



Hillcrest Highlights

A publication of Hillcrest United Methodist Church

Hillcrest United Methodist Church is a family of diverse people, with a variety of gifts, called to discipleship, led by one spirit, and united in service and mission to God.

A Message from Cherie

As I begin my ninth month in ministry among you, I want to tell you again what a joy it is for me to be your pastor. I continue to give thanks for how ready and willing you are as individuals and as a congregation to step up whenever a need is made known. . . . bringing food for the food pantry, providing meals and overnight accommodations for Room in the Inn, assisting with Open Table Warming Centers and Resource Centers, leading Bible Studies and small groups, serving on God's Team and singing in the Wesley Choir for worship each week, assisting with our English as a Second Language classes, volunteering in the office, working with our children and youth, overseeing the maintenance of our facility and the finances of our church . . . I could go on and on. Please be sure to read (and add to) our Salt and Light Log in the Daily Announcements and on the screen on Sunday mornings. You people are truly the salt of the earth and the light of the world as you minister in God's name through the church and in your daily lives.

At a recent Staff-Parish Relations Committee meeting I was asked to share my vision for Hillcrest United Methodist Church for 2014. Some of my hopes are to help the congregation to:

- Reach out to the surrounding community more strongly.
- Increase our attendance at worship and other church activities. I would like average worship attendance to increase to 200 as soon as possible. We averaged 171 in worship during 2013.
- Increase the amount of our apportionments we pay. The Church Council has committed to paying 55% for 2014. I would like for us to increase this amount if at all possible by the end of 2014.
- Increase our income so that we do not need to borrow from savings to meet our budget.
- Strengthen communication among the leaders of the church, the entire congregation and the community through our website, newsletters, Welcome Room monitor, our sign on Tusculum Road and other means.
- Encourage people to step-up to help and serve, especially in our children and youth ministries

At our recent Planning Retreat, the Church Council affirmed its commitment to offer at least four events a year to specifically connect with the surrounding community. These events will have no cost to community participants; they will include food, and will involve as many different Ministry Teams as possible in the planning and carrying out of these events.

Plans are already underway for our **Spring Event – our Easter Egg Hunt with Open House on Palm Sunday afternoon, April 13, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.** In addition to inviting our children and guests from the community to hunt Easter Eggs, we will have booths set up inside and outside the church to share about Hillcrest's ministries so that guests can tour our facility and learn about such things as English as a Second Language classes, our Food Bank, Justice for Our Neighbors, ministries for children and youth, as well as be invited to Holy Week and Easter worship services. Keri Cress and Kendall Crosslin (Children's Coordinator) have compiled a list of what is needed to plan the Easter Egg Hunt/Open House. Now we need each Ministry Team, each Board and Committee, and as many volunteers as possible to choose how to be involved in helping our spring community event happen.

(continued on pg.2)

This summer we will offer **Vacation Bible School (June 8 – 11)** and invite the children from the community. Our fall event will be **Trunk or Treat**, and then our winter event – **Manger Marketplace and Christmas Cantata**.

In addition to these four community events, we will also be partnering with other UMC's in the **Southeast Summer Ministry** which will take Vacation Bible School to the apartment complex on Haywood Lane on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in July. Watch for more information in the weeks ahead.

I am honored to be in ministry with you and to you in these days. The Holy Spirit is truly moving among us, inspiring and empowering us to be salt and light wherever we are!

Blessings, *Chui*

A Note from Mike-During Thanksgiving, we try to be a bit more aware of our many oft unnoticed blessings. At Christmas, we implore children with questions of "what is Santa bringing you", and try to be more giving. We ring in the New Year by making promises to ourselves, while drilling others about the commitments they have made regarding resolutions for the coming year. At Valentine's, we go out of our way to express affection to our loved ones. Every season seems to carry its own ritual and pattern- then we are faced with the ultimate downer: Lent.

In 1997, I asked Shaffer, "So what are you going to give up for Lent this year?"

Shaffer was an 89 year old retired Presbyterian minister in northeast Arkansas. He was so frail, he had to start getting ready for church on Saturday afternoon. He would bathe, then need to take a break. He would shave, then have to rest up. He would lay out his clothes, Bible, and pour his cereal into a bowl, as it would be one less thing to wear him out on Sunday morning. He would say really, really wise things. "Well", said Shaffer, "you know I don't have a whole lot of stuff left to give up. I guess I figure it's more what you *take up* during Lent than what you *give up*, anyway."

I know we have all heard it- but for me, it was the first time. Never had I considered that using the days leading to Easter could be anything other than the self-denial of the most important things in life (chocolate, coffee, TV, etc.). Never had it occurred to me that it might be more than some pious pretense. Never had it occurred to me that this might actually be a really great time to study, serve, and strive toward something- a fuller understanding of the grace and love that Jesus has for each of us.

As we move toward and through Lent this year, let us seek to do so arm-in-arm. Let us prop each other up rather than moping along. Let us encourage those around us with the greatest truth that has ever been! Get involved! Join a study! Volunteer some time or participate in ministry

(cont.)

activities that you may never have considered or acted upon!

Let us remember that we are redeemed, loved, and worthy children of God. Let us remember that God so loved the world he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him will not perish but have eternal life...

Mike Powell

New Church Financial Procedures

The Finance Committee is happy to let you know that the Church Council approved a new Financial Policy in February. This new policy will govern the processes and procedures we use in our financial transactions. **But what does this mean to you?** Primarily it means that with improved control of our spending, we will be better able to manage within our operating budget. It also insures that our processes are repeatable and auditable.

The next question is "**What do we need from you?**" Effective immediately, we have asked our committee chair persons to be responsible for all expenses that will be funded from their budget. If you make purchases on behalf of any committee, it will be necessary for you to reach out to the committee chair *before* you make a purchase. The chair person will be responsible to check their remaining budget and authorize the expense.

Other items "**We would like for you to know**" are: We have a new process for leaving cash or checks in the office. If at all possible, please leave your deposit with Martie in the office. She will write you a receipt and notify our financial staff that a deposit needs to be accounted for and made. If you must leave money after hours, there are new envelopes outside the office that you may put your deposit in and a form to complete. Anytime you have a deposit that has more than \$200 in cash, please notify Bob Powell (or Sandra Strickland, Richard Spry or Kim Joyce if Bob is not available) if you must leave it after hours.

Maybe the best way to wrap this up is to offer "**What we can do for you!**" The Finance Committee is offering to help our leadership with the financial management of events. If you are planning an event and would like for someone from the Finance Committee to help you with your collections and insure the event is funded properly, we will be glad to do so. It doesn't matter if you have a large or small event, if you need our help, please let anyone on the committee know. Beginning in 2014, we are asking all leadership to insure that all events are 100% funded BEFORE the event. We are working on a form that leaders can use for collecting money if they would like to do so themselves.

We look forward to working with you! *Kim Joyce*

Birthdays & Anniversaries

March Birthdays

March 1 Sharon Steeley
 March 2 Caleb Potter
 March 3 Jamie Powell
 March 4 Leslie Bass
 March 4 Lynn Booker
 March 4 Jim Barker
 March 4 Dennis Braden
 March 6 Brett Parsons
 March 6 Adam Dyer
 March 7 Sue Conder
 March 7 Allison Carter
 March 8 Jayme Palmer
 March 8 Jenna Hicks
 March 8 Myles Keene
 March 9 Charles Tate
 March 9 Very Denney
 March 9 Lin Webster
 March 10 Ross Mohsenzadeh
 March 11 Tammy Smith
 March 12 Mike Worden
 March 12 Bre'Anna Walker
 March 13 Ruth Gower
 March 13 Tom Burnside
 March 13 Carla Richards
 March 14 David Kline
 March 15 Jerry Strickland
 March 16 Sandra Kihm
 March 17 Charles Parsons
 March 17 Amaris Liana Diza
 March 19 Sheryl Reed
 March 19 Scott Johnson
 March 20 Lindsey Hicks
 March 21 Brittany Long
 March 22 Ed Pyles
 March 22 John Ferguson
 March 22 David Ryan
 March 23 Myra Powell
 March 23 Justin Powell
 March 24 Hugh Stills
 March 24 Henry Settle
 March 25 Christopher Arnold
 March 26 Sandy Jackson
 March 26 Sarah Krogman
 March 26 Audrey Sanderson
 March 27 Harriett Kurtz
 March 27 Roger Rhoads

March 28 Lori Little
 March 28 Kaitlynn Vaughn
 March 29 Mark Coleman
 March 29 Norman Corea
 March 31 Andrew Joyce
 March 31 Parker Austin

March Anniversaries

March 2 - Joe and Sheryl Reed
 March 3 - Myra Powell
 March 4 - Donna Whitmore
 March 6 - David & Elaine Kline
 March 13 - Jerry & Debbie Reeves
 March 14 - Marcus & Robin Stewart
 March 14 - Bob and Jamie Powell
 March 14 - Willie and Louise Ryan
 March 20 - Pat Martin



Save The Date

Coasters - March 12th
 Honey's - March 18th
 Discovery Weekend - March 28th (Youth)
 UMM Breakfast - March 22nd

Prayer Concerns

The following requests were received from our Hillcrest family. You may add a concern to this list by filling out a Prayer Concern form located in the pew and placing it in the offering plate or in the prayer box at the front of the church. **In order to keep our Prayer List current, please contact the church office when it is time to remove a name from the list.**

Glen Worden	David Kulp
Martha Williams	Pat Davis
Jane Dixon	Maud Quartey
Family of Frank Bernard	Dot King
MacKenzie Carson	Betty Williams
Carlene Diggs	George Dauberman
Jean Blankenship	Family of Trampas Potter
Linda Graham	
Diana Hanvy	
Lindsay Adams	
Teresa Chandler	
Mitch Shelton	
Bobby Harper	

Lenten Bible Study

Listening to Golgotha by Peter Storey, is a reflection on the Seven Last Words of Christ while he was on the cross. This will be the focus of a **six-week Lenten Bible Study, led by Pastor Cherie**. These meditations accompanied by reflection questions and prayer, will deepen the meaning of the Lenten Journey for individuals and the congregation. Each of Jesus' last words casts light on his saving work and confronts us with our need to receive and act upon the gift offered by his death. This study will be offered at two times: Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. to 9:50, beginning Sunday, March 9, Room 201; and Wednesday evenings 6:00 p.m. to 6:50 p.m., beginning Wednesday, March 12 in room 201. There will be nursery (Pre-K and younger) on Wednesday evenings, and regular care on Sunday mornings. Please sign up in Welcome Area.

ZUMBA GOLD® - GET GROOVIN AT YOUR OWN PACE

The easy-to-follow program that lets you move to the beat at your own speed. It's an invigorating, community-oriented dance-fitness class that feels fresh, and most of all, exhilarating! Zumba Gold® classes provide modified, low-impact moves for active older adults and people who are just starting out at Zumba. It's for male and female, young (at least 18 please) and older. The deal is - the music makes you move and you just have to enjoy yourself! You'll be working up a sweat after about 10 minutes. Even people that have been to a Zumba class before....can join us and do it at their own pace! Try it out for \$2 per class. Wear comfortable clothes & rubber bottom no-skid soles (sneakers)

When: Wed night 6:00 - 7:00 PM (Starting March 5th)

Where: Hillcrest United Methodist Church - gymnasium 5112 Raywood Lane Nashville, TN 37211

Any questions - call Reine 615 454 2651

New Lay Leader for 2014, Chip Parsons - ChipParson@Comcast.net

Please feel free to contact me with any suggestions for:

1. Improving our ministries at Hillcrest
2. Observations or areas of concern that might need attention
3. Other possible ways that you see that Hillcrest can be more relevant in our mission of spreading the Love of Christ to each other, our community and the world.

Notes of Appreciation to Hillcrest

Miriam's Promise: Pregnancy, Parenting and Adoption Services. Miriam's Promise exists to *"ensure the well-being" of the child by nurturing individuals and families*".

We wanted to take a moment and thank you and the congregation for your support and prayers this year for Miriam's Promise and the precious ones we serve. We are honored you chose to support us through apportionment giving or specials offerings. Your gift makes a huge difference for children like Malachi. He is now almost two but came into this world with a significant heart problem, requiring 3 surgeries in his first year. His birthmother wanted so much for him; the most important was a 2-parent family. After weeks in loving foster care. Malachi went into his first surgery with his new adoptive family by his side. After 14 days in the hospital, Malachi came home to his new family. This is just one example of the amazing impact your partnership has on children and families served by Miriam's Promise. Thank you again for being present with us in this vital work!

Cell Phones for Soldiers

I've been collecting all of the cell phones that you have brought in for Cell Phones for Soldiers. These will really impact some people's lives. Keep up the good work! Thank you! Caroline Dyer



Coasters:

Mark your calendars for **March 12, 2014**. We will have music and lunch and all are invited. We will have music by Commander Bob Nash from Fifty Forward. Cmdr. Nash is retired from the Metro Police Department and has performed for us some time ago. He has a wide selection of music he performs as well as sing-alongs. (Come on, you know there are some songs you just can't help but join in on singing). The last time he was here he had us singing and clapping and we hated to see him stop. So mark your calendars, invite your friends and bring your best singing voices and we'll show folks that us seniors ain't done yet. Please **DON'T** forget to call the church office (832-0157) or sign the sign-up sheet in the Welcome area. The deadline to sign up is March 9, 2014. See you all here at Hillcrest at 10:30am.

Honeys

The Honey's will travel to the Tennessee State Museum on **March 18th** to view the Wessyngton Plantation Exhibit. This exhibit features artifacts, original documents and photos of the slaves and slaveholders that worked and lived in one of the largest plantations in Tennessee. Please sign up on the Honey's sheet in the Welcome Area by March 9th if you plan to go. After the tour of the exhibit - the Honey's will eat together at Dan's Restaurant, a favorite downtown Meat & 3. Call Dot Crawford or the church office (615.832.0157) if you have questions.



Small Group Meetings

The Friendly Fellowship Small Group will meet March 12, at 6:30 p.m. at the Whipples's house.

United Methodist Men's Breakfast

The UMM Breakfast will be on Saturday March 22nd at 8:00 a.m. All men are invited. Following the breakfast there will be an All Church Work Day! Sign up sheets will be in the foyer.



Our Tithes and Offerings as of February 23rd, 2014

Weekly Offering	6,076.00
YTD Offering	58,112.45
Weekly Wattie Fund Offering	285.00
YTD Wattie Fund Offering	3,740.00

How To Submit Information for the Newsletter

Information for the newsletter may be submitted by e-mail or by completing an Activity/Event information form and leaving the completed form in Administrative Assistant's mailbox. Please note that the deadline to submit information is firm. Any submission received after the deadline will be published in the following month's edition. If the submission is time sensitive, it will be published in the daily e-mails and bulletin. Activity/Event forms are located in the outer office on the book shelf to the right of the copy machine, and on the church website (www.hillcrestumc.org).

Newsletter Publication Schedule

Time Period Covered	Deadline for Information/
For the period covering April 1st—April 30th	Articles need to be submitted by March 24th at Noon. Newsletters will be mailed out on March 31st
For the period covering May 1st—May 31st	Articles need to be submitted by April 25th at Noon. Newsletters will be mailed out on April 29th.

Please email articles to: martie@hillcrestumc.org

Youth Ministry

God invites us to step into a great story. A story that has been going on since the world was created. It is the story of a Creator seeking to be in relationship with the created. This story, the stories of our faith call to us. The Savior gently calls us by name and invites us into this life, this abundant life. This spring our Senior High students will lead their peers (6th-8th grade) through a weekend retreat that is meant to invite them into the story. We as a congregation will be invited to share in this weekend. And maybe we will all be inspired to live our lives in the full knowledge of our own identities, cherished children of God with a history and legacy of carrying out the mission of the kingdom of God in the world around us.

ID Weekend will be March 28th-30th. There is a sign-up sheet in the Welcome Area if you would like to get involved with this weekend. The congregation is also invited to a Prayer Service and Reception on March 29th at 5 pm.

Upcoming Youth Events:

March 28th	Discovery Weekend
May 4th	Alleluia Auction
June 8th-12th	Vacation Bible School
June 22nd-June 28th	Mountain TOP



Children's Ministry

Children's Ministry is busy preparing for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. We hope this will be a true outreach to our community at such a great time to share with our neighbors about the love of Christ in word and in action. We hope that this is a church wide effort to reach and meet some of our neighbors who might join us for this celebration. One thing we will need is help getting the word out. Look for small flyers you can hand out! There are so many other ways to get involved as well, including donating candy and eggs, stuffing eggs, help with set up on the day of the hunt, baking a cake for the cake walk, just showing up with a plan to meet and greet our visitors, help with food, and with clean up. If you are interested in getting involved with the Easter Egg Hunt, please contact Kendall Crosslin, Robin Dyer, or Keri.



is coming!!!! Our Olympic themed VBS will help us learn about what it means to be a disciplined disciple, training spiritually the way an athlete trains for a big event. We are collecting Olympic themed decorations and activities. If you happen to come across any, we would love to use them this summer for VBS. VBS will be June 8th-12th for children 3 years old and potty trained-rising 5th graders. Watch for more information about VBS!!!



HUMC Calendar of Events

Our nursery (for Pre-K and younger) is open for Sunday School and Sunday Worship with no reservations needed. Additionally, we seek to provide childcare for parents attending Bible studies or meetings. Leaders, please reserve your event two weeks in advance. Highlighted () events have childcare provided. For other events, parents must call the church office at 832-0157 to reserve a space for your child. Although we always try to accommodate last minute situations, we need your reservation 48 hours in advance.*

Saturday March 1

8:30 am Emmaus Board Meeting
8:00 pm AA & AI Anon

Sunday, March 2

9:00am *Sunday School
10:15am *Worship
3:00 pm Disciple I
5:15 pm *Invitation to Romans
5:15 pm *Esther Class
5:30 pm Youth PUSH
5:45 pm Rock the House (Children)

Monday, March 3

9:30 am Refugee ESL Classes
9:30 am Refugee Agricultural Program
3:30 pm Catholic Charities After School
6:45 pm Boy Scouts & Cub Scouts

Tuesday, March 4

10:00 am Who's Meeting
10:30 am Staff Meeting
3:30 pm Catholic Charities After School
6:30 pm Trustees Meeting
7:00 pm Men's Basketball
8:00 pm AA & AI Anon

Wednesday, March 5

10:00 am Dulcimer Group
12:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service
1:00 pm Invitation to Romans
3:30 pm Catholic Charities Afterschool
6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service
6:00 pm Youth Bible Study
7:00 pm Wesley Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 6

9:30 am Refugee ESL Classes
3:30 pm Catholic Charities After School
6:00 pm Men's Volleyball

Friday, March 7

6:00 pm RITI

Saturday, March 8

11:30 a.m. Girl Scouts World Thinking Day
8:00 pm AA/AIAnon

Sunday, March 9

9:00 am *Sunday School
10:15 am *Worship
3:00 pm Disciple I
5:15 pm Esther Class
5:15 pm *Invitation to Romans
5:15 pm *Esther Class
3:00 pm Scout Pack 1161
5:30 pm Youth PUSH
5:45 pm Rock The House (Children)

Monday, March 10

9:00 am Refugee Agricultural Training
9:30 am Refugee ESL classes
3:30 pm Catholic Charities After School
6:45 pm Boy Scouts & Cub Scouts

Tuesday March 11

10:30 am Staff Meeting
3:30 pm Catholic Charities After School
6:30 pm SPRC

7:00 pm Men's Basketball
7:00 pm Tusculum Rd. Nghhhood Watch
8:00 pm AA & AI Anon

Wednesday, March 12

10:00 am Dulcimer Group
10:30 am Coasters
1:00 pm Invitation to Romans
3:30 pm Catholic Charities Afterschool
6:00 pm Lenten Study
6:00 pm Hillcrest ESL classes
6:00 pm Youth Bible Study
7:00 pm Wesley Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 13

9:30 am Refugee ESL Classes
9:30 am CEF
3:30 pm Catholic Charities After School
7:00 pm Men's Volleyball
7:00 pm Dan Bear District Round Table

Friday, March 14

5:00 pm Open Table

Saturday, March 15

8:00 am JFON
8:00 pm AA & AI Anon

Sunday, March 16

9:00 am *Sunday School
10:15 am *Worship
11:30 am Children's Council Meeting
3:00 pm Disciple I
5:15 pm Esther Class
5:15 pm *Invitation to Romans
5:15 pm *Esther Class
5:30 pm Youth PUSH
5:45 pm Rock The House (Children)

Monday, March 17

9:30 am Refugee ESL HOLIDAY
9:30 am Refugee Agricultural Program
10:00 am UMW
3:30 pm Catholic Charities After School
6:45 pm Boy Scouts & Cub Scouts

Tuesday, March 18

10:00 am Honey's Meeting
10:30 am Staff Meeting
3:30 pm Catholic Charities After School
6:30 pm Finance Meeting
7:00 pm Men's Basketball
7:00 pm Tusculum Rd. Nghhhood Watch
8:00 pm AA & AI Anon

Wednesday, March 19

10:00 am Dulcimer Group
1:00 pm Invitation to Romans
3:30 pm Catholic Charities After School
6:00 pm Lenten Study
6:00 pm Hillcrest ESL Classes
6:00 pm Youth Bible Study
7:00 pm Wesley Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 20

7:00 am Recycling
9:30 am Refugee ESL Classes
3:30 pm Catholic Charities After School

7:00 pm Men's Volleyball

Friday, March 21

6:00 pm RITI

Saturday, March 22

All Church Workday

8:00 am UMM Breakfast

8:00 pm AA & AI Anon

Sunday, March 23

9:00am *Sunday School
10:15am *Worship
5:15 pm *Invitation to Romans
5:15 pm *Esther Class
3:00 pm Disciple I
5:30 pm Youth PUSH
5:45 pm Rock the House (Children)

Monday, March 24

9:30 am Refugee ESL Classes
9:30 am Refugee Agricultural Program
3:30 pm Catholic Charities After School
6:45 pm Boy Scouts & Cub Scouts

Tuesday March 25

3:30 pm Catholic Charities After School
7:00 pm Men's Basketball
8:00 pm AA & AI Anon

Wednesday, March 26

10:00 am Dulcimer Group
1:00 pm Invitation to Romans
3:30 pm Catholic Charities Afterschool
6:00 pm Lenten Study
6:00 pm Hillcrest ESL classes
6:00 pm Youth Bible Study
7:00 pm Wesley Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 27

9:30 am Refugee ESL classes
3:30 pm Catholic Charities After School
6:00 pm Men's Volleyball

Friday, March 28

5:00 pm Open Table
5:00 pm Discovery Weekend

Saturday, March 29

Discovery Weekend (all day)
8:00 pm AA/Alanon

Sunday, March 30

9:00 am *Sunday School
10:15 am *Worship
3:00 pm Disciple I
5:15 pm *Esther Class
5:15 pm *Invitation to Romans
3:00 pm Scout Pack 1161
5:30 pm Youth PUSH
5:45 pm Rock The House (Children)
6:00 pm *Adult Short Studies

Monday, March 31

9:00 am Refugee Agricultural Training
9:30 am Refugee ESL classes
3:30 pm Catholic Charities After School
6:45 pm Boy Scouts & Cub Scouts



Hillcrest United Methodist Church
5112 Raywood Lane
Nashville TN 37211
(615) 832-0157
Fax: (615) 832-9442
Preschool: 831-1001
info@hillcrestumc.org
www.hillcrestumc.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Hillcrest Worship

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

SUNDAY MORNING

10:15 A.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:00 A.M.

Church Staff

Senior Pastor: Cherie Parker
Minister of Music: Mike Castellaw
Minister of Children & Youth: Keri Cress
Organist: Carl Hester
Pianist: Sarah Williams
Nursery: Susan Gebhardt, Leah Watkins,
Debbie Rhoads
Administrative Assistant: Martie Rader

Pre-school Staff

Preschool Director: Robin Dyer
Teachers: Teresa Parsons
Jennifer Allman
Kellie Gifford
Heather Hobbs

For information about the preschool call 831-1001.

Our building is maintained by BMCS. If you find any area of the building in need of attention please let us know by calling the church office.