

HILLSIDE

828 W. Archer Rd.
Princeton, IN 47670
812-385-2910

US Postage Paid
Permit #146
Princeton, IN 47670
Non-Profit Organ.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

August & September 2017

August & September 2017

HILLSIDE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



OUR MISSION

Hillside is called to Love God, Serve others, Grow in Christ & Go live out our faith.

OUR VISION

Hillside is a center of hope in our community as we reflect the love of Jesus.

Sundays @ Hillside

Traditional Worship @ 8:30 a.m. - Casual Worship @ 10:45 a.m.
Conversation & Sunday School @ 9:45 a.m.

Weekly Office Hours

Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Rev. Chris Neikirk - cneikirk@hillsideprinceton.org

UPCOMING SERMONS

August 6 "Family Matters"
August 13 "Doing Good Matters"
August 20 "God's Word Matters"
August 27 "Sharing Your Story Matters"

SERMON SERIES: On Purpose

September 3 "Loving With Purpose"
September 10 "Living With Purpose"
September 17 "Serving With Purpose"
September 24 "Leading With Purpose"

BOOK REVIEW—Spiritual Leadership: Principles of Excellence for Every Believer by J. Oswald Sanders

Do you feel a stirring in your heart to take a more active role in the church? Are you wondering what it looks like to lead by the power of the Holy Spirit?

First released in 1967 and updated for contemporary context, J. Oswald Sanders' *Spiritual Leadership* balances scripture, application, and personal reflection to guide the believer in an examination of their own leadership capacities. The book begins with an analysis of the need for leaders in the church, identifies the qualities of a strong spiritual leader, warns of the downfalls in leadership, and then encourages the pursuit of spiritual leadership.

Although I was skeptical of how applicable this "classic" might be, its concepts are timeless and practical. Sanders takes an honest approach to the need for and the commitments required in leadership, but also provides inspiration to step up to the challenge as we seek to honor God with our lives. As the church body, we must ask ourselves where we can best serve and how to effectively lead the church in His purposes.

If you are looking for guidance towards leadership in the church, this resource has answers worth considering. Thanks to the grant received from the Center for Congregations, you can check out a copy from our new resource library. See Susan Carey for more details.

This year's youth mission trip to Puerto Rico was a success. With 18 youth and 8 leaders who all grew in their faith by serving others in need. Our projects included: fixing a fence, building a pathway to a porch, serving food and praying with the community. We just want to thank everyone for your prayers and donations. Without your help this would not have been possible.





Hillside Youth Mission Trip 2017
Puerto Rico

YOUTH MINISTRY GRANT UPDATE

Susan Carey

Two years ago, Hillside UMC began the process of applying for the Youth Ministry Grant Initiative through the Center for Congregations. With a lot of prayer, a lot of hard work, and God's blessing, we were awarded \$23,232 and charged with matching those funds through donations and fundraising. We are now nearly complete with more than \$46,000 worth of projects and resources to enhance our youth program and congregation.

Since receiving the dollars in June 2016 and working towards the match, so much has been accomplished.

- ⇒ Children and youth leaders participated in training with Ministry Architects to learn best practice, current research, and leadership to best meet the needs of our families.
- ⇒ Leaders then began the discipleship path process, again training with Ministry Architects to identify core competencies for children and youth and developing a plan to achieve those through our Wednesday and Sunday programming. You'll see the culmination of this work roll out in September with new curriculum and a three-year scope and sequence in the works.
- ⇒ The youth room underwent renovation to build a separating wall and entry, as well as new paint and a stage.
- ⇒ 26 youth and leaders served on mission in Puerto Rico, completing building projects, distributing food, and building relationships with individuals they would otherwise have never met.
- ⇒ \$872 worth of books and videos were purchased for a resource library available to children and youth leaders as well as parents.

Our final stage in the project is to complete youth room renovations with a drop ceiling, new lighting, and new furniture to make the environment more conducive to various groups and hopefully improving sound proofing. All projects will be complete by December 2017.

Thank you, Hillside, for your ongoing support of these projects, not only financially but more importantly through your prayers and encouragement. It is an honor to serve a church that values families, children, and youth and recognizes their importance to the life of the congregation.

Dear Hillside Family,
Thank you so much for the many prayers, visits and the beautiful meal, where our family could spend time together. Please keep our family in your prayers and again thanks so very much.

Family of Bev Pritchett

Dear Hillside UMC,
Thank you all so very much for allowing us to use Hillside for the 2017 Gibson County Nursing Home Games! We sincerely appreciate you supporting this wonderful community event. We simply could not do it without your partnership.

Kristin Hood/SWIRCA

Thank you and I truly appreciate the scholarship. Your generosity will allow me to take my education to IUPUI. College is something I plan to take very seriously. I cannot thank you enough.

Katie Owens

Thank you for your support of the Relay for Life program of the American Cancer Society. We raised \$1,864 of the \$97,659 that was raised in the county. We placed 12th among the 34 teams so we could be proud of our accomplishment. This is the last year that I plan to be Team Captain of Hillside. I will be available for the new Team Captain and be a contributing member of the team but I will not be Team Captain. Feel free to contact Ron Miller at rgmiller@twc.com or at 812-385-5117 for more information.

Your thoughtfulness means a lot to us. And our warm appreciation comes with this thank you note today.

Family of Jane Woods

Thank you so much for the \$500 scholarship. I appreciate it so much and am so grateful that I was selected for it. Hillside has been my home as long as I can remember and will always have a special place in my heart. Thank you for all the memories and thank you for shaping me into the man I am today.

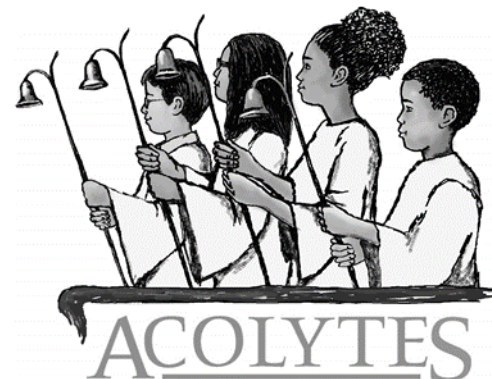
Jaiden Scott

Jr. Choir

Our young people will also be returning to first service in September. And I will be very happy to see them! The Jr. choir will begin practices in September and will be singing in worship several times during the fall. All youth from second grade up are invited to participate in Jr. Choir, including those who are in middle school!! Please see Steve or Sandy Nixon for more information.

Acolytes

Another important service to Hillside is that of being an acolyte. Boys and girls who are in second grade and older are invited to light the candles on the altar for Sunday service. The symbolism of carrying the light of Jesus into worship and then carrying it out into the world at the end of worship is an important part of our service. Please see Sandy Nixon for more information.



A NOTE FROM THE CHOIR DIRECTOR

Hillside Singing Men We haven't heard from our singing men for several years now, and it's time to change that! We'd like to hear them again! So all Hillside men (and their sons) are invited to be a part of the Hillside Singing Men this year. The group will sing on August 20, hopefully at both first and second services. There will be practices on August 2, 9, and 16 at 6:30 pm in the worship center to learn the music. It isn't necessary that you read music—we will teach you! All that is necessary is that you love to sing, and particularly love to sing for God! From past experiences, I can say that this will be a lot of fun for the Singing Men and for the congregation. Men, please plan to join in the fun and camaraderie! We'll look for you on August 2. In the meantime, if you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact Sandy Nixon.

Summer Special Music Hillside is blessed with vocalists and musicians who are willing to share their talents with us, and we have been blessed to hear them this summer from May through September 3. And we aren't finished yet—the month of August will include another visit from our young friend Austin Glover on August 6, Betty Farris on August 13, the Hillside Singing Men on August 20, and the Jr. Choir/VBS kids on August 27, followed by Dollie Neikirk on September 3. I especially appreciate that we had several young people singing and playing for us this year. It has been a joy to listen to each and every one of them, and I hope that you will express your appreciation to them, too.

Choir Returning to Worship The first practice of the fall season for the Hillside Choir will be on Wednesday, August 30 at 6:30 in the worship center. I have missed the choir members and am ready to see them again every week! We would love to have some new members join us, so please consider choir as an opportunity to serve at Hillside. Just to remind you, it is not necessary that you are able to read music—we will help you learn the songs. There are many members of the choir who have not had formal music training and yet are invaluable to the choir, and you can be, too! Anyone from 6th grade up is most welcome to be a part of choir. Please join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 in the worship center.

CARING FOR KIDS

Caring for Kids will finish their last meal August 3, 2017. We will have served 20 days. For May and June we served 980 children with 82 children coming back for a 2nd meal. We served at 5 locations this summer, Tuesdays and Thursdays at Head Start, St Joseph School, Princeton Creek Apartments and Lafayette Park and on Thursdays at Hazleton Community Center.

We also served several parents and program/staff adults. We are serving in areas of need and are pleased at the response. We have a great group of volunteers not only from our church but the community at large. They are awesome. This program is a blessing to our community, our church and the children that are benefitting from the meals. God has provided just the right mix of volunteers, supporters and children. We had great help in the kitchen this summer that truly was a blessing.

Thank you Mission Committee for your continued support and also thanks to the prayer warriors who have held this program in prayer. We hope to continue again next summer. We would love to have more volunteers next year. Please prayerfully consider this mission field. You can contact Brenda Witt or Susan Carey at the office 812-385-2910 or Jeannie Robbins 812-779-6227.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT HILLSIDE ARE BACK!!

Wow! Can you believe that summer is almost over and soon all the children will be going back to school? Lucky for them, we have a ton of fun planned for our children this school year. The program leaders have been busy preparing this summer for the coming school year. We have been working on curriculum and meeting weekly to plan what's best for our children. This is going to be the best year yet!!

We have several programs available for all age groups on Wednesday nights and Youth Group meets on Sunday nights.

Little Friends Club: This is for ages 4 & 5, our kids who are in Preschool and Pre-K. Little Friends Club meets from 6-7:30 on Wednesday nights. Little Friends Club is a high energy, fun environment for our youngsters to learn about the Bible and how Jesus wants us to live. Amy Evans is the contact for Little Friends Club.

Friends Club: This is for kids in Kindergarten-Second grades. Friends Club meets from 6-7:30 on Wednesday nights. Friends Club is a fun place for kids to get to know one another and their small group leaders, play games, and learn how Jesus wants us to live. Amanda Miskell is the contact for Friends Club.

Young Believers: This is for kids in Third-Fifth grades. Young Believers meets from 6-7:30 on Wednesday nights. Young Believers is a fun place to gather to worship with your friends and to learn about what the Bible tells us about important life lessons. Sarah Kruse is the contact for Young Believers.

Youth Group: This is for kids in Sixth-Twelfth grades. Youth Group meets on Sunday nights and begins with an open gym at 4:00, followed by a meal at 5:00, and then with activities following dinner. Youth group is a place to come and worship with friends and gather in small groups to learn important topics geared for each age group. Justin Dyehouse is the contact for Youth Group.

MISSIONAL WORK

Can you sew? Are you interested in doing mission work? Do you have some spare time?

We are still making drawstring bags (300) and dresses (150 for girls) for the Christmas Shoebox Ministry. Last year we made 200+ cloth drawstring bags for children to carry their supplies in. We are currently working on bags and pillowcase dresses (only using fabric and not pillowcases) for this year.

We are also looking at making a couple of other items. We still have a small amount of fabric left and a lot of thread. We have patterns to work off of. It would be fun to have a sewing day at church maybe once a month. Or you might prefer doing your sewing at home. Contact the church or Jeannie Robbins if you are interested in any part of this process.

If you have fabric you would like to donate that would be usable for our project please let the office know before you bring it to the church. We are using fabric suitable for clothing and some light weight canvases, as well as towels that might be worn in areas that we can cut into pieces for another project we are working on. Any questions call Jeannie at 812-779-6227.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX MINISTRY

The month of August & September we will be collecting School Supplies. Remember we fill shoeboxes for children ages 2 to 14. Here is a list of items that will help fill our school supply tote: small coloring books, small adult coloring books, crayons, colored pencils, small pads of paper, pencils, erasers and small sharpeners. We will be collecting these items for the next two months. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Amy Evans 812-664-1683 or Janelle Zeisler 812-483-0341.

Name Badges

Parents: Please encourage your children to not play or arrange the name badges in the lobby.

Every Friday they need to all be put back on the sides of the holder so folks can find them easily on Sunday mornings.

Also as they move them there is wear and tear on them where the magnet part gets lost or the whole attachment comes off and then we need to order new ones.

Thank you for your cooperation.

LISTEN RETREAT Rev. Jarmon Perkins

The first reaction of most people when they consider listening as a possible method of dealing with others is that listening cannot be sufficient by itself. Most people feel that listening does not communicate anything to the speaker. Nothing is further from the truth! By active listening you can convey important ideas and attitudes.

Join us for a one day retreat at The Perkins' Home at 282 Lake Inwood Dr, Princeton, IN on Thursday, September 14, 2017 from 4-8 p.m. They will provide hamburgers & hotdogs.

Please RSVP by calling Jarmon Perkins at 812-385-0931 or 812-677-6816.

Toddler Room: This is for 2 & 3 year olds whose parents are taking part in a small group on the church campus during Wednesday night family activities. The kids play games and do activities while interacting with volunteers to learn about the Bible. Jenny White is the contact for the Toddler Room.

Please contact the church office at 812-385-2910 if you have any questions.

Here are a few important dates to put on the calendar for our activities:

Wednesday, September 13
Program Kickoff
5:00 Family meal
6:00 Activities

Sunday, September 17
Youth Group
4:00 Open Gym
5:00 Meal
6:00 Youth Group

Wednesday, September 20
Wednesday Night Family Builders
5:00 Family Meal
6:00 Little Friends Club, Friends Club, Young Believers

FAMILY BUILDERS **Amy Evans**

Wednesday nights are back and things might look a little different: new faces, new times, new menus, new prices, and new activities. Join us Wednesday, September 13th for our Kick-Off Event. Each night we will begin at 4:45 p.m. with a family devotional and prayer time. Meal will follow immediately after prayer and we will stop serving at 5:45 p.m.

September Menu

September 13th -***Kick Off Night*** (FREE MEAL)
Hamburger, Hot Dogs, Mac and Cheese, Chips and Ice Cream

September 20th-***Taco Night***
Hard/Soft Taco, Ground beef, shredded pork, all the toppings, chips and cheese
Salad Bar includes salad and fruit

September 27th-***Breakfast Night***
French toast, sausage patties, hashbrowns, scrambled eggs.
Includes fruit and yogurt parfait.

Hot Meal with Salad Bar cost is \$3.00 per person (Preschool and under free). Salad Bar cost is \$2.00 per person (Preschool and under free). Meals include drink and desserts.

If you are looking for an area to volunteer, we can always use help in the kitchen, cooking and cleaning, dessert sign ups and kid activities. If you volunteer with family builders, your meal is free that night. If you have any questions, contact Amy Evans 812-664-1683.

The Women's Outreach is for women of the church and community. We fellowship, send cards to shut-ins, and have a short devotion. We enjoy refreshments at some meetings or sometimes we go out and eat lunch. Please join us. Our meeting will be September 22 at 9:30a.m. at Hillside Church.

HILLSIDE PRESCHOOL NEWS **Chastity Braswell**

Summer is almost over for our children and that means back to school. Hillside Preschool and Pre-K classes start Monday, August 14. There is a buzz of excitement as the staff is starting to make plans for a year of fun and learning. We are looking forward to seeing the returning children again and meeting the new children and their families. We want to wish the Hillside Pre-K Graduating class of 2017 the best of luck in Kindergarten, we will miss you all.

We have a new face around our preschool. We would like to welcome Mrs. Jamie Nielsen. She will be teaching in our pre-k classroom so please give her a big welcome to our Hillside family!

September we will be getting down on the farm. The children will be studying all about farm life. You might even be able to see a few farm animals around visiting our school. The children will celebrate grandparents with our Grandparent's program on September 6th.

Our first round of bible verse are 1 John 3:11, Ephesians 6:1, Psalm 119:160, and Psalm 31:14. Our children always amaze me how quickly they learn their bible verses.

Hillside Preschool is off to a great start and we want to thank the church for all your help and most of all your prayers. My staff and I are truly blessed with great support from all of you. We pray that you have blessed day.

MAKING APPLE PIES!

It's time to start gathering ingredients for the apple pies at Hillside Church. This is a fundraiser for the whole church and will be used on the mortgage and/or other programs as deemed necessary at that time. We have been making apple pies since the 3 churches merged and had been a primary fundraiser for one of the churches prior to that. It started back in the early 80's.

We invite everyone to help in whatever way they can. We need a lot of supplies, apple pickers, peelers, slicers, dough makers, assemblers for baking, workers at the booth and general cleanup every night at the church.

We will start collecting the following ingredients. We will need them by September 3. Please place them in the blue tub in the lobby.

- ◆ 110 - 4lb bags of sugar (not fine)
- ◆ 85 - 5lb bags of Gold Medal (not self-rising)
- ◆ 55 - Crisco 3lb cans
- ◆ 5 lbs salt
- ◆ 100 lbs lard (Dewigs)
- ◆ 55—1lb Parkay margarine
- ◆ 50 dozen Jumbo eggs (please make sure the expiration date isn't before Sept 16)

If you would like to donate money please mark your check for apple pies and put in the offering plate or bring to the office.

We will start apple peeling Wednesday, September 13. The schedule/sign-up sheets will be put out mid August. We will keep a posted list of the number of supplies we still need.
Thanks for all your support.

FAMILY BUILDERS KICK-OFF

Wednesday night activities are back! Join us Wednesday, September 13th from 5-8:00 p.m. as we kick-off Wednesday night programming. After a delicious cook-out meal provided by our Family Builders, register the kids for Wednesday night group and enjoy an evening of family activities:

- Giant slip 'n slide
- Dunking booth
 - 4-square
 - Cake walk
- Balloon animals
- Corn hole boards
 - Music

We will also have a brief parent orientation at 6:30 p.m. for our children's programs.

Lawn chairs, swimsuits, and towels are encouraged. Let's celebrate the return of family night!



NOTE FROM YOUR PASTOR Rev. Chris Neikirk

We only have a few weeks left during our Practically Christian series. I'm sure some of you are thinking, "Already?" While others are thinking, "Enough, already!" Have you been wrestling with the questions: What matters to God? And does what matters to me also matter to God? Essentially, do my priorities, as well as my thoughts and actions, reflect what I say I believe and do they reflect my love for God? Those are uncomfortable questions for many of us to wrestle with.

During this series, I believe the most important concept we've discussed has been "prayer matters!" Of all of the things that we can do to become Practically Christian, I sincerely believe that prayer has the potential to make the greatest impact. Prayer has the potential to make an immediate difference in our own walk with the Lord. Prayer also has the potential to open the door for God to work in the lives of our family members, friends and neighbors. Prayer will also impact our church and our community.

Many of us think that we would pray more if we only knew what to pray or how to pray. I shared with you an excerpt from the book, *Prayers*, by Michael Quoit:

All of life would become prayer if we knew how to listen to God, if we knew how to look around us, our whole life would become prayer. For it unfolds under God's eyes and no part of it must be lived without being freely offered to him. At first we communicate with God through words, which may be dispensed with later on. Let us then make use of the following pages, but soon discard words, as one does the peelings of a fruit. Words are only a means. However, the silent prayer which has moved beyond words must always spring from everyday life, for everyday life is the raw material of prayer.

Our lives are the raw material for prayer. Prayer has the power to change a lot of things... most of all prayer has the power to change each one of us from the inside out. Please join me in committing to a season of prayer. Please pray for God to strengthen our families and transform our homes into havens of peace.

Please pray for our church – that God will enable us to live into our mission of becoming a center of hope in our community. Please pray for our community – that God will use us and other believers to reach the hurting, lost, and broken among us. Please pray for our state and federal governments – that God will raise up principled, Christian leaders who will make decisions bathed in prayer as they govern our state and country.

Pastor and author Max Lucado writes: *Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the one who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference.* Trust in the One who hears our prayers.

