

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

HILLSIDE HAPPENINGS



We filled 168 boxes!



December 2015

hillsideprinceton.org

SUNDAYS AT HILLSIDE
8:30 & 10:45 a.m. | Worship Services
9:45 - 10:35 a.m. | Sunday School

OFFICE HOURS:
M - TH | 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday | 9:00 a.m. - Noon

812-385-2910

 **A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

MISSION NEWS

Your missions committee has selected Heifer International as the focus charity for this year's special Christmas giving. Heifer International has a long history of helping communities in impoverished areas break the cycle of poverty by empowering them with training and sustainable means of income.



Heifer International is especially well-known for its animal projects, providing livestock to families, and then training them in how to properly raise, breed, and then sell or trade for income. Recipients then pass on the gift as their own livestock multiply. The result is a cycle of empowerment for both the individual and the community. We would love for Hillside Church to sponsor a Gift Ark. This \$5,000 gift provides an impoverished community with two water buffalos, two cows, two sheep and two goats, bees, chicks, and rabbits, which will provide income and help sustain farming practices.

In addition, we challenge the congregation to fund an additional \$1,000 to provide a community with biogas stoves. Biogas stoves provide a healthier, efficient, reliable heat and cooking source for families who currently must cook over firewood in poorly ventilated homes.

Your missions committee is so grateful to serve a church that truly takes its mission statement to heart. We pray that you will see this Christmas offering to Heifer International as a way to express your **love** for God and others, to **serve** by empowering others with hope, to **grow** in your faith as you trust God as your provider, and to **go** spread the gospel message.

NEWS FROM THE PRESCHOOL | CHASTITY BRASWELL

The children, parents and staff had a wonderful Thanksgiving celebration. We all worked together to make "Stone Soup" to eat for our meal and the children talked about what they are thankful for and sang songs about turkeys and Thanksgiving.

It is time for all the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season. The children are getting geared up for the annual Christmas Parade, on Dec. 6. Our float title is "All Different Yet Special to God" and we are decorating with snowflakes. Come on out and support our float. The children love to see everyone waving them on.

We want to invite everyone to come and celebrate with us at our Christmas Program on Dec. 17 at 6:30 p.m. Pre-K will tell the story of the birth of our Savior and all the children will sing songs and recite bible verses.

If you visit our preschool you will see lots of Christmas treats being made, from gingerbread men and women to jingle bells, but with all that we will share with the children the real reason for the season! It is a great honor to work with our families in a church where we can share the good news with everyone.

Our bible verses this month are Luke 2:11, John 3:16, and Matthew 2:10.

The Preschool would like to wish everyone here at Hillside a Merry Christmas and Happy, Healthy New Year.



Giving Tuesday is Dec. 1. In this season of giving gifts to family and friends, Giving Tuesday affords us the opportunity give to help those we may not even know and make a difference in their lives. In many parts of the world, where electricity is inconsistent at best, it's common for doctors to operate by candlelight. Inexpensive solar-charged lights could literally save a life.

United Methodist Communications' ICT4D (Information and Communications Technologies for Development) Church Initiatives works to put such life-changing devices in the hands of those who need them.

Visit umcom.org/givingtuesday and consider giving through The United Methodist Church. For just a few dollars, you could be the light in someone's life.



The Adult & Children's Choir will present

"What Child Is This?"

Musical Cantata

Sunday, Dec. 13, 2015

8:30 a.m. Worship Service

Invite your family & friends!

NEWS FROM THE YOUTH GROUP

It's hard to believe that November is over, but it was great. We packed 26 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, collected 177 boxes of Hamburger Helper for Christmas basket, and enjoyed an Icemen hockey game.

We would like to say thanks to Alice and Roy Carey, Hillside Men's Group and Sunday Night Ladies Bible Study for making and serving dinner. We are needing individuals or groups to sign up to make dinner for the youth and leaders starting in January. Please see Andrea if interested.

HILLSIDE MEN | MATT ROBBINS-PRESIDENT

Hillside United Methodist Men will meet again for a nutritious breakfast on Dec. 12 @7:30 a.m. Our guest speaker will be Susan Carey. We invite all of the men of the church to stop by and enjoy a good time!

WOMEN’S OUTREACH

The Women’s Outreach welcomes all ladies who are free on Friday mornings for a time of fellowship, devotion and interesting programs. Invite all of your lady friends to join us. We will meet on Friday, Dec. 18 at 9:30 a.m.

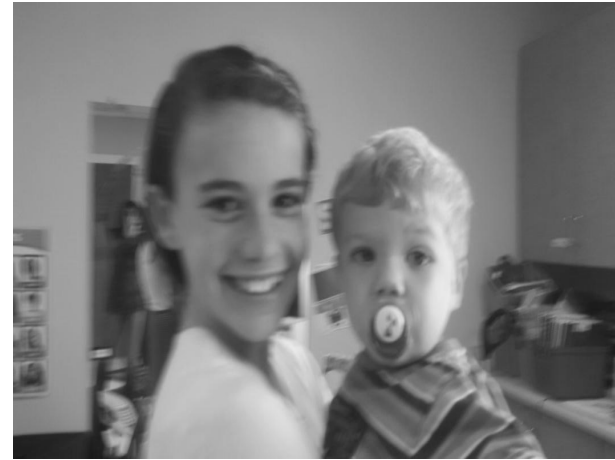
Please come join us and bring a friend with you. If you have any questions, feel free to call Jeannie Robbins at 812-779-2694 or Jane Armes at 812-779-5159.

From the Church Office: Please put these dates on your calendar.
2016 Newsletter Deadline Dates

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|--------------------|---------------------|
| January 22 | July 22 |
| February 19 | August 19 |
| March 25 | September 23 |
| April 22 | October 21 |
| May 20 | November 18 |
| June 24 | December 16 |

It’s hard to believe that 2015 is almost gone. Thank you to all who help gather information/pictures for the newsletters for 2015!

LITTLE LAMBS MINISTRY | JENNY WHITE



The Little Lambs Ministry has transitioned well into its new procedures. You may notice some new faces of volunteers in our nursery and toddler rooms. In October, six youth completed a Safe Sitter course. This course provides medically-accurate and developmentally-appropriate teaching for youth in unsupervised settings. Upon completion of this course, youth have the opportunity to volunteer in the nursery and toddler rooms. These youth are gaining hands-on experience with young children and building new relationships in our church and in our community.

Seventh grader Caleigh Cates enjoys working in the Hillside toddler room, and loves when the kids recognize her even outside of church: “I was sitting in the classroom when the Tiger Tots came to trick-or-treat for Halloween. Whenever Callen came in, he walked over to me and waved,” Caleigh said.

If you’d like more information about our Little Lambs Ministry, contact Jenny White at 812-604-3649 or jwhite@hillsideprinceton.org.

DIRECTOR OF FAMILY MINISTRY | SUSAN CAREY

"A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit" (Isaiah 11:1)

The Christmas tree is an important part of holiday decorating in the Carey home. In fact, we now have two trees: one for my and Alex's childhood ornaments as well as ornaments from family milestones and vacations, and a special tree for Kaitlyn's and Kendall's ornaments that they have collected each year since their birth. As we place the ornaments on the trees, we remember their origins and the special people and events the ornaments symbolize. In many ways, our Christmas trees remind us of our past, of our heritage.

If you're looking for another special tree to remind you of your heritage, I encourage you to explore the Jesse Tree tradition. If you've not heard of this, the Jesse Tree is a great family activity to do during the Advent season with the purpose of following the thread of the gospel from Adam to Jesus. Each day, families read a brief devotion and then create an ornament that symbolizes a particular person or event from the Bible that shows God's hand in redeeming His people. Families then place the ornaments on a tree devoted to telling the story of Jesus' lineage. The trees and ornaments can be as simple or as elaborate as you choose; the priority is to spend each day of Advent in God's word, being reminded daily that He had a plan to redeem us all along, and building excitement for the birth of Jesus.

Each day during the Advent season, I'll be posting links to Jesse Tree devotions and ornament templates to my Hillside UMC Family Ministry Facebook page. Be sure to follow the Family Ministry page and share your stories and pictures from your own Jesse Trees.

70 CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS

Hillside Church assists the Salvation Army by providing food baskets during the Christmas season. This is a great ministry opportunity we have provided for many years. Below is a list of supplies we still need. Items will be placed just inside the front doors to the left.

140 Cans of Pork n Beans

140 cans of Soup

If you or your class would like to donate a large quantity, please let the church office know as soon as possible. All items need to be in to the church by Monday, Dec. 15.

Happy Birthday, Jesus! **KIDS, COME CELEBRATE WITH US**

Where: Hillside UMC Lobby

When: 9:45-10:30 a.m. on Sunday, December 20, 2015

And what's a party without gifts? Let's celebrate the birth of baby Jesus by bringing gifts for our Gibson County babies. Our local WIC program serves mothers and their children (infants to 4-years-old). **They are especially in need of diapers, wipes, blankets, stocking caps, baby spoons, sippy cups, board books, socks, and footed pajamas.**

For more information contact Jenny White at 812-604-3649 or jwhite@hillsideprinceton.org.

Wednesday Night Menu for December

Dec. 2 Meatloaf, Mac & Cheese, Green Beans
Dec. 9 Baked Spaghetti, Garlic Toast
Dec. 16 BBQ Chicken, Rice, Broccoli
Dec. 23 & 30 No Meal Christmas Break

Meals cost \$3.50 per person and free for preschool children. We also have tickets for 10 meals to purchase for \$30. Salad, drink & dessert are included. We need enough desserts to feed 130 people. We need 8 cakes/desserts equal to 16 pieces each. If you would like to donate, please sign the sheet on the dessert table.

FRIENDS CLUB | AMANDA MISKELL

November was a great month. We reflected weekly about the things we are thankful for while learning about Jesus, his teachings, death and the resurrection and why we should be thankful for that, too! Over 70 children in our church helped pack shoeboxes on Nov. 11 for Operation Christmas Child. We had set a goal of 150 boxes, and were able to send out 175+. A huge thank you to the congregation and adult volunteers for their help in making this happen.

PARENTS, we are having some issues with kids wearing shoes that hurt their feet. One of our rules is to keep your shoes on (for safety reasons), so please make sure your child is wearing comfortable shoes to dance/play in.

We are looking forward to **December!** Our *What's in the Bible Curriculum* will include "The Big Questions of Christmas" "Jesus' Birth" and "The Christmas Story".

There will be **NO** Friends Club on Dec. 23 or 30 due to the Christmas/New Year's holiday. We will see everyone back on Jan. 6, 2016!

HILLSIDE APPAREL

The following Hillside apparel pieces are for sale on a first come, first served basis. See Susan Carey if you'd like to make a purchase.

- Medium ¾ Zip Gray Fleece Pullover with Red Methodist Flame Bling (\$35)
- 3XL ¾ Zip Gray Fleece Pullover with Clear Methodist Flame Bling (\$37)
- Large Gray Pullover Hoodie with Red Screen-Print Logo (\$20)
- Medium Iron Gray Long-Sleeved T-shirt with Red Screen-Print Logo (\$15)
- Medium Red Tie-Dye T-shirt with Silver Screen-Print Logo (\$12)
- (2) Medium Journey Off the Map T-shirt (\$5)
- Youth Medium Red T-shirt with Silver Screen-Print Logo (\$10)
- Youth Small Journey Off the Map T-shirt (\$5)
- (2) Youth Medium Journey Off the Map T-shirt (\$5 each)
- (3) Youth Large Journey Off the Map T-shirt (\$5 each)

Merry Christmas

&

Happy

New Year



Thank you to all who helped with the Thanksgiving Meal. Many hands helped to make this Thanksgiving special for a lot of people. This event doesn't just happen but takes monetary donations, people willing to shop for the ingredients, cooks, set up team, cleanup crew, many homemade desserts, and people willing to give up part of their holiday to deliver meals to others in their homes. This is Hillside **Loving, Serving, Growing and Going** into our community.

Terri Mans and Gail Miller

2ND MONDAY MEAL | GAIL MILLER

December 14 will be 2nd Monday Meal. We will be serving chicken-stuffed potatoes. We will be needing desserts at the church by 1pm on the 14th. If you can help with deliveries please be at the church by 3:15. If you would like to help cook, please contact Gail Miller 812-385-5117 or Brenda in the church office 812-385-2910.

YOUNG BELIEVERS CLUB | JEREMY & KALI LANCE

This year has been going by way too fast! We just finished up with a 6 week series of "Ipray". It taught us a lot about prayer. Now we are diving into our next series: "Fearless". We are learning about not being afraid and God is the One who can keep fear away! In November we participated in Operation Christmas Child and had a blast filling boxes not only with toys, clothing, and accessories, but with TONS OF LOVE!! Jeremy & I are very blessed to be a part of your child's life in this part of their faith journey and we thank you for bringing your kids to Young Believers Club. If you have a 3rd-5th grader who has questions about God, we encourage you to try our group out on Wednesday nights from 6-7:30pm. Some important dates to remember: there will be no Young Believers on Dec. 23 or 30 but we will resume on Jan. 6, 2016 ! From our family to yours, we hope you had a Blessed Thanksgiving and will have a very Merry CHRISTmas!

LITTLE FRIENDS CLUB | SARAH KRUSE

Are you ready for the busyness and togetherness of the Christmas season? The children in Little Friends Club are!! This month, we will be discussing what the birth of Jesus Christ means to us. The children always have great ideas to add to our discussions. In November, we enjoyed filling shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child and we look forward to what 2016 will bring us. A reminder that there will be NO LITTLE FRIENDS CLUB on December 23 or December 30. We will see everyone again in January. Have a safe and blessed Christmas!!

NEW CLASS BIBLE JOURNALING GROUP

Wednesdays from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in Room 6

Do you underline, highlight, make notes in your Bible, or would you dare not mark in your Bible?

Are you artistic? Do you scrapbook, paint, draw, doodle, or are you unable to draw a stick figure?

Are you seeking unique, personal ways to worship other than typical book studies and devotionals?

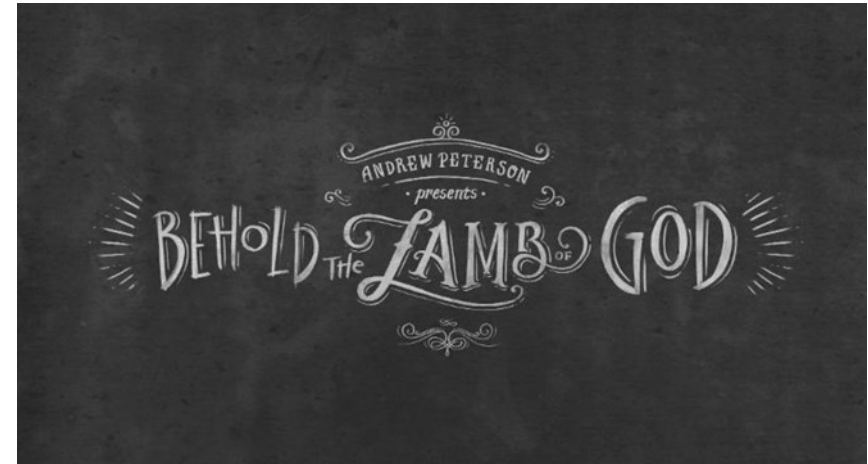
If you answered yes to any of these questions, then join us as we learn and practice a new way to worship!

What is Bible Journaling? Illustrating your faith, delving deeper in The Word, meditation, prayer, and visual interpretation of scripture as you deepen your relationship with God. What it's not: Defacing the Bible or the Word, an art class, a Bible Study group.

This group will meet weekly to pray, share a directional devotional, and worship God in our own individual way through journaling. We will learn about illuminated Biblical manuscripts, what started the Bible journaling movement, and discuss ways of journaling our faith that is most comfortable and best fits our own unique relationship with God.

What you will need: Bring your Bible and at least a pen or pencil, but you are welcome to bring highlighters, colored pencils, colored pens or crayons.

Questions? Contact Dolli Neikirk at neikirkdk@gmail.com or 812-449-5551.



Award-winning Christian artist, Andrew Peterson will kick off his 16th annual Behold the Lamb of God Christmas tour in the heart of downtown Evansville at the historic Victory Theatre on December 2 at 7:00 p.m. CST. All proceeds will go to the Evansville Rescue Mission.

As a special bonus to the pastors in the Southwest District, we are offering you and your congregations \$10 off select tickets! Just use the promo code BEHOLD at the Ford Center Ticket Office, any Ticketmaster outlet, over the phone by calling 1-800-745-3000 or by visiting www.ticketmaster.com. Offer expires 11/30/2015. Available with select tickets only.

Tickets are on sale now!. Tickets prices are \$39.50, \$29.50, and \$24.50. Tickets can be purchased at the Ford Center Ticket Office, all Ticketmaster outlets, charge by phone by calling 1-800-745-3000 or by visiting www.ticketmaster.com.