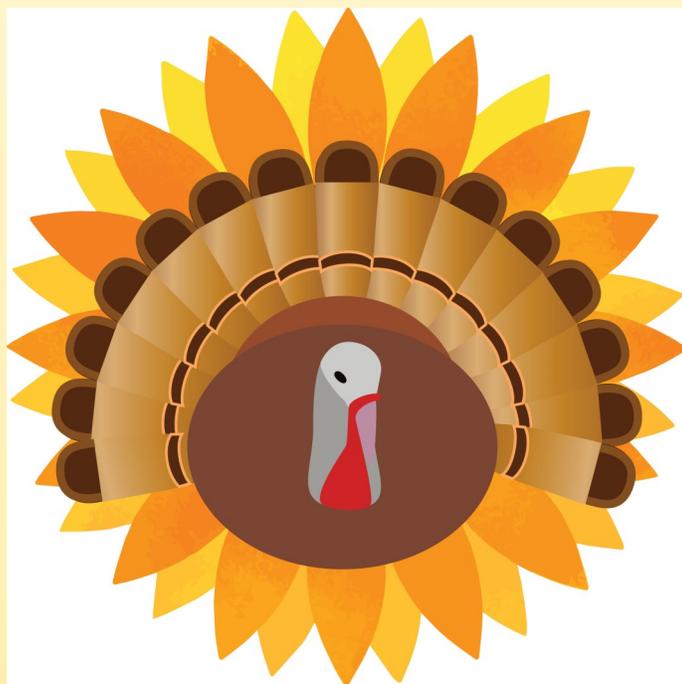


Hillcrest Calling



November 2020

Sinners and saints

As sinners we may not be able to change the world, but as saints we may be able to change our communities.

As sinners we may not be able to change our communities, but as saints we may be able to change our neighborhoods.

As sinners we may not be able to change our neighborhoods, but as saints we may be able to change our homes.

As sinners we may not be able to change our homes, but as saints we may be able to change ourselves.

As sinners we may not be able to change ourselves, but as saints we may offer ourselves up to the grace of God and experience nothing less than a changed world.

—Homiletics

“Do your little bit of good where you are; it is those little bits of good put all together that overwhelm the world.”

—Bishop Desmond Tutu

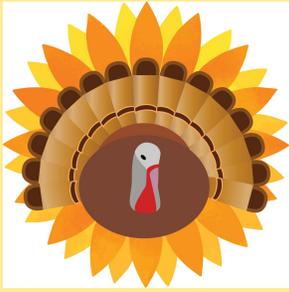


November birthdays

Jan Zweerink, 6th
Elyana Baker, 8th
Deanna Riggs, 9th
Tina Hartley, 12th
Fran Stansbury, 14th
Susan Wilson, 15th
Jennifer McCullough, 16th
Ferba Lofton, 16th
Barbara Dean, 22nd
Norm Meester, 25th
Kasey Wicken, 30th

November anniversaries

Kyle & Lindsey Miller, 22nd



The Hills are doing Thanksgiving Dinner again this year...but because of the problems of gathering together, they are doing Thanksgiving Dinner To Go. They will be giving out a prepared meal in a brown bag with hot roll and dessert. It will start at 11:30am and go until they run out. There will be directional signs, get in line in your car and when you arrive roll down your window and tell them how many dinners you need.



We will be making our annual commitments on Sunday, November 22nd. Come prepared in your mind, your heart, and your spirit. (and your wallet)

It's Crosslines Toy Stone Again.

Crosslines is concerned about Getting enough toys this year because of the pandemic so they are starting the season earlier. We are going to start collecting toys the 1st of November. You may contribute Toys or it is easier you may give cash or write a check to Hillcrest Presbyterian Church but be sure to indicate the money goes for toys. You can give money or checks to Sammy Miller, Rae Jean Palmerton or mail checks directly to the church. Toys, money and checks must be at the church by Sunday, December 6th. **REMEMBER DO NOT REMOVE THE PRICE TAGS FROM THE TOYS!**



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September Financials

Beginning Balance	\$ 9,549.32
Decrease	873.31
Ending Balance	\$ 8,676.01
Building Load Balance	
9/04/20	\$290,934.88
Building Fund Balance	
	\$ 18,117.48

The electronic giving terminal is located in the Narthex.

Just know that God blesses a cheerful and generous giver.



Thursday, November 12th the Shooting Fellowship will be meeting at 5:30pm

Monday, November 9th Session will be meeting at 6pm.

Monday, November 16th, the Book Club will be meeting at 7pm. This month's book is "Queen Bee of Mimosa Beach" by Haywood Smith.

Please remember, you must wear a mask whenever you are in the church and please use our hand sanitizer whenever you enter the church. We do this to protect each other and in so doing show the love of Jesus.

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



This year, in order to keep numbers down and to allow for social distancing, we will be making reservations for our Christmas Eve service.

There will be two services to pick from: 5:00 and 6:30pm. Please start to think about which service you would like to attend and How many people in your group will be attending. Each service will be limited to 30 people. This is an effort to allow for as many people to attend as would like.

Men of the Bible - Moses

We all know the story of Moses in the bullrushes and the miracle that not only did the princess accept Moses to live with her, but she requested Jochebed to work as a wet nurse for him. We don't know how long this arrangement lasted, but it is clear that he grew up with the knowledge of God and the fact that he was a Hebrew and not an Egyptian. One day he was walking around, and he tried to defend a Hebrew who was being beaten by an Egyptian. He killed the Egyptian and he hid the body. Later two Hebrews confronted him about it and then Pharaoh tried to kill him. He ran for his life.

He ended up in Midian and found favor with Jethro and married his daughter, Zipporah. As a result, Moses began his family life as a shepherd, far from his destiny in Egypt. He was there for forty years in very much the same kind of landscape where he was going to travel with the Israelites and his work as a shepherd was also good training for the herding he was going to do with them as well. In the same way, the difficult things we learn as lowly employees later become the valuable information God uses to empower us as leader.

One day he as he was walking with his sheep, he saw a bush that was burning but wasn't burnt up...very unusual. God spoke to him through it and to him to return to Egypt and deliver the Hebrews. Moses said, "Who am I?" One writer said that the forty years in Midian prepared Moses for this meeting. Forty years of relative obscurity had readied Moses for a change. Forty years of tending sheep had developed patience and meekness. Those are perfect qualities to lead a multitude for God. The prince turned shepherd was ready to depend upon something other than his own wits. Moses obeyed God and after informing his father-in-law of his intentions, took his family back to Egypt. When he was still in the desert, Aaron met Moses as God said he would and when Moses explained what had happened, Aaron joined him to call the elders together. Those Hebrew leaders believed Moses' account.

Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and demanded that God's people should be allowed to travel three days into the wilderness to sacrifice to their God. But the king didn't like the idea of the Hebrews leaving their work, so he refused and put even more strict requirements upon them. Now they had to find their own straw for making the bricks while keeping the same production quota. With this they blamed Moses and Moses cried out to God. He couldn't understand why he was encountering obstacles to God's plan. God replied that He was in charge of what was happening. He confirmed that he would deliver the Israelites and take them to a new land. When Moses came back to tell the elders, they were so depressed they wouldn't listen. So God told Moses to go back to Pharaoh. Moses was unsure of himself, but God told him to bring Aaron and he would help him. God explained that they would face many difficulties because God intended for Pharaoh to be stubborn. In this way, God would receive greater glory as he performed miracles that would show his own great power. This started the process of ten miracles to reveal God's power and influence. Throughout, Moses was able to maintain his consistent faith in God because of his trust in what God had said.

The final miracle started by having the Hebrews kill a male lamb that was one year old and put its blood on two door posts of each home. Then they were to eat the meat with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. They were to dine with their clothes on—ready for the deliverance God was about to do. The blood on the door posts caused God's Spirit to "pass over" those home when God's judgment of death for the firstborn sons in the Egyptian homes came through the towns. When Pharaoh realized his own son and the firstborn sons of all the Egyptians had died, he allowed the Israelites to leave Egypt. God gave Moses further instructions about the Passover and how he wanted it to remind them of what God had done in delivering them from their bondage.

As they traveled, they encountered many difficulties that were trials sent by God to make them seek him and depend upon him. Because of that, Moses, as their leader, was challenged over and over again. Each time he asked God for guidance. God always helped him to deal with each situation. During this time in the desert, God also delivered the Ten Commandments to Moses on Mt. Sinai. Moses faithfully guided the Israelites toward the Promised Land even though they disobeyed God many times. They should have immediately gone into the Promised Land, but because of their lack of faith in God's power, they were destined to wander for 40 years in the wilderness. During the wandering, Miriam and Aaron died. Moses continued to lead alone. As they prepared to go into the Promised Land, Moses spoke to them and reminded them of what God had done in the past, reviewed the laws of what God expected the people to keep in the new land and finally gave them a revelation of what God promised to do for them in the future. Moses is a great example to us of a leader who was humble and because of that his commitment to God transformed his outward behavior.



November

Sunday Services:

Sunday School 9am
 Worship Service 10am
 Hillcrest
 Worship Service 11:30am
 Gibson Chapel

☿ birthdays
 ♥ anniversaries

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
8		9 Session 6pm	10	11 Outreach 5:30pm	12 Shooting Fellowship 5:30pm	13 ☿ Jan Zweerink	14
☿ Elyana Baker		☿ Deanna Riggs			☿ Tina Hartley		☿ Fran Stansbury
15		16 Book Club 7pm "Queen Bee of Miosa Beach" ☿ Jennifer McCullough ☿ Ferba Lofton	17	18 	19	20	21
☿ Susan Wilson					26  Drive In Thanksgiving Dinner 11:30am — out	27	28
22 ☿ Barbara Dean ♥ Kyle & Lindsey Miller		23	24	25 ☿ Norm Meester			
29		30 ☿ Kasey Wicken					

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF:

FOSTER A HEALTHY MINDSET WITH SELF-CARE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

COVID-19 has generated its share of unique challenges and stresses. When those collide with the issues and concerns you and your congregation typically face during the holidays and year-end fundraising, challenging times can become even more challenging.

Amid uncertainty, the people you work with and serve are craving confident leadership. Yet confident leadership isn't about having all the answers – it's about coming alongside your staff, volunteers and congregation, providing assurance and guidance so they feel encouraged about the future.

This has never been more important. The number of American adults battling anxiety, depression or both has risen to 34% since the onset of COVID-19 – underscoring the need for people to allocate time, space and resources to care for themselves. You'll want to help your staff, volunteers and members to carve out slices of time for restorative practices and also make time to adopt some of those same practices yourself. By modeling the importance of taking care of yourself, you're reminding people of their value – and the fact that health and well-being are worth investing in.

As we approach a holiday season unlike any other, encouraging and embracing self-care can help foster a healthy mindset for you and those you serve. Some ideas include:

Take Care of Your Body: Eating healthy and exercising may seem routine, but they play key roles in disease prevention, overall well-being and mood. Finding good balance is especially important during the holidays as you're tackling lengthier to-do lists and often surrounded by an influx of delicious but less healthy foods. While this is something your congregation can tackle individually, there's the option to create a Facebook group for sharing good workouts, recipes and tips. And don't forget to get good sleep, as that affects cognitive function and performance, growth and stress hormones, immune system, appetite, breathing, blood pressure and cardiovascular health.

Pursue Spiritual Development: While 49% of spiritual leaders find it difficult to carve out time for their own spiritual development, doing so in a time of crisis will help you hit reset in four worthwhile ways: your sense of connectedness, structure and routine, sense of control and mental space.

Relax With Nature: Whether you step outside, look out a window or admire a nature scene online, the great outdoors helps reduce stress and increase relaxation – just five minutes is enough to change your literal and figurative perspective.

Engage Your Brain: If you notice your thought patterns taking a negative path, find a constructive detour. Crosswords, reading, painting and crafts aren't just relaxing and fun – they also help sharpen the mind and reduce anxiety. Start a gratitude journal during the holidays to help you remain aware and focused on what's going well and what's sparking joy. Or simply dive into something you enjoy – play a game, cook a meal or head out on your bike.

Seek Counseling: It's important for everyone in your congregation, including leadership, to know what counseling resources, family services and group programs are available – and to seek those out when beneficial. For congregations that offer or are considering offering non-professional counseling services, Church Mutual can provide you and your staff with coverage that includes pastoral and family services and lay counseling.

Prayer for a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced
Remember those whose lives are at stake

May we who have no risk factors
Remember those most vulnerable

May we who have the luxury of working from home
Remember those who must choose between preserving
their health or making their rent

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children
when their schools close
Remember those who have no options

May we who have to cancel our trips
Remember those who have no safe place to go

May we who are losing our margin money in the
tumult of the economic market
Remember those who have no margin at all

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
Remember those who have no home

As fear grips our country
Let us choose love

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms
around each other
Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.

Amen