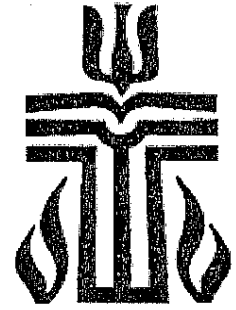




# THE CONNECTING LINK



Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church  
8426 W. 95<sup>th</sup> St.  
Hickory Hills, IL 60457

(708) 598-3100 Fax (708) 598-3108  
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JULY 2011

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## Minor Ministerial Musings

If you read my blog, then you know that in May, I spent several days studying and learning with a group of my colleagues and friends from Peaks Presbytery in southwest Virginia (though we actually met on the campus of Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond). And you have heard that our group is called Rehoboth 4, originating from a Lilly Endowment program for pastoral excellence.

I have grown quite used to the word "rehoboth". For me it means retreats, planning meetings, pizza, and afternoons on Smith Mountain Lake. When I hear the word "rehoboth", I think of ten people who, over the past three and a half years, have become dear friends as well as colleagues in ministry. "Rehoboth" is an unusual word that also brings to mind for me other very unusual words that we have learned (and laughed at) while playing games like Balderdash.

But Rehoboth is a word with its own, very important, roots. It is a Hebrew word, found in various places in the Hebrew Bible, or Old Testament, and it means broad, or wide open, places. In most of the places where it is found in scripture, it is used merely as a place name. However, there is one place where it has a more developed meaning. In Genesis 26, Isaac finds himself in the midst of a famine in the land. He is guided by God to go to Abimelech, the king of the Philistines, and seek refuge from the famine in the land of Gerar. Though he does prosper there, he encounters difficulties with the Philistine people. "Rehoboth" is the name that Isaac gives to a well that he digs, a well dug in a place that did not result in quarrels with the Philistine people. "He moved from there and dug another well, and they did not quarrel over it; so he called it Rehoboth, saying, 'Now the Lord has made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land'" (Genesis 26:22).

Isaac called the well Rehoboth *because* there was no quarreling over it. It was not just a wide open space - it was a wide open space into which disharmony did not enter. And as I looked further at this Hebrew word, I found other places in scripture where this image of harmony was joined with the idea of open spaces. Consider these words from Psalm 31: "I will rejoice and be glad for thy steadfast love, because thou hast seen my affliction, thou hast taken heed of my adversities, and hast not delivered me into the hand of the enemy; thou hast set my feet in a broad place" (v. 7-8, RSV). Or these words from Psalm 18: "He brought me forth into a broad place; he delivered me, because he delighted in me" (v. 19, RSV).

The harmony and security of broad places – that has been the goal of our Rehoboth group, as we seek out these spaces to learn and grow together, to grow closer to God and to one another. And it is my wish for you as well – that you are guided by God to broad places to set your feet, places of harmony, security, and freedom, where fellowship with others is rich and plentiful. May Hickory Hills be such a place - for members, friends, family, neighbors, and all who enter seeking relationship with God and others.

In Joyful Anticipation,  
Pastor Lara

# HHPC PRAYER REQUESTS

The Family of Mary Tarter on her passing  
Gordon's nephew, Randal Home, for healing  
Marie Hoffman for health concerns  
Shelley Zeko for healing  
Tanya Gleespen and other Air Force Reservists,  
deploying to Afghanistan  
Hollie Fox for strength  
Gert Vicker's Granddaughter, Elizabeth,  
who is with child  
Sandra Beal's Mother, Susan Frangella's  
Grandmother, Dorothy, for healing & strength  
Donna's friend Gail Hensen for healing  
Harry Zimmerman for health concerns & strength  
Wally Golema for continuous healing  
Dennis Tarter for strength & direction &  
health concerns  
Lucy's Sister, Delores, for healing & strength,  
& her Brother in Law, Bob  
Ivy Taebel, & her Son, Larry,  
for health concerns & strength  
Shannon Bastien for health concerns  
Carol Sack's Sister, Ruth, & Mother, Ruth, for  
healing and strength  
Kyle Krueger, in Marine Corps, in Japan  
Dorothy Allen for strength  
Our Service Men and Women and their families  
Our Policemen, Firemen, & their families  
DelPrete Family for strength, faith, & hope during  
Jen's battle

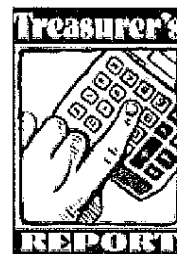


**Prayer Groups meet on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.,  
and Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.  
We encourage you to attend this  
Vital Ministry of our church.**

**\*PRAYER is the ENGINE of the CHURCH\***



# MAY 2011 TREASURER'S REPORT



GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS  
\$14,402.00

GENERAL FUND DISBURSEMENTS  
\$20,388.00

## FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

We are happy to report the profits from our two  
spring fundraisers.

The May flower sale netted the Camp Scholarship  
Fund \$925.00.

Thank you to everyone who purchased their flowers  
from the church.

The Annual Rummage Sale was quite a success.  
After expenses our profit is \$5,000.00. This figure  
helped ease the sore muscles and how tired we all  
were after working so hard for a solid week on this  
event!! Thank you to everyone that worked during  
that week.

Even after selling \$5,000 worth of merchandise we  
still had to find a home for the remaining items.  
Here is a list of different organizations that  
benefited from our leftover items:

Hearts in Motion--carload of clothing for their  
resale store  
Neat Repeats--5 boxes of glassware for their  
resale store  
Providence Nursing Home--box of knickknacks for  
bingo prizes  
Salvation Army--6 loads of misc. items for their  
resale store  
Southwest Chicago PADS--2 carloads of clothing  
and shoes  
Willow Springs Senior Center--leftover VHS tapes  
and CD's

**Sacrament of Holy Communion- July 3, 2011**

SUNDAY	USHERS	LAY READER
Sun. July 3, 2011	K. Dritz, C. Pilgrim, R. Raschke	Dave Delaney
Sun. July 10, 2011	T. Brock	Rick Vogl
Sun. July 17, 2011	B. Ambrosat, F. Esparza, M. Maranto	Scott Zimmerman
Sun. July 24, 2011	D. Barker, D. Ciametti, T. Morrell	Terry Brock
Sun. July 31, 2011	S. Zimmerman	Kim Ambrosat
SUNDAY	COUNTERS	
Sun. July 3, 2011	Susan Frangella	
Sun. July 10, 2011	Susan Frangella, Karen Hoffman	
Sun. July 17, 2011	Susan Frangella, Sandy Beal	
Sun. July 24, 2011	Susan Frangella, Shirley Brunell	
Sun. July 31, 2011	Susan Frangella, Grace Muszynski	

**Communion Servers: Kim Ambrosat, Darlene Delaney, Ivy Tachel**

It is with pleasure that on this day we give special recognition to the following student. Throughout the year he has made it a priority to be a part of our Sunday morning church school. The consistency and dedication he has shown to this program has helped him grow spiritually as he learned to follow God's way. We also recognize his mother and give thanks for the assistance she has provided. Children learn from examples. The encouragement and values parents display will help their child set a pattern of life long Christian commitment.

Congratulations to Andrew for receiving this award.

THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

+

**PERFECT ATTENDANCE**


*for the*

**2010 - 11 CHURCH SCHOOL YEAR**

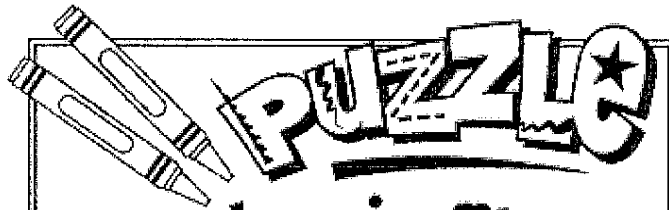
***ANDREW WITEK - Senior High Class***



# JULY 2011

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship 3:00 p.m. Praise Team 5:00 p.m. REV	4  Independence Day	5 9:30 a.m. Cancer Sewing 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care 7:30 p.m. C.E. Meeting	6 9:30 a.m. Prayer & Care 4:00 p.m. Food Pantry	7 5:00 p.m. TOPS 8:00 p.m. Handbells	8	9 2:00 p.m. Building & Grounds
10 9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship 3:00 p.m. Praise Team 5:00 p.m. REV <u>Aug. Newsletter Articles Due</u>	11 7:30 p.m. Session Meeting	12 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care	13 9:30 a.m. Prayer & Care 4:00 p.m. Food Pantry	14 5:00 p.m. TOPS	15	16 Kentucky Mission Trip Departs
17 9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Worship & Music Committee Meeting 3:00 p.m. Praise Team 5:00 p.m. REV	18 7:30 p.m. Outreach Meeting	19 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care 7:30 p.m. REV Committee Meeting	20 9:30 a.m. Prayer & Care 4:00 p.m. Food Pantry	21 5:00 p.m. TOPS	22	23 Kentucky Mission Trip Returns
24 9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship 3:00 p.m. Praise Team 5:00 p.m. REV	25 7:30 p.m. Deacons Meeting	26 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care 7:30 p.m. Mission Committee Meeting	27 9:30 a.m. Prayer & Care 4:00 p.m. Food Pantry	28 5:00 p.m. TOPS	29	30
31 9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship 3:00 p.m. Praise Team 5:00 p.m. REV						

# JULY



## Freedom in Christ

*This Independence Day, remember that our true freedom comes from faith in Jesus.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Directions:** In each set of letters, determine the pattern. Then write the letter that completes the pattern, to reveal Galatians 5:1, niv.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMN OPQRSTUVWXYZ

F	Q	L	V	C	R	O
G	R	K	U	D	Q	P
H	S	J	T	E	P	Q

I	O	B	H	A	L	P	Q	K	D	W
H	P	C	G	B	M	O	R	J	C	V
G	Q	D	F	C	N	N	S	I	B	U

F	E	U	L	P	W	E	D	V
E	F	T	K	Q	V	F	C	U
D	G	S	J	R	U	G	B	T

P	B	Q	R	V	C	O	H	B
Q	C	R	S	U	D	P	G	C
R	D	S	T	T	E	Q	F	D

Answers: It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. (Galatians 5:1, NIV)

## PATRIOTIC PARFAIT

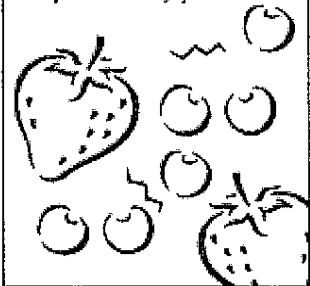
On the 4th of July, make this healthy, festive dessert to share with family and friends.

### What you need:

- Clear glasses or plastic cups
- Spoons
- Vanilla yogurt
- Cut strawberries
- Fresh blueberries
- Coconut, whipped cream, red and blue sprinkles (optional)

### What you do:

1. Place a couple of spoonfuls of vanilla yogurt at the bottom of each glass or cup.
2. Add cut strawberries to cover the yogurt layer.
3. Add more yogurt over the strawberries.
4. Add a layer of blueberries.
5. Repeat the layers until you reach the top of the glass or cup.
6. For extra fun, add coconut, whipped cream and sprinkles. Enjoy!



**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY,  
AMERICA!**



**Independence Day**



# July Birthdays

**July** 1 – Kaylee Rys  
4 – Robert Swindle  
6 – Toni Kenealy  
7 – Theodore Atiedu  
7 – Gabriella Ciametti  
8 – Joann Jackson  
8 – Elaine Molenaar  
8 – Becky Kusina  
13 – Gessica Grisko  
15 – Nellie Prunty  
19 – Andy Betterton  
21 – Kyle Ambrosat  
21 – Jarett Ambrosat  
22 – Dianne Flynn  
22 – Lucy Dumke  
23 – Diane Ciametti  
23 – Justin Rellinger  
24 – Jack Costello  
26 – Michael Crowley  
27 – Cindy Treccani  
28 – Eleanor Watson  
29 – Pastor Lara MacGregor  
29 – Carri McKinney

*Any omissions or errors should be reported  
to the church office...*

*708-598-3100 or  
[HHPC@hickoryhillspres.org](mailto:HHPC@hickoryhillspres.org)*

## Volunteer Needed!

The Church Office is looking for someone to help  
on a volunteer basis answering phones on  
weekday mornings.  
Training will be provided.



Please contact Pastor Lara or Hanna for  
more information at  
[hhpc@hickoryhillspres.org](mailto:hhpc@hickoryhillspres.org)  
708-598-3100

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