

Hillcrest Calling



March 2020

Paddling through Lent — and life



Lent is a time for restoring balance to our lives. The Eskimos practice balance as they venture into freezing Arctic waters in little boats. If you've ever paddled a kayak, you know how easy they are to tip. Thankfully, kayaks are just as easy to turn back up-right.

That isn't a bad image for Lent — or for life as a whole. Whatever spiritual disciplines we adopt, if we succumb to temptation, it's no biggie. One of the lessons of Lent is that, as long as we're traveling light, it takes only a quick twist of the paddle to right us. That paddle twist might take the form of a quick but heartfelt prayer: "Jesus, set me straight again!" Or it might mean some extra time set aside for quiet meditation with God. Don't get worried if your spiritual discipline fails now and then. Just let Jesus help you get upright once more, and keep paddling!

March birthdays

Dianne Hutchins, 1st
Sue Jones, 1st
Harold Reynolds, 5th
Brandon Sigourney Jr., 7th
Nancy Hackett, 8th
Mitch Morrissey, 8th
Betty Saffeels, 9th
Macy Scott, 17th
Jo Lynne Palmerton, 18th

March anniversaries

Larry & Jane Butler, 6th



Thank you so much for the prayer blanket.
We appreciate your thoughtfulness.
All our love,
Chadd, Cara, Halli, Kinley & Kye Letterman

March 1st after worship we are celebrating Mary Morrissey. She has faithfully served this congregation for many years...beautiful flowers, congregational care, the dinner organized for the bereaved and recovering. Let's celebrate Mary!

Ashley House News

Ashley House is hosting a Spring Spruce Up Day on **Saturday, March 7th from 9am — 2pm**. 2740 E. Pythian Street. Come for the day or for a couple of hours with projects inside and out. Please RSVP for lunch count at 573-338-3766 or patty.kissinger@pchas.org

Hillcrest is hosting a banquet for the girls on **March 24th at 6:30pm** at Bellacino's 2856 S. Glenstone. Private room, delicious food! Please come a share a meal with these girls. If you would like to sponsor one of the girls that would be fantastic...\$20 per ticket. Nancy or DeAnn will be taking reservations.

Pictorial Church Directory

We are working on a pictorial directory for the church. Starting March 1st we will be taking reservations for having your pictures taken. Everyone who has their picture taken will not only receive the directory, but also a free 8X10. You can have your entire family including pets in the picture. Also senior, veterans and first responders get a 20% discount on any picture packages they order. The pictures will be taken on **March 15th from 2pm to 9pm** here at the church. **Please stop and reserve your time with Diane Meester before and after service on Sunday.** We want to include everyone in this directory...that means...we want you!

Don't settle

For most of us, the great danger is not that we will renounce our faith. It is that we will become so distracted and rushed and preoccupied that we will settle for a mediocre version of it. We will just skim our lives instead of actually living them. —John Ortberg, *The Life You've Always Wanted*

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Monday – Saturday: Church events will be canceled on any day when the Springfield schools are closed due to inclement weather.

Sunday Morning: The pastor, and two members of session will make a decision no later than 8:00 am .

Notification will be made by means of phone calls,, emails and cell phone texts.



January Financials

Beginning Balance	\$5,327.68
Decrease	2,044.22
Ending Balance	\$3,283.46
Building Load Balance	
1/04/19	\$301,751.65
Building Fund Balance	
	\$ 20,425.10

The electronic giving terminal is located in the Narthex.

Just know that God blesses a cheerful and generous giver.



The Men's Breakfast is **March 14th, 8:00am** at the Golden Corral

Book Club will be meeting **March 16th** to

discuss "Home for Unwanted Girls" by . Please join us.

Session will be meeting on **Monday, March 9th** at 6pm.

Shooting Fellowship is on **March 12th at 5:30pm.**

Noon Bible study is on **March 10th.**

Daylight Savings starts March 8th

Reminder: Our church premises is weapon free, carrying firearms is prohibited.

Women of the Bible - Phoebe

Phoebe, the servant of the church in Cenchrea, the eastern port of Corinth, had finished her journey. It had been a long and dangerous trip, one that many men hesitated to make. She had traveled over rocky mountainous roads and taken a little ship from Macedonia to Italy. But under all these circumstances she always remained conscious of her task. She had to deliver Paul's letters to the Christians in Rome undamaged. Finally, the contours of the city rose up before her eyes. Rome, the eternal city, lay on its seven hills before her. The Appian Road on which she was walking led into the very heart of the city. For Phoebe, this trip was an exciting adventure in more ways than one.

Through this trip, first of all, her perspective had been extended. It was around A.D. 57, still the time when few people were privileged to travel and most of the travelers were men. It would take centuries before the world—first through the written word and later by means of modern mass media—would be broken open. People still lived in isolation and usually did not know many people outside their own cities.

Phoebe was a single woman, but she was not lonely. Her life was anything but empty. Her fulfillment stemmed from her willingness to serve. By giving of herself to others, Phoebe kept the specter of loneliness at a distance. She knew that living for others draws people, particularly single people, particularly single people, out of their isolation. Being open to meet the needs of others helped make her life full and rich, an interesting and varied adventure.

Phoebe would experience that principle in Rome. The Christians there would not receive her as a stranger. Paul's scroll of parchment, her most precious baggage, contained a warm endorsement for the messenger. So she would be met with cordial interest and would be treated with honor. "Help her in every way you can," Paul had written. Phoebe, who was always thinking of other people, now would be helped herself. These words witnessed to Paul's loyal friendship and respect for Phoebe. Paul, who had to postpone his visit to Rome many times, dared to make his first contact with the Roman Christians through Phoebe. It would be three more years before he would be able to visit Rome himself. A prominent Christian leader, Paul put his reputation in the hands of a woman. It was risky for him to become so dependent on another person. With Phoebe, however, Paul dared to take the risk. He knew that she had a good reputation and would represent him. She had proved that she had a heart for God and His service. She was capable, dignified and could be trusted to carry this great responsibility.

In Paul's letter to the Romans lay his most complete declaration of the Gospel. From the city of Rome the message of Christ would spread into the world. In that letter, Paul explained all the basic principles of the Gospel. Continuing to build on the foundation of faith, Paul instructed the Romans about the assurance of salvation. He talked about walking with God and living through the power of the Holy Spirit. These and other great truths Paul defined in the letter that Phoebe, a willing servant of the Gospel, was taking to Rome.

With Phoebe, the word sister did not only point to a mutual spiritual relationship; it also spoke of status. In a society in which the woman was placed far below the man, Phoebe took her place in the large family of the children of God in a completely equal spiritual relationship. From that position she began serving the church. Phoebe received what she needed by first giving her love and talents to others. She was "enriched" because she first "gave freely". Phoebe was faithful and because of her diligence, the Christians in Rome had Paul's letter to the Romans, and we have it today. Phoebe walked in front of a procession of women who through the ages have served Christ and His church. Paul mentioned her first in a long list of co-laborers. Phoebe, the servant of the church at Cenchrea, showed every person—single or not—the effective medicine against loneliness: serving.

From "Her Name is Woman" by Gien Karssen

MARCH

Sunday Services:

Worship Service 10am
 Sunday School 9am

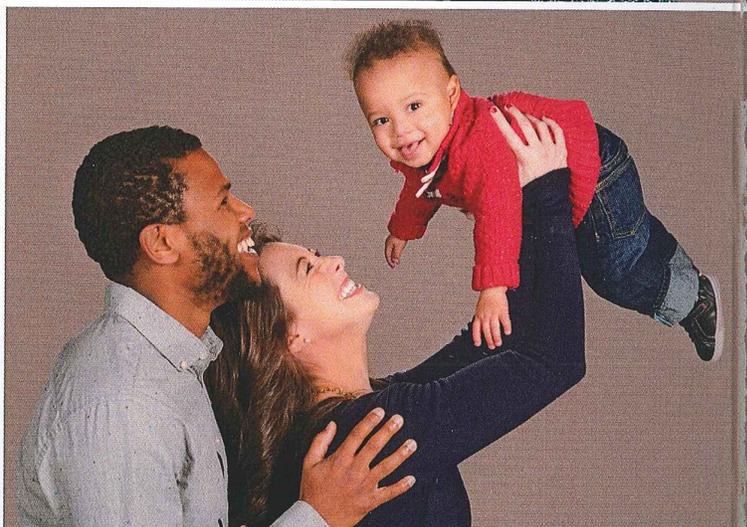
☘ birthdays
 ♥ anniversaries

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1  Comunion ☘ Justin Hutchins 1st Sunday in Lent	2 Outreach, 5:30pm  ☘ Logan Hill Dr. Seuss Day	3 ☘ David Reynolds	4 Property, 5:30 Choir, 7pm	5 Cong Care, 5:30pm MOW—the Hills	6  National Oreo Day ☘ Scarlet Cormack	7 ☘ Erin Magoon
8 Daylight Saving Starts 2nd Sunday in Lent	9 Session, 6pm ☘ Mary Jo Reynolds ☘ Ronnie Riggs	10 Moon Bible Study ☘ Fred Palmerton	11 Security Team 5:30pm Choir, 7pm	12 Shooting Fellowship, 5:30pm MOW—the Meesters	13	14 Men's Breakfast, 8am π National Pi Day
15 3rd Sunday in Lent	16 Book Club, 7pm	17	18 Choir, 7pm	19 ☘ Randy Zweekink ☘ Regina Ice MOW—Palmertons	20  1st Day of Spring	21 ☘ David & Lisa Reynolds
22 4th Sunday in Lent	23	24 Ashley Banquet, 6:30pm	25  National Waffle Day Choir, 7pm	26 MOW—Palmertons	27	28
29 5th Sunday Dinner	30	31  National Crayon Day				
5th Sunday in Lent						



Celebrate our Community

FREE 8x10 standard print and printed directory



SPECIAL OFFERS ON PHOTOGRAPHY

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(on base products only)

spend	save
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\$175 - 249	15%
\$250 - 374	20%
\$375 - 499	25%
\$500+	30%

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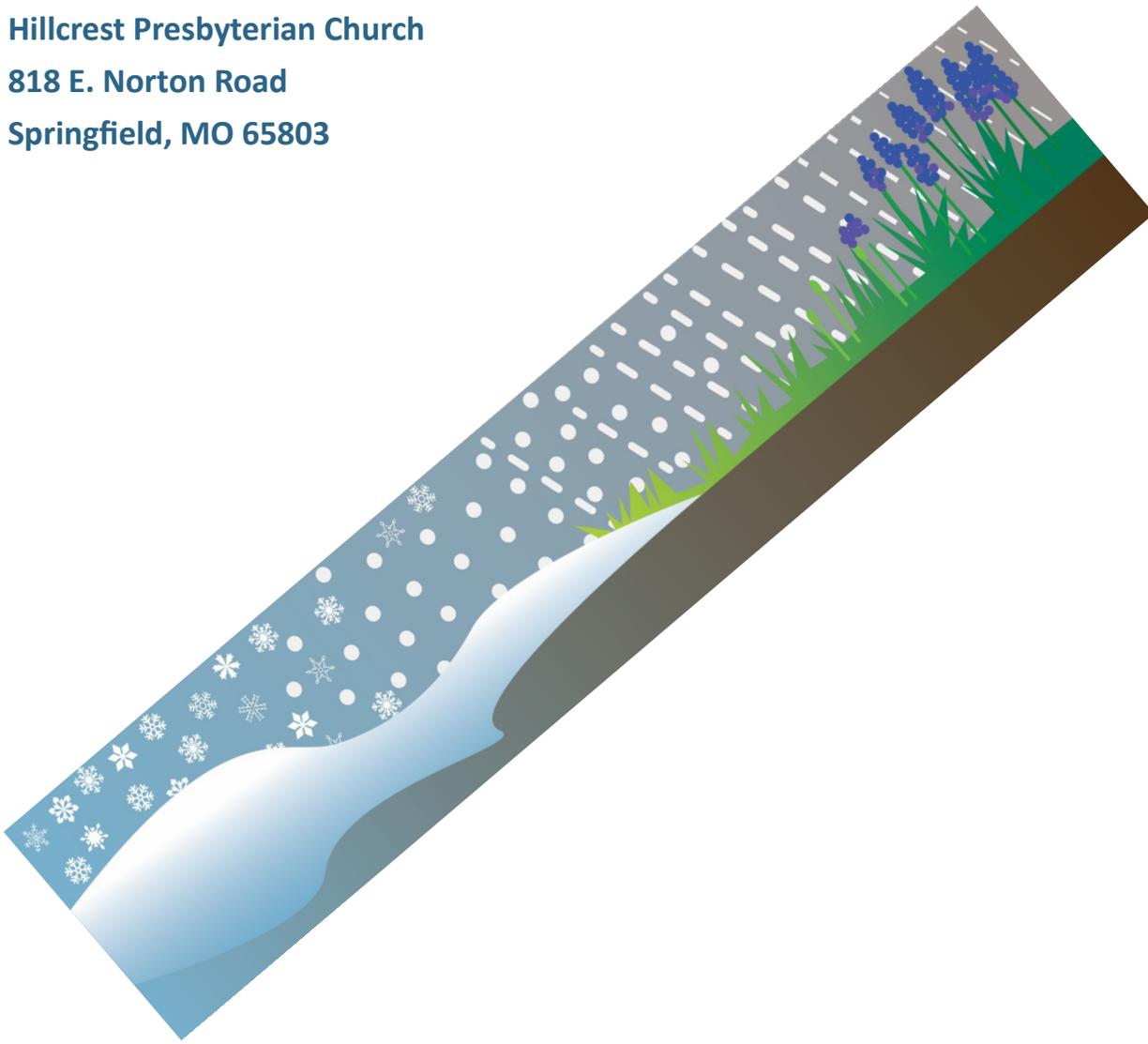
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Hillcrest Presbyterian Church
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Springfield, MO 65803



Joy seekers

In northern Minnesota several years ago, some women formed a “joy circle.” They settled into a routine of meeting every couple of weeks to share joys they’ve noticed. Their aim, amid our troubled world and chaotic lives, is to deliberately focus on the positive. The women don’t simply hope to stumble upon good news among the outrage, bitterness and tragedy surrounding us; they actively seek out joy and report it to the group.

Joy is a fruit of the spirit named in Galatians 5:22-23. As Christians, we don’t ignore or dismiss life’s struggles and sorrows, and neither do joy-circle participants. But God promises that life is stronger than death, and Jesus’ resurrection is proof. With the Holy Spirit’s help, we can make a spiritual discipline of seeking and sharing joy — and thanking God for it. (Visit joycircles.network online to learn more.)

—Heidi Mann