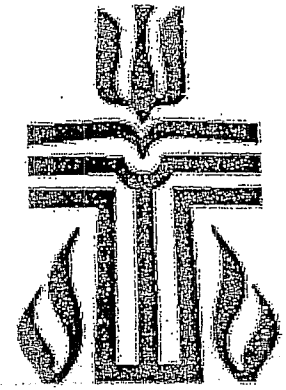


THE CONNECTING LINK

Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church
8426 W. 95th St.
Hickory Hills, IL 60457
(708) 598-3100
Fax (708) 598-3108
Email: HHPC@hickoryhillspres.org
www.hickoryhillspres.org



JUNE 2010

PRAYER & CARE

“If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

2 Chronicles 7:14 (RSV)

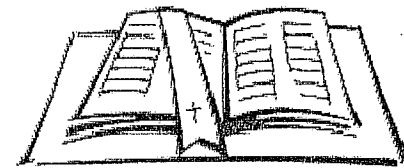
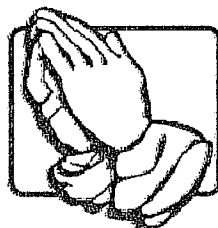
Just as HHPC has experienced healing in the past, I believe our country needs healing. Since May 6, 2010 was proclaimed a “National Day of Prayer,” I’m sure most of us praised our Lord God for the numerous blessings He showers upon us. If you were unaware of the date’s significance, my sincere apology for not mentioning it in the May issue.

Our Heavenly Father is not held to time nor space. We are. It’s not too late to lay our souls bare, confess our sins and look to Him for mercy. Join us.

Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m.
HHPC Library

P.S.
On May 3, 2010, our Women’s Bible Study class just happened (nothing just happens) to begin with Psalm 60, which describes a prayer for national deliverance. Verses 1-3 truly spoke to us...

Love ‘N’ Hugs,
Ar



TWILIGHT PRAYER

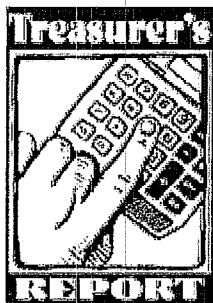
Open your heart before you open your mouth and you shall speak more Honestly. Open your mind before you speak and you will be better Understood. Close your eyes before you pray and you will find Solitude. Open your Hand to receive His and you shall have strength. Hush, Hush, listen! What do you hear? As he draws near, repress the noise, make yourself silent.

Regards,
C. Lou Pearson

HHPC PRAYER REQUESTS *Please Pray For:*

- Nellie Prunty for healing (in Children’s Memorial Hospital)
- The family of Art Davis on his passing
- Shirley Brunell and family on the passing of her sister, Audrey Russo
- Jude Borling for health concerns
- Harold McGowan for health concerns
- Marie Hoffman for health concerns and continued improvement
- Carol Sack’s sister, Ruth, & brother-in-law, Wayne, for healing and strength
- Kyle Krueger, in Marine Corps Boot Camp, for encouragement

- Lil Resner for recovery from a stroke, at home
- Maryann Fellers' son, Richard Jr., for recovery from surgery
- Marilyn Betterton for health concerns
- Kevin McGuire for healing and strength
- “Georgie- Porgie” Vinalek for health concerns
- Private concerns too severe to share
- Our DPNC for Fruits of the Spirit
- Betty Kitching for healing
- Dorothy Allen for strength
- Our service men and women and their families
- DelPrete Family for strength, faith, & hope during Jen's battle



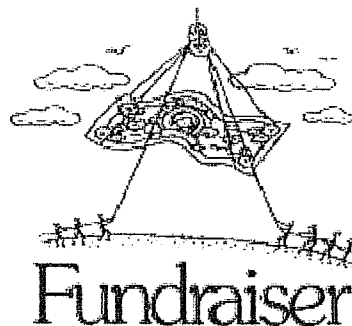
APRIL 2010 Treasurer's Report

General Fund

Receipts	\$19,192.00
Disbursements	\$14,150.00
One Great Hour of Sharing Receipts	\$2,116.00

Do You Have A Pastor Visit Request or A Prayer Request??

It is important for anyone with any concern, prayer request or a need for pastoral visit, to contact the church office at 708-598-3100, their Deacon or any one of the Church Elders.



FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

The Spring Flower Sale was quite successful again. With our sales and donations, we are able to donate **\$1,335.30** to the camp scholarship fund. Thank you to everyone!!

April 2010 Session Minutes

Minutes of the Stated Session Meeting of the Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church, Hickory Hills, Illinois, held on April 12, 2010, at 7:30 pm with the following Elders present, forming a quorum: Terry Brock, Shirley Brunell, Susan Frangella, Gordon Home, Cheryl Huenecke, Sue Orsic, Tom Pearson, Cindy Treccani, Jeni Vogl, and Scott Zimmerman. Excused: Karen Hoffman and Rick Raschke

The meeting was opened with prayer.
MINUTES: The minutes were received, corrected, and approved.
CLERK'S REPORT: March 25th – Maundy Thursday dinner and service.
 Palm Sunday, March 28th, the following Confirmation Class became members: Leslie Ambrosat, Kathryn Crowley, Tristan Grisko, Brian Haack, Alyssia Kommenich, Thomas Krumpolc, Bekezela Kusina, Stephanie Lorenz, Ashley Maranto, Natalie Orsic, Halimah Prunty, Daniel Rodriguez, Mandy Rodriguez, Kaylee Rys, Natasha Swindle, Katelin Wheeler, and Kyle Zimmerman. Alyssia Kommenich, daughter of Ray and Beth Kommenich was also baptized.
 Good Friday worship at Savior Divine Lutheran Church, Palos Hills, 7:30 p.m.
 Communion was served April 4th, Easter, at the 8:30 am, 10:30 am and 5 pm services.
 There were several deaths: Harold Kahn, March 22nd; Mary Lewington, March 28th; Joyce Waller, friend of our church, March 29th; and Lee Keene, April 5th.

Sr. High Youth Group



Faith Like Potatoes... Okay, I didn't get it either, at first. Many of the stories Jesus told us are about crops, farming, planting and harvesting. They were probably much more understood in the agrarian society of that time. Most of us at Hickory Hills are not farmers (although I understand several Facebook Farmville crops are doing well) so often we find we need some explanation to understand the stories.

The Senior High Youth Group recently watched the movie, **Faith Like Potatoes**. The movie is based on the inspiring true story of a farmer who found faith. The farmer, Angus Buchan, moves his family to South Africa and suffers a series of insurmountable losses. Through unlikely friendships and much needed divine intervention, he discovers his life's true purpose and it sustains his unwavering belief in the power of faith, unseen until the harvest.

Through the movie, we learned how strong a person's faith can be and needs to be. We learned; potatoes are an all or nothing kind of crop. You spend money for the seedlings and plant them. They grow under the ground. You can't see how they are doing until harvest time. The farmer relies on faith that the crop is growing and will be plentiful at harvest.

Potatoes serve as food for many people, throughout the world. Have you noticed the new YG T-shirts, lately? "**Hungry?**" Yes, Jesus is the bread of life. Those who believe in Him will never go hungry or thirsty. Much like the potatoes who's growth is unseen, the spiritual growth of our youth (adults as well) is not often seen on the surface. We tend the crops and pray that God will grant us a bountiful harvest.

Although, this year is drawing to a close, there is still time to join us. We are looking at some recreational bike rides, and more of those boring discussions. If

you are in high school and wish to join us, we meet on Sunday evening, at 6:30 pm, following the REV Praise Worship service. If you know of some one outside of our HHPC church community that would like to join us, please let us know.

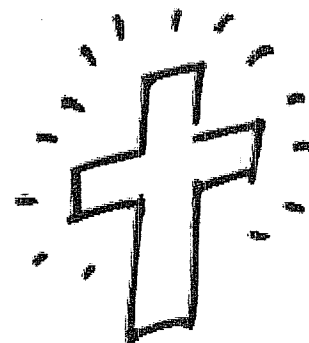
Rick & Jeni Vogl, Noelle Larsen, Mitch Huenecke

Mark your calendar!
Ice Cream Social
Sunday, June 13, 2010
6:30 p.m. after REV



This year we're planning the program themed around "New York City". Selections from the choirs and soloists will include many pieces inspired by various locales in New York, both traditional and Broadway-style selections. Come and celebrate the end of the choir year with us in HHPC's version of the "Big Apple"!

2010 Confirmation Class
Statements of Faith



The following three pages are the remainder of the Faith Statements from the Confirmation Class, continued from the May Issue.

2010 Confirmation Class Statements of Faith

(Due to the large confirmation class, the Faith Statements will be split between 2 newsletters. They are all in the online edition.)

To me Jesus is the Savior of my sins. He takes away all the bad that I have done throughout my life. He does this because He knows I am a good person and he knows I will never do it again. If Jesus never forgave any of us for our sins, then everyone would be in sorrow and pain because no one had ever forgiven them for their wrongs. Also Jesus is someone who you can tell all your problems to no matter how embarrassing it is and Jesus won't judge you. When you are telling Jesus about your problems, he doesn't always answer you does not mean He is not listening, He is just thinking about everything you just told Him about.

To me a church is a place where you confess your sins. When you go to church you are there to worship God. When you worship God you should thank Him for everything He has ever done for you. When you are thanking Him you should also pray for your loved ones going through horrible things right now. They will be thankful that you are praying for them. When you confess your sins to Jesus in church you wanna tell Him everything that has been bugging you.

To me God is the creator of the world. God created you and me and everyone on this planet. If it wasn't for God we wouldn't be alive. The first two people that God created on this earth was Adam and Eve. You can also confess your sins to God if you want. God also helps you go through everything that you think is horrible and you can also tell God about all the good things in your life. God will always listen to your problems no matter what they are.

To me the Holy Spirit is the bond between Jesus dying and going back to His father God. Everyone has a Holy Spirit inside of them. What the Holy Spirit does is it either tells you to do good for others or do bad to others. When your Holy Spirit tells you to do good usually you will be rewarded for doing good for others. If your Holy Spirit tells you to do bad things to others you won't be rewarded you will be punished.

That's what I think Jesus, God, church, and the Holy Spirit are.



This is my statement of faith. In it six questions will be answered. First is who is God? To me God is the Creator of the heavens and earth. God is also very loving and has lots of power. Next question is who is Jesus? To me Jesus is our Savior who takes our sins away. He is also a man of great miracles. This is Jesus to me.

Third question is who is the Holy Spirit? To me the Holy Spirit is full of knowledge. It is a messenger of God. The Holy Spirit is also powerful. This is the Holy Spirit to me.

Fourth question is what is the church? The church is a place you go to worship. Also you go there to help yourself solve problems and pray for others. The church is a worry free place to me.

Fifth is what is the church called to do? To me the church is called to help people worship. It also is called to help people get through hard times. This is my view on the church.

My last question is what am I called to do? I am called to worship almost every Sunday. I'm also called to learn about the Bible. This is what I'm called to do.



God; my Savior, my Lord, and my Protector. Who sent us Jesus, His Son who sacrificed Himself to show us the ways of the Lord and grant us eternal life. Good things that happen to us come from the Holy Spirit, who is inside us all. The church helps me assemble with my fellow Christians to hear the word of the Lord. The church is called to show and guide us throughout our lives, and direct us in the way of the Lord. I am called upon by the church to follow His word and lead a good example in His name.



I believe that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior. He died for me on the cross to cleanse me of my sins. I wish to join this church to spread the Word of Jesus Christ and to help the church by offering my talents to benefit the church and its followers.



I believe that God is everyone you know and don't know. He is amazing in a multitude of ways. He is in your soul, heart, and mind so He can always be with you whether we want Him/Her or not because He/She cares about every single one of us even if we aren't sure about Him/Her. This, I think, is absolutely wonderful.

I believe Jesus is our brother. I don't mean he is a blood brother but a spiritual brother. I believe that He is God dumbbed down. Meaning that he is God in a "form" that we can understand and relate to. We can understand and relate to what He is going through or what they will or might go through.

To me the Holy Spirit is a baptizer. It is a guide for those who get lost and confused. It guides us back to a path when we stray from one. I believe the Holy Spirit has no specific being or form (body) it's just surrounding us. It is in our minds telling us right from wrong. I think that the Holy Spirit is our conscious. I think this because that is our mind saying, "Hey, dude this isn't right. You shouldn't be doing this." and similar stuff. I also believe that the Holy Spirit is power. It is the power that willed and guided God in creating this earth trillions upon trillions of years ago. I see the Holy Spirit as an eternal flame of all colors including the dark ones like black and grey. I imagine the spirit this way because all along as you keep "feeding the fire" it will keep burning and there will always be at least one person feeding the Holy Spirit's fire by believing.

A church is a place to worship though it isn't the only place to worship. Church is a place to come together with family and friends. Just because you are in a church doesn't mean you have to talk about God. It is kind of like a place where you can go vent. You can talk about your difficulties in life with God, Jesus, or anyone who'll listen. A church is a place to talk to God about anything. Church is usually the most comfortable place to talk to God besides your house because there are familiar faces around you so you do not feel awkward and out of place or unsure if you should be there.

It is my belief that the church is called to try and provide answers for questions about faith, God, and other stuff like that. The church is called to provide a place for those who are unsure about what is going on with their faith, beliefs and judgment.

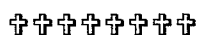
I believe that I am called to give those people in Kentucky my kindness, share my faith in Jesus and much more. I believe that God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are calling me to do more than just be a plain, ordinary person. I believe that they are trying to tell me that I need to stand out and be different. I believe that they want me to take my art skills and make something beautiful with them. I believe that I am called to believe in Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and God.



God is the Savior of the world, the Father of Jesus, and us. Jesus is the Son of God, the One who tells us right from wrong. The Holy Spirit is all that is in you; love, hate, strength, and weakness. Church is where I go to talk to our Father God and hope He relieves me of my sins. I am called to church to be a better person. The church is called to be a place of love, hope, and praise; God's home.



God is my Savior and my helper, who guides me in need, Jesus is made of three parts: The son, the father and the holy spirit, he is a person who came down to us in a Human form sent from God. Church is Where we all come to worship our lord and help us see through someone else besides ourselves, and believe there is a God. Today, I am called here to be confirmed as a member of this church and to do my part in serving Jesus Christ.



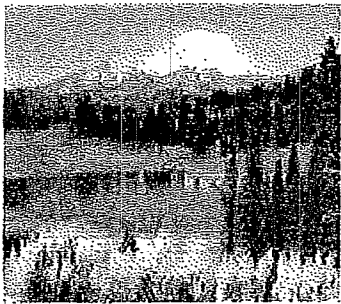
God is my Savior and I worship Him. Jesus is Lord, he came down to earth to save us from our sins. The Holy Spirit is the One who gives us power and love. The church is where I go to learn about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. The church is called to help people get to know God and come closer to Him. I'm called to help people and help them come closer to God. This is my faith statement.

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Faith Statement

God created everything on this amazing planet, including people. He is the One we look up to, he is our wonderful Father. God inspired his followers and disciples to record history and his deeds, which is now known as the Bible. The Bible is the perfect instruction for life which tells us to how to live and what direction to follow. God is Jesus in human version. He was crucified on the cross to provide forgiveness for our sins. He is there through life when we get trapped in situations or when we just need someone to talk to. The church is a nice place for people to worship the Lord. The church brings people together from all around, to worship the Lord all in one place together. I am called to serve the Lord to appreciate all the wonderful things he had created and gave me.

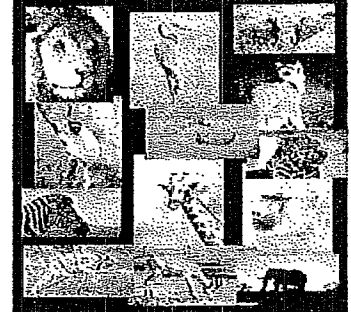
Wonderful things God has given me!!!!!!



Mountains and the Valleys



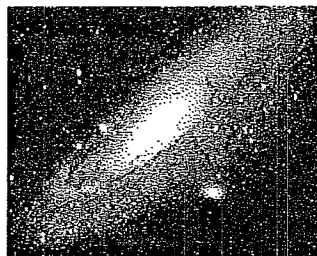
The Sunset



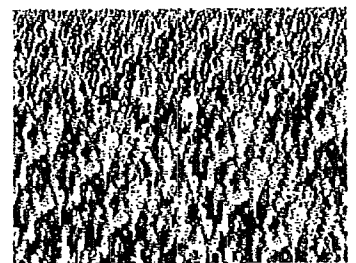
Animals



People Worshiping God



The Universe



People

AND SO MUCH MORE!!!!!!

God is the Father of Jesus. He gave us His only son.

Jesus was born to be the Savior of all mankind. He died on the cross and suffered so that we could have eternal life after our death.

The Holy Spirit is the third person in God. The Holy Spirit fills our hearts and helps us believe the truth about Jesus. If we believe in Jesus, we have the Holy Spirit within us.

The church is the people. It is where we gather to hear the Word of God, where we learn to be good Christian people.

The church is called to preach the Word of God, to share in Holy Communion and fellowship. To open the doors to help people in need.

I am called to follow and learn about God, and try to be a good Christian, to help others when they need me. Right now, I don't know what my calling is. I hope when I get older I will understand more.



Who is God? God is my creator. He is the reason I am living. He is my protector. He is amazing. He is the highest above all names. God is always with me. I am never alone.

Who is Jesus? Jesus is my savior. He died for me.

Who is The Holy Spirit? The Holy Spirit is the spirit inside of me that helps me live a Christian life. It is a part of Jesus that I cannot see, but I can feel it.

What is the church? The church is a place that teaches and preaches about God. It helps people understand that God is our creator, and that His love is never-ending.

What is the church called to do? The church is called to make people feel like they can come and be themselves and worship God together. And pray and feel like they can come and confess their sins and refresh themselves and be children of God.

What am I called to do? I am called to be a friendly and loving Christian.



Outdoor BBQ Fun!

Come join us for a special afternoon of fellowship after church on **Sunday, May 23** (Recognition Sunday).

We will be enjoying music from the REV praise band along with food and drinks provided by the Christian Ed. and Outreach Committees.

Stay for REV at 5pm also!!

Mark your calendar!

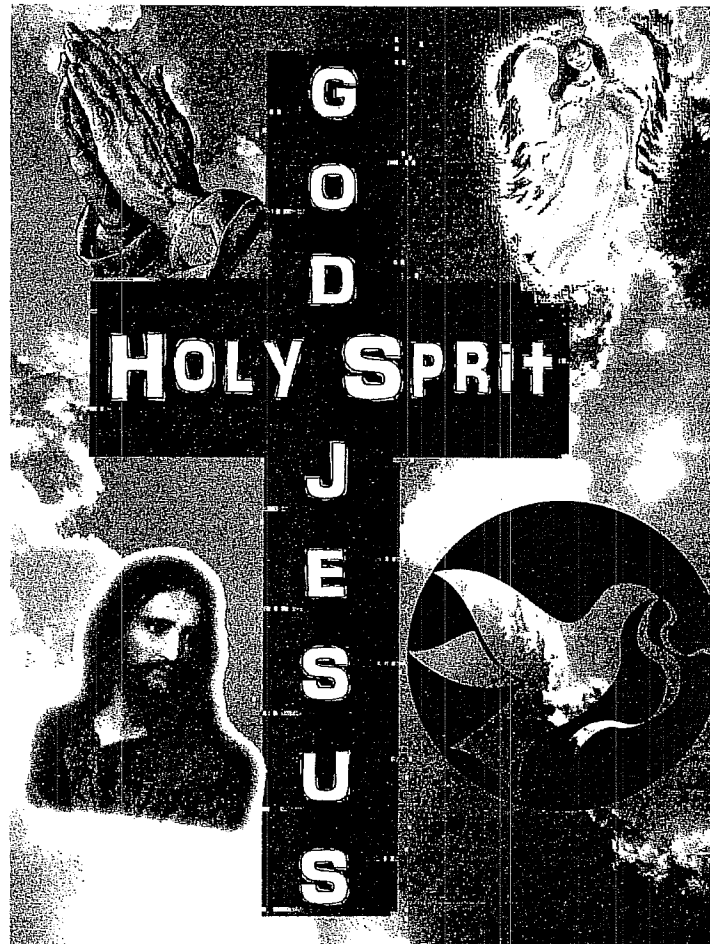
Ice Cream Social

Sunday, June 13, 2010

6:30 p.m. after REV

This year we're planning the program themed around "New York City". Selections from the choirs and soloists will include many pieces inspired by various locales in New York, both traditional and Broadway-style selections. Come and celebrate the end of the choir year with us in HHPC's version of the "Big Apple"!

God is our savior, creator, and protector. He doesn't judge us for our looks because we are all his children and he knows what we are really like on the inside. In God's eyes we are all just as beautiful as the next person. God knows what is truly right and wrong and, as long as we ask for forgiveness, he will forgive our sins. God sent his only son, Jesus, to us. He sent him to be our teacher and to rid us of our sins. God sacrificed his only son to save people from their sins. Then when Jesus was resurrected he sent the Holy Spirit to us. The Holy Spirit is our bridge to God. With the Holy Spirit living within us we can feel a closer attachment to God. The church is a place of Godly worship. When we go to church every Sunday we learn of the ways of God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. As part of the church, it is my job to learn from what the church teaches and never give up on religion. We should always have God in our hearts no matter what life throws our way because God will never give up on us and he will always be there to listen our prayers.



I believe that our God is our father and creator. He created us in the image of himself. I also believe that God loves us like his sons and daughters and will help us when we make mistakes.

I believe that the Holy Spirit is anything and everything. It is something that fills you up and calms your troubled soul. It can work through any being to help a certain person.

I believe that Jesus is my lord and savior. He is God's son and loves us all like our aunt or uncle would.

I think this church was created for people in need of help or worship. We are called as a church to spread Christ's love through the world and do good deeds in his name.

I am called to help the church complete these things. I am also called to preserve the earth that God, our father, created for us to have a life in.

††††††††

God
Powerful, Creator
Creating, loving, watching
Heaven, Heart, Earth, Soul
Sacrificing, working, loving
Savior, Son of God
Jesus

The Holy Spirit is the air that I breathe, the ground I walk on, and even my friends and family. Many people imagine that the Holy Spirit looks like a ghost, but I see it as anything and everything.

I believe that church is a place to learn about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and about the bible. I also believe that I am called to spread the Word of the Lord with others. And that church is called to shelter ones who are on the path to find or learn about God.

††††††††

Who is God to me? God is the creator of heaven and earth. He is the maker of all people. God is the one that calls us to follow his word. To me I see him as a Father and a Leader.

Who is Jesus to me? Jesus is my Savior. Jesus is the one who died on the cross to save us from our sins. Jesus is the one who rose from the dead to prove he is God's Son. Jesus is a Friend, Helper and Healer.

What is the Holy Spirit? The Holy Spirit is the Spirit that fills us up with Gods presence. The Holy Spirit makes us feel good and happy.

What is a church? A church is a place we worship God and Jesus. A church is a place people go to seek help and comfort. A church is a place you will always be welcomed in. A church follows in God word.

What is a church called to do? A church is called to worship God and follow in His word. A church is called to do missions and help people in need. Lastly a church is called to make people feel safe and help people's relationship grow stronger with God.

Lastly what am I called to do? I am called to worship God. I am called to follow God's word and to help all those in need of help.



God is not a man or a woman. He sent His only Son down for us so that we may have eternal life. He has the most power in the world.

Jesus died for our sins. He was God's Son. God sent Him down because Jesus was human.

The church is a small community of faith. They help each other. We share our faith.

The church is called to gather with their church community to express one's faith.

I am called to help someone who needs help.

The Holy Spirit helps us make miracles.

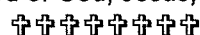


God. God is the almighty being that was here before anything or anybody. He made the universe out of nothing. He was the creator of all life.

Jesus. Jesus is the Son of God. He has done many miracles in His life to spread the Word of God to the people. He was the spreader of the name of Jesus and He even sacrificed Himself to wash our sins away.

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God which dwells on earth. It surrounds all of us and helps cleanse us of sin. It cannot be seen, however.

The church is the place where people go to get enlightened by God, and to ask for His forgiveness. The people at the church are supposed to help spread the Word of God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit to those dwindling in faith.



The Shape of the Notes We Sing

by G. R. Snow

When pioneers were establishing log cabins and sod houses in colonial America, one of the strong needs in the minds of many was to gather together, as many families as could reasonably come together, to worship God. This was a privilege for which some families would ride for hours, starting before sunrise and embarking upon a long and uncomfortable trip by covered wagon or horse-back—or walking. Before a church or schoolhouse had been built, they would often meet in each other's homes or in a cleared space outside. There was often no altar, no pulpit, no cross in the front; there weren't always enough chairs for those who gathered. And there wasn't always an organ or piano—some families had preserved a small suitcase-like reed organ called a melodeon, which had air pumped through the reeds by means of the player's feet depressing two pedals alternately. Even without this, however, and independently of any musical instruments, four-part harmony could be established by people who had learned, not necessarily to read music on the staff, but who had learned to discern degrees of the scale by means of the shaped-note innovation.

We're accustomed to music in our hymnals looking like this:

To those who had a carefully treasured shaped-note hymnal, however, a hymn would look like this:

Based on a late eighteenth-century four-note shaped-note system used as a teaching technique in the New England states by (among others) Andrew Law, who credited himself with inventing the system*, the seven-note shaped-note system utilizes the “do-re-mi-fa-so-la-ti-do” system, known as solfège. The use of syllables to denote pitch dates back to about 1000 A.D. with the writing of Guido of Arezzo. (Other pioneers in this area include Jean-Jacques Rousseau and John Curwen.)

The four-note system had provided only for the syllables *fa-sol-la-meh*. The seven-note system was patented by Jesse B. Aiken, whose system proclaimed in his 1846 work *The Christian Minstrel* eventually became the standard. The notes thus established are:

Please note that these note shapes were not constant to any one pitch. The “so” shape above, for example, would be printed as G in the key of C, B in the key of E, C in the key of F. It simply denoted the fifth degree of the scale. In the “Amazing Grace” example (first column), the Eb note is “so”, and will remain so, in any octave, for the duration of the piece.

If a hymn had a key change part-way through, however, the “so” syllable might be assigned to one note for the section in the first key and another for the next (in the hymn “*Christian, Dost Thou See Them*”, the “so” shape would be assigned to F for the first half and D for the second half. One can easily imagine the havoc wreaked among singers who did not read music on a staff, had no concept of the significance of key or time signatures, and were not accompanied by any instrument. The wonder in this situation is that shaped-note singers counted it such a privilege to sing God's praises, *in parts*, that they struggled through the hymn—if true to nineteenth-century practice, anywhere from five to nineteen verses of it. (By the end one might reasonably suppose they'd improved at singing the parts.)

Particularly in Southern states (Wikipedia cites Georgia, North Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee), the shaped-note tradition is alive and well. Community “singings” of seven-note shaped-note songs are still held as a means of keeping this historic practice alive. Even regular four-note shaped-note “sings” are still held, including one prominent annual event in Newbury, Vermont.

Still in use in Mennonite and Brethren churches in various parts of the country, and in Primitive Baptist, Independent Fundamental Baptist, and Churches of Christ in the south, the shaped-note tradition can even be found in sheet music of such contemporary gospel composers such as William J. Gaither. In this time of schools and civic organizations curtailing support for fine arts programs, it is worth noting that the singing of parts and the reading of musical notes was considered so important in colonial America that such ingenuity and inventiveness was applied to its success.

*Other sources credit its invention to John Connelly of Philadelphia, who is alleged to have signed over his rights to the system in 1798 to Little & Smith, authors of *The Easy Instructor* (1801).

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER, 2010

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

Throughout our history, whether in times of great joy and thanksgiving, or in times of great challenge and uncertainty, Americans have turned to prayer. In prayer, we have expressed gratitude and humility, sought guidance and forgiveness, and received inspiration and assistance, both in good times and in bad.

On this day, let us give thanks for the many blessings God has bestowed upon our Nation. Let us rejoice for the blessing of freedom both to believe and to live our beliefs, and for the many other freedoms and opportunities that bring us together as one Nation. Let us ask for wisdom, compassion, and discernment of justice as we address the great challenges of our time.

We are blessed to live in a Nation that counts freedom of conscience and free exercise of religion among its most fundamental principles, thereby ensuring that all people of goodwill may hold and practice their beliefs according to the dictates of their consciences. Prayer has been a sustaining way for many Americans of diverse faiths to express their most cherished beliefs, and thus we have long deemed it fitting and proper to publicly recognize the importance of prayer on this day across the Nation.

Let us remember in our thoughts and prayers those suffering from natural disasters in Haiti, Chile, and elsewhere, and the people from those countries and from around the world who have worked tirelessly and selflessly to render aid. Let us pray for the families of the West Virginia miners, and the people of Poland who so recently and unexpectedly lost many of their beloved leaders. Let us pray for the safety and success of those who have left home to serve in our Armed Forces, putting their lives at risk in order to make the world a safer place. As we remember them, let us not forget their families and the substantial sacrifices that they make every day. Let us remember the unsung heroes who struggle to build their communities, raise their families, and help their neighbors, for they are the wellspring of our greatness. Finally, let us remember in our thoughts and prayers those people everywhere who join us in the aspiration for a world that is just, peaceful, free, and respectful of the dignity of every human being.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim May 6, 2010, as a National Day of Prayer. I call upon the citizens of our Nation to pray, or otherwise give thanks, in accordance with their own faiths and consciences, for our many freedoms and blessings, and I invite all people of faith to join me in asking for God's continued guidance, grace, and protection as we meet the challenges before us.

Today

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand ten, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fourth.

BARACK OBAMA

###

Sponsor a Child for a weeklong camp experience at the Presbyterian Camps in Saugatuck, Michigan



Sponsorship Opportunities

- Only \$170 to sponsor a child ages 8-11
- Only \$286 to sponsor a youth ages 12-14
- Only \$347 to sponsor a parent
- Also accepting donations of bath & beach towels, bathing suits, hygiene products, twin bed sheets and flip flops.

- 6 Night Cabin Experience
- 17 Meals
- Canoeing
- Archery
- Swimming
- Low Ropes & Climbing Wall
- Campfire
- Group games and activities



For more information on how you can help, please call or email Cheryl Roop at (708) 757-5395, Ext. 22 or croop@jonescenter.org

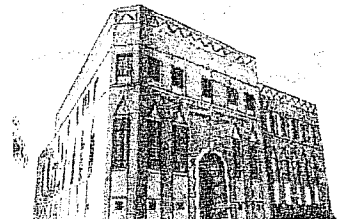


An experience they'll never forget.



Invaluable life lessons

Jones Memorial Community Center
220 E. 15th Street—Chicago Heights, IL 60411



Christian Education

Final details were made for the **Family Night** held on May 7th. Master Ron held the attention of the audience as he mesmerized everyone with his balloon constructions, stories, and magic. The food served was delicious. I doubt if there were leftovers. Thank you to everyone who set up and took down. This was a memorable night.

The **Cookie Monster Bake Sale** was held on Mother's Day, May 9th. There was such a variety of cookies that everyone had a difficult time choosing which kinds they were taking home. Thank you to the people who stood behind the tables to help choose the cookies. Thank you to the workers who were behind the scenes setting the platters with the cookies. A big thanks to the ladies who weighed and collected the money for the Camp Scholarship Fund- raiser. And last of all, thanks to everyone who took time to buy and bake for the sale. It means so much to the children who would not know how much fun camp is without your donations.

Recognition Sunday was held on May 23rd. It was a celebration of the hard work done for the children in 2009-2010. We celebrate the programs which were of the highest quality for our children, neighborhood children, family and friends. We celebrate the success of people who have graduated, had perfect attendance, or who have given their time and talents to singing with the youth choir. What a glorious celebration! Thank you to the Rev Band for the fellowship music. Thank you to the committee members who helped by donating their treats to the fellowship hour. Let's do this again next year!

Camp registration is underway. So far, there are 22 children interested in camp. See Sue Orsic or Dianne Flynn if you need more details

on registering for camp. No bus will be provided for the children to go or return from camp. We will car pool this year.

Since the **Sunday Classes** will stop for the summer months, the committee has proposed activity pages be available to the children who could complete them during the worship service. Pages and crayons will be available in a basket near the sanctuary entry for any child who wants them. Ushers can be asked if your children cannot find them. The Nursery will be staffed with caring adults for anyone who would like to worship this summer without worrying about their infant/toddler. Our Nursery is filled with fun toys and the adults know unique ways to entertain your youngster while you are worshipping in the sanctuary. The Nursery is intended for children up to the age of 4 years old.

The **Junior High Youth Group** held its last meeting on May 20th. The parents were invited to join for a cook-out dinner. They recently travelled to AWOL to work in the neighborhood on repair projects. The group was joined by the Senior High Youth Group for the weekend.

The **Senior High Youth Group** had its last meeting on May 23rd. They enjoyed the hospitality of Rick and Jenni Vogel for the weekend. They camped out in the Vogel's backyard, and cooked outdoors. I doubt that many slept.

Stories and More ended their program on May 11th. 13 children were registered for this program. It was so rewarding that the staff has committed to bringing it back next year. Children aged 4 to 6 were treated to a special story, a review of the story, activity songs and fingerplays, a learning time, and even some time cooking. They especially enjoyed the

action song, "Going on a Bear Hunt," looking for treasures in the treasure chest, playing shape bingo, making rice krispie hearts, and hanging the alphabet letters on the clothesline.

The theme for **Vacation Bible School** is Saddle Ridge Ranch. You may have noticed the foyer and east room have been decorated to look like a ranch. The downstairs will also be decorated with that theme. We hope to have a filled sanctuary on June 14th, our first night. Festivities begin at 6:30 PM. Our music and worship leaders will be Tricia and Company. They are already planning their music and lessons for this week. Be sure to come join us as we search for answers together. It is a fun-filled week where children ages 4 to grade 6 are welcome to participate. Children older than grade 6 need to ask Dianne Flynn about what positions she has open for volunteers. Bring a bag of cookies to share for the snack time and register for \$6.00. This is a great experience for young and old. If you would like to see what it is all about, come to the opening each day at 6:30 PM or come for the closing which is usually held in the sanctuary around 7:45PM. You will not want to miss a single day!

The **One Great Hour of Sharing** collected \$165.93. This is an overwhelming amount considering the economic times. Thank you to everyone who helped make the collection such a symbol of Christian Caring.

A special thanks to everyone who helped with the fundraiser to send **Squares to Africa**. About \$123 was collected. We have accumulated over 200 squares this year and will attempt to send them to Soweto by the end of this summer. If you are still making the 8X8 inch squares, please try to get them to the church 5th grade classroom before the end of June.

Warm Up America! Great news. The people who have been making 7X9 inch rectangles

have collected enough to create 4 adult size blankets. The blankets are sewn together to form a blanket of 63 inches X 49 inches. They will be given to the local Ronald McDonald House in Oak Lawn.

A special thanks to everyone who took the time to create the squares and rectangles this year. Please know that you are instrumental in helping the needy through your compassion and talents. **The Prayer Shawl Ministry** has been busy this year creating lap blankets as well as shawls. We will stop meeting after worship this summer. Please continue to knit and crochet on your own. We will start meeting again for shared fellowship after Rally Day in the fall.

The **Stampers** will stop meeting for the summer months. They held their last meeting on May 19th. Thank you to Ruth for her encouragement and helping everyone expand their creativity. Thank you to Kim for showing the group new gadgets and techniques throughout this year, too. A special thanks to Dianne who gets all the boxes of supplies ready for the Stampers to use each meeting. It would be so much harder to get stamping if you weren't there with the supplies. Thank you to the ladies who bring their special stamps and favorites to the meeting to share with the group. The cards designed through the Stampers were donated to the Prayer and Care group.

KIDS CLUB

Our last day of Kids Club was May 17. Of course, we celebrated our last day with a party. We have enjoyed many new activities this year and look forward to seeing everyone in September. So mark your calendars now. We will be back on Monday, September 13. Plan to join us and remember to invite a friend!

Youth Choir News

The youth choir has rounded out the year with a special song we have been practicing on and off for quite some time but has taken awhile for us to have the right timing to bring it into the Anthem spot for Spring.

It shares a beautiful message for all the mixed circumstances that spring brings upon us. We will finish out the year singing for recognition Sunday, and the Ice Cream social in June, then take a break for summer.

When we come back together and begin practice in the fall, it will be under a whole new program! We are working on the fine details with hope that our new schedule and structure will provide a better opportunity for participation in practice. We will meet on Sunday mornings rather than weekday afternoons when so many school activities pull members away from practice. Then sharing the monthly Anthem in worship will be done with confidence built from having been able to practice regularly as a group.

We welcome back all our Choir members and anyone new - we would love to put all our choir robes to use. Talk to Cheryl Huenecke or Dianne Flynn if you have further questions.

Again I share the words of our Sunday Anthem with you. Enjoy the blessings from God in His Gifts of Spring.

The Rainbow of Life

The rainbow of Life will bring sunshine, child of joy, child of joy.

The rainbow of life will bring sunshine child of joy, child of joy.

Roses bloom, the bluebirds sing, celebrate the gifts of spring.

Praise God for the Rainbow of life, Praise God for the rainbow of life.

The rain of the rainbow brings sorrow, child of faith, child of faith.

The rain of the rainbow brings sorrow, child of faith, child of faith.

Roses bloom, the bluebirds sing, celebrate the gifts of spring.

Praise God for the Rainbow of life. Praise God for the rainbow of life.

The rainbow of life is before you, child of God, child of God

The rainbow of life is before you, child of God, child of God

Roses bloom, the bluebirds sing, celebrate the gifts of spring.

Praise God for the Rainbow of life. Praise God for the rainbow of life.

**RECOGNITION SUNDAY
MAY 23, 2010**

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS

PRESCHOOL

KINDERGARTEN

Debbie Zimmerman

GRADES 1,2

*Cheryl Huenecke
Katie Treccani*

GRADES 3,4

*Jeni Vogl
Jeanette Grisko
Sue Orsic*

GRADE 5

Linda Lavaretto

JUNIOR HIGH

*Patt Pilgrim
Cindy Treccani*

SENIOR HIGH

*Gordon Home
Lou Pearson
Angie Ochoa*

ADULT CLASS

Tom Lane, Dave Delaney

MUSIC

Cheryl Huenecke, Dianne Flynn

ASSISTANT

SUPERINTENDENTS

Donna Bredlau

SUPERINTENDENT

Dianne Flynn

**JUNIOR HIGH
YOUTH GROUP**

*Bryan Ambrosat, Katie Treccani,
Patt Pilgrim*

**SENIOR HIGH
YOUTH GROUP**

*Jeni Vogl, Rick Vogl, Noelle Larson
Hanna Huenecke, Josh Treccani,*

CONFIRMATION

Melanie Swindle, Rick Vogl

**WOMEN'S BIBLE
STUDY**

Arlene Pearson

KIDS CLUB STAFF

*Shannon Bastien
Marilyn Betterton
Cheryl Huenecke
Linda Lavaretto
Grace Muszynski
Debbie Zimmerman
Student Assistants
Jarett Ambrosat
Ashley Maranto
Brittany Maranto
Sarah Swearingen
Megan Zimmerman
Director - Dianne Flynn*

NURSERY STAFF

*Lori Haack
Beth Kommenich
Carri McKinney
Linda Rys*

YOUTH CHOIR STAFF

*Diane Ciametti
Dianne Flynn
Cheryl Huenecke
Jean Swearingen*

STORIES AND MORE

*Shirley Brunell
Linda Lavaretto
Dianne Flynn
Susan Frangella
Director - Patt Pilgrim*

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Kim Ambrosat, Jarett Ambrosat, Shannon Bastien, Donna Bredlau, Jeanette Grisko, Cheryl Huenecke, Linda Lavaretto, Patt Pilgrim, Jean Swearingen, Sam Swearingen, Sarah Swearingen, Cindy Treccani, Debbie Zimmerman

Congratulations to Our Graduates

<i>Ceslie Ambrosat</i>	<i>Conrady Junior High</i>
<i>Jordan Hepburn</i>	<i>Oak Lawn Hometown Middle</i>
<i>Alyssia Kommenich</i>	<i>Simmons Middle</i>
<i>Becky Kusina</i>	<i>Conrady Junior High</i>
<i>Stephanie Corenz</i>	<i>Conrady Junior High</i>
<i>Erik Meyer</i>	<i>Wilkins Junior High</i>
<i>Celina Panko</i>	<i>Conrady Junior High</i>
<i>Natasha Swindle</i>	<i>Memorial Junior High</i>
<i>Katelin Wheeler</i>	<i>Conrady Junior High</i>
<i>Trevor Hepburn</i>	<i>Oak Lawn High School</i>
<i>Austin McKinney</i>	<i>Stagg High School</i>
<i>Amanda Swindle</i>	<i>Thornton Fractional South</i>
<i>Megan Zimmerman</i>	<i>Argo Community High School</i>
<i>T.K. Knox</i>	<i>Stagg High School</i>
<i>Ryan Brandt</i>	<i>Monmouth College</i>

2010 CHURCH SCHOOL PROMOTIONS

To 1st/2nd Grade

Jessica Panko
Leo Wreza
Jayden Kenealy

To 3rd/4th Grade

Jacob Morrell
Eamon Prunty
Trinity White
Ariel McDaniel

To 5th Grade

Jenah Fox
Gigi Giancana
Shaylin Rys

To Junior High

Yasmine Fox
LeAnne Kommenich
Stacey Lorenz
Riley McKinney
Nellie Prunty
Veronica Swindle
Frank Rodriguez

To Senior High

Leslie Ambrosat
Jordan Hepburn
Alyssia Kommenich
Becky Kusina
Stephanie Lorenz
Erik Meyer
Celina Panko
Natasha Swindle
Katelin Wheeler

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

Congratulations to the students receiving this award.

THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE†

PERFECT ATTENDANCE

for the

2009 - 10 CHURCH SCHOOL YEAR

ANDREW WITEK - Senior High Class



ALMOST PERFECT ATTENDANCE

for the

2009 -2010 CHURCH SCHOOL YEAR

MATTHEW WITEK - Senior High Class

Word Find

Find these words from Psalm 122:1 in the puzzle. They are up, down, forward, backward, and horizontal.

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

Sacrament of Holy Communion- June 6, 2010

SUNDAY	USHERS	LAY READER
June 6, 2010	K. Dritz, C. Pilgrim, R. Raschke	Dave Delaney
June 13, 2010	T. Brock, T. Lane, H. Zimmerman	Rick Vogl
June 20, 2010	B. Ambrosat, F. Esparza, M. Maranto	Scott Zimmerman
June 27, 2010	D. Barker, D. Ciametti, T. Morrell	Terry Brock
SUNDAY	COUNTERS	NURSERY
June 6, 2010	Susan Frangella	Sarah Adams
June 13, 2010	Susan Frangella, Karen Hoffman	Linda Rys, Beth Kommenich
June 20, 2010	Susan Frangella, Sandy Beal	Linda Rys, Beth Kommenich
June 27, 2010	Susan Frangella, Shirley Brunell	Carri McKinney, Lori Haack

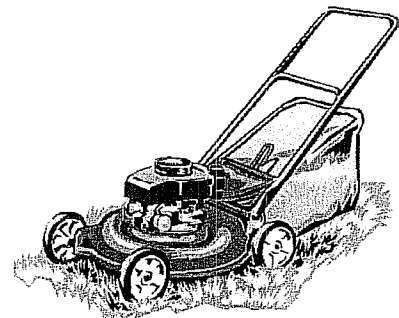
COMMUNION SERVERS- K. Ambrosat, C. Huenecke, P. Pilgrim, R. Raschke, C. Treccani, D. Zimmerman



Volunteers Needed This Summer

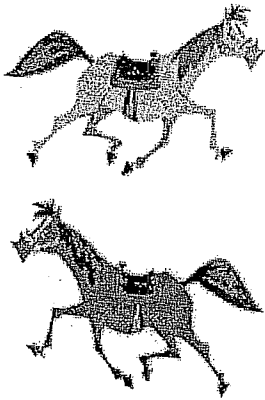


We need volunteers to mow the lawn at the Manse this Summer. This expense had to be cut from our budget for 2010, so we are in need of someone to help out with this job. If this is something you are interested in, please contact Charley Huenecke at 708-598-2342, Tom Pearson at 708-598-5198, or Scott Zimmerman at 708-458-1662, or leave a message at the church 708-598-3100. Thank you!

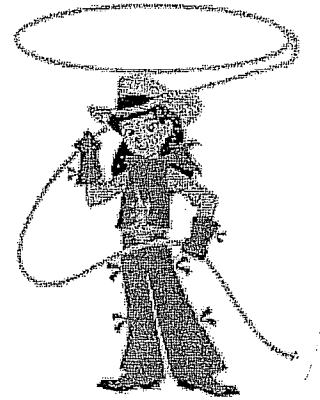




VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Monday through Friday
June 14 - 18
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.



Special Guests - Tricia and Company

TALK ABOUT ADVENTURE!!!

Mark your calendars
And tell your kids to invite their friends!!!

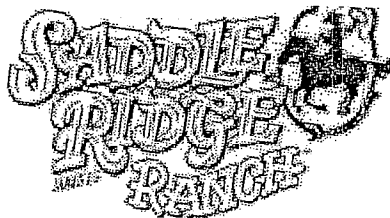
Vacation Bible School - A Week Not to be Missed!!

For a week kids from our church and community will join together for "Saddle Ridge Ranch - Roundin' Up Questions, Drivin' Home Answers".

God has a way of herding us in the right direction when we pray for his guidance. At VBS Saddle Ridge Ranch kids can ask questions and discover the answers found in God's Word. Each evening the kids will visit Worship Rally Valley and Bible Study Bunk House. They will also enjoy crafts at Blazing Star Stables, music at Campfire Creek, recreation at Mustang Mountain, and snacks at Big Sky Grill.

All of this takes place here at the Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church, with special guests Tricia and Company. It will be an outstanding week. *This program is open to kids age 3 through grade 6.* Tell others about this week.

Cost for this week of fun is \$6.00 and 1 package of cookies for snack time. Call the church office (598-3100) to register.



JUNE 2010

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1 9:30 a.m. Cancer Sewing 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care 7:30 p.m. C.E.	2 9:00 a.m. Prayer & Care 7:30 p.m. Choir	3 5:00 p.m. TOPS 8:00 p.m. Handbells	4 6:30 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study	5
6 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting 3:00 p.m. Praise Team 5:00 p.m. REV	7	8 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care	9 9:00 a.m. Prayer & Care 7:30 p.m. Choir	10 5:00 p.m. TOPS 8:00 p.m. Handbells	11 6:30 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study	12 2:00 p.m. Building & Grounds
13 9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship 3:00 p.m. Praise Team 5:00 p.m. REV 6:30 p.m. Ice Cream Social <u>July Newsletter Deadline</u>	14 6:30-8:30 p.m. VBS 7:30 p.m. Session	15 6:30-8:30 p.m. VBS 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care	16 9:00 a.m. Prayer & Care 6:30-8:30 p.m. VBS	17 5:00 p.m. TOPS 6:30-8:30 p.m. VBS	18 6:30-8:30 p.m. VBS- Family Night 6:30 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study	19
20 <u>Father's Day</u> 9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship 3:00 p.m. Praise Team 5:00 p.m. REV	21 7:30 p.m. Outreach	22 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care 7:30 p.m. REV Committee Meeting	23 9:00 a.m. Prayer & Care	24 5:00 p.m. TOPS	25 6:30 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study	26
27 9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship 3:00 p.m. Praise Team 5:00 p.m. REV	28 7:30 p.m. Deacons	29 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care	30 9:00 a.m. Prayer & Care			

June Birthdays

June 2 – Ed Zabelka
3 – Ivy Taebel
3- Mark Gulotta
4 – Trevor Hepburn
6 – Driton Semani
8 – Barbara Monczynski
11 – Katelin Wheeler
12 – Amanda Swindle
14 – Cheryl Huenecke
14 – Alvin Swearingen
15 – Ryan Krueger
16 – Karen Hoffman
19 – Bob Nordstrom
20 – Leonard Van Vossen
23 – Mary Richer
23 – Megan Zimmerman
27 - Linda Lavaretto
29 – Hanna Huenecke
29 - Thomas M. Morrell
29 – Joe Simone

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

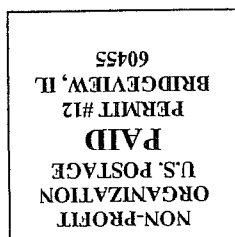
708-598-3100 or HHPC@hickoryhillspres.org.

*If you wish to receive *The Connecting Link* electronically, and no longer receive a paper version, please send an email to: newsletter@hickoryhillspres.org and we will place you on the mailing list. Thank you.

Please recycle this newsletter when you are finished enjoying it. There are recycling bins located around the church. Thank you.

**Do Not Hold
Dated Material**

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



**Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church
8426 West 95th Street
Hickory Hills, Illinois 60457**