

# Hillcrest Calling

Volume XXXXV, No. 4

To everything there is a season,  
A time for every purpose under heaven...  
Ecclesiastes 3:1

April, 2017

## Resurrection faith

An excerpt from the *Companion to the Book of Common Worship* (Geneva Press, 2003, 107-108)  
Pascha [or Easter] is the central event, the time of transformation, of becoming a resurrected people, God's new people. On this Sunday of all Sundays, Pascha, we celebrate our transformation as a new people. When Christ rose from the grave, death and all other "principalities and powers" that seek to entomb God's will were forever defeated.

Easter is not simply the miracle of a dead person raised from the grave, but a celebration of power that can shatter death in order that people can freely serve the God of life. In the resurrection of Christ, God's awesome purposes were on display, revealing a radically new world of peace and harmony and equality and mutuality, about which we can only dream. The Lord of the future has been disclosed to us. Both the incarnation at Christmas and the resurrection at Easter testify to the lordship of Christ. ... On Easter we glimpse a new landscape — the age to come — and experience a sense of holy awe at the

significance of the resurrection for human life. The shape of the age to come reveals a new people of God, a new humanity.

When Christ was crucified, humanity died with him on Calvary. But on Easter morning, a new world was born — raised up with the crucified and risen Christ. Bursting the bonds of death, the first human being of a new human race, Jesus Christ, appeared among those who crucified him. In the midst of the old sin-struck world, God gave the world a new beginning, a new humanity. By faith the old guilt-



ridden humanity was born again into the new forgiven humanity of Jesus Christ. Ever since, here and there, clusters of the new people of God live

according to the new social order of the new age. Therefore, Easter faith recalls the past, especially the awesome act of God in raising the crucified Christ from the grave. Easter hope looks to the promised future, to that which awaits us. Easter love celebrates the presence of the crucified and risen Christ who is now among us, reconciling us as one people. Resurrection faith asserts that by grace we are born again into the new humanity of Jesus Christ. We are called to new life for God and for neighbors. As representatives of the new humanity we walk in newness of life.



**SPECIAL OFFERINGS**  
ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

**One Great Hour of Sharing**

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God’s love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

One Great Hour of Sharing, received during the season of Lent (March 1—April 15), makes a difference in the world through three impactful programs: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People.

**Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)**

\*Works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters

\* Receives 32% of funds raised

**Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP)**

\*Takes action to alleviate hunger and the systematic causes of poverty so all may be fed

\*Receives 36% of funds raised

**Self-Development of People (SDOP)**

\*Invests in communities responding to their experiences of racism, oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these societal ills

\*Receives 32% of funds raised

**History:**

Started in 1949, One Great Hour of Sharing is a long-standing ecumenical effort aimed at raising the funds necessary to provide relief and reconstruction for communities in the aftermath of disaster.

What started as an hour-long radio appeal has evolved over the years, varying from eight to 29 participating denominations, and has become the most - participated -in Offering in the PC9USA).

*Today, projects supported by One Great Hour of Sharing are underway in more than 100 countries.*

Three ways members can give:

- Through our congregation
- Text OGHS to 20222 to give \$10
- presbyterianmission.org/give/oghs

Hillcrest will receive this offering on Easter Sunday, April 16th.

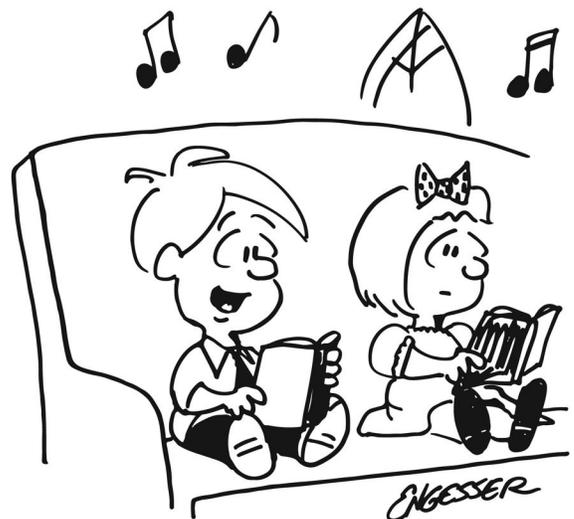


**Missions**

The food pantry, Meals on Wheels, Rare Breed meals, and Ronald McDonald House meals are some of our ongoing missions that regularly need volunteer help. If you feel called to help with any of these please speak with the pastor and your talents will be utilized.



HE **LOVED** THEM TO THE END.  
JOHN 13:1



“Hope the choir does some hip-hop for Easter!”



**Easter Sunday  
April 16th**

8:00 am	Early Worship by Youth Breakfast following
9:30 am.	Class
10:30 a.m.	Easter Worship

**LOCK-IN  
for kids!**

There will be a lock-in for school aged kids at the church on April 7th. They plan to go to Sky Zone as well as have fellowship and games at the church. If your child is interested please see Cindy Covey.

**When we can't find Easter**

Easter is the most joyous Christian holy day ... except when it's not. What do we do when our mood isn't what we think it "should" be? The kids are sugared up, we're juggling family gatherings (and maybe conflicts), our everyday challenges remain, and festive hymns — however rousing — fail to lift our spirits. We wonder, "What's wrong with me, that I can't seem to find Easter?"

*Been there, done that. And it's okay. You're okay.*



Jesus' resurrection doesn't scoop us out of our troubles, but the death-defying Christ walks through them beside us, on our own Emmaus road (Luke 24). We aren't alone. When we can't find Easter, Easter somehow finds us — if not on this designated Sunday, perhaps two days from now, or next week or mid-May. Watch for it; keep your heart open. Christ is risen indeed — and you shall be too.

—Heidi Mann



**40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

40 years, man how time goes by  
40 years of laughs and cries  
40 years of kisses good night  
40 years of holding each other tight

Please join the Palmerton family as they celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of

**Fred & Rae Jean**

April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017

2:00- 4:00pm

Hillcrest Presbyterian Church

Omission of gifts is requested



**Of Note**

The sacrament of Communion will be celebrated on April 2nd, at the Maundy Thursday Service on April 13th and on Easter Sunday, April 16th..

The Men's Breakfast for April is the 8th, 8:00 am at the Golden Corral on North Kansas.

The church will be serving dinner at the Mercy Ronald McDonald House on Monday, April 10th.

The Book Club will meet to review Girl Waits With Gun by Amy Stewart on April 17th at 7:00pm.

The Stated Session meeting will be Thursday, April 20th at 7:00pm.

April 30th is a Fifth Sunday Dinner hosted by the Congregational Care Committee. They will be serving ham. The congregation is asked to bring side dishes and desserts.

Hillcrest Presbyterian Church  
818 East Norton Rd.  
Springfield, MO 65803-3646

We've hidden some eggs  
they're waiting for you.  
Come join the fun and look for a few!



## It's an Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 15th  
10:00 am  
Hillcrest Presbyterian  
Church  
818 E Norton

