

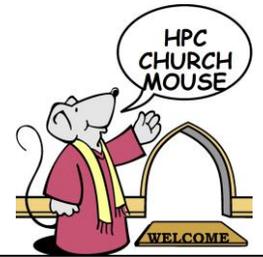
HILLSBOROUGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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The Church Mouse

July, 2018



Dear HPC Friends and Family,

Mark and I want to thank you all for your outpouring of support when Mark's dad died June 20. It sustained us and enabled us to turn our full attention to the needs of his family. Before Merv's death, and before the separation of immigrant families became news, in honor of the founding of our country, I wrote the following paragraphs for the Church Mouse. I still think it speaks to something we yearn to be true, although we might be afraid it is true.

"What can I say?" When have you asked yourself that question? Sometimes we don't think we can say anything that helps or that matters. Pastors have these moments every week. In worship, in the sermon, in our newsletter, can we say anything that will help or that will even matter? Recently I've heard that people appreciate sermons that touch on "social issues." I've also heard the church needs to say what it stands for.

But as we celebrate the founding of a nation (under God!) that cannot establish a civil religious faith, it's good to remember the separation of church and state works both ways. Political leaders' religious convictions cannot dictate what the public can say, nor can politics dictate what the church can say. Thomas W. Currie, professor emeritus of theology at Union Presbyterian Seminary, observed: "In the early 1930s, when Hitler was just beginning to integrate all of German society and culture into the Third Reich, Karl Barth wrote a pamphlet titled *Theological existence today*. In it, he notes that he was being urged by friends and students to 'speak to the situation' as a theologian. He refused to do this, or at least to 'speak to the situation' as if the situation was the necessity that dictated what a theologian of the gospel should say. Instead he proposed to do theology 'as if nothing had happened.' He did not mean by this that he had nothing to say or that the gospel was too 'spiritual' to take on political realities. Indeed, he sent a copy of his pamphlet to Hitler. What he did mean was that the theology and preaching of the church possessed a kind of freedom that could not be reduced to a particular cause, however good it might seem. The end of faith does not yield that kind of victory. What the church is called to do is preach the gospel." (*What does Jesus mean by Love your enemies?* Presbyterian Outlook: May 7, 2018)

If Karl Barth had "spoken to the situation," would it have prevented the gas chambers? We'll never know the answer to that question. What I do know is this. Gospels depict Jesus engaging with both those on the outer fringes of society and those in the seats of privilege. How might the church follow? If we say we stand for immigrants and racial reconciliation, do we not also stand for people who have trouble being for immigrants and racial reconciliation? Would the church be more faithful to the gospel if it were a means of grace breaking down "the dividing wall of hostility between us" (Ephesians 2:14)? What IS the mission of the church in such a time as this?

Such thoughts and questions come to me as we continue the work of discerning God's will for the PCUSA and HPC. It is a privilege and an honor to labor among you in this highest of callings. Happy Fourth of July!

Blessings, Rev. Marguerite

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

This summer we will have multi-aged Children's Sunday School class at 9:45 AM in Room #204 during the summer (June 24 – August 26). The curriculum will be "Feasting on the Word".

We will also have Summer Kid's Time following the "Conversation with the Children" in worship on **July 1st and 15th**, and **August 5th and 19th** in Room #204. On Sundays when we do not have Kid's Time we will have Worship Bags (coloring pages, stories, etc.) available for children to use during worship.

Questions? See Stephanie Morgan or Cynthia Latta



LEMONADE ON THE LAWN



April through September, congregation members offer light refreshment after the 11:00am service each Sunday. The 2018 Lemonade on the Lawn sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board next to the church office.

Please sign up to celebrate your own special day, or just for the joy of sharing with others!



CIRCLE #1 NEWS!

Circle #1 will meet at HPC at 11:00 on Monday, July 9th. All are invited to join us for our next lesson from the study guide "Friendship". Bring a sandwich – the hostess provides beverages and dessert. Visitors and guests are always welcome! Questions? See Ann Sebesan.

**Save the Dates! September 9 and 23,
4:30 - 6:30 PM, join us for
Mission Study Congregational gatherings
in Strudwick Hall, dinner included.**

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CIRCLE

The Presbyterian Women's Circle will meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM in Strudwick Hall. On July 18 we will be discussing "No Innocent Bystanders."

Questions? See Robin Barnhill.



LADIES FIRST

Our Saturday morning HPC Ladies First group will take a break over the summer months. Our gatherings will resume in the Fall! Stay tuned. Questions? See Lisa Flinn.



SEWING / CRAFT GATHERING

You are invited to a new **sewing/craft group** on the 3rd Friday night of each month from 6:00 – 11:00 PM. This month on July 20. Bring your sewing or hobby project. You do not need to stay for the whole meeting time. There is no agenda. You will have plenty of time to work on whatever you choose, making it worthwhile to bring sewing machines, etc. We plan to order pizza for dinner or you can bring something different to eat, or bring something else to eat with the pizza if you wish. Come enjoy working with friends and sharing time and ideas with each other. Questions? See Ann Sebesan.

"LAST FRIDAYS"

Mark your calendar and join us for **Last Fridays** on **July 27th** from 6:30 – 8:30 PM! Enjoy music (musicians tbd) and free ice cream at the church's Tryon Street Stage! Questions? See Rich Erdosy.





BOOK CLUB NEWS!

Book Club’s summer beach read will be: “Cooking for Picasso: A Novel” by Camille

Aubray ...this captivating novel is inspired by a little-known interlude in the artist’s life.

Featuring an array of both fictional characters and the French Riviera’s most famous historical residents, “Cooking for Picasso” is a touching, delectable, and wise story, illuminating the powers of trust, money, art, and creativity in the choices that men and women make as they seek a path toward love, success, and joie de vivre. (amazon.com)

“A tasty blend of romance, mystery, and French cooking.”—Margaret Atwood, via Twitter

“Intrigue, art, food, and deception are woven together in a tale of love and betrayal around the life and legacy of Picasso. Touching and true, this well-written narrative made me long for my mother’s coq au vin and for the sun of Juan-les-Pins.”—Jacques Pépin, chef, TV personality, author

Join us on August 12th to discuss this delightful selection. Book Club meets at 7:00 on the 2nd Sunday most months of the year in room 204 at the church. Guests and visitors are always welcome, and refreshments will be served...



**Mission Study Team (MST) –
HPC to be pilot for new survey with Presbytery**

HPC has a unique opportunity to use a congregational assessment tool at a fraction of the cost it would normally be, because New Hope Presbytery has invited us to be the pilot church for this assessment tool. Since the MST couldn’t call congregational gatherings over the summer because so many people are out of town, we will now be able to collect your input either online or on paper.

Adult members and active non-members who are “invested and able” will be invited to complete this assessment tool administered by Holy Cow! Consulting. This tool, the Congregation Assessment Tool (CAT), will be completed later this summer and

will provide a clear picture of who we are as a church and what directions are most important for our future. It will provide key indicators of our congregational health along with areas of challenge and potential growth. It will help us to collect and understand the range of views that exist at HPC and the possibilities, willingness, capacity and energy for moving our ministry into the future. In addition to the demographic and community studies, the CAT will help shape the discussion during the congregational gatherings in September. Look for emails and invitations to fill out the CAT - coming in July.

Meanwhile, the MST continues to meet at least twice a month. Team members have been interviewing community members, working on summarizing the church timeline, and drafting portions of the mission study report.

The MST will host receptions during lemonade on the lawn on July 1 and Aug. 5. Please join us for snacks, fellowship, and discussion regarding our progress on the mission study. Team members welcome your questions and feedback during the receptions and anytime!

Two larger congregational gatherings are planned for Sept. 9 and 23. The MST is currently working on plans for these two events, which will include a meal. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend!

These congregational gatherings are the heart of the mission study. Everything done up to now has been in preparation for the gatherings, and everything afterward will be to report the decisions of the congregation in these gatherings. Participants will receive information from the MST, continue assessing the present and future of HPC, and begin designing a new vision with related goals and objectives.

The MST appreciates Session’s support, the congregation’s involvement, and everyone’s patience in the mission study process! We prayerfully and hopefully trust the process to steer us in the direction that God intends for us to go.

-- Katherine Cathey



HAPPY JULY BIRTHDAY TO:

- 03 Laura Borcik
- 05 Art Fettig
- 08 Ann Marie Strayhorn
- 08 Jane Gaede
- 08 Jeanne Childers
- 09 Jamie Brown
- 10 Cathy Ely
- 18 Alice Nord
- 18 Caitlin O'Connor
- 21 Frank Latta
- 28 Carol Childers
- 28 Beth Ely
- 28 Virginia Drill
- 28 Becca Albrecht
- 29 Martin Brown
- 30 Josephine Henshall



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



JULY LECTIONARY READINGS

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



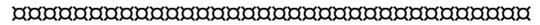
WALKS ON RIVERWALK CANCELLED

We have not had much participation in Healthy Walks on Riverwalk so we will cancel it for the summer. I encourage people to exercise in the gym and keep cool! -- Jane Gaede

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

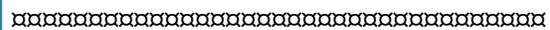
July 1

- Liturgist: Jane Gaede
- Children's Sermon: Karoline Mathewson
- Acolyte: Isabella Roberson
- Flowers: Brenda Morgan
- Lemonade on Lawn: Remington / Mission Study Team
- Nursery: Robin Barnhill
- Greeters: TBD
- Lawn Mowing (7/7): Bernie Nord



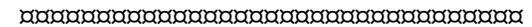
July 8

- Liturgist: Sara Clay
- Children's Sermon: Marguerite Serrine
- Acolyte: Allie Henshall
- Flowers: Jean Fettig
- Lemonade on Lawn: Linda Nesbit
- Nursery: Karoline Mathewson
- Greeters: TBD



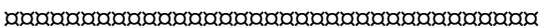
July 15

- Guest Preacher: Rev Lynn Stall
- Liturgist & Children's Sermon: James Watts
- Acolyte: Jack Stephenson
- Flowers: Robin Bedingfield
- Lemonade on Lawn: Jane Gaede
- Nursery: Stephanie Morgan
- Greeters: TBD
- Lawn Mowing (7/21): Jerry Vinski



July 22

- Liturgist: Robin Bedingfield
- Children's Sermon: Jarrett Barnhill
- Acolyte: Jaiden Lytle
- Flowers: Talley Family
- Lemonade on Lawn: Talley Family
- Nursery: TBD
- Greeters: TBD



July 29

- Liturgist: Rich Erdosy
- Children's Sermon: Rich Erdosy
- Acolyte: Emma Cathey
- Flowers: TBD
- Lemonade on Lawn: Art and Jean Fettig
- Nursery: Cathy Ely
- Greeters: TBD
- Lawn Mowing (8/4): Sam Nesbit

July, 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal (#221) 12:15 PM Lemonade in Strudwick (Mission Study Team)	2	3	4 Church Office Closed	5	6	7 Habitat – Home Preservation 9 AM – 5 PM July 7 & 8
8 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal (#221) 12:15 PM Lemonade on the Lawn	9 Circle #1 -- 11:00 AM (HPC #204)	10	11 Mission Study Team 7:00 PM (#204)	12	13	14
15 Guest Preacher: Rev. Lynn Stall 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal (#221) 12:15 PM CE (#204) 12:15 PM Lemonade on Lawn	16	17	18	19	20 Sewing/Craft 6-11 PM (Strudwick)	21
22 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal (#221) 12:15 PM Lemonade on the Lawn	23 Deadline for HPC Newsletter 1:00 PM	24 Food for All 5:00 (Strudwick)	25	26	27 “Last Friday” 6:30 – 8:30 PM	28
29 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal (#221) 12:15 PM Lemonade on the Lawn	30 Mission Study Team 7:00 PM (#204)	31		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Join us on Sunday mornings!</p> <p>Sunday School for All Ages at 9:45 AM</p> <p>Nursery for Children at 9:45 AM</p> <p>Traditional Worship at 11:00 AM</p> <p>Kids’ Time during Worship on 7/1 and 7/15</p> </div>		

NOTE: If you have any August calendar dates or articles that you would like included in the newsletter – just send an email (hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org) or call the church office (732-3131) – by 1:00 PM on the 23rd of July!

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Happy summer to you all and Happy Birthday to our great Nation! This month's stewardship focuses on love. There is nothing more important than love. Stewardship is opportunity to share God's love. Where would we be without our church? Without the outpouring of support from our church family? We may not be aware of the love shared with our family, community. I know firsthand the love, I and my family have received from HPC. This love forms a common bond. Our love for one another empowers us through loss, grief, health concerns, relationships, graduations, baptism, ordination and installation, times of need and times of celebration. Marriage is a bond of God's love. As I continue to learn, marriage requires work; A work of Love. Stewardship requires us to work and share God's love. Bring your offering of love to God.

"But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ"... (Ephesians 4:7, 11-12—NRSV)

*There's an old Christian tradition
that God sends each person into this world
with a special message to deliver,
with a special song to sing for others,
with a special act of love to bestow.
No one else can speak my message,
or sing my song, or offer my act of love.
These are entrusted to me alone.*



Thank you for your support,
Eric Cathey

Hillsborough Presbyterian Church

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SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

Childcare/Nursery 9:45 AM (for children)

Traditional Worship 11:00 AM

*A nursery is provided for children 5 and under downstairs;
following the Conversation with Children in Worship –
we will have Kids' Time on July 1st and 15th and
August 5th and 19th in Room #204.)*