

HILLSBOROUGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

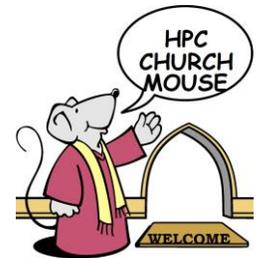
102 West Tryon Street
Post Office Box 717
Hillsborough, NC 27278
(919) 732-3131 (Office)

The Church Mouse

September, 2020

Reverend Alex Fischer
alex@hillsboroughpres.org

Website: www.hillsboroughpres.org



God's peace be with you!

Here we are, another month has passed. Some things are changing—the weather is teasing us by cooling down slightly here and there. Our kids are going back to school, at least virtually. The days of summer are coming to a close and fall seems to be in sight. At the same time, many things seem to be staying the same: we're still distancing, we're still navigating limitations and safety precautions. There are still cries for mercy and justice in our nation and in our world that need our attention and response. And perhaps most importantly, God's steadfast love and faithful promises still remain the same. We are still God's people, called to be Christ's hands and feet out in the world. As I've seen on many church marquees: "Seasons change, but God's love remains the same."

I'm still greatly enjoying getting to know you all. There are many of you I have yet to meet, but I trust we will do so in time. I'm very much a story-centered person, so hearing your own stories of your involvement at HPC and how much you've loved being part of this faith community has been a real joy to hear. And it's an incredible privilege to now be part of that story myself!

For me, that's a helpful lens for understanding faith: faith as the story of God and God's people. We read this story in scripture and then are invited to live into the story ourselves. To help us all look at faith in this way, we're making a change with our worship starting the second Sunday of September. Instead of following the Revised Common Lectionary for our scripture choices, we will be following the Narrative Lectionary. This is a lectionary designed by two professors at Luther Seminary, with the aim of helping us see the larger narrative (story) of the Bible, treating each book as equally valuable and informative for how we engage our faith. In particular, it helps us to become "more fluent in the first language of faith," the texts of the Hebrew Scriptures/Old Testament.

This will be a 9 month journey and will take us all the way from Genesis to Revelation. It's also a 4 year cycle, with each year being dedicated to one of the Gospels. This year, we will be focusing on the Gospel of Luke beginning in Advent.

I first heard about this lectionary in seminary and worked at a church that utilized it. Since then, I've been eager to take the opportunity to implement it. I'm excited to be able to do so. You may not have even noticed the change if I hadn't told you. But since I'm telling you about it, I hope it will only enliven both your personal sense of faith and our communal sense of faith. I pray it will help us live more faithfully into the story of being God's people in Hillsborough, NC, so that we can spread the news of God's hope and invite everyone to join us in the story too.

Blessings,
Alex

CIRCLE #1

Circle #1 will meet via Zoom at 11:00 on Monday, September 14. All are invited to join us! Visitors and guests are always welcome! Questions? See Ann Sebesan.



HPC BOOK CLUB

The **HPC Book Group** met in August and will meet again on Thursday, September 17 at 7:00 pm via ZOOM.

Our book for September will be Decision in Philadelphia by Chris Collier. Lauded as “the best popular history of the Constitutional Convention available”, the book describes the day-to-day events surrounding the drafting of the constitution which still governs us today. It is not on the shelves of our local library, but a second hand copy can be purchased from Amazon for as little as \$5.00

We will send out the Zoom link before Thursday, September 17. If you are not on the HPC Book Club email list just send an email to the church office and we will add you! (hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org) Questions? See Annette Jurgelski, Lisa Flinn, or Robin Bedingfield.



LEMONADE ON THE ZOOM



On Sundays in September we will have Lemonade on the Zoom following our online Sunday morning worship service. We're excited for this opportunity to "see" our church family!

Would you like to sign-up to host one of these Sundays in September? The church office will send out an email invitation to the congregation with the link information -- and then on Sunday afternoon you click on this same link to host the meeting! It's that easy! Just send us a quick email (hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org) and we'll add you to the host schedule for a Sunday of your choice. (Dates open: October 4, 11, 18, 25)



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Linda Jaubert will be offering a Zoom lesson on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm, based on the Lectionary lessons that our Sunday School Class uses. It won't be a lecture format, but will encourage group discussion. We will be reading the scripture passages that we will be discussing, and encourage you to have your bibles with you to refer to.

To participate in the class please be in touch with Linda. She will then forward instructions for connecting to this Zoom event!

Yours in Christ,
Linda Jaubert

HPC FINANCE DATA

Pledges: \$ 96,403	Expenses: \$107,032
Budget: \$102,495	Budget: \$119,612
YTD net Income: \$ -2,543	
Budget: \$-12,245	

It's true that our pledges are still somewhat below the budget, but our church family continues to faithfully support HPC and our community partners. At the current rate, our congregation will have the largest Community Outreach and Denominational Giving totals in the history of the congregation!

Please continue to support our shared mission!

Thanks,
James Watts



HPC YOUTH GROUP

The **Youth Group** will meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 – 7:30 PM. Questions? See Eric Cathey.

THANK YOU!

Thank you for the wonderful food that was prepared for me and my family while they were with me day and night early in my recovery time. Thank you for the many, many cards, emails, phone calls, prayers and love that was sent my way. Thank you for thinking of me. Calls are always appreciated as I am still home most of the time. Not quite fully recovered, but surely working on it!



-- Brenda Morgan

OCIM's WISH LIST

Your safety and that of those we serve is so important to us! We are constantly wiping down our carts, doors, baskets, etc. to keep things sanitized. For that reason, our wishlist now includes 99.9% hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes, and other cleaning supplies! #OCIMlove #safetyfirst



2020 FLOWER CHART

The Flower Chart schedule is on the bulletin board in the hallway and on page 5 of this newsletter! Sign up and share with your Church the joy of an anniversary, a special occasion, or memorialize someone important to you! Send an email to the church office and we'll get you on the schedule (hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org)! You can drop off flowers on Saturday morning – or if you order at Flower Patch they will deliver to HPC. (Open dates: September 13 and 20, October 25)

HPC WEBSITE

You can always find our Sunday Bulletin, monthly newsletter, or the link to our Youtube Worship Service on our HPC website at www.hillsboroughpres.org. Click on any event on our calendar page for additional details too! A great way to keep up with what's happening at HPC!



GOOGLE GROUP LISTS AT HPC

Would you like to be added to our HPCNews list and get our weekly NewsFlash and other news? We also have these lists: 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 add you to the list!

Did you think you were on the hpcnews google group list but have not been receiving our weekly email News Flash? Just send a quick email to JoAnn in the church office and we'll work on getting this corrected.



GREEN NOTES!

Strive to produce Zero Waste. Learn about the movement and read [Ten Tips to Get Started](http://www.goingzerowaste.com/top-10-to-get-started/) online at www.goingzerowaste.com/top-10-to-get-started/.

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

September, 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1	2 Youth Group 6:00 PM Adult Sunday School 7:30 PM (Zoom)	3 Christian Ed. 6:30 PM (Zoom)	4	5
6 11:00 AM Worship (Live Stream) 12:15 PM Lemonade on Zoom (Zoom Live Stream)	7	8 Community Outreach 7:00 PM (Zoom)	9 Youth Group 6:00 PM Adult Sunday School 7:30 PM (Zoom)	10 Stewardship 7:00 PM (Zoom)	11	12
13 11:00 AM Worship (Live Stream) 12:15 PM Lemonade on Zoom (Zoom Live Stream)	14 Circle #1 - 11:00 AM (Zoom)	15	16 Youth Group 6:00 PM Adult Sunday School 7:30 PM (Zoom)	17 HPC Book Club 7:00 PM (Zoom)	18	19
20 11:00 AM Worship (Live Stream) 12:15 PM Lemonade on Zoom (Zoom Live Stream) 1:30 PM Session Meeting (Zoom)	21 Finance 7:00 PM (Zoom)	22 Deadline for Newsletter 1:00 PM	23 Youth Group 6:00 PM Adult Sunday School 7:30 PM (Zoom)	24	25	26
27 11:00 AM Worship (Live Stream) 12:15 PM Lemonade on Zoom (Zoom Live Stream)	28	29	30	Join us on Sunday mornings! Traditional Worship at 11:00 AM (Live Stream on YouTube)		Announcements for the Bulletin are due in the church office by Wednesday noon each week. Bulletins printed on Thursday.

NOTE: If you have any October 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 22nd of September!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH UPDATE



How are we as a faith community supporting the needs of our community through Orange Congregations In Mission?

Food Insecurity: Thanks to your financial donations, Robin Barnhill and Joe and Gail Crane are purchasing and delivering food items requested by OCIM as specific needs arise. Hunger and food insecurity are often invisible to us though it is always present in our community. Many thanks to Robin Barnhill for spearheading this effort.

Samaritan Relief: During these difficult and disrupting times Samaritan Relief at OCIM reports a great community need for assistance with rent and utilities. HPC through the Community Outreach Committee recently provided over \$1,000 to Samaritan Relief to address this need to help prevent eviction for families in crisis.

None of this would have been possible without your continued commitment to HPC's greater community. Thank you!

-- Jane McIver, Community Outreach Committee

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SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Traditional Worship 11:00 AM

(Live Stream Worship)