

KOINONIA

Koinónia \koy-nohn-ee'-ah\ Translated from Greek, in essence the fellowship, partnership, community, and communion that exists with our Church.

Acts 2:42



Rev. Dr. Brian Craker

For those who have been with HPC for some time, you'll know that Epiphany Sunday is a special day around here, especially the excitement for the collecting of Children's Coats and the giving of Star Gifts to everyone in attendance on that Sunday. But what is the story behind Epiphany Sunday, and why has that led to HPC both giving AND receiving gifts on this day?

We are all familiar with the song "The 12 Days of Christmas," right? Well, there is actually truth to that song in the church. Christmas is more than just one holy day on the church calendar. Instead, the Christmas season runs twelve days after Christmas in what is called Christmastide. Then Epiphany (God Made Manifest) marks the official end to Christmastide, and it celebrated with the final story of Jesus birth story...the arrival of the Magi.

The Magi were not mysterious people "from the east" as sometimes portrayed...in fact, quite the opposite. The Magi were a class of scholars, educators, physicians, judges and priests from the Mesopotamian region today known as Iraq and Iran. These "wise men" were seen as teachers and healers in their cities or villages, and they made it their jobs to study every resource possible (on earth and in the heavens) in order to anticipate and be ready for what was to come. This Magi class also served as council to the rulers and emperors through the centuries. In fact, the Old Testament prophet Daniel is seen fighting against the Magi early in his career and appears to become part of the Magi class himself by the end of his life. Could Daniel have been the one to introduce the Magi to the Old Testament prophecies of a Divine Savior that would one day come to save a broken human race?

Christmas and Epiphany Blessings!

When the Magi arrived, they seemed to understand the importance of Jesus birth in a way missed by everyone else. Upon arrival, they immediately fell and worshipped the baby Jesus (a sign of reverence to the Divine), and they brought very specific gifts: Gold (a gift reserved for kings), Frankincense (a perfume reserved for worship or sacrifices to the Divine), and Myrrh (both an anointing oil for holy service and an embalming oil.) Each of these gifts were both revelatory and prophetic of who Jesus already was as a baby, and what Jesus would become in his life, death & resurrection.

But those gifts represented something else to the Magi, and to us. Each gift was not only an offering of worship to God, but each gift was also an acknowledgement that God was now WITH US in HUMAN FORM. Not far away in heaven but experiencing ALL that we experience living in this broken world. Emmanuel, God With Us, fills our hearts with hope and encourages our spirits, knowing that God understands what we are going through. That is where the tradition of Epiphany gifts comes from. For HPC, our gift of offering in worship comes in collecting coats for children in need in our community (through Northwest Children's Outreach), but also the receiving of a gift...an Epiphany Star...with contains for each recipient a unique word of encouragement. For many, this Epiphany Star is a gift to reflect on throughout the year, as we let that word of encouragement remind us that Emmanuel...God WITH us...is not just for Christmas but for the entire year.

So now you know the back story of why Epiphany Sunday is so special not only in the church but also at HPC. We look forward to celebrating Epiphany Sunday together on Sun. January 8th. And if you are unable to join us in person on January 8th and would like an Epiphany Star mailed to you, just call or email Nancy Johnson in the church office.

Christmas and Epiphany Blessings!
Pastor Brian

What's inside our latest issue:

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Welcome Visitors and Newcomers!

Consider being a part of what God is doing here at Hillsboro Presbyterian Church!

Visitors and Newcomers are invited to everything in this newsletter. We welcome YOU in the Name of Jesus who welcomes us!



Birthdays

Jill Appel	7
Dave Wesley	7
Cindy Thomas	29
Nancy Radcliff	30

Anniversaries

Dave & Lori Wisdom	5
Ron & Linda Rittenhouse	15
Steve and Sue Dever	23



Flower Ministry

Sign up to bring in flowers or make a donation in lieu of flowers. The sign up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall





Worship Schedule

Sunday, January 1st
Pre-recorded - Online Only
Rev. Dr. Brian Craker

Sunday, January 8th
Epiphany: Simeon & Divine
Rendezvous
Rev. Dr. Brian Craker

Sunday, January 15th
Faith Works
Rev. Dr. Brian Craker

Saturday, January 22nd
Heavenly Wisdom
Rev. Dr. Brian Craker

Sunday, January 29th
Service Sunday
Fellowship Hall 10am
Making Lunches for Blanchet House

Deacons Beacon

by Keith Upton

Be a lighthouse & shine your light onto others

Well here it is another new year. I just wanted to take this opportunity to encourage you to pause and consider just how good God has been to you over this past year. I wanted to let you know how much the Deacons appreciate you. There have been many challenges for all us over the past many months but God is still good! It's time for new beginnings! It's time for a fresh start! It's time to see what God has in store for us as we continue to move forward through this New Year. Some of you may not be able to return right away. You might need to exercise caution for yourself or those you love. You might need to keep watching from a distance for a while. But when the time is right, God's people can gather again, and I hope those of you will join us in the this New Year as it is the perfect time to get back in the habit of worshipping together. We are still at the beginning of another year, and even though we may not come out and say it out loud, we probably all think of things we would like to do better, and ways we can improve our lives so that when we get to the end of this year, we can look back and give thanks to God for helping us to do better. If we truly focus on loving one another, loving God and seeking righteousness, the new year will truly be one to remember! Your Deacons are continuing to reach out into our congregation with love and concern praying for each and every one of you in this new year.



Events & Fellowship

by Joanie Loepf

Happy New Year! We had an EVENTful year and have plans for some fun activities and fellowship in the new year. We start out the year with our Epiphany Lunch and Baby Shower for Jesus. We'll have a potluck after the service on January 8th so please plan to stay and join us for some HPC Family time. There is further information on the baby shower in the Missions message.

I have also come across a documentary called Chaplains which we'll be sharing in two parts as it is a two hour show. We'll show the first part after worship on January 15th and the second in February (date TBD). The film share the stories of chaplains of various faith traditions who go to people and places "... where the questions are the deepest and the need for spiritual and pastoral care the greatest."

We hope you'll join us.

Blessings,

Joanie Loepf

Events & Fellowship Elder

FellowshipElder@hillsboropres.org



Education

by Jenny Sabo



YOUTH SERVICE DAY

BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28TH 10AM - 2PM

COOKING FOR TRANSITION PROJECTS AND PUTTING WINTER KITS TOGETHER.

“HELP ONE ANOTHER. THERE’S NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT, AND NO PRESENT LIKE THE TIME.”
— JAMES DURST

Upcoming Youth Events

February 17th-18th - Lock In at HPC
March 5th - Orenco Presbyterian
April 22nd - Earth Day Service Project with Old Scotch Presby
May 28th - Outdoor Fun with Orenco Presbyterian

Four Presbyterian Churches (Hillsboro, Bethany, Orenco, and Old Scotch) are joining forces to provide a monthly youth event for their kids grades 6th-12th.

Missions

by Jill Appel

As we begin a new year we begin a new partnership with Eastwood Elementary School. We will have some creative painting projects coming this year that Eastwood would like help with. There will also be volunteer opportunities for us to work with the wonderful students at Eastwood.

January brings our annual Baby Shower for Jesus. We will be collecting coats and gloves for Northwest Children's Outreach for children ages 0-18. Please bring your coats and gloves on Sunday, January 8th and make sure you stay after service for an HPC Potluck.



Baby Shower for Jesus

Children's coat and glove drive for Northwest Children's Outreach and Potluck
Sunday, January 8th
Epiphany Sunday

**COLLECTING SIZES
NEWBORN - 18 YEARS**



SERVICE SUNDAY

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 29TH
FELLOWSHIP HALL 10AM**

Blanchet House

January 29th is Service Sunday. This January we will be making 80 sack lunches for Blanchet House. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall for the food needed.

Want to get involved with missions? Email Jill Appel at MissionsElder@hillsboropres.org

HPC Online Giving Available

Online giving is available and ready to use for your convenience!

There are several ways you can donate online:

- 1. Download the free "Vanco Mobile" app on your iPhone or Android
- 2. Scan the QR code to the right.
- 3. Go to our website; www.hillsboropres.org and click on the "[donate now](#)" button.

You can set up a profile so it is easier each time you log in to give, or you can donate as a guest user each time. Donations can be from a checking/savings account, or a bank card.

We hope the option of donating online helps many of us who don't carry checks or cash every day, but still want to financially support HPC.

1. We don't "pass the plate" any longer, but we have a box inside the doors as you enter the sanctuary and you may place your donation there on Sunday.
2. You may set up a regular "bill-pay" through your bank that will automatically send a check to the church.
3. You can use our online giving "Vanco" and set up a regular payment with your credit card or with your bank account.
4. You may set up an automatic RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) or other automatic payment from your retirement account.



American Red Cross



Our upcoming blood drive is:

January 30th

1:30- 6pm

There will be no blood drive in February

Sign up sheet for volunteers is in the Fellowship Hall

For an appointment please visit:

Redcrossblood.org

Use Sponsor Code: **HPC97123**

or


Call 1-800-RED-CROSS

(1-800-733-2767)

JANUARY



HPC Calendar - 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1 Pre recorded service, watch online with your family. New Year's Day 1-5pm IJC	2	3 4:30 Praise Team	4 6-8pm IJC	5 8pm AA	6 6-8pm IJC	7
8 10am Worship (Live Stream) Epiphany Sunday Baby Shower for Jesus and Potluck 1-2pm IJC	9 8pm AA	10 4:30 Praise Team	11 12pm Operations 6-8pm IJC	12 8pm AA	13 6-8pm IJC	14
15 10am Worship (Live Stream) 1-2pm IJC	16 8pm AA	17 4:30 Praise Team	18 6-8pm IJC	19 8pm AA	20 6-8pm IJC	21
22 10am Worship (Live Stream) Annual Congregational Meeting 11:30-12:30 Deacons' 1-2pm IJC	23 8pm AA	24 4:30 Praise Team	25 6-8pm IJC	26 8pm AA	27 6-8pm IJC	28 Youth Service Project with Bethany Presbyterian
29 Service Sunday 10am Fellowship Hall making lunches for Blanchet House 1-2pm IJC	30  Blood Drive 1:30-6pm 8pm AA	31 4:30 Praise Team				

FEBRUARY

HPC Calendar - 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
			6-8pm IJC	8pm AA	6-8pm IJC	
5 10am Worship (Live Stream)	6	7	8	9	10	11
1-5pm IJC	8pm AA	4:30 Praise Team	12pm Operations 6-8pm IJC	8pm AA	6-8pm IJC	
12 10am Worship (Live Stream)	13	14	15	16	17	18
1-2pm IJC	8pm AA	4:30 Praise Team	6-8pm IJC	8pm AA	Youth Group Lock-In 6pm-9am 6-8pm IJC	
19 10am Worship (Live Stream)	20	21	22	23	24	25
11:30-12:30 Deacons' 1-2pm IJC	8pm AA	4:30 Praise Team	Ash Wednesday Service Lenten Soup Dinner 6-8pm IJC	8pm AA	6-8pm IJC	
26 10am Worship (Live Stream)	27	28				
1-2pm IJC	8pm AA	4:30 Praise Team		8pm AA	6-8pm IJC	


Choir Director *Nona Scott*
Worship Music Leader *Laura Cunard*
Custodian *Donald Scott*
Office Assistant *Nancy Johnson*

Worship: Sunday, 10am

Session:

Jill Appel *Missions*
Dana Gale *Stewardship*
John Stroeve *Worship*
Jenny Sabo *Education*
John McVean *Property*
Joanie Loepp *Fellowship/Events*
Brian Johnson *Operations*

Office hours: Mon—Thurs; 9:30-1pm

 *503-648-5660*
 *info@hillsboropres.org*



HILLSBORO
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
172 NE 32ND AVE
HILLSBORO OR 97124

Deacons:

A-E Tammy McVean
F-G Nancy Johnson
H-L TBD
M-R TBD
S Lori Wisdom
T-Z Keith Upton

*The Vision of HPC is for all to EXPERIENCE that
GOD is able to do MORE by His Spirit at work within
us.*

Therefore:

*Our Mission is to continue to build
A CARING, CHRIST-CENTERED COMMUNITY
that is excited to -
KNOW Jesus
GROW Spiritually &
SHOW God's love
...all for His glory and purpose.*

Ministers: The Members

"God is able"

Ephesians 3:20