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The Connecting Link

Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church, 8426 West 95th Street, Hickory Hills, IL 60457
 Website: www.hickoryhillspres.org E-mail: hhcp@hickoryhillspres.org Phone: 708-598-3100

MAY 2018

WORSHIP SERVICES, SCRIPTURE READINGS, AND SUNDAY MEETINGS

The Scripture readings shown below are ones that many churches across the world will focus on during these upcoming Sundays. You are invited to use them as passages of study in your personal devotional time.

SUNDAY, MAY 6 (6th Sunday of Easter)

Readings: Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17
 9:00 AM Adult Class
 10:00 AM **Worship**
 11:15 AM Fellowship, Prayer Shawl Ministry & Christian Education (CE)
 5:00 PM **REV Worship Service**

SUNDAY, MAY 13 (7th Sunday of Easter)

Readings: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; I John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19
 9:00 AM Adult Class
 10:00 AM **Worship and Youth Sunday School**
 11:15 AM Fellowship, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Outreach/Comm./Website
 5:00 PM **REV Worship Service**

SUNDAY, MAY 20 (Day of Pentecost)

Readings: Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 104: 24-34, 35b; Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21; John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15
 9:00 AM Adult Class
 10:00 AM **Worship and Youth Sunday School**
(Last day of Sunday School)
 11:15 AM Fellowship, Prayer Shawl Ministry & Missions
 5:00 PM **REV Worship Service**

SUNDAY, MAY 27 (Trinity Sunday)

Readings: Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17
 10:00 AM **Worship**
 11:15 AM Fellowship & Prayer Shawl Ministry
 5:00 PM **REV Worship Service**

If you or someone you love needs a hospital visit, please call the church office at 708-598-3100 and leave a message on the office mailbox. Due to federal privacy regulations, the hospitals never call the church, even if they ask for your church membership information.

MOTHER'S DAY BAKE SALE
 SUNDAY, MAY 13
 AFTER 10 AM WORSHIP
 (See Special Events on page 7)



9:00 A.M. Adult Study
(all year round)

10:00 A.M. Traditional
Worship with Youth
Sunday School (during
the school year for
ages 3 through high
school)

5:00 P.M.
REV Contemporary
Worship Service

2 REFLECTIONS

A Mother's Story: A Priceless Gift

How many of us wish that we would have asked more questions of our own mothers so that we might have learned more about their life stories?

Well, with Mother's Day right around the corner, it might be a great opportunity to start some conversations with your kids and grandkids or at least make a plan to do so. There might be some wonderful stories you haven't told them or just want to retell.

Another option you might consider is journaling these memorable stories and presenting them as gifts to your loved ones for their birthdays or special occasions. *(Some stores sell blank journals or journals with a myriad of questions inside to use as a guide.)*

These shared memories will not only be a priceless gift for your loved ones but will be a wonderful gift that you give to yourself as you relive the memories you hold dear.

Here are some questions you might want to use as a guide or create ones of your own:

- What was your childhood like?
- How would your parents have described you?
- Tell me about some of the more interesting members of your family.
- How has your faith been strengthened over the years?
- How did you meet my father?
- What are some of the biggest challenges or setbacks our family faced?
- What are some of the happiest times in your life?
- What is something I may not know about you?
- What physical family traits do I seem to have?
- What personality traits have I inherited from you?
- What special interests did you have when you were younger?
- What were you like as a child?
- What story is most often told about your early years?
- Where did you live when you were a child?
- What did your parents do for a living?
- What kind of values did your parents instill in you as a child? How do you think these values helped you in your life?

- Did you have a nickname growing up?
- Who were your best friends when you were a child and what were they like?
- As child, what kind of music did you listen to?
- Who was your very first date?
- What happy memory will you cherish forever?
- What was your biggest regret?
- What was the best trip of your life so far?
- What do you miss the most about back in the day?
- Was there a special teacher or person that influenced you? How so?
- What were you doing when you were my age?
- What advice would you give yourself at this age?
- What do you remember most about your wedding day?
- What do you wish you made more time for in your life?
- What amazes you about the world today?
- If you had to do it all over again, would you pursue the same career path?

Happy Mother's Day! Enjoy the Memories!



A Tribute to Mother

"M" is for the million things she gave me
"O" is for she's growing old, "T" is for the tears she shed to save me, "H" is for her heart of purest gold, "E" is for her eyes with love-light glowing, "R" means right and right she'll always be.

Put them all together they spell **MOTHER**, a word that means the world to me.





If you are interested in helping or would like more information on Kids' Club, please contact Dianne Flynn at the church office at 708-598-3100.

KIDS CLUB



Our time at Kids Club is coming to a close for this 2017-18 year. Our last day is May 7. This day has been planned as a celebration for all we have shared throughout the year.

Once again I want say thank you to the special group of adults who help to make Kids Club possible--our dedicated volunteer staff--Shannon Bastien, Shirley Dragas, Linda Lavaretto, Grace Muszynski, Nancy Snyder, Mike Swearingen and Debbie Zimmerman. Also, we thank Karen Golema, for always being there on days when we need a little extra help. We are blessed.

On behalf of our staff, I hope you have a wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing you back in the fall.

Peace and Joy, Dianne



We are now busy planning for Vacation Bible School 2018. Our theme for this year is ***Game On - Gearing Up for Life's Big Game.***

During this week-long adventure, we will participate in Bible stories, crafts, music, games and snacks. Tricia and Company will again be the featured presenters for this week.

Registration forms are available at the church. Plan to attend and tell others about the **Vacation Bible School program** which will be held at **HHPC June 4-7, from 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM.**

The love of a
FAMILY
is life's greatest blessing

4 CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UPDATE

Lap Blankets

It was a glorious sight to see over 140 lap blankets displayed on the pews of the sanctuary on April 22. Prayers for the recipients of Providence Healthcare and Rehabilitation of Crestwood were made during the 10 AM and 5 PM worship services. On May 6, the Sunday school students and their adult chaperones will deliver them. The Prayer Shawl Ministry delivered 5 Prayer Shawls in the month of April as well. The Prayer Shawl Ministry has been creating lap blankets for over 2 years and were happy to see their hard work being shared with the residents of Providence in Crestwood.

Kids Club

Kids Club will have its last meeting for this 2017-18 on May 7. As is customary, there will be a farewell party. We hope everyone will have a safe and exciting summer. Check for further announcements.

Bake Sale on Mother's Day

Sunday, May 13 is Mother's Day and our traditional Bake Sale.

You will find cookies, slices of cake and whole cakes available after the 10 AM worship service. Be sure to stop downstairs to pick up a sweet treat for your family.

Don't forget to give your Mom a sweet present, too. I am sure she will enjoy something she did not need to bake herself.



Mother's Day
May 13

**See page 7
for more details.**

HHPC Recognition Day

On May 20 at the 10 AM worship service we will recognize all those who have donated their time and talents to the Christian Education programs throughout the year. It is the ideal time to say thank you to them. Graduates will also be recognized during this worship service.

Be sure to come and attend the 10 AM to join us at worship on May 20 so you can see how many members of the congregation have worked so hard to present educational and enjoyable programs this year.

More volunteers are needed each and every year to make the programs enjoyable and safe. You are always welcome to join in.

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

The wait is almost over! Vacation Bible School will begin June 4 through June 7 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. Children ages 4 thru completion of grade 6 are welcome to attend.

Our theme this year is *Game On!* Tricia and company will lead the Bible study and music.

A \$6 fee and a donation of a bag of cookies will be charged for the 4 days. Children older than the 6th grade are asked to contact Dianne Flynn for opportunities to be helpers within each of the age groups. Adults are also needed to lead each group. The groups are divided by age: Pre-school-grade 1, grades 2-3, grades 4-6+. Be a volunteer, you'll have a great time.

*Do you have a child or know a child who might be interested in attending camp this summer?
Invite them to join in the fun.*

Camp Fund Scholarships

There are funds available for camp scholarships. Please contact Dianne Flynn for more information. The children who have attended camp in previous years said it was a memorable experience.



MISSION EVENTS

- JUNE 23-29**
DAKOTA PARTNERSHIP MISSION
TO SISSETON, SOUTH DAKOTA
- SATURDAY, JULY 7 -**
SATURDAY, JULY 14
KENTUCKY MISSION TRIP
- SUNDAY, JULY 29**
2:00 PM
HHPC MISSION COUNCIL 8 KIT
PACKING FOR CWS



FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION BOX

On the first-of-the month Sundays as we come to our Lord's Table for Communion, we share the gift of food for another's table. Kindly remember to bring a non-perishable food item with you on these Sundays.

The Food Pantry collection box is located in the narthex and is always available for your donations.

Thank You and God bless you
for your generosity.

UPDATE

Bottle Caps

Thank you for your continued participation in saving plastic caps.

We recently donated 2 bins of bottle caps to Lyle School in Bridgeview IL. They are collecting caps and raising funds to make a Batman Park Bench in honor of **Oliver Canales**, a student lost to leukemia last summer. They need 400 pounds of caps!

Prior to "Caps Off to Oliver!" we sent many bags of caps to a school in Tinley Park that was collecting to build 2 benches. With community help, they reached their goal!

Let's keep collecting with intentions of someday building our own bench. In the meantime, we may be able to help other groups who are trying to collect and build a bench.

Some suggested plastic lids to save: water and soda bottles, laundry soap and fabric softener, clean mayonnaise, peanut butter and jelly, and prescription bottles and lids.

Prayer Shawls

April 22, was a beautiful day in our Sanctuary! Our Prayer Shawl Ministry put on display over 135 beautiful lap blankets and shawls. Those at REV and the 10 AM traditional worship service prayed over them. Kids Club carefully packed them away on the following Monday. Final destination on May 6 will be to Providence Nursing Home in Crestwood.

Come join us in this loving and caring ministry! If you knit or crochet, or want to learn, we'd love to have you!

Blessings, Kim

6 PRAYER AND CARE

Women's Bible Study "Sharing at the Table"



Finally, brethren, we beseech and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as you learned from us how you ought to live, and to please God, just as you are doing, you do so more and more."

1 Thessalonians 4:1 (RSV)

We finished the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians. The letter dealt with special problems, particularly the Second Coming of Christ. Paul was filled with joy because of their faith and love, reminding them of purity and holiness.

Women's Bible Study meets every Monday at 1:00 PM in the Knitting Room.



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

THURSDAY, MAY 3, 2018

12:00 NOON

HHPC SANCTUARY

~ ~ ~

Let us come and pray together
on this special day.

We Lift in Prayer

We pray for those in need of healing and those with health concerns: Jerry & Joan Panko, Mary Orr, Francine, Shirley D's sister Shirleen, her friend's son Brian, Kevin, Eleanor Watson, Jean Somerstorfer, Bob D, Sawyer, Lucy D & Tom, Barb M, Don & Carol (Ivy), Erik's son, Dave & Dar, Leah (Karen), Diane's great nephew Colton & sister Lynn, Gail (Ar), Michelle (Mel), Stephanie (Katie), Kyle W, Adeline, Sean, Jackie (Ivy), Aunt Jane & Bob, Jr. (Gordon), Savannah (Dave and Darlene Delaney's granddaughter), Lieutenant Clint Sanders of Roberts Park Fire Protection District (Karen Golema), Lorrie Cunningham (Ar), Julie Witek, Ella (Lorrie), Marge (Bernie), Cindy T, David (Laura V's son), Scarlet (Deb), Cliff (Patt), Rev. Emily, Cori (Ivy), Anita (Bernie), Gert, Lori T. (Grace), Frankie (Bernie)

We pray for those in need of strength: Susan's cousin Randy, Donna's sister Shirley, Billy, Jeni's mom, Wanda & friend Bob, Annette & Kristina (Adeline), Theresa and her niece, Beth, Aunt & Danny, Debbie Vaughn, Dave Johnsen, Rick & his dad, Dick, George (Charley), Rhiannon & Jim (Charlie), Corey & Jordan (Grace), Carol S, Jim (Grace), Raymond (Diane), Charlie (Barb)

We pray for those in need of strength and healing, or with health concerns: Lori and her mom, Judy, the entire Cassiello family, Donna's friend Ken, Grace's relative Edith, Laura A, Eva M, Ar's brother Richie and brother-in-law Howie and sister Gerry, and Gracie, Joann J, Ramon and Laura, Donna (Karen), Julie's brother (Evelyn), Uncle Tony (Mary Ann), Ciaron Conway (REV), Alia (Laura V), Steven and Ted (Grace), John (Grace's son), Lisa (Bernie's friend), Justin (Ar), Joanne (Barb), Baby Connor (Kim), John Morgucz (Toni), Doris (Wilda's mom), Sandy Beal, Don (Debbie), Lisa (Grace), Erin (Charlie Smith, REV Band)

We pray for groups: Israel, our children & youth ministry, Christians in the Middle East for strength & protection, people of other faiths, our country's divisions, policemen and firemen, persecuted Christians, our enemies, Syria, Nigerian women, South Carolina prison riot (7 dead, 17 hurt)

We also pray for those in need during miscellaneous circumstances: Karl Haack and Mark Gulotta in the Marines, Shannon for peace & direction, Jimmie & Jimmie's aunt for comfort & strength, Laura V's friends Debi & Chris for direction, Lauren for seeing the light & strength, Jen DelPrete and family, Gloria (Laura V), Rachel and Juan, Karen for guidance and strength (Debbie), Cassie (Laura V), Mike (Roy's brother), Dave & Debra, Gerry, Olivia, Holly, Megan (Toni), Salvino (Debbie), Rellinger family (Karen)

We pray for those who mourn: For victims and their families affected by violence. Family and friends of Mary Richer who died April 22.

We praise God for leading us.

Please continue to pray for those listed on Prayer Requests from your home on Wednesday at 9:30 AM until further notice.

(It's what disciples do.)



YOU'RE INVITED

**HHPC ANNUAL YARD SALE
THURSDAY, MAY 17 THROUGH
SATURDAY, MAY 19**

YARD SALE HOURS

Thursday, May 17	9:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Friday, May 18	9:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Saturday, May 19	9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

DROP OFF AND PRICING*

Sunday, May 13	12:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Monday, May 14	10:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Tuesday, May 15	10:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Wednesday, May 16	10:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Note.--Items such as old tube TV's and computer monitors cannot be accepted.



In addition to donations,
we also need volunteers
to help with the sale.

.....
**TOGETHER WE CAN HOST
AN AMAZING FUNDRAISER!!**



**MOTHER'S DAY BAKE SALE
SUNDAY, MAY 13, 2018
(AFTER 10 AM WORSHIP)
FELLOWSHIP HALL**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
(Sign-up sheets are on tables
next to Fellowship Hall.)

*Gearing up for life's
big game. (2 Peter 1:3)*



**GAME ON!
HICKORY HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PRESENTS**

**VACATION BIBLE
SCHOOL 2018**

Open to kids age 4 through completion of grade 6.

**HICKORY HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
8426 WEST 95TH STREET
MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY
JUNE 4 – 7, 2018
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM**

**COST: \$6 and a donation of one package
of cookies for snack time.**

For more information, call 708-598-3100.

8 BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday!



We celebrate those who are having birthdays in May. May God shower them with blessings!

- 2 John Kemp
- 3 Courtney Frieberg
- 3 Myrnalyn Delalamon
- 5 Ken Dritz
- 6 Mildred Neil
- 10 Luz Korzeniewski
- 10 Carol Sack
- 10 Francine Costello
- 11 Wilda Duncan
- 15 Ginger Mercer
- 25 Terry Brock
- 26 Greg Majersky
- 27 Darlene Kibort
- 29 Karen Golema

Please report any omissions or errors on the birthday list to the church office.

Phone: 708-598-3100
E-mail: hhpc@hickoryhillspres.org

A Birthday Prayer for Our Friends

Lord God,

Thank you for this amazing time of celebration, when we remember our friends who have birthdays this month.

We pray that you would bless each of them as they celebrate their special day. We give You thanks for the wonder of their lives, and for all the stages and seasons that they have been through.

We ask also for your blessings upon them as they journey ahead. May they feel You near as You walk with them as their guide and close friend. Amen.



If you have a change to your personal contact information, please call the church office at 708-598-3100 or send an e-mail to: hhpc@hickoryhillspres.org

ONLINE PRAYER REQUESTS

You can now send prayer requests online through our website at:

www.hickoryhillspres.org/prayer-request/

Requests made through this link will be sent to the church office who will forward it to Prayer and Care if designated as such.



WHAT IS PER CAPITA?

Per capita is a way Presbyterians share equally, responsibly, and interdependently in the costs of governing the Presbyterian Church (USA), no matter the size of their churches.

Per capita contributions are:

- requested from every congregation; and,
- based on each church's total active membership.

PER CAPITA HELPS CHURCHES

Through per capita, Presbytery of Chicago churches:

- help congregations with pastoral transitions;
- train and support interim ministers;
- resolve congregational conflicts;
- care for ministers, Christian educators, and their families; and,
- help prepare people for service as ordained ministers.

**The per capita for 2018 is
\$33.61 per member.**

HHPC Pulpit Supply Preachers for the Month of May

Shown below are the pulpit supply preachers who will conduct our morning worship services/REV for the month of May, unless noted otherwise:

May 6 and REV	Rev. Liz Hulford
May 13	Kathleen McKenzie
May 20	Rev. Jana Blazek
May 27	Rev. Emily Rosencrans



HICKORY HILLS SERTOMA CLUB: A community connection

They are men and women just like you. From all walks of life, occupations, religious backgrounds, as well as ethnic backgrounds. Good people working hard to support disadvantaged individuals and giving back to the community. We have meetings twice a month, pay some dues, go to dinners and dances, golf outings, and conventions, just to name a few.

We meet the first Tuesday of every month for dinner at Mama Luigi's on 74th and Harlem. We have our business meeting at the Hickory Hills Senior Center on the third Tuesday of each month.

The club is always looking for interested individuals 18 years and older to help us service our community.

If you are interested in helping out with our fundraisers or joining our club, please contact us at info@hickoryhillssertoma.com or call Jerry at 630-215-3250.

10 HHPC REGULAR MEETINGS

SUNDAYS

Adult Education (Year-round)
9:00 AM - Library

Prayer Shawl Ministry (Sept-May)
11:15 AM – Back Room, Downstairs

First Sundays

Christian Education
11:15 AM – Library

Second Sundays

Outreach/Communications/Website
11:15 AM – Junior High Classroom

Third Sundays

Missions
11:15 AM – Fellowship Hall

MONDAYS

Women's Bible Study (September–May)
1:00 PM – Back Room, Downstairs

Kids Club (during the school year)
3:30 PM – 5:30 PM - Whole Lower Level

Arab Men's Prayer Group
7:00 PM - Library
Meets most weeks

Second Mondays

Session
7:30 PM - Junior/Senior High Room

Fourth Mondays

Deacons
7:30 PM - Back Room, Downstairs

TUESDAYS

Office Open
11:30 AM – 5:30 PM

First Tuesdays
Worship and Music
7:00 PM – Library

Fourth Tuesdays

Newsletters prepared for mailing
10:00 AM - Junior High Room

WEDNESDAYS

Prayer and Care
9:30 AM – Library

Stampers
10:00 AM – Downstairs Knitting Room
(Dates scheduled by participants)

THURSDAYS

Office Open
11:30 AM – 5:30 PM

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS)
4:00 PM – Back Room, Downstairs


Gentle Yoga
7:00 PM – Gym

FRIDAYS

Second and Fourth Fridays
Arab Women's Fellowship
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Fellowship Hall & Kitchen



**HHPC Ministries
at work for the
glory of God.**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 11:30 AM – Office open 7:00 PM - Worship & Music	2 9:30 AM – Prayer & Care (in our homes)	3 11:30 AM Office Open 12:00 Noon – National Day of Prayer Service 4:00 PM TOPS 7:00 PM - Yoga	4	5
6 9:00 AM Adult Education 10:00 AM – Traditional Worship 11:15 AM – Fellowship, Prayer Shawl Ministry & CE 5:00 PM – REV	7 1:00 PM – Women’s Bible Study 3:30 PM – Last Day of Kids Club 7:00 PM – Arab Men’s Prayer Group	8 11:30 AM – Office open	9 9:30 AM – Prayer & Care (in our homes)	10 11:30 AM – Office open 4:00 PM – TOPS 7:00 PM – Yoga	11 4:00 PM Arab Women’s Fellowship	12
13 9:00 AM - Adult Education 10:00 AM – Traditional Worship 11:15 AM – Fellowship, Prayer Shawl Ministry & Outreach/Comm/Website 12:00 PM - 5 PM Yard Sale Drop Off Items 5:00 PM – REV	14 10 AM - 7 PM Yard Sale Drop Off Items 1:00 PM – Women’s Bible Study 7:00 PM – Arab Men’s Prayer Group 7:30 PM – Session	15 10 AM - 7 PM Yard Sale Drop Off Items	16 9:30 AM – Prayer & Care (in our homes) 10 AM - 7 PM Yard Sale Drop Off Items	17 9 AM - 7 PM HHPC Yard Sale 11:30 AM – Office open 4:00 PM – TOPS 7:00 PM – Yoga	18 9:00 AM - 7 PM HHPC Yard Sale	19 9:00 AM – 1PM HHPC Yard Sale
						
20 9:00 AM - Adult Education 10 AM – Traditional Worship 11:15 AM – Fellowship, Prayer Shawl Ministry & Missions 5:00 PM – REV	21 1:00 PM – Women’s Bible Study 7:00 PM – Arab Men’s Prayer Group 7:30 PM – Board of Deacons	22 10 AM - Newsletters prepared for mailing 11:30 AM – Office open	23 9:30 AM – Prayer & Care (in our homes)	24 11:30 AM – Office open 4:00 PM – TOPS 7:00 PM – Yoga	25 4:00 PM Arab Women’s Fellowship	26 10:00 AM Evelyn’s Card Workshop
27 9:00 AM Adult Education 10 AM – Traditional Worship 11:15 AM – Fellowship & Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:00 PM – REV	28 1:00 PM – Women’s Bible Study 7:00 PM – Arab Men’s Prayer Group	29 11:30 AM – Office open	30 9:30 AM – Prayer & Care (in our homes)	31 11:30 AM – Office open 4:00 PM – TOPS 7:00 PM – Yoga		

NOTE: The most updated calendar of events at HHPC can be found on our new website at www.hickoryhills.pres.org/news-events/

“The Connecting Link”

Here's the May 2018 issue of



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