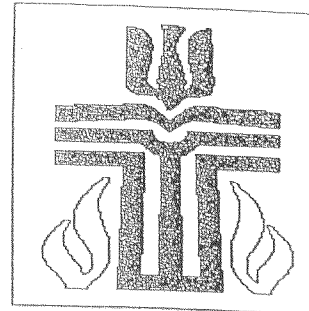


THE CONNECTING LINK



Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church
8426 W. 95th Street
Hickory Hills, Illinois 60457
Telephone: (708)598-3100
Email: HHPC2002@netzero.com
www.hickoryhillspres.org

MARCH 2009

Now, what does 'LENT' mean?

Hmm – the Westminster Shorter Catechism enjoins us 'to glorify God and enjoy him forever.' So if we're going to enjoy God, maybe that's enjoying all God is – including words. Maybe even making up some new words for the fun of it.

Lent – according to my fancy dictionary it means 'lengthen, get longer' as in the daily shifting of the earth so we get more sunlight every day (at least in this hemisphere). So . . . maybe "I lent you" means that I'll lengthen the time I pay attention to you, listen to you, offer my ear to take in what matters most to you.

I'm sure 'lent' is also the past tense of 'lend,' so . . . maybe "I lent you" means that I'll hand over to you some good thing that I have that might benefit you – some money perhaps, a little food maybe, a few clothes, a job offer, a place to stay, a clutch of ideas, my special skills at making ____, a suggestion that we go out and have some fun together, take you along to my volunteer job. What have you lent?

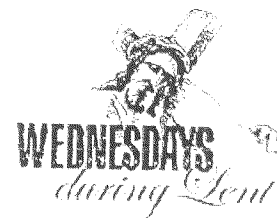
The Brits say the past tense of 'lean' is 'leant' and they pronounce it 'lent,' so . . . "I lent you" could mean I lean over to get closer to you, I sit down on the floor to play with you, I crawl off my high horse and work beside you, I get the starch out of my collar and show you what I'm passionate about, I bend my stiff upper lip and smile at you, I rest my exhausted body on your shoulder and sob aloud with you over life's cruelties. What have we lent?

Maybe only the musicians among us can imagine that 'lent' means slow. So . . . "I lent you" might indicate that I slow my speech so you can understand what I really mean, I slow my body so you aren't feeling

frenzied just being around me, I slow my hands so you can make out what I'm trying to say, I slow my feet so you aren't feeling rushed to keep up with me. Have we lent?

I've known several Scanderhoovians (my friend's favorite word for people from Scandanavia) named Len, so maybe "I lent you" is a way to say my favorite carpenter is available to fix your kitchen, or my best friend plumber is ready to install a new bathroom for you, or my most accomplished mason will put in that patio for you, or . . . What will we have lent, before Easter comes?

God lent us Jesus. Jesus lent us the Spirit. The Spirit lent us joy and hope and love and peace. Can we possibly do any less with our neighbors? I lent you.



**Lenten Wednesdays –
12 noon & 7 p.m. in Worship**

You won't believe your ears! You can't believe your eyes! These Lenten services at Hickory Hills in 2009 are just not the same!

Order of Worship – we adopted a Statement of Mission to guide our life in this congregation, so the worship services in lent start with SEEKING God's Word through prayer, scripture, song and interviews with Jesus' twelve disciples (otherwise known as apostles). SHARE...God's love with one another follows – with a daily examen (yes, that's spelled

correctly) and Passing the Peace. To SHARE God's love with others, we will offer prayers for the world, the whole world. Then it's on to CELEBRATE God's love in communion and a weekly hymn sing. We finish with an offering of ourselves to go and SERVE Jesus Christ in the world.

Woven into this full exposure to our MISSION, our statement of purpose, is that marvelous word from Paul about the fruit of the Spirit. Many people started that in February with daily directed prayers for each of the members of our Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC), so we'll keep up the good work through March with a weekly focus on a new part of the fruit the Spirit provides:

- February 25 (Ash Wednesday) – patience
- March 4 – kindness
- March 11 – goodness
- March 18 – faithfulness
- March 25 – humility
- April 1 – self-control

Then there are those disciples/apostles. We hear from a couple or so of them each week as they struggle to make sense of this Jesus we worship – what is it that God is doing their lives?

- March 4 – Andrew, Bartholomew, James the Less
- March 11 – Simon the Zealot, Matthew, Thaddaeus
- March 18 – Philip, Thomas
- March 25 – James, John
- April 1 – Peter, Judas

Quite a lineup of visitors, don't you think!

While children and youth, and a great corps of adults who lead them, are enjoying the Jerusalem Marketplace each evening, all of us in worship will be exploring all that God has in mind for the rich gifts with which God has blessed us. Enjoy!!

Sundays in Lent

Aren't words funny! We have Sundays of Advent, but Sundays in Lent! If you wonder why, just try counting the forty days of Lent starting from Ash Wednesday and landing accurately on Easter as #41.

There is simply joy in all the good things our scriptures for these Sundays in Lent bring us as we move toward the grand Hallelujah of EASTER:

Transfiguration Sunday – February 22
Luke 15 – Lost and Found, the Prodigal Son
OR God's Generosity

March 1 – First Sunday in Lent
Hosea 4 & 14 – Repentance & Forgiveness
OR the Lord's Love

March 8 – Second Sunday in Lent
Romans 12 – New Life in Christ OR Jesus' Joy

March 15 – Third Sunday in Lent
Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12 – The Suffering Servant
OR Jesus Justifies

March 22 – Fourth Sunday in Lent
Matthew 16:24 – 17:21 Identity and Purpose
of Jesus OR Jesus Joists

March 29 – Fifth Sunday in Lent
Isaiah 55 – Invitation to Abundant Life OR
Spirit Sizzles

And that brings us to Passion/Palm Sunday April 5th, Maundy Thursday shared with Savior Divine here at HHPC April 9th, Good Friday shared at Savior Divine Lutheran Church April 10th, and EASTER April 12th.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Our annual Lenten program begins February 25th with soup and worship both at noon in Fellowship Hall and at 6:15/7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall and the Sanctuary. You are invited to come once, come twice, come privately yourself to spend time in preparing yourself to welcome Easter's Alleluias.

Deep, deep thanks to the groups and individuals who provide so generously so that there is soup for all at every lunch and every supper. If you have a friend, invite them to join you for the great nourishment of body and soul.

Ashes. Yes, you can receive imposition of ashes at both services on February 25th. AND you have a choice – on the forehead as tradition has it most often or on the back of your hand if you prefer.

Can you imagine a better thing to do on Ash Wednesday?!



Daily Devotions

Take a bow HHPC'ers! So many of you provided meditations that we have a booklet of daily devotions ready for everyone to enjoy for the season of Lent this spring. You can pick up your copy on February 22nd or any day during Lent.

The daily meditations follow the readings suggested in A Year with the Bible 2009, so you can use that booklet as you already started to do and add the daily meditations to your personal prayer patterns.

Each day offers you a new 'way to pray' so that your conversation with God can stretch into new places, new dimensions, new depths, new heights during this Lenten season.

Looking Ahead – Holy Week



HOLY WEEK

Passion/Palm Sunday has so many rituals and habits that you may be wondering "Who remembers all these things?" Never fear! There is always someone at HHPC who has done it a dozen times already and NEVER will forget to help us enjoy the special joys of this Sunday.

What is new this year is a new tradition from the last half century of giving this Sunday a combined name – Passion/Palm Sunday. Since so many people go from the dizzy delights of Palm Sunday to the giddy heights of Easter directly, never touching the depths

of the cross and Jesus' death on Good Friday, Passion/Palm Sunday started in the early 1960's. We'll read through one entire account of Jesus' last day – from Upper Room to Stone Tomb – a 'passion' story from one of the gospels.



Passion? Isn't that, uh, oh, you know – something to do with sex or kinky stuff? Hardly! It's just a good English word that comes to us directly from the Latin – *passio* means suffering. It's just a good read through the story of Jesus' suffering – for us!

Maundy Thursday at HHPC this year will be like no other! First, we are sharing the evening with our neighborhood friends from Savior Divine Lutheran Church on 88th Avenue. Then, we are following a pattern of worship that comes directly from another gospel's passion story of Jesus, so . . . the offering comes first, communion comes next, and so on till we get Jesus wrapped in a linen cloth and buried in a tomb. And – you'll get to touch each part of the story.

Good Friday for HHPC will be at Savior Divine Lutheran Church, 10040 South 88th Avenue in Palos Hills. We will join our voices in song, our choirs in singing, our leaders in reading, and our hearts in praying through the story of Jesus' death on the cross as found in one of the four gospels.

EASTER

Start with worship at 8:30 (that's a half hour earlier) and then Breakfast, OR
Start with breakfast at 9:30 and worship at 10:30, OR
Come to worship at 10:30, OR
Join the rousing chorus of Hallelujah at 5:00 p.m. OR
– just do it all!

Whenever you come, bring along one neighbor, one friend, one family member, one stranger who needs to hear and live good news for one day at least.

Rev. Warren Wiggins, Interim Pastor

PADS UPDATE

On February 1st (a very cold winter's evening) we served 66 men, women, and children a wonderful evening meal, as we do each 1st Sunday of the month.

As is often the case, many a guest popped his head into the kitchen to say "Thank You" for a wonderful meal. On your behalf we said "You are certainly welcome." Breakfast and lunch were also prepared for them as they prepared again to face a day not fully knowing what it had to offer, or what challenges lay ahead.

"Thank you" for all those hands and hearts that work together so well! Your gifts are always recognized and appreciated.



Regards,
C. Lou Pearson

PRAYER & CARE

"And He came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father."
Ephesians 2:17-18

Access in one Spirit to the Father is what we claim on Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. We are not a church committee. We are a community channel. We often pray for people we've never met. We are open to your requests and your presence in the house of God.

"So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God..."
Ephesians 2:19

TWILIGHT PRAYER

Prayer is an action on behalf of the heart. The answer to prayer is an action on behalf of our Savior.

Tuesday Evenings, 6:30 p.m.

Regards, C. Lou Pearson

JANUARY 2009 TREASURER'S REPORT

GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS

\$26,647.00

GENERAL FUND DISBURSEMENT

\$17,641.00

GENERAL FUND BALANCE

\$10,096.00

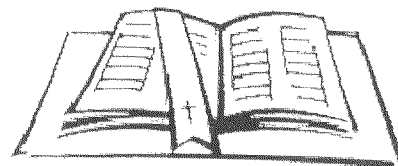
DIRECTORY UPDATE

Kathleen Turner
708-473-8129
9518 S. Tripp #2SW
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

FIREPROOF

At work, inside burning buildings, Capt. Caleb Holt lives by the old firefighter's adage: Never leave your partner behind! At home, in the cooling embers of his marriage, he lives by his own rules. His job is to rescue others. Now Caleb Holt is ready to face his toughest job ever... rescuing his wife's heart.

Kirk Cameron stars as Capt. Caleb Holt. Please join us as we watch this exciting movie here at Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church. Tentative plans are being developed to offer several screenings of the movie in March to all who wish to attend.



Fireproof Your Marriage – A couple's discussion/study group

Fireproof Your Marriage will challenge you to love better, to love first, and to love for a lifetime.

This 6-week study integrates key scriptures, clips from the movie FIREPROOF, devotionals and thought provoking discussion questions to challenge couples to grow spiritually and relationally.

We are planning to offer this couples study group after Easter.

More information will be made available soon.

Neat Repeats!
RESALE

Proceeds benefit the Crisis Center for South Suburbia

DREAMING ABOUT SPRING?

Clean your house and help others at the same time. Neat Repeats Resale Shops are seeking donations at both store locations:

Orland Park: 9020 W. 159th Street
Worth: 7026 W. 111th Street

Make a difference in the lives of the women and children who are served by the programs of the Crisis Center for South Suburbia and create extra space in your home.

Stores accept donations from 10 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. on Monday, Friday, and Saturday and from 10 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. If you need additional information, please call the store manager: Orland 708-364-7605 or Worth 708-361-6860.
Thank you.

The Cross Room

A young man was at the end of his rope. Seeing no way out, he dropped on his knees in prayer. "Lord, I cannot go on," he said. "I have too heavy a cross to bear." The Lord replied, "My son, if you can't bear its weight, just place your cross inside this room. Then, open that door, and pick out any cross you wish."

The man was filled with relief. "Thank you, Lord," he sighed, and he did as he was told. Upon entering the other door, he saw many crosses, some so large the tops were not visible. Then, he spotted a tiny cross leaning against a far wall. "I'd like that one, Lord," he whispered. And the Lord replied, "My son, that is the cross you just brought in."

Author: Unknown

SOUTH SUBURBAN PADS

Public Action to Deliver Shelter

P.O. Box 1176

Homewood, IL 60430

Dear Ms. Hoffman,

The Board of Directors of South Suburban PADS wish to thank you for your gift of

\$500.00 on behalf of Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church

Your generosity aids us in our efforts to provide food, shelter and supportive services to those who are need.

SOUTH
SUBURBAN
PADS

With appreciation,



M. Hedgaard
For Pads

1/2/08

Date



Colleen Grant Schumann, RN
Supervisor
Palos Township

10802 S. Roberts Road
Palos Hills, Illinois 60465

Office (708) 598-4418
Fax (708) 598-4473
Health Service (708) 598-2441
Fax (708) 598-2717

January 13, 2009

Karen Hoffman
Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church
8426 W. 95th Street
Hickory Hills, Illinois 60457

Dear Ms. Hoffman,

Thank you and the wonderful people of the Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church for the generous donation of \$500.00 to the Palos Township Emergency Food Pantry. Your generous contribution will be used to assist the individuals and families who have requested assistance for food. With monetary donations the township is able to purchase gift cards from the local Jewel Food store which allows individuals and families opportunities to purchase meat, produce, fresh fruit and vegetables.


Our warmest wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

With warm regards,

Colleen Grant Schumann
Palos Township Supervisor

CGS/bo

Sacrament of Holy Communion- March 1, 2009

SUNDAY	USHERS	FELLOWSHIP HOSTS	LAY READER
March 1, 2009	C. Pilgrim, R. Raschke	Tarter, Pilgrim	Dave Delaney
March 8, 2009	T. Brock, T. Lane, H. Zimmerman	Maryanne, Sack, T. & N. Pearson, Swearingen	Michael Pettis
March 15, 2009	T. Pettis, A. Schwake	Wiggins, Gordon, Kibort, Swindle, Fox	Scott Zimmerman
March 22, 2009	D. Barker, D. Ciametti, T. Morrell	Fogg, Lane, Kahn	Terry Brock
March 29, 2009	S. Zimmerman	Meyer, Swindle	Lisa Radetski
SUNDAY	COUNTERS	NURSERY	
March 1, 2009	Susan Frangella	Sarah Adams	
March 8, 2009	Susan Frangella Karen Hoffman	Beth Kommenich, Linda Rys	
March 15, 2009	Susan Frangella Sandy Beal	Beth Kommenich, Linda Rys	
March 22, 2009	Susan Frangella Shirley Brunell	Lori Haack, Carri McKinney	
March 29, 2009	Susan Frangella Grace Muszynski	If you are interested on the 5 th Sun, please see Dianne Flynn. Thanks.	

Communion Servers: G. Home, C. Huenecke, R. Raschke, I. Taebel, J. Vogl, H. Zimmerman



Wish List –

Outdoor Sign Update - \$280

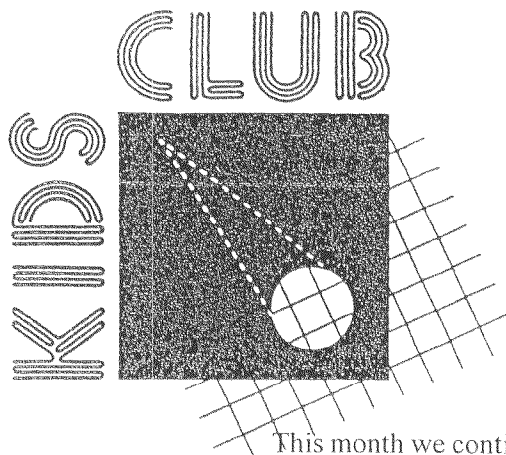
Session approved, at its meeting February 9th, putting a Wish List request before the congregation to update the Outdoor Sign.

The outdoor sign, that carries publicity and sayings, has become crowded, because the church's phone number and website have been added constantly to the adjustable white lines. Contact with the sign company revealed that they could create a new way to display the church's phone and website - make a reflective white vinyl sign on each side of the base (pole) of the sign. The new information would be on both sides of the sign.

The estimate from the sign company for this upgrade is \$280.

The Wish List is a way for the congregation to hear about special needs that are not part of the budget plan for the year. Your special donation, in whole or in part, for this project can make it possible.

The session thanks you for your contributions.



Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church
 8426 West 95th Street, Hickory Hills, Illinois 60457
 708/598-3100

Dianne Flynn, *Director*

This month we continued to put emphasis on learning to put our trust in Christ. The Christian life is not a short-distance run, it is a life-long race. Our March topics of study are:

- A Losing Attitude - Self Pity*
- Run to a Loving God - God's Special Love*
- Losing Can Be Winning - Service*
- Re-Straining to Win - Self Control*
- Odd Ball Olympics - God gives us a second chance*

Congratulations to the Bible Verse Winners for the month of January;

Gold medals - Ashley Smith, Gigi Giancana, Kayla Wagner, Hollie Fox, Breona Smith, Jessica Leake, Kaily Simpson,

Silver medals - Neal Lancaster, Ashley Maranto, Jenah Fox, Tierney Tarleton, Lisa Krauss, Yasmine Fox

Bronze medals - Ryan Saeler

We hope you will be a part of this year's Lenten Program, "Jerusalem Marketplace." Together we will explore what it might have been like to live when Jesus did and explore some of the traditions that were part of everyday life in Jesus' day. We will become apprentices in carpentry, sample sweets at the bakery and much, much more. Traveling through the Market Place, we might even encounter a Roman Soldier and listen to stories from the famous Storyteller. We hope you have marked your calendars and plan to attend. You will not want to miss this family focused worship and learning experience. I encourage you to invite someone to attend with you. You will be blessed!

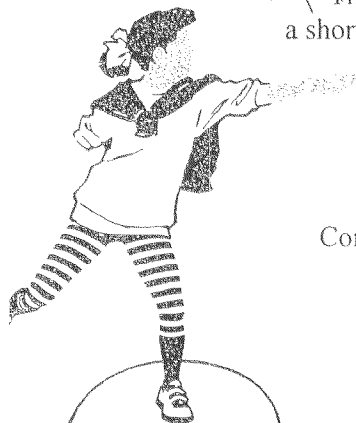
Our music here in KIDS CLUB is used as a tool of education and inspiration. This month one of our favorites was "Market Place" which tells the story on which our Lenten program is based. As the song says;

*We've been to the market place, like it was in days of old.
 We learned about Jesus and the stories that He told.
 Oh, Jesus, we are children, but we're not too young to know.
 We need you in our hearts.*

*When Jesus walked upon the earth, many years ago,
 He went to the market place where people bought and sold.
 There were sheep and goats and burning oil for everyone to buy.
 Jesus did many things just like you and I*

*Jesus went across the land. He healed people everywhere.
 The blind and the lepers, He showed them how He cared.
 Yes, He did many miracles, He loved them all the same.
 And did you know that Jesus is right here with us today?*

*Many years have come and gone, the market place has changed,
 But all the things that Jesus taught, today they're just the same.
 We live our lives to follow Him, so that everyone should know.
 Jesus still lives in our hearts, in the market and at home.*



LENT 2009
February 25 - April 1

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Have you marked your Wednesdays yet? The Jerusalem Marketplace Lenten Program for 2009 begins on February 25 and runs every Wednesday through April 1. A time for Lunch is scheduled before the worship service at noon. For the evening, a special program is designed for the children to explore crafts and work techniques which were common during the time Jesus walked through the town of Jerusalem. Dinner is served at 6:15 PM and then the children are taken downstairs for their program while the adults are invited to worship. Children age 3 - Jr. High are welcome to participate in the six weeks. There will be a Tranquility Garden, a Storyteller, a Leather Shop, a Confectioner and Bakery, J.C. Workshop, a Boat Builder and a special room for the Jr. High Students to work and learn. Those present on February 22, in the 10:30 AM worship service heard more about this Lenten program and saw the Adults who will supervise each room.

A Teachers Meeting was held on February 22 at 9:15 AM. Current teachers and the new Spring quarter teachers attended Dianne provided a delicious variety of rolls, bagels and muffins to fill us while we discussed the coming quarter, plans for Easter and Palm Sunday.

The Sunday School children will be creating Easter Baskets for the residents of Palos Extended Care again this year. Please help us by having your children attend Sunday School on March 22. Children from grades 3,4, and 5 will deliver the baskets on March 29. The residents look forward to our visit and really enjoy seeing and talking to the children. Help us spread some Easter cheer by having your child attend on March 29th.

The children will bring in the palm branches on Palm Sunday, April 5th for the 10:30 AM worship service.. Children from the Youth Choir will sing on that day too. Easter Sunday at both the 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM service the children will be invited

to view a video downstairs. Breakfast will be served by the Youth groups and all donations will be used to scholarship children for Camp.

Is there anyone out there who can volunteer to make a batch or two of cookies for the Cookie Monster Bake Sale, May 10th? Please contact Dianne and let her know you will Bake. All proceeds from the Bake sale will be given to help scholarship children for Camp. With these difficult economic times it seems fitting that the Church is willing to help send the children to Camp.

An Informational Meeting on Camp Saugatuck was held on Sunday, February 8th. Thanks to Sue Orsik for being the contact person for camp. Children grade 3-5 are invited to attend August 2-8 at Discovery Camp II-Camp Gray. Children grade 6-8 are invited to attend August 2-8 at Outdoor Adventure Camp- Camp Kema.

The Junior High Youth Group is averaging about 20 students each meeting. At the retreat in Bloomington, 15 students and 3 adults attended. It was a spectacular retreat. The people who attended had a memorable experience. The group is planning a Lock-In at the church for sometime in the spring and a work-trip to "Feed the Starving Children" in Aurora, Il possibly in May when the weather warms up.

The Senior High Youth Group had an organizational meeting to see if the activities could better meet some of the needs of its members. They have added more discussion time for current issues. They spent two weeks watching the video, "Facing the Giants" and discussing the video. They also have had time for open gym. Upcoming events include a Spaghetti Dinner and a Lock-In at the church.

A new group is forming for Young Adults. The plan is to have a Bible Study called, "Living God's Will." The first meeting was held on February 6th.

The temporary meeting place is the Sr. High classroom at 6:30 PM. For more details contact Katie Treccani or Dianne. This is a great opportunity to grow in understanding of the Bible, yourself and God's message for you. The group is looking for interested people ages 19-28.

A great night of entertainment and learning is scheduled for the Family Night on May 1. Entertainment for the evening is the popular "Master Ron." We will see all sorts of balloon sculptures and hear great stories as Master Ron performs for us. Remember to sign up early for this great night the whole family can enjoy. You can find the sign up sheets downstairs in the hall across from the fellowship hall. We need to know approximately how many people we will need to cook for since this is a catered event. Try not to miss this great family night out.

The curriculum for VBS this year is titled, "Boomerang Express." Our scheduled dates for welcoming Trish and Company back to our church are June 15-19, 2009. We will be exploring Australia while we learn more about God and his plans for us. Please mark your calendars so your children can experience this week first hand. It looks like a great new adventure is coming our way.



Kids Club Bible Verses for March

"God works for the good of those who love him."
Romans 8:28

†

"There is rejoicing in the presence of angels of God over one sinner who repents."
Luke 15:10

†

"Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did."
1 John 2:16

†

"Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled...."
1 Peter 1:13

†

"But thanks be to God! He gives you victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

1 Corinthians 15:57

How many medals can you win?

Memorize one verse to win the Bronze medal.

Memorize two verses to win the Silver medal.

Memorize all the verses for the month to win the Gold medal

What is prayer?

If the Bible is our *food*, then prayer is our *air*. It's the way by which we draw in the atmosphere of God.

Prayer is rich and varied. Sometimes we confess our sins in a prayer of penitence. Sometimes we praise God in *worship and thanksgiving*. Sometimes we *ask God for help and grace* to meet whatever comes our way. Sometimes we pray for other people. Sometimes we're quiet, knowing that when we stop clamoring and pleading our case, there comes a sense of God's reply, some intimation of his will, some message from him to us.

Remember that nothing God can ever give is comparable to himself. It is *God* we seek in prayer. Everything else is secondary.

JERUSALEM MARKET PLACE

LENT 2009

**A BIBLE TIME EXPERIENCE
KIDS AGE 3 THROUGH JUNIOR HIGH
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
BEGINNING FEBRUARY 25**

"YOU ARE THERE"

On Wednesday evenings during the season of Lent, you are invited to something special for kids age 3 through Junior High. While adults are in worship, the kids will have fun learning about life in the time of Jesus. This hands-on learning time provides the kids with a "YOU ARE THERE" Bible time experience. They will relive Bible time events by experiencing occupations and events of that time. During the six weeks the kids will;

- **SMELL** the aromas of the bakery and confectionery shop
- **HEAR** the sounds of carpenters in the wood shop
- **SEE** the villagers in Bible time attire
- **EXPERIENCE** and learn the occupational skills of the times by visiting the tranquility gardens and ship building shops
- **JOURNEY** with friends to visit the great storyteller
- **WRITE** in the Scribes Journal

Soup supper is at 6:15. All freewill donations will be used for camp scholarships. We look forward to joining you and your family on this Holy Land Adventure.

Family Lenten Series begins February 25

Soup Supper 6:15

Worship in Sanctuary 7:00 - 8:00

Children's Learning Time 7:00 - 8:00

*For those unable to worship in the evening, a worship service will be offered Wednesdays, with a Soup Luncheon at 12:00 noon and worship immediately following.
* There is no children's programming during this service.*

**We Invite You
to
Join us Beginning Ash Wednesday, February 25**

MIDDAY SERVICE

*Soup Luncheon - 12:00 noon
Worship immediately following*

EVENING SERVICE (With Children's Program)

*Soup Supper - 6:15 p.m.
Worship - 7:00 p.m.*

YOUTH CHOIR NEWS



The following song was presented by the Youth Choir on February 8. We hope you enjoyed the music and were blessed by the message.

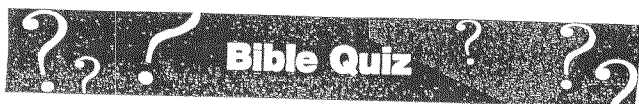
Love and Praise Medley

By Laurie Klein

I love You Lord and I lift my voice
To worship You, O my soul rejoice
Take joy my King in what You hear
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear

I will bless the Lord
And give Him glory
Oh, I will bless His name
And give Him glory

The Lord is gracious and merciful
Great in kindness and good to all
The Lord is righteous in all His ways
Bless the Lord and give Him Praise



In the 8th century B.C., a prophet of God condemned the sinfulness of many of Jerusalem's citizens. On behalf of God, he chastised anyone who abused power, was unjust toward the poor and used bribes and position to gain money and status. He even condemned prideful women who walked "with outstretched necks, glancing wantonly with their eyes, mincing along as they go, tinkling with their feet." (He was referring to little bells attached to women's ankles.)

Who was that prophet?

- A. Isaiah
- B. Amos
- C. Hosea
- D. Jeremiah

SENIOR HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Proverbs 10:45

He who is idle is poor. The diligent are rich. He who gathers in summer is wise, but he that sleepeth causes shame.

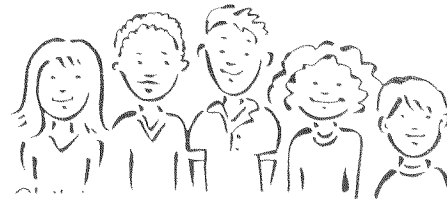
Laziness has no reward. Laziness is effortless, laziness is for the idle, be ye not lazy!

God blesses those who labor and there is always a place for them in the sun. Those who labor not have small reward and life remains an unobtainable dream. Build your life with your eyes open so your desires may be fully satisfied. Laziness ends in enslavement.

Proverbs 21:5

The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.

Regards,
C.Lou Pearson



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are now studying Proverbs. This book tells us that true wisdom cannot be gained apart from God. It helps us to discern between good and evil. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Humility enables us to see our inadequacies and need of our God. The wisest man in the world Solomon concluded : "Fear God and keep his commandments for this is the whole duty of man". Come and join us in our study.

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

Besides playing games and having fun in the gym Christian learning is an important part of our Thursday evening Junior High Youth group meetings. Katie Trecanni plans our Christian learning lessons. The junior highs use their bibles and work in small groups. Below are some responses to last Thursday's lesson to answer the question,

"What can you do as a Christian to follow Jesus' command, "Go, Baptise others in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost?"

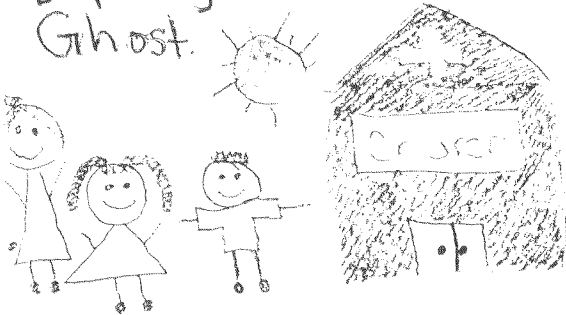
They wrote notes to friends or drew pictures of actions they could take and things they could say to fulfill Jesus' command. We invite all junior highs to join us on

Thursday evenings from 6:30pm to 8:00pm at HHPC.

Adam, Katie and Patt

I was talking about Jesus' word and at Youth Group. I was thinking maybe you want to come one day. It's really fun and you do fun activities with Jesus.

Baptizing others in the name of Father Son and the Holy Ghost.



God is a great God and we should worship him everyday!

Are you a Christian? Good. You should really come to my church. God is great and we should all praise him. Also there is a lot of fun stuff at church including Christ.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Savannah Whicher
Holly Fox
- 3 Amani Judeh
- 14 Karl Haack
Jordan Hepburn
- 15 Daniel Orsic
Amanda Gulotta
Pat Boylan
- 22 Mark Matke
- 23 Victoria Pettis
- 27 Kyle Campbell

PERFECT ATTENDANCE JANUARY

Pre-school and Kindergarten

Trina Phillippo

1st and 2nd Grades

Danny Orsic

3rd and 4th Grades

Jenah Fox

Junior High

Leslie Ambrosat

Ashley Maranto

Brittany Maranto

Natalie Orsic

Halimah Prunty

Sarah Swearingen

Senior High

Gina Ciametti

Gabriella Ciametti

Mike Swearingen

Sam Swearingen

Andrew Witek

Matthew Witek

If Children Live With Acceptance, They Learn To Love

We use the word “love” to describe the most dynamic and vital human experience there is. What we call love is bigger than anything we can say about it. And most people would agree that there is nothing more important in life than to love and be loved.

When we wholeheartedly love our children and accept them unconditionally, they thrive. Love is the soil in which our children grow, the sunlight that determines their direction, the water that nourishes their growth.

Children need love from the moment they are born - and even before that . Newborns are totally dependent on our warmth, affection, and loving attention. Our active caring nurtures their feelings of being wanted and belonging. As children mature, they continue to rely on us to show them we love them. They best understand our love through our kind and caring actions. Our total acceptance of them is the wellspring of our love.

While it is imperative for our children to feel loved, love is a fundamental human need that we never outgrow. As adults we still want to be wanted. We still need human connection, closeness, affection, and a warm touch. We all want to be accepted for being who we are, and to have friends with whom we feel we belong.

Our children know they are wanted and loved when we treat them kindly, and when we accompany loving actions with loving words and nurturing touch. It is not enough to say “I love you.” In working with parents, I often talk about the three A’s of love: acceptance, affection, and appreciation. Our children need to live in an atmosphere where they feel confident that they will always be accepted and loved despite their shortcomings. When they are loved in this way, they will be able to mature in their ability to love others.

March 2009

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship & Children's Education 11:45 a.m. Prayer Shawl Min. 3:00 p.m. Praise Team 5:00 p.m. REV 6:30 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group	2 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study 3:30 p.m. Kid's Club 5:15 p.m. Youth Choir 7:00 p.m. Deacons Study	3 9:30 a.m. Cancer Sewing 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care NO C.E. Meeting	4 9:00 a.m. Prayer & Care 10:30 a.m. Stammers 12:00 p.m. Soup Luncheon & Worship 5:00 p.m. TOPS 6:15 p.m. Soup Dinner & Programs/ Worship 8:00 p.m. Choir	5 6:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group 8:00 p.m. Handbells	6 Adult Retreat- Saugatuck, MI- (Mar 6-8) 6:30 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study	7 Sr. High Youth Group Lock-In
8 <u>Daylight Savings Time Begins-</u> (Turn clocks ahead) 9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship & Children's Education 11:45 a.m. Prayer Shawl Min. 3:00 p.m. Praise Team 5:00 p.m. REV 6:30 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group <u>April Newsletter Articles Due</u>	9 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study 3:30 p.m. Kid's Club 5:15 p.m. Youth Choir 7:00 p.m. Deacons Study 7:30 p.m. Session	10 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care	11 9:00 a.m. Prayer & Care 12:00 p.m. Soup Luncheon & Worship 5:00 p.m. TOPS 5:15 p.m. Staff Meeting 6:15 p.m. Soup Dinner & Programs/ Worship 8:00 p.m. Choir	12 6:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group 8:00 p.m. Handbells	13 6:30 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study Sr. High Youth Group Lock-In	14 Sr. High Spaghetti Dinner- Time TBD
15 9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship & Children's Education 11:45 a.m. Prayer Shawl Min. 3:00 p.m. Praise Team 5:00 p.m. REV 6:30 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group	16 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study 3:30 p.m. Kid's Club 5:15 p.m. Youth Choir 7:00 p.m. Deacons Study	17 9:30 a.m. Cancer Sewing 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care	18 9:00 a.m. Prayer & Care 10:30 a.m. Stammers 12:00 p.m. Soup Luncheon & Worship 5:00 p.m. TOPS 6:15 p.m. Soup Dinner & Programs/ Worship 8:00 p.m. Choir	19 6:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group 8:00 p.m. Handbells	20 Sr. High Youth Group Lock-In	21 8:30 a.m. Building & Grounds 4:00 p.m. Honduras Mission Reunion
22 9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship & Children's Education 11:45 a.m. Prayer Shawl Min. 3:00 p.m. Praise Team 5:00 p.m. REV 6:30 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group	23 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study 3:30 p.m. Kid's Club 5:15 p.m. Youth Choir 7:00 p.m. Deacons Study 7:30 p.m. Deacons	24 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care	25 9:00 a.m. Prayer & Care 12:00 p.m. Soup Luncheon & Worship 5:00 p.m. TOPS 6:15 p.m. Soup Dinner & Programs/ Worship 8:00 p.m. Choir	26 6:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group 8:00 p.m. Handbells	27 6:30 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study	28
29 9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed. 10:30 a.m. Worship & Children's Education 11:45 a.m. Prayer Shawl Min. 3:00 p.m. Praise Team 5:00 p.m. REV 6:30 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group 7:30 p.m. FIREPROOF Showing	30 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study 3:30 p.m. Kid's Club 5:15 p.m. Youth Choir 7:00 p.m. Deacons Study	31 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care 7:30 p.m. FIREPROOF Showing	8:00 p.m. Choir	8:00 p.m. Handbells	6:30 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study	

March Birthdays

March 2 – Jean DeForest
2 – Mike Monczynski
2 – Christopher Pearson
3 – Dorothy Allen
4 – Joyce McKinney
5 – Dave Barker
5 – Donna Bredlau
6 – Melber Betterton
9 – Patricia Wheeler
11 – Michael E. Dragas
12 – Dorothy Scholefield
16 – Pat Lorenz
16 – Roy Hoffman
17- Luke Janchenko
18 – Darlene Krueger
20 – Marie Hoffman
22- Frank Esparza
22 – Walter Golema
22 – Harold Kahn
25 – Ron Robison
28 - Jeanette Grisko
29 – Dawn Matke
29 – Betty Kitching

Any omissions or errors should be reported to the church office...598-3100

HHPC PRAYER REQUESTS PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Shannon Bastien and family in the loss of her cousin Grace Muszynski's neighbor, Art Escalona, for his battle with cancer
Carolyn Watson for health concerns
Dave LaCognata for strength to move forward
Eva Nestor at her request
Shirley Brunell's sister for health concerns
Jackie Gehle's friend, Leslie, in VA, for complications during pregnancy
Sue Orsic's sister, Debbie Smith, for recovery from surgery & strength to move forward
Ruth Hill's daughter, Tracy, for health concerns
Mary Richer's daughter in law, Robin, for health concerns
Mary Richer's brother in law, Joe, for health concerns
Mary Richer and family in the loss of their nephew and cousin
Tasha Swindle's friend, Josh Crosby, for strength while battling leukemia
Phyllis Apitz for health concerns
Bob Nordstrom for health concerns
People experiencing hard times/ job loss
Karen Leake for strength to move forward
Mary Tarter for strength to move forward
Darlene Kibort for strength to move forward
Dorothy Allen for strength to move forward
Our service men and women and their families
Amanda McGuire keeping the faith
Lindsey Taylor strength to move forward
DelPrete Family for strength, faith, & hope during Jen's battle

Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church

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Hickory Hills, Illinois 60457

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