

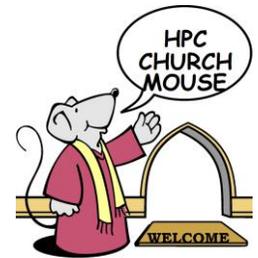
HILLSBOROUGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

102 West Tryon Street
Post Office Box 717
Hillsborough, NC 27278
(919) 732-3131 (Office)

The Church Mouse

May, 2019

Rev. Marguerite Serrine
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www.hillsboroughpres.org



Dear Friends,

The good news that was handed down to us is this: Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed.

Did we ever need to hear that message this Easter. We were surely sent into the wilderness this Lent with the gas line explosion in Durham, the tornado in Hillsborough, the bombings in Sri Lanka, the release of the Mueller Report and its description of people at the highest levels apparently giving in to their most base opportunistic impulses.

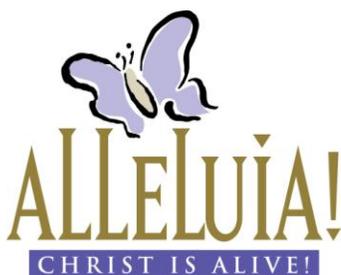
To all this, the church says: Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed.

Our Holy Week more than lived up to its name. On Palm Sunday our Joyful Noise Choir sang, the children led us in the procession of palms, and we leaned into the way the world will praise us easily one day and kick us to the curb the next. Maundy Thursday worship must have struck a chord with many of you. Gathering in twelves around the Lord's Table, we remembered the commandment to love one another and prepare a room even for those who hurt and betray us – this is the way of the Lord. Our Tenebrae readers read the Passion story with power and extinguished the candles until the church was bare, silent and dark. At sunrise Vernon Cooper gave a stark reminder of what Christ's suffering means and what it does not, particularly the suffering visited by the powerful upon the powerless. The breakfast was hot – much needed that morning – and I relished the opportunity to sit at leisure with folks around the table talking about fishing and family. Hearts opened like the iris blooms in front of the Memorial Wall. And then the Easter baskets filled with brightly colored eggs, before we all proclaimed the Easter message with the opening hymn, "Jesus Christ is Risen Today."

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed.

The Lenten study had many of you gathering in Strudwick in semi-circles to enjoy breakfast treats and fresh coffee, and listen, learn, and share in honest discussion. I wish everyone could have heard the ideas, fears, frustrations and hopes people shared. The whole year of 2019 is a Lenten time for the mainline church in which membership declines have moved churches to question the way they do everything. Study participants did exactly that – not in a judgmental way, but in a way that proclaimed God is always doing a new thing, and ours is not to resist it but to seek to follow it faithfully.

Please note all the articles in this month's newsletter. Some tell of things we have done; some announce things we plan to do. I hope that as you read what you and your community of faith are doing to listen, learn, share and serve as you journey with Jesus Christ to nurture relationships that bring healing, hope and joy to all, in the church and beyond, you will hear between the lines: Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed.



In Easter joy,
Rev. Marguerite

PNC UPDATE

The Pastor Nominating Committee (Cheryl Morgan Maxey, David Remington, Judy Brown, Sean Bailey, Katherine Cathey) meets weekly on Tuesday evenings. On March 20th we had an orientation meeting with Ted Churn, Executive Presbyterian, Gus Thompson, our COM (Commission on Ministry) advocate, and Rev. Marguerite Serrine. Currently, we are gathering information and composing the Ministry Information Form (MIF). For those that are interested, there is a blue poster on the bulletin board that will show the necessary steps and progress to date.



LEMONADE ON THE LAWN

From April 21 through September, our congregation offers light refreshment after the 11:00 am service each Sunday. The 2019 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!



CELEBRATE THE EARTH!

As part of our commitment as an Earth Care Congregation (ECC), HPC Stewardship and Worship invites the HPC Church family, friends and guests to celebrate the **Earth, Sunday, May 12**. We will have the 11:00 am Worship services outside (weather permitting). Following the morning Worship service Stewardship will host Lemonade on the Lawn. If you have questions please contact Eric Cathey. We thank you all for your continued support of HPC's effort to leading the way as an Earth Care Congregation.

- Outside worship service to take place in the grassy area North of Strudwick, weather permitting
 - Inclement weather plan – Regular worship service
- We will have an Outdoor Sound system
- Chairs will be set-up:
 - We ask members bring:
 - Sunscreen, hats, chairs, blankets, casual dress/attire
- 11am Worship service: No nursery
 - We Invite children to stay in worship (if outdoors)
 - Nursery will be open in the event of inclement weather.

We are ALL called to care for God's earth and its resource. Come and celebrate our commitment to caring for God's gifts!

Please mark on your calendars Saturday, May 11th, from 6:00 to 8:30 pm, to attend the

Taste and Tunes fundraiser for New Hope Camp and Conference Center (NHCCC).

Enjoy live music, hors d'oeuvres, wine and a silent auction. This is a benefit organized by NHCCC, and all proceeds will go toward the afterschool and camp programs, scholarship funds and facilities. Tickets are \$20 each, and can be purchased now from Linda Jaubert, our NHCCC Board Representative. They can also be purchased at the door. So please come out for an evening of fun and entertainment, and to support the work of Camp New Hope.

Earth care



CIRCLE #1

Circle #1 will meet at HPC at 11:00 on Monday, May 13. All are invited to join us as we continue our study on Hospitality. Bring a sandwich – the hostess provides beverages and dessert. Visitors and guests are always welcome! Questions? See Ann Sebesan.



MOWING THE LAWN AT HPC

The sign-up sheet for mowing the lawn is on the Building and Grounds bulletin board in the hallway. Upcoming Saturday dates available are: June 1, 15, and 19. Questions? See Jim Summers.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY HOME PRESERVATION

Habitat for Humanity's Home Preservation program conducts projects that improve houses of low income homeowners. In April 10 HPC volunteers built a ramp and small deck for Mrs. Gwender Cobb in Efland. Special thanks to Sean Bailey, Marc Fowler, Jane Gaede, Jim Mathewson, Hervey McIver, Sam Nesbit, Bernie Nord, David Phlegar, David Remington and Jerry Vinski.



MEN'S CANOE TRIP

This year's men's canoe trip will be to the old-growth bald cypress section of the Black River on Sat./Sun., May 18 & 19. We will be camping by the river. If you are interested, please contact Joe Crane or Hervey McIver by May 5th.

“FINISH IT FRIDAY”

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 May 17th, bring your sewing or hobby project. You do not need to stay for the entire time. You will have plenty of time to work on whatever you choose, make. Come enjoy working with friends and sharing time and ideas with each other. Questions? See Ann Sebesan.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CIRCLE

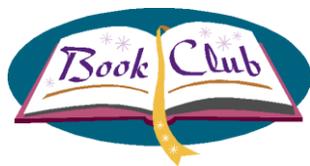
The Presbyterian Women's Evening Circle will meet on Wednesday, May 15th, at 7:00 – 8:30 PM, in the Parlor upstairs. We will be discussing chapter 7 of Dear White Christian, by Aaron J. Layton, called “The Leader's Response”.

All women of the church are invited to join us for a lively discussion, even if you have not read the book. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Jaubert.



GOOGLE GROUP LISTS AT HPC

Would you like to be added to our HPCNews list and get our weekly NewsFlash? Other lists are Men's Fellowship, Women's Fellowship, and Parents of Young Children. Just send a quick email to the church office (hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org) and let us know which group(s) you'd like to join. We'll get an invitation out to you - and once you accept – you'll be on the list! (send an email request to: hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org)



HPC BOOK CLUB

Book Club meets on the second Sunday most months of the year, at 7:00 in the church parlor. All are invited to attend, and refreshments will be served.

We'll meet on **May 12th** (Mothers' Day!) to discuss **At the Wolf's Table** by Rosella Postorino

The international bestseller based on a haunting true story that raises provocative questions about complicity, guilt, and survival.

Germany, 1943: Twenty-six-year-old Rosa Sauer's parents are gone, and her husband Gregor is far away, fighting on the front lines of World War II. Impoverished and alone, she makes the fateful decision to leave war-torn Berlin to live with her in-laws in the countryside, thinking she'll find refuge there. But one morning, the SS come to tell her she has been conscripted to be one of Hitler's tasters: three times a day, she and nine other women go to his secret headquarters, the Wolf's Lair, to eat his meals before he does.

Forced to eat what might kill them, the tasters begin to divide into The Fanatics, those loyal to Hitler, and the women like Rosa who insist they aren't Nazis, even as they risk their lives every day for Hitler's. As secrets and resentments grow, this unlikely sisterhood reaches its own dramatic climax, as everyone begins to wonder if they are on the wrong side of history.

Our **June 9th** selection will be Becoming by Michelle Obama.

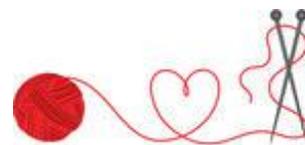
We won't meet in July, but on **August 11th** our discussion will be on The Month of Their Ripening: North Carolina Heritage Foods Through the Year by Georgann Eubanks.



2019 FLOWER CHART

The Flower Chart is on the bulletin board in the hallway. Sign up and share with your Church the joy of an anniversary, a special occasion, or memorialize someone important to you!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH KNITTING GROUP



Yarn crafters are invited to join us in the parlor at 1:00 PM on first Mondays each month, May 6th! All projects will be donated to OCIM's Samaritan Relief as gifts of warmth for those in greatest need. Previous knowledge/skill is appreciated but not necessary – we'll teach you! Questions? Ask Sara Clay.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Mark your calendar and join us for Vacation Bible School July 19, 20 and 21. Questions? See Chris O'Connor or Vernon Cooper. Additional details coming soon!



GREEN NOTES!

Every act of eating and each purchase of a food product becomes a moral and ultimately a faith decision. Consider what the food you ate last week says about your faith values.

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

The Mission Study Lenten Series

Many HPC members participated in the six Sunday morning sessions during Lent where we discussed significant topics arising from the Mission Study Report (MSR). Many new and old ideas were raised and examined during the stimulating conversations we had, most of which occurred in a semi-circle in Strudwick while enjoying bagels, muffins and fresh coffee.

This brief summary captures the big themes of each topic. We are doing many things very well, but this summary focuses more on suggestions for further exploration. Notes from each meeting are available.

Education and Youth (Matthew 28: 18-20; Comments on Scripture: “Be active. Share good news. Be inclusive and TRUST that God is with us.”) We were blessed by having a few youth attend and they engaged with us about this topic. HPC has a solid program in place but participants expressed a desire for more variety in schedule and content to help grow participants and garner more diverse viewpoints. Adults may appreciate short, 4-6 week studies on a regular basis. Children are the foundation of the church and HPC has a strong core of young children. Youth engagement and spiritual growth could be strengthened through multi-generational learning and service experiences and work and outdoor trips. Programs outside of Sunday morning and church could appeal to our varied schedules, different needs (e.g. young families, older members, etc.) and areas of interest. While many suggestions were raised, no one stepped forward to lead a new initiative. Leadership continues to be a focus from the MSR in all areas, including CE.

Meaningful Relationships & Spiritual Vitality (Acts 2:44-47; Comments on Scripture: retreats allow us to really hold all things in common i.e. Sunset Gap, Presbyterian Point. What’s the 2019 equivalent?) Developing and strengthening relationships was an HPC need identified in the MSR. People fondly recalled many past events outside of church where people developed stronger bonds such as work trips and Why Jesus? While regular, planned events such as the Camp New Hope picnic are appreciated, the church should also encourage and support events that arise more “organically” and informally by different groups. Spontaneous events such as outdoor activities can be organized through social media like “What’s App.”

Welcoming the Strangers (Matthew 9:9-13): Attracting new members is a MSR goal that drew discussion contrasting HPC to other churches. There was consensus that focusing on doing a few things well and being authentic is the best way to welcome new people and more than that, inspire them to come back again. Welcoming new people while respecting their space is important. We even talked about a class on how to do this.

Community Outreach & Social Justice (Matthew 25: 34-36, 40; Proverbs 31: 8-9): HPC has participated in many “acts of mercy” over the years though now there is support for more “social justice” engagement. These were discussed along with whether and how we should focus our community outreach. Before we engage however, we should build relationships with the communities we hope to help so that our actions are most meaningful and effective – in other words, listen to those we need to serve before we serve them. We should not reinvent when we can work with partner organizations like OCIM, Justice United, Habitat, etc. There was also interest in becoming what Justice United calls “the trusted institution” – the place where parties on opposing sides can be safe enough to work through the conflict to resolution.

Leadership Accountability (Mark 10:42-45; John 13:13-17): This was a great, heartfelt exchange. Members want to know which elder is assigned to them. HPC must find the best ways to improve communication between the leadership and membership. Ruling elders can reach out to their ‘Shepherd List’ of members to build relationships. Members should feel empowered to ask questions and engage elders. We also discussed the structure and process of selecting our leaders.

What we want in our new Pastor (Jeremiah 3:15; 1 Peter 5:1-4: Comments on Scripture: they lay out qualities, characteristics, AND expectations of pastoral leadership. How does the search committee know the person’s integrity?) The new pastor should communicate well and lead us towards our vision by inspiring us to further engagement and action. The comment was made that the PASTOR needs to “listen, learn, share and serve in the church and beyond.” Effectively conveying sound Biblical knowledge and understanding is a major responsibility in helping our individual faith journeys. He/She needs to lead, not govern, and inculcate that in others. Learning needs to be communal: the best way to learn something is to try to teach it. Pastor should inculcate a sense of wonder as we learn together.

HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAY TO:

- 01 Trang O'Connor
- 02 Ashley Crane
- 03 Carynne McIver
- 04 Lisa Flinn
- 06 Carly Bailey
- 07 Adam Crane
- 08 Jack Stephenson
- 15 Will Laws
- 15 Jordan Wolfe
- 17 Ella Henderson
- 18 Dale Wisniewski
- 19 Lisa Watts
- 25 Caroline Cathey
- 27 Joe Talley
- 28 Jim Summers
- 30 Brenda Morgan



May Wedding Anniversary

- 14 Chris & Trang O'Connor
- 22 Eric & Katherine Cathey
- 29 Dan Patterson & Roxanne Barksdale



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



MAY LECTIONARY READINGS

- 5** Acts 9:1-6 (7-20); Psalm 30; Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19
- 12** Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30
- 19** Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35
- 26** Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:1-10, 21:22-22:5; John 14:23-39 or John 5:1-9



VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

May 5 Youth Sunday / Teacher Appreciation

- Liturgist: Youth
- Children's Sermon: Youth
- Acolyte: Forrest Heinze
- Flowers: Diane Bobal
- Youth Meal (5/8): Stephenson Family
- Mowing (5/4): Robin Bedingfield
- Nursery: Karoline Mathewson, Cathy Ely
- Lemonade on Lawn: CE
- Greeters: TBD



May 12 Earth Day Worship

- Liturgist: Kim Bryant
- Children's Sermon: Eric Cathey
- Acolyte: Madeleine Stanley-Gibbs
- Flowers: Sean and Carly Bailey
- Youth Meal (5/15): O'Connor Family
- Mowing (5/18): Bernie Nord
- Nursery: Rosie Summers
- Lemonade on Lawn: Stewardship
- Greeters: TBD



May 19

- Liturgist: Sara Clay
- Children's Sermon: Kim Bryant
- Acolyte: Jaiden Lytle
- Flowers: James and Lisa Watts
- Lemonade on Lawn: Robin Bedingfield/Stewardship
- Youth Meal (5/22): Stephenson Family
- Nursery: Stephanie Morgan, Marie Curtis
- Lemonade on Lawn: TBD
- Greeters: TBD



May 26

- Liturgist: Sam Nesbit
- Children's Sermon: Barbara Younger
- Acolyte: Emma Cathey
- Flowers: Jim and Rosie Summers
- Youth Meal (5/29): Christine Jackle
- Mowing (6/1): TBD
- Nursery: TBD
- Lemonade on Lawn: TBD
- Greeters: TBD

May, 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	<p>Join us on Sunday mornings!</p> <p>Sunday School for All Ages at 9:45 AM Nursery for Children at 9:45 & 11:00 AM Traditional Worship at 11:00 AM Lemonade on the Lawn 12:15 PM</p>		<p>1</p> <p>Youth Group 6:00 PM (#204)</p> <p>CE 6:30 PM (#222)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM (#221)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Bobal/Smith Rehearsal 2:00 PM (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Bobal/Smith Wedding 9 AM – 3 PM (Sanctuary)</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Youth Sunday</p> <p>9:45 AM Parents of Young Children (Parlor)</p> <p>9:45 AM Joyful Noise (#221)</p> <p>12:15 PM Lemonade on the Lawn</p> <p>12:30 PM Diaconate (#204)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>HPC Mission Knitting Group 1:00 PM (Parlor)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>PNC 7:00 PM (#204)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Youth 6 PM (#204)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM (#221)</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>“Taste & Tunes” Fundraiser at New Hope Camp & Conference Center 6:00 – 8:30 PM</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Earth Day</p> <p>12:15 PM Lemonade on the Lawn</p> <p>7:00 PM HPC Book Club (Parlor)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Circle #1 -- 11:00 AM (HPC #204)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>PNC 7:00 PM (#204)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Youth Group 6:00 PM #204</p> <p>PW Women’s Circle 7:00 PM (Parlor)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Deadline for HPC Newsletter 1:00 PM</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM (#221)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>“Finish It Friday” Sewing/Craft 6-11 PM (Strudwick)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Quilter’s Guild 9 AM – 3 PM (Strudwick)</p> <p>Men’s Canoe Trip 5/18 & 19</p>
<p>19</p> <p>12:15 PM Lemonade on the Lawn</p> <p>12:15 PM Community Outreach (#204)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:30 PM Session (Strudwick)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>PNC 7:00 PM (#204)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Youth Group 6:00 PM (#204)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM (#221)</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>12:15 PM Lemonade on the Lawn</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Food for All 5:30 PM (Strudwick)</p> <p>PNC 7:00 PM (#204)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Youth Group 6:00 PM (#204)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM (#221)</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>Announcements for the Bulletin are due in the church office by Wednesday noon) each week. Bulletins printed on Thursday.</p>

NOTE: If you have any June 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 16th of May!

Community Outreach News



Jessica Evans Scholarship at Camp New Hope

Each year on Youth Sunday, the Youth request contributions for the Jessica Evans Scholarship fund at Camp New Hope. This scholarship is in memory of Jessica Evans, a former Youth Group member who died tragically in 2006. The Youth Group set up this scholarship honoring her and because of generous contributions we have been able to send over 60 needy children to camp. The Youth will continue to seek contributions through the month of May. Please help if you are able!

New Hope Camp and Conference Center: New Representative

The Community Outreach Committee is happy to announce that Linda Jaubert is our new representative to the New Hope Camp and Conference Center. This is a three year term where the representative is a member of the Board of Directors of NHCCC. Linda will also share news and upcoming events with HPC. Thank you Linda for accepting this position!

Justice United: Upcoming Opportunities in May

- Public Assembly at Lattis Grove Missionary Baptist Church on Thursday, May 9th at 7pm. Hear a report from the Orange County Schools leadership on equitable teacher hiring.
- Public Budget Hearing at Whitted Building, Hillsborough on Tuesday, May 14th at 7pm. Advocate for a funding increase to improve teacher diversity at the County Commissioner's Budget Hearing.

For more information: see ocjusticeunited.org or ask Kathy Remington or Jane McIver.

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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

Lemonade on the Lawn 12:15 PM

*A nursery is provided for children 4 and under downstairs;
there are Worship Bags (coloring pages, stories, etc.)
available for Children in Worship –*