguerite Serrine  
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www.hillsboroughpres.org

*The Church Mouse*

*January, 2018*



Dear Friends,

The beginning of a new year is always a good time to question habits and try new resolutions. Do you ever question what the church is here for? Why should we give so much to it? More and more younger people are asking these questions, and it's sometimes surprising that we often can't think of any better answer than, "Well, it's how I was raised" or "It's just what we have always done."

In the Presbyterian church, in particular, you might not think readily of something we put a lot of energy into doing: raising up leaders. January is the month we install new elders on the Session. Our elders serve three-year terms that can be renewed once in succession. Then they have to rotate off and others need to rotate on. Ideally, each commission is led by elders whose primary responsibility is not to do all the work of Worship or Mission or Building and Grounds, but to call on others in the congregation to help carry on the work so that when transitions in leadership happen, they are less disruptive.

John Calvin was a big fan of term limits. He did not want power concentrated for too long in too few hands. Sometimes, because the church always has bigger eyes than its volunteer base, we're guilty of just "getting warm bodies" in all our leadership positions. Instead we should intentionally call folks with whom we'd like to work to build up a ministry, folks we'd enjoy seeing take the reins from us. One of the wisest pieces of advice I ever heard was "Leave a job only when you are content to stay." It's the same with leading a commission or a team or a Session: you need to take a leadership role only when you are also ready to hand it over to the next person. Handing it over after you've decided to move on inevitably results in problematic transitions.

So while many of us think the Session's primary job is looking at the finances (which is important), keeping up the membership rolls (also important), providing worship and making sure the heat works (especially in January!), the Session's primary job is actually to be followers of Christ – which means calling people to join them in ministry, just as Christ called disciples to join him in his ministry. Elders usually don't feel comfortable doing this. They would rather just do it themselves than call people at home, deal with answering machines or the "I'm too busy" answer. One Presbyterian church I served was fond of this joke: "God sent his only Son to save the world, not a committee." But in all four gospels, one of the first things the Son did was form a committee! And he eventually turned over his ministry to them.

Now we know Jesus sets a high bar. But as we start a new year and begin in earnest examining what Hillsborough Presbyterian Church is here for, and what we are called to be and to do in 2018 and beyond, I hope you will join with me to support your Session's work by being open to a call to help. A church is only as strong as its relationships in ministry. Its strength is not measured by the strength of individual leaders, but by the membership's participating in raising up new leaders among us.

In with the old; in with the new; and out with whatever God calls us to leave behind. That's my prayer and hope for Hillsborough Presbyterian, and each one of us, in 2018.

Blessings,  
Rev. Marguerite

**COMMUNION**



We will celebrate Communion at HPC on **Sunday, January 7, 2018** at 11:00 AM.



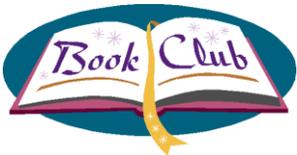
**MEN's FELLOWSHIP**

Mark your calendar and join us for the **Men's Fellowship Breakfast and Planning meeting** on Saturday, January 13 at 8 AM in Strudwick Hall. Questions? See Joe Crane.



**A GALS GET-TOGETHER**

Drop by Studwick Hall **Saturday, January 6** from 9:30 to 11:00 AM to enjoy relaxing conversations, warm beverages, and tasty nibbles! Childcare will be provided. Questions? Call Lisa Flinn.



**HPC BOOK CLUB - Mark your calendars!**

Plan to join the HPC Book Club in 2017! The **Book Club** will meet on **Sunday, January 14**, at 7 PM in Room #204 to discuss "Winter Solstice" by Rosamunde Pilcher.



**WOMEN's GROUP**

We are inviting the women of HPC to join us on Wednesday evening, January 17, 2018, at 6 p.m., for a discussion about forming an evening women's group. We will provide a light dinner, and we want to look at how the group would want to organize itself and choose the leaders, what the purpose of the group would be, what day, time and frequency we would want to meet, and if we want it to include a bible study and/or a mission portion.

Please join us.

- Linda Jaubert and Katherine Cathy

**Interim Update – January**

Even in the busy month of December, progress has been made on the HPC mission study. Four people have answered the call to serve on the Mission Study Team. I still have a nominee or two to speak with after the first of the year. The team is still on track to begin its work in 1Q 2018.

The Mission Study will require some dedication from the individuals involved, and also the congregation. Presbytery requires evidence of congregational involvement. So as the Session begins to plan the church schedules for 2018, they will have to take account of the work asked of the congregation to fulfill this Presbytery requirement.

Why does the Presbytery require congregational involvement? Because it's a sign of a healthy, vital church when all members commit to thinking about the kind of church we're called to be, and learning about the kind of community we're in. Only then will the membership be able to articulate the kind of leadership required to live into that vision (with God's help!) of being the kind of church God wants in this place and time God has provided. Without congregational involvement in the process, you reduce your chances of making the kind of match with a new pastor that's going to fit the vision, passion and opportunities unique to Hillsborough Presbyterian Church in 2018 and beyond.

Please pray for your Mission Study Team and your interim pastor as we seek to add two more people called to this special time of ministry among us. Many thanks. – Rev. Marguerite

To the HPC Church Family.

Thank you all for your commitment to Stewardship. As I continue my faith journey and works with growing spiritually I have come to learn Stewardship is more than sharing and caring. Stewardship is God at work. God at work in us and through us. From Isaiah 61: 10-11 (NIV).

10 I delight greatly in the Lord;  
 my soul rejoices in my God.  
 For he has clothed me with garments of salvation  
 and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness,  
 as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest,  
 and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
 11 For as the soil makes the sprout come up  
 and a garden causes seeds to grow,  
 so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness  
 and praise spring up before all nations.

Here Isaiah speaks for the Israelites to express gratitude for their happiness having been released from exile to full and free service of the LORD. Jesus, also referenced this text relating the bondage to sin and death, and the spiritual and eternal deliverance. God has restored service and salvation. Thus, enabling his righteous people to share his joy serving the LORD. This is the vision of the future we are to fully realize. Our response should be to live righteously, joyfully and hopefully as someone who has been released from captivity or sickness and received God's favor. Receiving the Spirit and spreading it to the world. I hope you hear and receive the joy from this passage. Take this joy and excitement and use this energy to focus on moving mountains for God through our work of sharing God's gifts. Our Stewardship will be forever on going so by the grace of God. Stewardship did not end with the conclusion of dedication Sunday. In fact, with the completion of Advent the Season, we have hope and we are prepared to empower each other, to expand Christian Education and Mission opportunities for our church and community, and role model Stewardship for our Youth as we begin a new with the Season of "*Gracious Giving*", and answering God's call. and outreach, and to provide opportunities for fellowship and care. We open the doors of this historic church to this community of faith and to the community at large.

As a reminder, Dedication Sunday (November 11, 2018) is only 11 months away. Please continue to pray for our the HPC family and how you may remain in the vine through *Gracious Giving*.

Thank you,  
 J. Eric Cathey  
 HPC Stewardship Moderator



Dear HPC Members,

Some of us have been parking for years in the concrete surfaced lot on the NE corner of E Tryon St and N Churton St, across from the Orange County Museum and surrounding the old filling station now occupied by businesses. To my knowledge no business there has ever been open on Sunday at a time during or immediately after our worship service. UNTIL NOW. Sharyn Arai moved "K's Closet", her handmade and sewing shop, to this location earlier this year and is open during the holiday shopping season early on Sunday. She may continue to open early on Sunday after the new year begins, but this is not certain.

Sharon has had recent difficulty with HPC members parking in front of her business during our worship service, and even blocking access to her store. Now there are many more parking places in this lot than she needs to reserve for her customers. She has graciously offered HPC members use of all the spaces on the outskirts of her business's lot but has kindly asked us not to park in the spaces immediately in front of or adjacent to the building.

To make up for the inconvenience we have already caused her, why not stop by after worship and check out her store :)

Best regards,  
 Clifford Younger

**HAPPY JANUARY BIRTHDAY TO:**

- 04 Louisa McIver
- 04 Kathy Remington
- 05 Dan Patterson
- 05 Eric Cathey
- 06 Jennifer Strickland
- 07 Alicia Gonzalez
- 08 Bethany Nesbit  
Henshall
- 08 Katherine Cathey
- 11 John Roberts
- 12 Joe Crane
- 13 Grace Jean Roberts
- 16 Gary Davis
- 17 Chris O'Connor



- 19 Brian Taitt
- 20 Marilyn Chinnis
- 22 Josh McKelvey
- 29 Jean Fettig

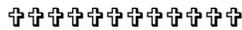


To update the Birthday List or Anniversary List please contact JoAnn in the church office (732-3131) or hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org).



**JANUARY LECTIONARY READINGS**

- 7** Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11
- 14** I Samuel 3:1-20; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; I Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51
- 21** Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12; I Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20
- 28** Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; I Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28



**Green Notes!**

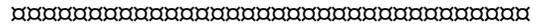
Reuse something that your would have thrown away today, whatever it may be.

*(Green Notes are provided by PCUSA's Environmental Ministries and your Stewardship Commission.)*

**VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

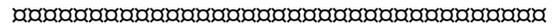
**January 7**

- Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Art Ross
- Liturgist: James Watts
- Children's Sermon: Karoline Mathewson
- Acolyte: TBD
- Nursery: Andrea Bernard
- Greeters: TBD



**January 14**

- Liturgist: Jane McIver
- Children's Sermon: Jane McIver
- Acolyte: TBD
- Youth Meal (1/17): James & Lisa Watts
- Nursery: Stephanie Morgan
- Greeters: TBD



**January 21**

- Liturgist: Carolyn Norris
- Children's Sermon: Carolyn Norris
- Acolyte: TBD
- Youth Meal (1/24): O'Connor Family
- Nursery: Bethany Henshall
- Greeters: TBD



**January 28**

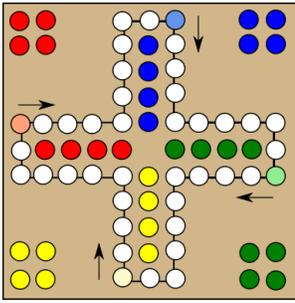
- Liturgist: Jim Summers
- Children's Sermon: Barbara Younger
- Acolyte: TBD
- Youth Meal (1/31): Sara Clay
- Nursery: Karoline Mathewson
- Greeters: TBD

Please join us at a baby shower for Beth Ely Ziefle January 7<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm in Strudwick. (Psst...it's a girl!)

# January, 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
			Elder Training 7:00 PM (#204)	Security Mtg 6:00 PM (204) Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM (#221)		Gal's Get-Together 9:30 – 11:00 AM (Strudwick Hall)
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
Communion Preaching: Rev. Dr. Art Ross 2:00 PM Baby Shower (Strudwick) John & Beth Ely Ziefle 4:00 PM CE Strategic Planning Meeting (#204) 6:30 PM Nepal Slideshow (Strudwick)	Circle #1 11:00 AM (Strudwick Hall)	Justice United 7:00 PM (#204)	Elder Training 7:00 PM (#204)	Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM (#221)		Men's Fellowship Planning Breakfast 8 AM (Strudwick Hall)
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
12:15 PM Mission (#204) 7:00 PM HPC Book Club (#204)	Office Closed		Youth Group 6:00 PM (#204) Women's Group 6:00 PM (Strudwick) Elder Training 7:00 PM (#201)	Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM (#221)		
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
9:45 AM Session Breakfast and Examination (Strudwick) 11:00 AM Elder Installation 12:30 PM Session Meeting (#204)	Deadline for HPC Newsletter 1:00 PM		Youth Group 6:00 PM (Strudwick)	Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM (#221)		Youth for Understanding Exchange Students 8 AM – 6 PM (Strudwick Hall)
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		Join us on Sunday mornings! Sunday School for all ages 9:45 AM Traditional Worship at 11:00 AM Sunday School for Children at 11 AM	
Hunger for Change			Youth Group 6:00 PM (Strudwick)	Announcements for the Bulletin are due in the church office by Wednesday (noon) each week. Bulletins printed on Thursday.		

**NOTE: If you have any February calendar dates or articles that you would like included in the newsletter – just send an email ([hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org](mailto:hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org)) or call the church office (732-3131) – by 1:00 PM on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January!**



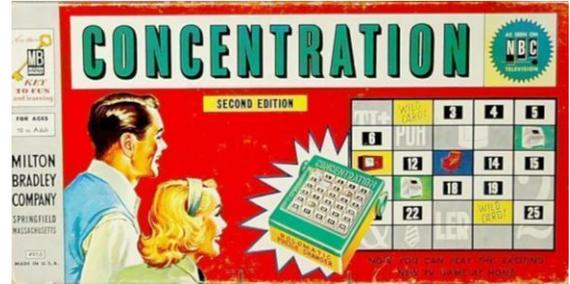
### HPC Youth - Drive for UNC Children's Hospital

The HPC Youth Group is sponsoring a new Mission project. In collaboration with the UNC Children's Hospital the HPC Youth are leading a campaign to collect and donate New Board Games. Please bring new Board Games to the church. Preferred drop off location is the "donation closet" located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor adjacent to the elevator. We will also have designated boxes outside the church office. Used board games in near excellent condition are welcome for donation. Checks are also welcomed please indicate on the memo

line "Youth - Board Games" and we will do the shopping for you! The board games will be donated to the UNC Children's Hospital. The games will be distributed to the UNC Children's Inpatient units, Clinics and any remaining board games will be given to individual hospital and clinic pediatric patients. Donations will be accepted beginning December 24<sup>th</sup> and ending January 28, 2018. Questions? Please contact Eric Cathey.

Thank you for your continued support of the HPC Youth and responding to their desire to share God's love.

HPC Youth Leader,  
Eric Cathey



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## Hillsborough Presbyterian Church

102 West Tryon Street

Post Office Box 717

Hillsborough, NC 27278

(919) 732-3131

E-Mail: [HPChurch@hillsboroughpres.org](mailto:HPChurch@hillsboroughpres.org)

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### SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday School 9:45 AM (for all ages!)

Nursery 9:45 AM (for infants/toddlers)

Traditional Worship 11:00 AM

*(Children's Sunday School - ages 4 years through 5<sup>th</sup> grade - will again be provided during worship. Children may leave for class following the Conversation with the Children )*