

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



Pastors Peace

WRITTEN BY : BOB STEBE
DRAGGING THE FIELD

...but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, And God's weakness is stronger than human strength.
Corinthians 1:23-25



In the spring when my heart turns to softball and baseball, I miss those days when I coached my daughters and then granddaughters. And though I get more than my fill of baseball while scoring games for the Hillsboro Hops, it's not the same as shaping the skills of those young players. I even miss those days when I would drag the field before practice or a game. Hand-dragging the infield involved pulling a metal grate around the entire infield to smooth it out and remove any small rocks. As a spiritual practice I literally prayed for the girls who would use this field, asking God's blessing.

While going round and round the infield, small stones would pop up here and there. The Apostle Paul wrote about the cross of Christ being a "stumbling block." The thought of a crucified savior was, and still is, difficult for many to grasp. If you had been waiting for thousands of years for God to send a savior to rescue you from your enemies, you don't expect him to end up nailed to a cross.

Though Jesus' cross can be a stumbling block, his ministry and mission is to remove stumbling blocks from those seeking to come close to God. Like removing the stones on the softball field to give the players an opportunity to play the ball cleanly, Jesus took every opportunity to remove the obstacles that kept seekers from experiencing God. A stone on the infield can cause a ball to bounce away from the fielder, or worse, to take a bad hop into their face. A stumbling block along the road to faith can cause one to feel unwelcomed or unworthy when approaching God.

Jesus says this:

"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were fastened around your neck and you were drowned in the depth of the sea. Woe to the world because of stumbling blocks! Occasions for stumbling are bound to come, but woe to the one by whom the stumbling block comes!" (Matt. 18:6-7)

Paul follows with:

"Let us therefore no longer pass judgment on one another, but resolve instead never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of another." (Romans 14:13)

What's inside our latest issue:

PASTORS PEACE
BIRTHDAYS;
CONDOLENCES, EASTER
DÉCOR, OGHOS
PASTORS PEACE
CONTINUED; WORSHIP
SCHEDULE
FAMILY & FELLOWSHIP;
EDUCATION, COMMUNITY
IN UNITY
PANDEMIC PATTERN;
MONTHLY MISSIONS
SACRED STEWARDS; HPC
GIVING; 40 MINUTE
MONDAY
CLERKS CORNER
NEW & NOW; EASTER
WORD SEARCH;
AMERICAN RED CROSS
CALENDAR





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

Bill Swanson	1
Phil Grawburg	3
Cydney Bledsoe	5
Bert Schroder	5
Bob Stebe	11
Jake Jones	15
Joanie Loepp	18

Anniversaries

Dave & Nancy Radcliff 10

Our Condolences to...

Family and friends of Nona Scott whose mother, Barbara, has passed on to be in Gods welcoming and peaceful presence on March 23rd.

We also send our condolences to Dave Wisdom and Family whose father, Donald, passed on March 13th.

PLANS FOR EASTER DÉCOR INCLUDES YOU!

For the Easter 2022 season, we ask the congregation to bring potted lilies to share on the chancel during the Easter season. Plan to bring the lilies on Palm Sunday April 10th. We encourage you to take your plant home after the Easter service.

The Cross in the breezeway with the prayer tags will be decorated with flowers on the Saturday before Easter, April 16th. WE INVITE YOU to bring flowers from home or purchase flowers to decorate the Cross. Chicken wire is installed at the base. PLEASE FEEL FREE to insert your flowers in the wiring.

Easter is a time of Hope and Promise. It's been a long few years but Jesus is the Hope and Promise of God's Love. Join us in a Celebration of a New Day in Christ.



SPECIAL OFFERINGS

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Special Offering Dedicated Easter Sunday

Jesus' ministry was among those who were most vulnerable. He preached good news to the poor and release to the captives. One Great Hour of Sharing helps us share this same good news to those same vulnerable people in our world today: those who are hungry, who are suffering from disaster, who are dealing with oppression in society.

Please visit the One Great Hour of Sharing website: www.presbyterianmission.org/oghs to find out more information on how your support of OGHS helps people all over the world, and offer prayers for the projects and people who receive them.

One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be dedicated Easter Sunday, April 17 during the 10am Worship Celebration.



Pastors Peace Continued...

Unlike a ballfield, Israel is a land of rocks and stones. Walking along dirt roads in the 1st century was a constant reminder of stumbling blocks. Jesus encountered stumbling blocks to faith throughout the religious system of that time. As he entered Jerusalem in the first Palm Sunday parade, the people's expectation of a conquering warrior was a stumbling block to understanding his mission. When Jesus turned over the tables of those making a buck from the religious requirements for sacrifice, he was removing a stumbling block to the temple. The temple itself had a low fence around it to keep out and warn any non-Jews that they were not to go past this barrier under penalty of death! How's that for a welcome to one seeking to know God? Though the cross became a stumbling block to some, in reality it removed the stumbling block of sin, giving us clear access to God.

As people take part in this community of faith at HPC, seeking the presence of God, are there stumbling blocks we need to clear from the path? Like dragging the infield, do we need to smooth the way for guests to be welcomed and included here? Do we put a stumbling block before children and families with a look over their childlike noises? Is it a stumbling block when newcomers are left to figure out "the way we do things?" Will someone in the LGBTQ+ community find our welcome to be genuine? Do we cause those we've known for years to stumble when we fail to let them know they've been missed?

Our Lord Jesus bursts forth from the tomb conquering death and clearing the way for all to know abundant life for eternity. May our Easter celebration find us joining our Lord to remove all the obstacles that would cause others to stumble, living in such a manner as to give to all a view and experience of what life in the Kingdom is like. Let us, like our Servant Lord, serve in such a way that all would know that Christ is risen!

Joy and Peace,

Bob Stuber

Have a question for Pastor Bob?

Email him at:

RevBob@hillsboropres.org

LENTEN WORSHIP ATMOSPHERE is contemplative and quiet to give us the ability to prayerfully turn our listening ear toward God. Upon entering the Sanctuary you are asked to enter quietly, leaving all conversation out in the Narthex or Fellowship Hall. The focus on listening during Lent will help us hear what God desires to teach us as we approach the cross of Christ. You are invited to turn toward a prayer station or be seated to ready yourself for worship. Each week we will step further into the events of Holy Week.

Worship Schedule

Sunday, April 3rd Communion

Fifth Sunday in Lent
"Taking Sides"
John 19:1-16a

Theme: As the religious leaders want Jesus put to death, they claim to have no king but Caesar.

Sunday, April 10th

Palm/Passion Sunday
"From 'Hosanna' to 'Crucify'"
John 19:16b-22

Theme: The people cried "Hosanna" in the palm parade but shortly later the leaders cried "Crucify".

Thursday, April 14th at 7:00pm

Maundy Thursday
"Remembering Jesus' Last Words"
John 19:23-30

Sharing Communion at the Lord's Table and focus on the Cross.

Good Friday Prayer Walk at 11:00am

Meet at Hillsboro United Methodist Church. Walk to pray for the services of our community and those who receive them.

Worship Schedule

Easter Sunday, April 17th

Resurrection Celebration
"Resurrection Happens"
John 20:1-18

Theme: The Tomb is open and Jesus calls Mary by name.

*Easter Pastry Brunch at 9:00am
Come enjoy the food and fellowship*

Sunday, April 24th

2nd Sunday of Easter
"Is Seeing Believing"
John 20:19-31

Theme: Jesus appears and gives the Spirit.

Sunday, May 1st Communion

3rd Sunday of Easter
"Conversion"
Acts 9:1-19a

Theme: Paul is changed from persecutor to proclaimer.

Family & Fellowship

by Joanie Loepp

Some really delicious soups and breads were enjoyed at our Lenten dinners in March, with devotions lead each week by Laura MacMillan. Our last Lenten dinner of the year will be on April 6th (there will be no Lenten dinner during Holy Week).

On April 10th following the service we will be offering Pizza and a Movie. The movie we will share is called G-Dog. It documents the work of Father Gregory Boyle ("G-Dog") and Homeboy Industries, the largest gang rehabilitation and re-entry program in the world. The work they do there is amazing and viewing this documentary gives you insight into the challenges faced by the young people this organization supports. I hope you can join us.

Feel lead to volunteer? Contact Joanie Loepp at FellowshipElder@hillsboropres.org



Be on the lookout for upcoming announcements!

FamilyMinistry@hillsboropres.org

Community in Unity

by Laura MacMillan

We can feel the change in the air. With it comes the hope of rebirth, warmer weather and longer days. Spring is finally HERE!

During our Lenten season, we participated in our "Stations of the Cross Lenten Study" and our Soup Dinners. It was a journey through convicting questions with conversations that continued into the rest of the week. What a blessing to have our thoughts challenged in this way as we reflect on the Sacrifice of Christ and look ahead to Easter.

On April 16th join Laura and Arianna for Easter Egg Dyeing and flower decorating of the cross in the breeze way at 11 am! Please RSVP so we know how many eggs to prepare.

Our Little Library is coming together! We are so excited to have this Library on our property for all to take part in. Thank you Ben Appel for your hard work in creating such a wonderful cupboard for this new HPC outreach. We are very excited to see it and to dedicate this addition soon! Dedication time and date TBA.

Plans are in the works to add a Geocache to our Little Library. What is Geocaching? It is the World's Largest Treasure Hunt, using coordinates and a GPS device! Look for clues along the way, and keep an eye out for the thing that doesn't belong!



Education

by Jenny Sabo

Happy April!

We have exciting things planned in education this month. Lent dinners continue to be on Wednesday nights. Join us for hot soup, fellowship, and a time for reflection. Monthly youth activities will continue to be on the last Sunday of the month, if students have signed up. Please contact Laura MacMillan if your student is planning on attending.

The Little Free Library will be placed near the sidewalk by the HPC entrance with a dedication planned soon. If you have an extra children's or adult book please them for the dedication to start out libraries collection.

The Education commission will be starting monthly meetings to plan events and share ideas.

If you are interested in joining the commission or have any question please contact Jenny Sabo at EducationElder@hillsboropres.org



On April 24th we will have a gathering for youth to learn and experience Geocaching first hand!

Be on the look out for more info coming soon.

<https://www.geocaching.com/blog/>

<https://youtu.be/vuFilhhCNww>

Pandemic Patter

Wearing a mask is not a political statement, especially if you are immunocompromised or prone to illness in general. It is a statement of love and concern for others, which is the language of HPC. If you choose not to mask, please be considerate of those who are wary. Keep your distance until you are sure there is mutuality. Don't immediately invade another's space for a handshake or hug until you are sure it is welcome. HPC is making face coverings optional for all activities. If you feel safer wearing a mask, please be encouraged to do so with the full support of everyone here. Be considerate of those who prefer some distancing and are not welcoming handshakes and hugs at this time. Let us be attentive and kind to one another as we navigate this new normal.



Monthly Missions

"Out of Chaos, Hope" by Jill Appel

This April, Missions is focusing its efforts to help the people of Ukraine. During Lent the Presbytery has a special offering, One Great Hour of Sharing. This special offering supports the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program (PDA).

In 2021, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance supported:

- \$3.1 million granted in 30 states and 15 countries
- 60 National Response Team members were deployed to 19 presbyteries
- 112 Presbyterian Women trained in Disaster Preparedness
- 400 work team volunteers served in CA, NC, NE and NJ Developed a new grant opportunity supporting refugee and asylum advocacy programs
- Hosted more than 500 people in 41 Emotional & Spiritual programs In partnership with Church World Service, assisted in the collection and distribution of 191,182 Gift of the Heart Kits and blankets

The PDA also has an emergency fund that goes directly to Ukraine.



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

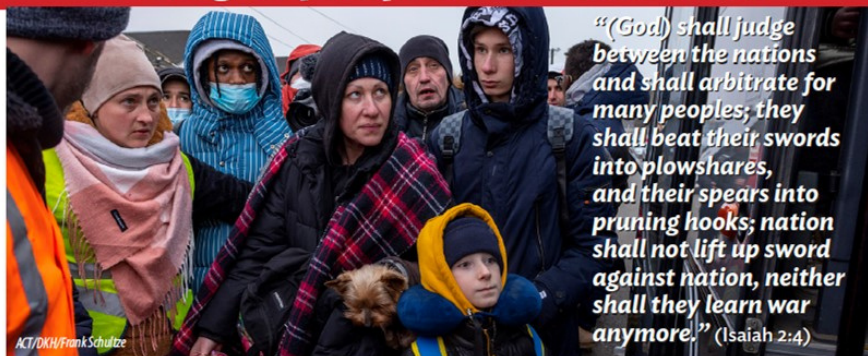


ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

03.02.22-
04.17.22

One Great Hour of Sharing is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for **JUSTICE, RESILIENCE,** and **SUSTAINABILITY.**

Emergency response to Ukraine war



As the violence in Ukraine continues, the number of people being displaced internally and fleeing to neighboring countries increases by the day. And in the midst of the chaos, there are sibling churches and ecumenical partners who are already providing assistance with basic items for survival. Our first priority is to provide funding to these partners on the ground. While the scale of this crisis is new, receiving refugees from Ukraine and other countries in Central and Eastern Europe is not, which means we have trusted, established partners with the knowledge and expertise to carry out this important work. Our response will include both financial and technical assistance as the network of faith communities providing humanitarian assistance grows in the months ahead.

GIVE: To support emergency relief for those fleeing Ukraine, designate gifts to Ukraine on the HPC giving page of our website.

ACT: Urge the U.S. government to support generous aid for refugees and civilians suffering in Ukraine, and call for engaging a diplomatic solution to the conflict.

PRAY: May we undergird our prayers with tangible resources to help.

May we reach deeply, give generously, and welcome extravagantly.

May we lift our voices in a strong and unified advocacy.

May we all, even as we breathe in lament, breathe out mercy, hope and peace.

And in this Lenten season, when we walk the way toward death and resurrection, repent our complicity in cultures of violence and renew our efforts toward justice and peace.



Sacred Stewards

by Dana Gale

As you know, we have approved a deficit budget (meaning expenses are higher than the income that is expected) for the church. We've done this for a few years now and have been fortunate that what has been budgeted is not what we actually received, and our income has been about equal to expenses.

The last several years we have seen a decline in the amount of money we have received from member giving. In 2018, member giving was \$112,500. In 2021, member giving had dropped to \$84,500. Some of the decline is because some members have moved, some have passed away and some are attending other churches.

Because giving has declined, we have been dipping into our savings in order to pay the regular bills. At the moment, we still have a healthy balance in savings, but it won't last forever.

I mentioned in an earlier newsletter that people could contribute their portion of per capita of \$39.00 and many of you have done that. Thank you, that's been a big help. If you haven't contributed to that and want to, please mark your gift with "per capita" to distinguish it from your regular giving.

What can be done to help? The biggest thing any of us can do is pray and see where God is leading us. We passed the deficit budget knowing we are trusting God to make it work. And we all know from experience that God doesn't operate in a vacuum. He uses each of us to fulfill His purpose.

Thank you for praying and caring about HPC.



The Lunch Time Bible Study Returned Monday, Nov. 1 @ Noon

Online Zoom group link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87528684837?pwd=aEd6eHZWUUs1UFNhVFFebGJTZEtoZz09>

Our study looks at the biblical text for the upcoming Sunday. We will view a video presentation that walks through the reading, followed by a brief discussion. Grab your lunch and let's chew on God's word. I hope you can join me each Monday with this reflection on scripture.

To receive study questions in advance email: revbob@hillsboropres.org

HPC Online Giving Now Available

Exciting news from your Stewardship co-mission team; Online giving is now available and ready to use! Thank you Gary Gale for setting up this great opportunity for all of us to safely and securely give to HPC, and even other church organizations through Vanco!

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.

40 Minute Mondays



Clerks Corner

by Gary Gale

Here is the current update from the last session meeting:

- Live streaming and in-person Worship services continuing.
- Communion observed in the sanctuary on March 6th.
- COVID update - masks optional. Wear them if you feel safer. Be considerate of others if they prefer distancing.
- Pastor Bob is continuing the weekly narrative lectionary video and discussion during the 40 Minute Monday study.
- Received thank you notes from donated missions: Firm Foundation in Christ Ministries (supporting new believers in Ethiopia and Nigeria) – this was a personal note and thank you from Carly Powne, Oregon Food Bank, Hillsboro School District – for donated school supplies.
- Read an email from Martha Miller informing HPC of Laura MacMillan's application to gaining an endorsement as a Christian Education Associate. Session is encouraged to support Laura on this journey.
- The Ecumenical Group is planning a Good Friday (11am – 1pm) downtown Prayer Walk. Walk through town praying at churches, schools and other places and at the Hillsboro Civic Plaza.
- One Great Hour of Sharing continuing through April 17th. This special offering supports 3 of Presbytery's programs: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People.
- April's mission spotlight will be the Presbytery's Disaster Relief with a focus on Ukraine.
- Missions would like to Adopt-a-Road (section of River Road). This would be May's service Sunday.
- One area where people can help the HPC budget is by giving their portion of per capita (\$39).
- Lenten soup dinners are coming along well.
- On April 10th we'll offer a viewing of the documentary G-Dog (about Father Gregory Boyle's work with former street gang members in Los Angeles) after the service.
- Workshop on "Privilege" will be presented March 27th following worship.
- Planning a pastry breakfast before the Easter Sunday service.
- Website upgrade in process. A new logo design has been selected.
- The Little Free Library will be dedicated on April 3rd.
- Youth event this month will be tabletop games.
- A new sprinkler system controller has been ordered and will be installed in the coming weeks.
- Stay safe and healthy.



Session minutes are available in the church office.

Prayerfully,

Gary Gale, Clerk of Session



Hillsboro Presbyterian Church

WE WELCOME YOU EVERY SUNDAY
AT 10AM

Edit

Group by Hillsboro Presbyterian Church

HPC Members and Friends

Private group · 14 members



Joined

+ Invite

About Discussion Topics Members Events Media

Q

...



Write something...

About

Easter Wordsearch

S C B M N E J E S U S C H R I S T
K A A P O D V G V A R E J O I C E
J R V M S P R A Y E R W C B V F S
Y N O I X I F I C U R C T R M L E
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APOSTLES
BETRAYAL
CAVE
CHURCH
CROSS
CROWN
CRUCIFIXION
DISCIPLES
FAITH
GOOD FRIDAY

JESUS CHRIST
JUDAS
LAMB
LAST SUPPER
LENT
MARY
MIRACLE
PASSOVER
PENANCE
PENTECOST

PRAYER
REDEMPTION
REJOICE
RESURRECTION
RISEN
SAVIOR
SON
THORNS
TOMB

New & Now

by Kacey Muehter

Be sure you follow our Facebook page!

- Stay up to date on the activities here at HPC!
- Find out about upcoming events and speakers.

Comment, Like, and Share! The more engagement we have on our social media, the more visible we become to our community!

While you're there, be sure to check out our private Facebook group made specifically for our members of HPC called "HPC Members and Friends". Here you can add photos and posts. Materials will only be accessible to members of the group.

[Check it out!](#)

Share pictures of our ministries in action! #Hillsboropresbyterianchurch #HPC

Do you have any photographs you've taken of Hillsboro, HPC, or places in Oregon? Please consider submitting them for use in our Sunday announcement slide shows, newsletters, and digital materials. Let us feature your talents! Send any submissions to

OfficeManager@hillsboropres.org



American Red Cross



Our upcoming blood drive is:

- ▶ Friday April 8th
1:30-6:00
- ▶ Monday April 25th
1:30-6:00

For an appointment please visit: Redcrossblood.org

or

Call 1-800-RED-CROSS
(1-800-733-2767)



HPC CALENDAR - 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6-8pm IJC	2 Naked Baby Clothing exchange 1:00pm FSH
3 10am Worship (Live Stream) Communion 1p-2p IJC	4 12:00pm - 40 minute monday 8pm AA	5 4:30pm Praise Team	6 Stations of the Cross Devotion Lenten Soup Dinner 5:30pm 	7 8pm AA	8 1:30-6:00 Blood Drive 6-8pm IJC	9
10 10am Worship (Live Stream) Palm Sunday 1p-2p IJC	11 12:00pm - 40 minute monday 8pm AA	12 4:30pm Praise Team	13 12pm Operations Meeting	14 Maundy Thursday 8pm AA	15 Good Friday Ecumenical Prayer Walk 11a-1p 6-8pm IJC	16 11am Egg Decorating
17 10am Worship (Live Stream) Easter 1p-2p IJC	18 12:00pm - 40 minute monday 8pm AA	19 4:30pm Praise Team 7pm Session Meeting	20	21 8pm AA	22 6-8pm IJC	23
24 10am Worship (Live Stream) Deacon Meeting 11:30-12:30 12:00 Youth Event 1p-2p IJC 	25 12:00pm - 40 minute monday 1:30-6:00 Blood Drive 8pm AA	26 4:30pm Praise Team	27	28 8pm AA	29 6-8pm IJC	30

Pastor *Rev. Bob Stebe*
Family Ministries *Laura MacMillan*
Choir Director *Nona Scott*
Worship Music Leader *Laura Cunard*
Office Manager *Kacey Muehter*
Custodian *Donald Scott*

Office hours: Mon—Thurs.; 9:30am-1pm

Worship: Sunday, 10am

Session:

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

Deacons:

A-E Tammy McVean
F-G Nancy Johnson
H-L Jeanie Morgan
M-R Jill Cessna
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*

Hillsboro Presbyterian Church

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