

HILLSIDE

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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

March 2017

UPCOMING SERMONS

March 5	"A Lonely Walk"
March 12	"Walk the Line"
March 19	"Walk of Shame"
March 26	"No More Walking in Darkness"

HILLSIDE LITTLE LAMBS JENNY WHITE

There is a lot to be thankful for as we celebrate new arrivals, first-time visits, baptisms, new volunteers, transitions and young children learning about God.

Kaeson, son of Chase and Kenzie Reneer was born on November 29, 2016. Melissa and Eddie Hughes' daughter Kasey and her husband John celebrated the birth of their son, Waylon, born on December 30, 2016. Tami & Carl Thomas became grandparents and Janie and Paul Cloin became great-grandparents to Ryland Jay Riche-son on January 3, 2017, son of Ashley and Jarrod. Congratulations to these families on their new additions.

We celebrate the first time visits for Amelia Sievers, Emilia and Emersyn Harper, Kaeson Reneer and Deacon Cowling. Thank you for letting us in the circle of influence for your precious little ones.

The congregation witnessed the baptisms of Grace Arbuckle, daughter of Matt and Amy, and Amelia Sievers, daughter of Brock and Emily. We are so blessed to witness such a momentous occasion.

We are praising new volunteers: Rebecca Parker, Paige Velthouse, Bob and Vickey Heavrin and Nancy Whyms. Welcome! We are so excited to have you all in this ministry.

In the toddler room on Wednesdays, we are learning God is Everywhere and God Can Do Anything. We have welcomed new children. Gabi, who is 22 months old, has transitioned from the nursery, and Rylee and Graeme, who are 3 years old.

If you have any questions or concerns or would like more information about nursery and toddler room, please contact Jenny White at jwhite@hillsideprinceton.org

A NOTE FROM THE CHOIR continued

What else?? Well, I know that I am very prejudiced, but I hope that the entire Hillside family realizes how blessed we are to have such a large group of dedicated, talented people who devote hours making it possible for Hillside to have a vibrant choral ministry. Not all churches are fortunate enough to have such a ministry today. From the singers and musicians, both kids and adults, to their families, who make it possible for family members to participate, to the congregation which continues to be supportive and appreciative of all the effort, we are, indeed, blessed to have an ongoing music ministry throughout the entire year!

What does this mean for you? Well, this format makes it possible for you to be part of the music ministry in several ways: you might feel that "fall/winter" through the Christmas musical is something you could commit time to, or you might feel that your schedule might allow you to participate in the "spring" season through the Easter musical, or you might feel that your particular time constraints might allow you to participate for a short time in a men's or women's choir during the summer. We are hoping that more of you will be interested in joining with us in this important ministry if we can offer a more flexible schedule. So, will you say "yes" if we, meaning choir members, accompanists, and myself, ask you to participate at some time in some way in Hillside's music ministry??

Easter Musical: We have a new Easter musical this year entitled *This Changes Everything*. It is the Easter story told through the eyes of the disciples and other followers of Christ—what their expectations had been and how the crucifixion of Jesus “changes everything.” The Junior Choir will be joining with the adults on portions of the musical. Both choirs will also join in singing “Palm Sunday Hosannas” on that day. The musical will be presented at the 8:30 service on Palm Sunday, April 9. Please plan to come and invite others to attend with you to hear this important message in song!

Looking Ahead: The Junior Choir will be singing in March as well as on Palm Sunday with the Adult Choir and again on Mother’s Day in May. The kids have been working hard to learn their songs and hope that you will enjoy hearing them sing. As they did last year, the mothers of the Junior Choir kids will sing with their children on Mother’s Day.

The Adult Choir’s “summer season” will begin on April 30 this year. The “summer season” will be filled with a variety of music: we are hoping for a men’s choir and a women’s choir to sing occasionally during the summer, for the junior choir to participate at least once or twice, and for several members of both choirs to share their talents with us as soloists. You won’t want to miss a single Sunday this summer!

The Adult Choir will return for its “fall/winter season” in late August and will take a short break in late December/early January before beginning the “spring season.” As you can tell, this is a little different approach from what we have taken in the past, but one that we hope will be a positive experience for everyone. During the fall/winter season the choir will be learning a new Christmas musical to present on December 17. And, of course, the Junior Choir will continue to be active and sing in the fall as well as being a part of the Christmas musical.

The last couple of months has been the busiest we have had in 412 Youth this year. At the end of January we had Winter Retreat and youth learned about taking the Next step in their faith journey. After coming home we had the Youth Sunday service; the youth were nervous and worried that the services wouldn’t go perfectly. I believe the kids did an amazing job.

Then here came February and it was the 8th annual Valentine’s Banquet, with numbers around 170 people fed and 30 youth working with 11 leaders directing the chaos. Child care this year had around 30 kids with several adults, college and youth helping. As this has become the youth’s biggest fundraiser for the last several years, our guests in attendance didn’t disappoint with their generosity. With over \$7,000 raised this year it will go a long way toward our goal of fully funding our June mission trip to Puerto Rico.

At the end of February we will be going to Indy Explosion for a fun-filled night of an Indiana Pacers game, followed by a Christian speaker. Then we will be going around Indy for some fun bowling, roller skating and a multipurpose game spot.

As we dig deep in our faith journey, we have looked at the beginning of Jesus’ life, his early ministry and the writings of Paul. Over the next several weeks we will deliver the Last Supper, the Crucifixion, and the Resurrection.

Please continue to pray for the youth as they continue their journey to seek God and his plan for their life. Pray for the Leaders as they continue not only to grow in their faith but to help the youth with theirs.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

Please note our new serving times are 4:45-5:45 p.m.

Salad bar, tea, Kool-Aid, and desserts are served with all meals.

MARCH

1st	No Meal—Ash Wednesday
8th	Meatloaf, Mac & Cheese, Broccoli
15th	Baked Spaghetti, Garlic Bread
22nd	Chicken Breast, Potatoes, Green Beans
29th	No Meal—Spring Break

Sign up sheet for desserts is located on the dessert table. If you sign up and bring a dessert you get your meal free.

The cost will be \$3.50 per person and free for preschool children. We also have tickets for 10 meals to purchase for \$30.

FRIENDS CLUB (Grades K-2) Amanda Miskell

In February we finished discussing Gideon through Veggie Tales: Tuba Warrior where we learned to trust God. Then we started The Ballad of Little Joe where we will learn to do what's right through God.

Our lessons for March

3/1 - NO Friends Club but please join us for our Ash Wednesday service at 6pm

3/8 - Following God isn't Easy

3/15 - God Helps Us

3/22 - Show Gods Goodness to Others

3/27 - Spring Break week ~ NO Friends Club

Amanda Miskell 812-550-2790

JUST WALK

Pastor Chris

Coincidentally, the Lenten season begins this year with Ash Wednesday falling on March 1st. A new month begins the journey to Easter. I am very excited about the theme for our Lenten Series this year: Just Walk. It is very simple, while at the same time, extremely deep.

We often describe a life following Jesus as a daily walk with the Lord. This picture is a metaphor for living your life daily in close proximity and close communication with God. During this journey of Lent, I invite each of us to consider our walk with God and ask some challenging questions:

- At this point in your life, are you closer to God or are you farther from God?
- If there is distance between you and God, what changed? Who moved?
- Are there habits, or even people, that you need to give up in order to repair your relationship with God?
- Are there influences in your past that seem to dictate your present or your future?
- If you find yourself struggling to walk with God, who are you actually following?
- Do you believe in the power of God through Jesus Christ to transform your life so that you are walking closely with the Lord?

Lent is a time of reflection and preparation as we move toward Easter. Lent should be a season marked with prayer, repentance, self-denial, self-sacrifice, and giving. The purpose is to remove our focus from ourselves and place all of our attention on Jesus Christ. The purpose is to adjust our habits so that we can draw closer to God – so that we can walk closer to the Lord.

I hope that you will make church attendance a priority as we take this journey together. I also hope that you will invest daily in deeper, more quality time spent talking with God and listening to God. A journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step... just start walking!

Thank you

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that came out to the 8th Annual Valentine's Banquet. With over 250 people in the building the generosity and the hard work that was present that evening never ceases to amaze me. With a profit over \$7,000 I am overwhelmed by the love that Hillside shows its youth & leaders and with the encouragement you give us. So to begin thanking the leaders, I first have to thank Andrea who has really taken this little idea of giving people a night out to have fun and fellowship and having the youth to serve into this organized chaos. Alex, Shelby, Lori, James, Nancy, Rebekah, Drew, and Beth thank you for being rock stars; you will never know how much I appreciate you. Nancy, thank you for the décor for the evening. Alann and Drew, thank for being our auctioneer and Newlywed game host. And last but not least I want to thank the youth of Hillside; you are the reason we have the power to keep going and doing. And never forget we love you.

Thanks,
Justin.

I would like to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers for my recent surgery. Dick Rawls

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Rev. Perkins will be leading a Lenten Bible Study on Fridays from 10:30-11:30 a.m. It will be a study about relationships. The dates are March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 & April 7, 2017. All are welcomed.

LITTLE FRIENDS CLUB (4-PreK) Sarah Kruse

February was a great month for our little friends! We finished our Goody Gumdrops Game curriculum and the kids had a blast each week! We even visited our friends at River Oaks and had a chance to talk with them and get to know them a little better. The kids really enjoyed getting to meet their friends and we plan on staying in contact with them. Our mission focus for February was prayer and in March we will learn about helping others who live in poverty in other countries. We will begin our new curriculum Pirates and learn about God's plan for us!

We want to invite the families of our little friends to attend the Ash Wednesday service on March 1. There will be no Little Friends Club on March 1 or March 29.

Proverbs 17:17 ~ A Friend loves at all times.



YOUNG BELIEVERS (Grades 3-5) Kali & Jeremy Lance

We wrapped up February with our Identity series & celebrated the month of Love with a Valentine's Day party! Throughout the series, we focused a lot on once you learn about Jesus, accept him as your Savior and invite Him to live in your heart, you become a new person; you have a new identity through God's eyes. After all, God showed real true love when He gave his one and only son for each and every one of us. We learned that as Jesus prepared to leave His disciples and return to Heaven, He gave them an example of how they should carry out their new mission, their new identity. The disciples likely wondered if anyone would listen or believe them after Jesus was gone. But Jesus said that the world would know they were disciples of Jesus by the way they loved one another. Love is the distinguishing trait of our new identity in Christ. This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

Jeremy & I want to let our 3rd-5th grade parents know that we love your kids as our own & would like to let our awesome volunteers, Jennifer Heavrin, Gen Clay, Steve White, Scott Ruesch, Blayre Jackson and Ali Medler know that we appreciate all your help and we love you all!

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. 1 Timothy 4:12

SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS 2017



Grab your telescopes and look to the stars **June 12 through 16** for *Galactic Starveyors*, an out-of-this-world experience where children discover that the God of the universe is also our personal God who loves each of us immeasurably.

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 community 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).

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX MINISTRY

For the month of March, we will be collecting girl health items. Remember we fill shoeboxes for children ages 2 to 14.

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

- ⇒ Ivory Soap-because it floats
- ⇒ washcloths
- ⇒ small packages of Kleenexes
- ⇒ hairbrushes, hair ties, barrettes, headbands
- ⇒ sanitary pads

We will be collecting these items all month long. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Amy Evans 812-664-1683 or Janelle Zeisler 812-483-0341.

**You're Invited – PIZZA WITH THE PASTOR
Sunday, April 2, 2017, noon until 2:00 p.m.**

- Do you have questions about your faith that you are having trouble answering?
- Do you know what you believe and why you believe it?
- Do you know what is meant by the word Gospel and why it should be good news to you?
- Have you been baptized? Should you?
- Should you have your children baptized?
- Have you officially joined Hillside Church? Should you?
- How is Hillside Church organized? Who's in charge? How is it funded? Where does the money go?
- What does it mean to be a United Methodist Church? Is it different from other churches?
- Do I even want to be considered a United Methodist?
- What do other churches believe?

If you have questions like these, whether you are a member or not, you need to attend Pizza with the Pastor from noon until 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 2! If you have been attending Hillside for more than a few weeks, then you need to attend... and we'll feed you lunch! Please RSVP to the church office by March 26 so that we can order an appropriate number of pizzas and arrange childcare if needed.

NEWS FROM THE PRESCHOOL Chastity Braswell

February was a month filled with love. The children had a great time celebrating Valentine's Day with parties and activities that centered on friendship. In March we are celebrating "Reading Around the World with Dr. Seuss." Then hold on to your seats: we will have lift off into space. The children will learn all about God's universe that he created. We have heard a little rumor that we might have a very tiny visitor on Saint Patrick's Day.

Our bible verses are: Lord, teach us to pray (Luke 11:1); we should love on another (1 John 3:11); God is love (1 John 4:8); Jesus said. "Let the little children come to me " (Mark 10:14).

Our Open House Registration Night is March 16 from 5:30-7:30p.m. Your child must be 3 years of age to start preschool or 4 years to start pre-k. There are flyers in the church office if you are interested or you can call Preschool Director Chastity Braswell at 812-677-2462 or email cbraswell@hillsideprinceton.org

WOMEN'S OUTREACH Jeannie Robbins

Women's Outreach will be held March. 17 at 9:30 a.m. at Hillside Church. Please invite your friends to join us for a time of devotions and fellowship

HILLSIDE MEN Matt Robbins

Hillside United Methodist Men will meet for a delicious breakfast on March. 11 at 7:30 a.m. We invite all of the men of the church to stop by and enjoy a good time! Questions: Matt Robbins at 812-664-0268.

MISSIONS UPDATE

Your missions team continues to be amazed by your generous contributions to the Flour and Oil Fund. This ministry is intended to be a way in which the congregation gives not out of our excess but out of our own need in order to bless others who are somehow connected to the Hillside family. Recipients do not need to be Hillside UMC members; they merely must be connected to a Hillside member. The congregation member then completes an application, available from Brenda in the church office, for the one in need.

We encourage you to keep your eyes, ears, and hearts open to those around you who may have a need that the Flour and Oil Fund can meet. If you have any questions about the fund or would like to request an application, see any missions team or church staff member.

CARD MINISTRY

We invite all from the church to take a minute to sign a card to someone who is in need of a little love from the Hillside family. You do not need to know the person you are signing the card for, just knowing they need a little prayer and are thought of. The cards are located on the table under the bulletin board in the lobby.

SUNDAY BULLETINS

When 1st service is over you may leave your bulletin on the small table as you leave the worship center. We can reuse them for 2nd service if they are in good shape. This saves on paper & toner. Thank you for helping our efforts to be good stewards of Hillside.

2ND MONDAY MEALS Gail Miller

The second Monday of every month, Hillside provides a free community meal. We will have meals on **March 13**. The menu is baked spaghetti & garlic bread. In February we fed 173 people.

We are still in need of people to deliver & bring desserts. Deliveries begin at 3:30 p.m. and the dining room opens at 4:00 p.m. Thank you to all who are part of feeding our community.