



HILLSIDE

828 W. Archer Rd.
Princeton, IN 47670



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

OFFICE HOURS
M-TH | 9-4:30 p.m.
FRI | 9-Noon
812-385-2910

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Princeton, IN 47670
Non-Profit Organ.





























HILLSIDE

United Methodist Church

**Hillside
Happening^g**

May 2016

**Hillside Preschool
Graduating
Class of 2016**

 Audrey							 Ella
 Marley							 Mason
 Bentley	 Ayden	 Gage	 Isolde	 Marleigh	 Kylee	 Paxtyn	 Nolan
 Brylee	 Jesse	 Samuel	 Jackson	 Alexis	 Landon	 Savanna	 Sydney
 Connor	 Kivan	 Skylar	 Jaxon	 Grayson	 Liam	 Addison	 Brailey

UPCOMING SERMONS

- May 1** "How Do We Know the Way?"
May 8 "Jesus Loves the Little Children"
May 15 "Follow Where He Leads"
May 22 "God's Power Unleashed"
May 29 "Living Hope-Filled Life"
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HILLSIDE MEN | Matt Robbins

Hillside United Methodist Men will meet again for a nutritious breakfast on May 14 @ 7:30 a.m. We will have a short program, lots of laughter and a great time. We invite all of the men of the church to stop by and enjoy a good time! This will be our last meeting until Saturday, September 10, 2016. Questions: Matt Robbins at 812-664-0268.

WOMEN'S OUTREACH | Jeannie Robbins

The Women's Outreach will meet May 20 at 9:30am at the church. We will enjoy fellowship, have a devotion and prepare cards to be mailed. Then we will enjoy a lunch at Twin Rivers, leaving the church about 10:30am. Please join us. This will be our last meeting until Friday, September 23, 2016. Questions, please contact Jeannie @ 812-779-6227 or Jane @ 812-779-8337.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX MINISTRY

We are going to try something new this year for Operation Christmas Child. From now until November, each month we will be gathering certain items for the shoeboxes. There will be a designated area in the lobby for these items. The month of May will be health items. Remember we fill shoeboxes for children ages 2 to 14.

Here is a list of items that will help fill our health items tote:

- Ivory Soap-because it floats
- Washcloths
- Small package of Wet wipes
- Small packages of Kleenexes
- Chapstick (not liquid)
- Toothbrushes (variety of sizes) & Toothpaste
- Combs/Hairbrushes
- Small First Aid Kits
- Small Manicure sets
- Hair Ties & Barrettes
- Plastic Cups, Straws, Spoons, Forks
- Collapsible Water Bottles

We will be collecting these items all month long. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Amy Evans (812-664-168) or Janelle Zeisler (812-483-0341).

SAVE THE DATE FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2016

Grab your scuba gear **June 20th through 24th** for *Submerged*, an underwater exploration where kids dive into God's word and discover that Jesus didn't just see what's on the outside of people.

Pick up a registration form today from welcome center.

Of course, VBS doesn't run itself; in fact, each year we need approximately 40 volunteers to decorate, provide snacks, lead bible stories, serve as group leaders, etc. What talent can you contribute this year to this great event that not only serves our Hillside kids but local un-churched children as well?

For more information or to learn how you can support VBS, contact Susan Carey (s.carey@hillsideprinceton.org) or Sarah Deputy (812-779-7790).

2016 HILLSIDE HARVEST HUSTLE 5K Run/Walk & 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk

Mark your calendars, the 2016 Race has a date set! This year's run will be on October 15, 2016 with a start time of 9am. We will have a shoe chip timed 5K Run or Walk and a non-timed 1 mile Fun Run or Walk. The theme for the race this year is "Love Without Borders" and the proceeds will be going towards the 2016 Guatemala Mission Trip to help cover expenses. If you are on Facebook, please check out and "Like" our new page. Online registrations are available now at www.runsignup.com and search "Hillside Harvest Hustle". We are looking forward to another great race and hope to see you there!!

Kali & Jeremy Lance

2ND MONDAY MEAL MAY 9 AT 4:00 P.M.

May 9 will be the last 2nd Monday Meal until September. We will be serving Red Beans and Rice with Cornbread. We have averaged between 160-170 meals per month, with our largest month being 208 meals delivered plus those served in house.

We would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You" to all who have helped to make this last year a success. It takes many people to prepare the meals, the desserts and to serve the food each month. We have many devoted people who deliver these meals in all types of weather. Without each of these volunteers, this ministry would not be possible. A special "Thank You" to Becky McDaniel for heading up 2nd Monday when I have not been available.

We will resume 2nd Monday Meals on September 12. If you wish to help in any capacity with this ministry, please contact the church office or Gail Miller.

In God's Service, Gail Miller and Lisa Naas

The **FAMILY BUILDER'S WEDNESDAY NIGHT** meals are finished for this school year. We want to thank you for your support and fellowship the past 9 months. We have enjoyed this opportunity to serve and hope you will come back in the fall. Terri and I enjoy the fellowship of those volunteers that help weekly: Joyce, Carrie, Judi, Lesa, Maddy, Tammy plus all others who step in and help. We are also thankful for all who provide desserts each week (this seems to be the favorite part of the meal!).

We you have a good summer and plan to see you in September.

Thank you, The Kitchen Crew

Mother's Day Service

Sunday, May 8, 2016

9:30 a.m. One service only

NEWS FROM THE CHOIR | Sandy Nixon

It is really hard to believe that yet another spring has rolled around, signaling the upcoming summer break for the Hillside Choir. The last Sunday the choir will sing will be Sunday, May 22, which is also Pentecost. It has been our privilege to help with 8:30 a.m. worship this past year. We enjoy singing our music and hope you have found something that has touched you in a meaningful way! Music over the summer will be provided by various members of the choir and also some guest musicians. We believe you will find the summer music to be very uplifting. The choir will return to worship service in the fall on September 11. Thank you for your support and encouraging words. They mean a lot to us as we strive to help make 8:30 am. worship a meaningful service for all.

Children's Choir: It has been a real privilege to work with Hillside's children's choir this year. It has been almost exactly a year since the choir sang for the first time! The final appearance for the children's choir will be Sunday, May 8, which is Mother's Day. You won't want to miss this special day, as the children will be leading the service. Children's choir is learning a very special song, which they will sing with their mothers! Remember, there is one service this Mother's Day at 9:30 am. We hope to see you there!

Do those who enter our doors experience a cold, lifeless, unapproachable God and a people whose best days exist only in the past? Surely not? I believe that when we fail to accept this invitation to joy and experience a God who continually makes us new, our hearts grow cold, lifeless, stale and dormant, which in turn is communicated as we live out our faith or rather do not live out our faith. May we never grow tired of seeking the face of God and may we never grow tired of doing the work to which God is calling us. May the God of creation renew the joy of your salvation and may you experience the peace of Christ as if for the very first time and may you joyfully live out your faith both inside the walls of our church building and outside the walls in your community. *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!* (2 Corinthians 5:17)

A NOTE FROM YOUR PASTOR | Rev. Chris Neikirk

Spring has sprung! Trees are green, birds are chirping, bees are buzzing and flowers are in bloom. It is a time when we are reminded that God, our creator, is a God who makes all things new. Over the last three weeks of April, Susan offered us an invitation to joy by discovering or rediscovering the core of Jesus' teachings through the Beatitudes given in his Sermon on the Mount. For some of us, perhaps, embracing the Beatitudes involves a changing of our attitudes. Internally adjusting our compass and choosing to allow God to renew a right spirit within us – purifying our hearts – so that we can once again be made new and actively live out our faith.

As Dolli and I traveled in several European countries during our recent cruise, we encountered a post-Christian culture. We toured gorgeous cathedrals, churches, and basilicas that were architectural masterpieces and contained priceless works of art dating back centuries. Tourists were lined out the doors of these historic structures snapping pictures and taking selfies. Marble floors were slick and cold, statues were grand and intimidating, and altars were grand and roped off, keeping the tourists from approaching the sacred areas.

People were shoving and pushing as they unapologetically invaded our personal space attempting to snap the perfect picture or document their visit to an historical place. No pastor was preaching the Good News, no choir was singing God's praises, and no person was kneeling at the altar in prayer seeking the face of God.

I couldn't help but get a sinking feeling in my gut when I realized that these once vibrant houses of worship were now empty monuments to dormant faith. Maybe it was just my current mindset, or the condition of my heart that caused me to wonder how they arrived at their current state and questioned how long did it take to grow cold and stale? Could we, Hillside and the larger United Methodist Church, end up as a mausoleum only echoing the history of our faith?

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NEWS FROM THE PRESCHOOL | Chastity Braswell

As the end of our school year is fast approaching, the staff and children are very excited about our Graduation Celebration. The children have had fun practicing their songs. The program is Thursday, May 12 and will begin at 6:30 pm with the Preschool class; the Pre-K Graduation ceremony will immediately follow. Everyone is invited to attend and stay for cake and punch following graduation.

The end of April and first of May is a very busy time for us. The children will be learning all about zoo animals with a field trip to the Mesker Zoo. The last week of school will be lots of science experiments. Pre-K class will have a class picnic the last day of school. I want to thank all the families and preschool staff for a fantastic school year! The Staff and Children at the Hillside Preschool want to send a heartfelt Thank You to Hillside Church for the use of this wonderful facility and all your kindness that you have extended to us.

YOUNG BELIEVERS | Jeremy & Kali Lance

We can't believe how fast this year has flown by! This has been a great year with a great group of kids. We wrapped this awesome year with a bonfire and s'mores up at the cross and had tons of fun playing kickball and tag. We are going to miss our 5th graders but are very proud of them! We are excited to watch them grow in their faith! We hope to see you back next year as a volunteer for the Young Believers class. Also a big THANK YOU to our volunteers this year! You all help make Wednesday nights very productive. Have a great summer and we look forward to seeing you in the fall.

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, life, love, faith, and purity.

1Timothy 4:12

GUATEMALA FUNDRAISERS

Do you have a family reunion or a get-together planned for Memorial Day Weekend? If so, we have a chance for you to supply some of the most delicious ribs and chicken! Members of the Guatemala Mission Trip are doing a meat sale to help with expenses for our trip. All orders are advance only. Details are: Full Slab of Ribs - \$20, 1/2 Chicken - \$8. All orders and money MUST be turned in by May 8.

We will have a table set up between services for orders. These orders will be available for pickup at the church on May 14th starting at 2pm. If you have any questions or would like to place an order, please see any of the team members or contact Jeremy Lance at 812-664-6534.

MOTHER/DAUGHTER SLEEPOVER

Moms, our days are busy and our children grow quickly. Wouldn't you love an opportunity to spend an evening with your daughter pampering, laughing, and celebrating the special bond that God created between moms and their girls? Don't miss the Mother/Daughter Sleepover at Hillside UMC on Friday, May 6. Arrive at 7 p.m. for a time of devotion, baking, pampering, games, and more. Bring your sleeping bag/blow-up mattress and wake up Saturday morning to a delicious breakfast at 7 a.m. prepared by some Dads of Hillside. For more information, contact Amy Evans at 812-664-1683. We need RSVP's so we will know how many to plan on!

If you are a regular giver, I ask you to pray that God will continue to multiply our resources and possibly seek out specific ministries (missions, youth, kids, mortgage) that could use a little extra help beyond your regular gift. Together, we are the church and together we support the ministry of God.

If you are looking for an easy, hassle-free way to give, I invite you to visit our website www.hillsideprinceton.org and set-up an online giving account with a recurring gift paid via credit or debit card. You can also download the app, SecureGive, and select Hillside as your local organization. Then, set-up an account and begin to financially support our shared ministry.

Thank you for your continued generosity as you faithfully participate in the ministries of Hillside. God continues to bless our ministry together. We are called to LOVE God, SERVE others, GROW in Christ, and GO live out our faith so that we become a center of hope in our community as we reflect the love of Jesus.

GRADUATION SUNDAY 2016

On Sunday, May 15 we will honor our graduates from high school. If you know students who are graduating, please contact the church office and share their name so that we may have them in the bulletin that morning and present them with a gift during our time of appreciation. We will also list in the bulletin any recent graduates from college. Please submit their names to the office no later than Monday, May 9.

FIRST QUARTER STATISTICS

In January, I shared with you that our expenses exceeded our income by approximately \$18,000.00. When all accounts were credited and debited, the total shortfall was actually closer to \$19,000.00. As I explained, with adequate reserves, we are in good financial shape. However, we cannot and will not continue to spend more than our income.

At the end of the first quarter, we find ourselves approximately \$4,000.00 short – expenses exceeded income. Honestly, we can track the majority of our shortfall to a single Sunday – January 10th. It snowed and we cancelled our first service with a very small crowd at our second service. I assure you that we will do everything necessary to live within our means.

Our mortgage balance continues to decline rapidly falling below \$580,000.00 even though we have reduced our bi-weekly payment from \$5500.00 to \$5300.00. With a few extra dollars here and there, we might actually slip below \$500,000.00 by year end.

The good news is that at the end of the first quarter, our weekly average attendance exceeded 350 people per week up from 317 in 2015. While finances and attendance figures do not give a complete picture of the health of a church, they are indicators of growth and vitality. Because more people are coming and our income is flat, we are essentially serving more people with less.

We have much to celebrate as God continues to expand our influence and you continue to bring your friends, family, neighbors and co-workers to Hillside so that we can connect them to God. And we know, God is the only one capable of healing our brokenness. As God expands our numbers, more resources are needed. I encourage each of you to examine your hearts and evaluate your current level of giving. If you are not a regular contributor, I ask you to consider making a regular gift of \$5.00 to \$10.00. If you only give occasionally, I ask you to consider making a consistent weekly commitment.

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SUMMERTIME CONNECTIONS

Do you miss seeing everyone Wednesday nights during the summer break? Beginning June 1, Connections Prayer Group will continue to meet on Wednesday nights from 6-7:30 p.m. at the home of Davarna Rainbolt, 145 E Lake Inwood Dr, Princeton. All are welcome to come and enjoy friendship, sharing of favorite devotions, and prayer time. Summer can be busy, attending as able is welcome. Child care will be provided.

"CARING FOR KIDS" -SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM will start

May 24 and finish on August 4. We provide a balanced lunch for all children up thru 18 years of age. We will continue with the 3 locations from last summer (Head Start on Ford St., Princeton Creek Apts., and St Joseph School). The meals will be served on Tues. and Thurs. between 11:30-12:30 at each location. We are adding Lafayette Park on Tuesdays only.

We need additional volunteers for preparation, delivery and serving. The community is being asked to join with us. Please prayerfully consider where you can help with this project. Please contact Jeannie Robbins at 812-779-6227 or Susan Carey at s.carey@hillsideprinceton.org for further information or to add your name to our list.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS | Susan Carey

Thanks to a major grant from the Center for Congregations, 2016-2017 will be an exciting year for the Hillside youth group and we hope you'll be a part of it!

Last June Hillside's youth program was accepted into the Youth Ministry Grant Initiative, which provides matching dollars for youth programming that supports the values and mission of the church and will have long-term impact both on the youth and the congregation.

Conversations with leaders, youth, and congregation members led to four key areas for funding:

- training our youth leaders in best practices for teaching, leading worship, leading small groups, partnering with parents, etc.
- improving the youth room with a drop ceiling, platform stage, and enclosing access to the tech area
- developing a resource library with books and DVDs related to teen issues, parenting, and leadership (available to all church members)
- participating in an international mission trip in July 2017

The entire project will cost around \$46,500, of which the grant will provide half and the church provides half. While a portion of the match is already built in to the budgets for 2016 and 2017, my prayer is that you will see the value in building our youth program, creating disciples who create disciples. Providing our youth with well-trained and resourced mentors, a comfortable space, and cultural experiences is all part of nurturing their spiritual walks.

Do you value life-longing learning and recognize how important solid training is for our volunteers? Would you consider contributing to the \$3,400 match?

Do you agree that youth need a space that feels like their own to effectively engage in learning, worship, and fellowship? Would you consider contributing to the \$2,500 match?

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Are you like me, reading everything you can get your hands on? Would you appreciate having parenting resources available as you navigate raising teenagers? Would you consider contributing to the \$425 match?

Have you been impacted by a mission trip or wish you were able to somehow reach out to others in need? Would you consider contributing to the \$17,000 match?

Our youth are not just the future of the church, they are the church today. We have amazing volunteer leaders who share the Word and love of God with our youth, and I witness every day the many ways that Hillside ministers to families. This project is just one more way to show our community that Hillside truly is called to **love** God, **serve** others, **grow** in Christ, and **go** live out our faith. If you would like to hear more about the Youth Ministry Grant Initiative, I'd love to share with you.

Grace and Peace,
Susan Carey
Director of Family Ministries

THE RELAY FOR LIFE team is accepting donations on May 15 & 22 after each worship service. The luminaria are a method to honor the memory of cancer survivors or those who lost the battle with cancer. The luminaria are white bags with a candle inside and the name of the honorees on the outside. We will be having a service of remembrance on May 29 during both worship services and they will again be used at the Relay for Life ceremony at 9 pm on June 4. Relay for Life activities run from noon to midnight at the Fairground Pavilion. The Relay For Life is a fundraising arm of the American Cancer Society. A special 1/10 mile lap will be dedicate to survivors at noon and at 6pm. Call Ron Miller at 812-385-5117 rgmiller@twc.com for more information.