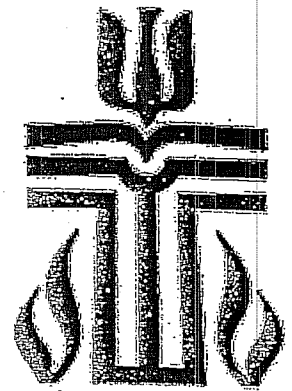


# THE CONNECTING LINK

Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church  
8426 W. 95<sup>th</sup> St.  
Hickory Hills, IL 60457  
(708) 598-3100  
Fax (708) 598-3108  
Email: [HHPC@hickoryhillspres.org](mailto:HHPC@hickoryhillspres.org)  
[www.hickoryhillspres.org](http://www.hickoryhillspres.org)



**MARCH 2010**

## Prayer & Care

“Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving;” Colossians 4:2 (RSV)

Now that we are in the season of “Lent,” let’s not be fixated on the negatives. Let’s be obsessed with the positives.

Change will come. We will change. The season will change. And perhaps our priorities will change. It’s a good thing.

Should change be on your agenda, the prayer warriors await your presence.

9 am-10 am Wednesdays

P.S. Praise and concerns are accepted from everywhere, everyone, and every time.

Love ‘N’ Hugs,  
Arlene

## PADS UPDATE

February 7<sup>th</sup> was a special evening at PADS. We were expecting our guests and they arrived as expected throughout the evening. There to greet them and serve them was our Senior High Youth Group.

Earlier that day, the Seniors gathered at the home of the Vogl’s to prepare the evening meal and cakes for dessert. Packing a few vehicles with food and bodies, they were on their way to PADS.

Everyone chipped in with eager hands and soon all was taken care of in a most professional way. The evening moved quickly to our departure at

8:30 p.m. Memories of our evening experience have given us all a better understanding of the PADS experience.

Grateful are we that we were the givers rather than the recipients. “Thank you” all for giving of yourselves to such a worthy cause.

Regards,  
C. Lou Pearson



Joined in Prayer

## TWILIGHT PRAYER

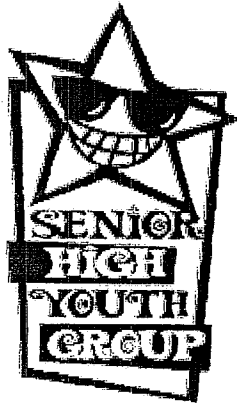
After the storm, comes the calm. You collect your thoughts. You digest the aftermath of the storm. Life is more serene, peace over-takes your being. Thank you, Father. You have seen me through yet another trial of life and yet, Here I stand, stronger then when all began. Thank you, Father, for holding my hand. Amen.

Is your storm raging or do you find peace? Is your life in turmoil, not knowing where to find the answers? Alone, you are not!

We all weather the storm, time and time again. Join us as we pray together and seek favorable weather for each of our lives. He is our umbrella for life, He is always there.

You know the time and place.  
Let us see your smiling face.

Regards,  
C. Lou Pearson



## What's Next?

This seems to be the question we start asking as we get closer to our high school graduation. We are no longer under the "youth" umbrella but we aren't ready for adults yet. This question stays with us for the next 10 years. We are "tweens" again. Well it's time we start working on an answer to the "What's next?" question.

## Getting to know YOUth...

**My Name is** Gabby Ciametti.

**My Church is** a place that I have known my entire life.

**I Love** to read and listen to music, along with writing my own music. ☺

**I am Presbyterian** because I was raised to be Presbyterian.

**I believe in** Our Lord Jesus Christ and that He died so that we would all be saved and live eternally.

**I am passionate about** music and literature. God has helped me learn through music and reading and I am grateful that he has done so.

**One thing that makes me sad is** Knowing that some people don't care about others and they just live life going through the motions.

**One thing that makes me happy is** being with my family, both biologically and my church family.

**The person I most admire is** Audrey Hepburn. Her acting skills are awesome and her outreach to others is inspirational.

**I always** go to Church on Sundays. ☺

**The Bible is** something I try to read often and a good source of inspiration.

**God is** everywhere.

**My prayer is** that when the power of love triumphs over the love of power, the world might see peace.

**I want to be** on Broadway!

**I read everything** (except Sci-Fi or something I'm not interested in.)

**If I ruled the world** life would be a musical. ☺

\*Gabby Ciametti\*



**WHO:** Anyone between the ages of 18 and 29

(wide range yes, but let's start somewhere)

**WHAT:** Young Adult Bible Study

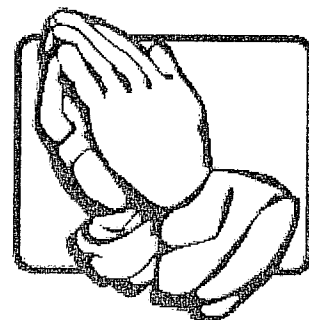
**WHEN:** Friday Nights at 6:30

**WHERE:** Library at HHPC

Questions? Katie Treccani:

Cell 708-650-6618 OR

Email: [katiejo-82@hotmail.com](mailto:katiejo-82@hotmail.com)

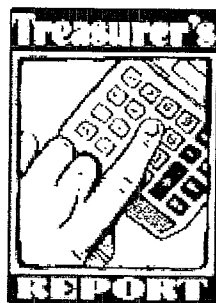


## HHPC PRAYER REQUESTS

*Please Pray For:*

- Sarah Wreza's brother, Jason Smith, for massive stroke at age 40
- The family of Fern Lapp, on her passing
- Shannon Bastien's grandma, Cathy, for health concerns

- Frank Esparza's niece, Linda Anderson, for health concerns
- Mary Tarter's sister in law, Geraldine, for health concerns
- Mary Lewington for rehab & health concerns
- Our DPNC for Fruits of the Spirit
- Betty Kitching for recovery from surgery
- Ivy Taebel, for healing from pneumonia
- Aleesha Zeko for other knee surgery, recovery
- Renee Meyer for strength
- Pete Richardson for health concerns
- Donna Bredlau's friend, Ken, for rehab/ healing
- The Confirmation Class
- Haiti and the relief effort
- Carolyn Simone for healing
- Sally Harris beginning Chemo Treatments, for strength & healing
- David Krueger for healing & strength
- Frank Esparza's son, Daniel E. for health concerns
- Frank Esparza's sister, Ruth, for healing
- The family of Joe Lovelace, on his passing
- The Vogl's neighbors, Joanne & Bob Pappas for health concerns
- Richard Larson for strength during treatments
- Dennis & Mary Tarter for continuous healing
- Gerald & Joyce Waller for strength
- Carol Sack's sister, Ruth, for healing & strength
- Dorothy Allen for strength
- Tasha Swindle's friend, Josh Crosby, for strength while battling leukemia
- People experiencing hard times/ job loss
- Our service men and women and their families
- DelPrete Family for strength, faith, & hope during Jen's battle



## January 2010 Treasurer's Report

### General Fund

Income: \$24,429.00  
 Disbursements: \$15,152.00

## Join Us For Lenten Programs:

### Wednesdays in Lent: **March 3, 10, 17, 24**

**12:00 Noon** Soup Lunch

**12:30 p.m.** Worship

**6:15 p.m.** Soup Dinner

**7:00 p.m.** Worship/  
 Children's Programs:

**Jerusalem Marketplace**



## HOLY WEEK

### Palm Sunday

**Sunday, March 28, 2010**

**10:30 a.m. Worship:**

Confirmation Sunday

Youth Choir Sings

Our Kids Bring in the Palms

### Maundy Thursday

**Thursday, April 1, 2010**

**6:15 p.m.** Catered Dinner

**7:00 p.m.** Worship

See Sign up Sheet at HHPC

### Easter Sunday

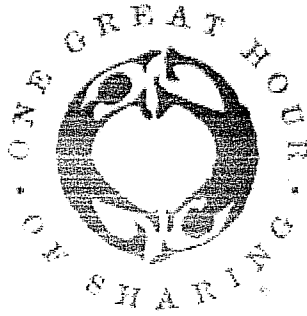
**Sunday, April 4, 2010**

**8:30 a.m.** Worship

**9:30 a.m.** Breakfast

**10:30 a.m.** Worship

**5:00 p.m.** REV Worship



Dear Members,

As we look at the state the world faced 60 years ago, the state that first called our churches to join together in One Great Hour of Sharing, and at what we face today as we approach this offering's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we see many troubling parallels. Now as then, far too many of our brothers and sisters are trying to recover from the devastation of war, a devastation multiplied many times beyond what some of our own families have suffered. This year as then, many economies are shattered, bringing those in poverty and hunger to the point where their very survival is at stake. Unlike 60 years ago, these needs reach deeply into our own towns and cities. We can no longer stand above the pain of the world, imagining that those stuck in the suffering below are somehow different from us. We know all too well that in a smaller and smaller world, the suffering of one family quickly spreads to all.

Yet this year's offering theme – "Where is your treasure?" – points to the eternal saving truth that enabled us to respond with amazing generosity then, and which still holds firm today: It is not by relying on human structures that we can find life's deepest treasure, but by opening ourselves to the abundance of God's love, flowing through us and overflowing beyond us.

This year, recognizing that the pain we experience from the global economic crisis will be magnified beyond our imagining for many of the world's poorest people, the Presbyterian General Assembly's moderator has asked us to consider doubling last year's giving. After serious consideration, the Stewardship Committee has agreed to invite us to this significant increase in our commitment to One Great Hour of Sharing. Please take the time over the next weeks to reflect prayerfully whether you can increase the amount you gave last year, and on the difference between the impact that increasing your gift will have on your own lives and the impact it will have on the lives of our brothers and sisters around the world.

Palm Sunday is the day that we will receive your gifts here at Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church. We hope that you will join us on that day and also join Christians all across the country in opening their hearts to witness tangibly to the abundant love of God thru the One Great Hour of Sharing.

Yours in Christ,  
The Stewardship-Finance Committee

## ***Hymning and Hawing***

# **Ministry of the Word, Ministry of Music**

***by G. R. Snow***

The congregation settles into their pews. Maybe they look at the bulletin, carefully marking their places in the hymnals so they can turn to hymns and responses immediately . . . or maybe they're talking with friends or greeting newcomers to the church, introducing themselves, welcoming those who look a little uncertain, exchanging the "warm fuzzy feeling" comments . . .

And, before a single hymn is sung or an announcement given, the organ peals a glorious prelude, calling the congregation to worship, commanding their attention as they prepare their hearts and minds to praise the living God. The all-pervasive sound of the organ is meant to create a sensory-deprivation experience, where the things of this world are forced out of the congregants' hearts as they enter a realm where only they and Almighty God exist, and the glory of their transcendent experience with God can only be expressed by the cascades of sound billowing around them. And then the prelude draws to its glorious, triumphant climax . . . and all is silence. And into that silence, the greeting of the liturgist or pastor is dropped, prayerfully, gently, like the "still small voice" after the grandeur of God's power was displayed in the storm.

And the ministry of the Word begins . . .

A sometimes uneasy partnership exists between these two vital ministries, so important to the complete worship experience in a way that CDs and tapes cannot mimic. Volume alone doesn't do it; and a pre-recorded performance, no matter how high-quality, has no chance of creating the spontaneity, the power, the emotional impact of the live musician offering up his soul and his art as the instrument of God Himself. Broken and spilled out, his soul only adorns the true inspiration which cannot be imitated or counterfeited, the casting out of all that is in a musician's soul for the commemoration of God's glory, the casting of crowns at the feet of God in a golden city of the soul, too bright for earthly eyes to endure . . .

*And two people sit, oblivious to the sublimity of the experience, exchanging recipes or gossiping about one's niece's kidney surgery, or the price one's son paid for a new tire.*

Scripturally based call to worship, carefully written prayer of contrition, and Scriptures on which the sermon is based follow like clockwork, and again like clockwork the organ leads the congregation in hymns selected specifically to go

with the sermon, to enhance the worship experience, and responses such as the Gloria Patri and the Doxology, the Alleluia and the Benediction, to create closures for each part of the worship experience and to reemphasize the congregation's affirmation of their beliefs, or the Lord's command to pray in a certain manner, . . . Then the sermon exhorts, teaches, perhaps chastises, though always in love, and the message of God laid on that instrument, that servant, the pastor, pours out like the words of John the Baptist, or the wine spilled out at the wedding at Cana, or like (oh, holy moment!) the blood of Christ gushing forth on the Cross to be forever a means of our unity with Him, our redemption by His sacrifice from our sins . . .

*And two people sit in the congregation, and use the head-bowed, eyes-closed moments of the Lord's Prayer to note how Mrs. X is wearing those impractical high heels again, or Mrs. Y has a new dress that doesn't fit her as well, or Mr. Z has a new suit that makes him look so much slimmer, or Mr. W's beard isn't as carefully trimmed as usual . . .*

The peals of the great organ, the King of Instruments, lead the congregation into prayerful contemplation of the gifts they offer and meditation on the areas of their lives which need repentance, reconciliation with their Creator, re-entry of the soul into the body of Christ in a forgiven, ransomed state, freed of the stains of sin and openly acknowledging the desire and intention to do better, to improve in Christ's strength and by His grace their living and their lives, their testimony to God's power and transcendent Truth.

And, if this is one of those glorious days when Communion is served, we take the body and blood of Our Lord, who loved us beyond life itself, who commanded us to remember Him and to witness to others in this way. And, again, the organ leads the people into worshipful participation in the most sacred meal they ever will eat, and it matters not whether there are wafers or bread, whether the goblet or the individual cups are used, and whether a single usher and pastor or four sets of ushers are serving, or whether the congregation receives the holy sacrament in the pews or in the aisles.

Then a final hymn is sung, and the organ blissfully carries the tide of joyful humanity out of the church, led by the flames of the acolytes carrying the holy fire out to consecrate and evangelize the world, and the congregants' eyes glow as they share the aftermath of participating in one of the most glorious experiences they can have on this earth, being in the presence of God himself . . .

*And two people leave the church, muttering about how hard it is to walk and that they didn't like the part in the pastor's hair, and completely missing the grandeur of the experience they have just had, even though they were right there for all of it.*

# JDDF NEWSLETTER

## WINTER 2010



Jenni and Dad

### JDDF FACTS

- **Jenni's total time served:**  
*4 years 300 days*
- **Jenni's total time remaining to serve:**  
*15 years 65 days*
- **Jenni's total legal fees paid to date:**  
*\$64,000*
- **JDDF current balance:**  
*\$8,000*
- **Amount needed for U.S. Supreme Court appeal:**  
*\$25,000*
- **Amount needed for Jenni's monthly commissary:**  
*\$100 / month*

Thank you to all friends, family and Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church members that have supported our fight for Jenni's freedom!

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

We send this letter hoping that you were able to celebrate the holidays with your friends and family. We wish you and your loved ones health and happiness in 2010. As one can imagine, the unfortunate circumstance that my family faces with Jenni's incarceration becomes heightened during the holiday season, making it difficult to celebrate. It also, however, makes me grateful that my sister remains healthy and positive. It also helps me refocus my priorities in life and appreciate the everyday things I take for granted that Jenni has to live without.

I am thankful for the support you have given my family through this extremely challenging time and ask that your generosity continues as we prepare a supreme court appeal - our last chance to overturn/reduce Jenni's sentence.

Love,  
Wes "Doc" Del Prete

### HOW TO CONTACT JENNI

Jenni loved receiving so many holiday cards from family and friends! She especially likes receiving letters and photographs too. Please send her some mail to support her through this tough time! Remember to only send mail in a paper envelope, NO bubble

wrapped or plastic envelopes or boxes. Also, be sure to include her ID# after her name on any correspondence. Jenni's mailing address is:

**Jennifer Del Prete R79030  
Lincoln Correctional Facility  
1098 1350th Street  
P.O. Box 549  
Lincoln, IL 62656**

Jenni's Birthday is January 20<sup>th</sup>! If you would like to send a gift, here are some requests:

- Vogue Magazine Subscription
- checkbook size 2010 schedule planner
- pocket size dictionary/thesaurus

To order her a magazine subscription or books on-line, simply use her mailing address as the shipping address. Be sure to enter her ID# after her name. If you have questions about what can be sent to Jenni please call Lincoln directly at (217) 735-5411, press 0 and ask for the mail room. **We appreciate your efforts to help Jenni feel she is not forgotten!**

### **FINAL STEP OF APPEAL**

As a family we are committed to proving Jenni's innocence and will do whatever it takes to achieve this. Having exhausted all appeal options in Will County we moved onto the state appeal. In March 2008 we submitted a Petition for Post Conviction Relief to the Appellate Court of Illinois. After requests for reconsideration, the Petition for Post Conviction Relief was rejected on November 25, 2009.

The next step is to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. It is an especially critical part of the appeal because it is the final step of the process. **This means that it is our last chance to overturn or reduce Jenni's sentence!** The hope is that the U.S. Supreme Court realizes that there was insufficient evidence to convict, and therefore grant a retrial.

### **NEW LAWYERS**

Due to the significance of the U.S. Supreme Court appeal, we have decided to hire new legal representation who has been successful in the U.S.

Supreme Court. They will petition that medical evidence was available at the time of trial which would have challenged (if not completely refuted) the state expert's diagnosis.

Along with the new legal representation comes the financial burden of legal fees. The last step of the appeal will cost \$25,000. Should we be fortunate enough to be granted a retrial, additional legal fees would then apply. With your help thus far we have been able to meet the expense of all current legal fees and are asking for your continued support!

### **JDDF DONATIONS**

We currently have \$8,000 in the Jennifer Del Prete Defense Fund and we are eternally grateful to all of our family and friends for helping us raise so much money for Jenni's legal bills.

Now more than ever, we need your help to support Jenni in her fight to freedom. As stated in the legal update above, **this federal supreme court appeal is our last hope** to overturn her sentence. If you are able to make any donation, no matter how small, it will help us reach our goal of \$25,000 in order to pay current attorney fees.



*Del Prete family on Christmas Eve*

Please make donations payable to Summer Neal or Wes Del Prete and mail to:

**Wes Del Prete - JDDF  
3211 Home Ave.  
Berwyn, IL 60402**

On behalf of my family, and most importantly Jenni, I would like to thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,  
Summer Neal



*Draven and Tia*

### **DRAVEN & TIA UPDATE**

This year has been an amazing one for Draven and I. He is getting great grades in school and is mostly focused on his music right now. He has great skill and his new dream is to become a rapper named Double D (standing for Draven Del Prete). He will be rapping a

mix of a few of his favorite songs that I made for him at his school talent show this February.

I too have been focusing on my music and have been producing beats using some new equipment. We write songs together and rap them on a track. I am mixing music and still trying to spread the word for Spin Top (my DJ service). My main goal is to become a music producer. As of now I am self taught, but I hope to enroll in the Music Industry Workshop in Chicago soon for formal training. I just recently started a new babysitting job and am also trying to clean houses on the side. Draven and I spend as much time together as possible driving

around, jamming to music, going to the pool hall and hanging out with our friends. He is a great kid and is growing up to be a wonderful young man. We are best friends and have been forever. Most of all we can't wait until our mama is home with us so we can go back to having a blast everyday like before! But for now we are trying to stay focused and make our dreams come true!

Peace & Love,  
Tia Pearl

708.623.5427  
spintopdj@yahoo.com

### **COMMISSARY DONATIONS**

Donations to Jenni's commissary will help her buy the things that we take for granted. Beyond three meals a day and one outfit to wear, Jenni has to purchase all other necessities: shampoo, feminine napkins, shoes, coat, replacement clothes, laundry detergent, etc. Jenni's commissary also allows her to buy some treats that help to make her situation somewhat tolerable: paper, stamps, pens and

pencils, snacks and make-up. All commissary donations should be sent to Jenni and should be made payable to Jennifer Del Prete R79030. They must be money orders in \$50 increments (or less) with a maximum of \$200 in one envelope. Please mail to:

**Jennifer Del Prete R79030  
Lincoln Correctional Facility  
1098 1350th Street  
P.O. Box 549  
Lincoln, IL 62656**

### **HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL! WE WISH YOU PEACE & HEALTH IN 2010!**

Love,  
The Del Prete Family

Wes Jr., Maria, Jennifer, Tia,  
Draven, Summer, Aaron, Zoe,  
Wes III, Candice, and Keith

A POEM BY JENNI

~ Inside Out

Outside I'm smiling  
Inside I'm crying  
Outside I'm living  
Inside I'm dying

Outside I'm courageous  
Inside I'm frightened  
Outside I'm free  
Inside I'm frightened

Outside I'm laughing  
Inside I'm screaming  
Outside I'm conscious  
Inside I'm dreaming

Outside I'm happy  
Inside I'm sad  
Outside I'm forgiving  
Inside I'm mad

Outside I'm colorful  
Inside I'm bleak  
Outside I'm energetic  
Inside I'm weak

Outside I'm beautiful  
Inside I am, too  
Close your eyes + see me  
What am I to you?

**It breaks our hearts to spend another year without Jenni near her children.**

I will donate  \$100  \$50  \$25  Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Any amount helps!**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip

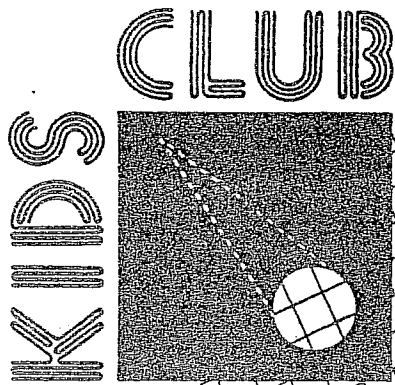
\_\_\_\_\_  
Email

Please make your donation payable to Wes Del Prete or Summer Neal. All JDDF donations will be used for legal fees to fight for Jenni's freedom! Please send this card and your donation to Wes Del Prete, 3211 Home Avenue, Berwyn, IL 60402. Thank you for your support!

Please contact me to:

- Help with future JDDF fundraisers.
- Donate to Jenni's commissary account on a monthly or bi-annual basis.

For additional information on how you can help Jenni or JDDF please contact:  
Wes Del Prete at 708.528.2675 or email doc\_delprete@hotmail.com



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

Dianne Flynn, *Director*

God's word is planted in the hearts of our kids. Weekly we are gaining a better understanding of His work and power in their lives. This month our study time centers around:

*How's Your Soil?*- God's word is seed in our hearts

*Rock, Paper, Scissors...Rock!*- God will deal justly with enemies.

*Small Packages* - God uses small faith

*Down on the Farm* - God produces the harvest

*Good Food and a Good Plan* - God uses us for the harvest

Our Valentine's Day celebration is always fun at Kids Club. This month in addition to our gym time and study time, the kids decorated Valentine vases and filled them with the artificial flowers of their choice, made pizzas for snack time, and went home with helium filled heart shape balloons. Fun, laughter and learning were the components of this afternoon.

As I am writing this we are almost ready to announce the contestants for the Snicker Balance. Winner to be announced next month.

We encourage you to join us for our Jerusalem Market Place experience! Wednesday evenings, during the season of Lent, our kids and youth have the opportunity to take a walk back to Jesus's time and visit the markets of old Jerusalem. This year we are providing hands on learning in the following work shops; J.C. Woodshop, Bakery and Confectionery, Seeds and More, Basket Weaving, The Story Teller, and Tranquility Garden. This program continues through March 24, so if you have not been a part of it there is still time.

On Monday afternoons the kids sing the song "Market Place". This theme song talks about the story on which our Lenten program is based.

*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 2010**  
**February 17- March 24**

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



The first Meal and a Movie was attended by 12 people. Laughter was heard throughout the church during the movie and luncheon. Everyone seemed to enjoy the presentation of *While You Were Sleeping*. Thanks to Bryan Ambrosat for hooking up the projector to his laptop so everyone could enjoy the show. There was a variety of salads and luncheon foods for everyone to fill up. The next movie will be held after the Lenten program on April 15th. Bring a salad and join us for the movie, *Julia and Julie*. We meet at noon and then enjoy a great time together.

Souper Sunday was a great success. Thank you to all the Jr. High and confirmation students who helped with the set up, take down, and serving. It was so nice to see so many people gathering together in fellowship. There were 18 different soups donated. Thank you to all the cooks. Camp Scholarship donations were \$494. This should help some of our campers enjoy a great week at Camp Saugatuk.

Anyone interested in attending Camp Saugatuk will be happy to hear that the schedule has been completed. Camp this year for 2010 will be held on August 1-7. Unfortunately, the cost of going to camp has been increased. Camp will cost \$365 per person. Anyone who is eligible for Jr. High camp can expect to pay even more. Start saving your pennies and be sure to help with all the fund raisers which will be specifically for camp scholarships.

Welcome to the Spring teachers who will begin teaching at the end of February. Pre-school-Kindergarten/1st and 2nd grades will be taught by Katie Trecanni. Grades 3/4/5 will be taught by Sue Orsic. Jr. High will be taught by a team of Patt Pilgrim and Cindy Trecanni.

Jr. High students who went on the retreat January 29-31 returned with glowing reports of their

experiences. Happily, they all returned safely. Many of them are also a member of the Confirmation class. There are 19 students in the Confirmation class. A retreat for the class is scheduled for March 12 - 14.

Sunday School students will assemble Easter baskets for the residents of the Hickory Pavillion on Roberts Road. The assembly date will be March 14. Students will decorate the baskets as well as add special items such as kleenex, combs, a plastic egg filled with special wishes to enjoy a Happy Easter. The students will deliver their gifts to the residents on March 21.

The Sr. High class has been planning a special fund raiser with the help of Lou Pearson. They will offer a gourmet dinner on April 9 for families and April 10 for couples. Entertainment by Gabby Ciametti and Matthew Witek will accompany the dinner. More details are coming soon.

The Sr. High Youth Group held a retreat on February 28th. On Valentine's Day, they served Sloppy Joes and Mac and Cheese to PADS. A trip to Feed My Starving Children is scheduled for March 13.

The Women's Bible Study is having a wonderful time learning more about Psalms. There is a consistent number of people who attend. If you are interested in great fellowship and lively conversation, you should mark your calendars to attend Mondays at 1:00 PM. The ladies would love to welcome you and your thoughts.

The Friday Night Young Adults group is looking for people to attend. The eligible ages are 19 to 30. They would welcome you and any ideas you might have to expand the group and their activities. Talk to Katie Trecanni for more information.

The Lenten Program began on February 17th. The program is designed to help the children experience crafts which were common during the time Jesus walked the earth. Soup dinner begins at 6:15 PM. Adults leave for a worship service in the sanctuary at 7:00 PM while the children gather in groups downstairs for their adventure. This year the program has a bakery, a woodshop, a storyteller, a tranquility garden, a florist, and a weaver. Each week the groups will attend a different workshop. They will learn a little bit about the crafts which were so common during Jesus time. Regular attendance will be needed if your child wishes to visit all the workshops. The Lenten Program will continue on Wednesdays until March 24th. For Adults who prefer to worship earlier, there is a luncheon and worship service scheduled for you on Wednesdays at 12:00 PM.

The Christian Education Committee will work with members of the Session to finalize a new Child Protection Policy. The first meeting was held on Wednesday, February 10th. It is our desire to make this policy easy to read and understand for everyone in the congregation. The committee has a number of parents, educators to create an all encompassing document. Of course, the final approval will still be up to the Session members.

The One Great Hour of Sharing began on February 21 and will continue until the collection of fish banks on March 28th. Each child should have received on bank in Sunday school. Accompanying the bank is a calendar. The calendar is a fun way to add coins to the fish bank and will help the family realize they are very blessed. If your child did not receive a bank, ask their teacher or Donna Breadlau for one. It is quite a sight to see Donna dragging all the filled fish banks up the aisle of worship so be sure to fill yours up and return it on March 28th.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry reports that 3 more beautiful creations were shared. Many of the

members are working diligently on their projects. We have shawls, a blanket, and rectangles at various stages of completion. We welcome anyone interested in knitting and crocheting. Join us after worship in the fifth grade classroom. We have a heater for the very cold weather!

The Stampers are at it again. The meeting dates are every other Wednesday at 10:30 AM. Join us to explore your creativity, learn more about materials to use on your cards, share your ideas with the group. Most of the cards we make are turned into cards of care from the Prayer and Care group.

\*\*\*\*\*

## NEWS FROM SENIOR HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

The apple is a good example of itself: satisfactory in quality or kind. Having all the elements of its nature or kind without defect. Supremely excellent, complete. Are "you" a good example? Yes! Not perfect, we will never be, but certainly good, and we improve daily.

*1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 4:12: Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young. But set an "example" for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and purity.*

The example we set today is reflective of who we are tomorrow. Let our dreams and aspirations shape the best Christian that we can be.

Thank you class for who you are, for where you are going and the joy you bring to us all by your very presence in our lives.

Regards,  
C. Lou Pearson

## JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

We meet on Thursday evenings in the gym at church from 6:30Pm to 8:00 PM and welcome all 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and their friends to join us.

In February we spent all evenings in house and played Salamander, ghost in the grave yard, dodge ball and my best friend.

During our discussion time over the next few months we will be discussing  
Galatians 5: 22:

“But the fruit of the Spirit is **love**, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, Faithfulness, gentleness and self-control”.

On February 11th, they made positive statement hearts for each other after reading bible verses from the bible on **love**. It was exciting to hear the good one or two word things they wrote to each other and to see them all reading what others wrote about them and to see them taking them home hopefully knowing how special they are to each other and to God.

One of the themes of our January retreat was, “to be known is to be loved and to be loved is to be known”. We see that love and respect of the junior highs for each other. We are so very proud to know each and every one of them.

We thank Mallory Price and Alyssia Kommenich for delicious snacks in February. Junior highs can sign up for snacks for March and April.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

\*Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup> we will be planning a dinner and dessert to serve at PADS on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

\*Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, Junior High and Senior High youth groups will going to go to

Feed My Starving Children in Aurora to prepare food bags for children in Haiti. All Junior Highs not attending the confirmation retreat that weekend are invited to join us.

Patt, Katie and Bryan  
Junior High leaders

\*\*\*\*\*

## Sr. High Youth Group

On February 7, the Senior High Youth Group prepared and served dinner for PADS. The group found this a wonderful, yet humbling experience. Over 65 people used the services of the shelter that evening. Our prayers are with them.

The Youth Group is Saugatuck bound the week end of February 26 – 28. Prayer will be the topic of this winter retreat. It will be a wonderful weekend in a wonderful place, a chance to learn more about our faith and our friends.

Coming up in March, we will view and discuss the movie,  
“Jesus Christ Superstar.”

On Palm Sunday, the Youth Group will celebrate a Seder meal. A Seder is the Passover meal. The meal has been celebrated by Jews since before the time of Christ. It is at this Passover Meal that Jesus and His Disciples met in the upper-room on Maundy Thursday. As Christians, it is our belief that this is the meal where Christ introduced the Eucharist, or Holy Communion. T

On April 11, the Youth Group will again lead the REV worship service.

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



# We Celebrate Birthdays And Perfect Attendance

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Hollie Fox
- 3 Amani Judeh
- 14 Karl Haack  
Jordan Hepburn
- 15 Danny Orsic
- 22 Mark Matke
- 23 Victoria Pettis



## JANUARY PERFECT ATTENDANCE

### Grades 3 and 4

Danny Orsic

### Grade 5

Frank Rodriguez

### Junior High

Kate Crowley  
Tristan Grisko  
Ashley Maranto  
Natalie Orsic  
Natasha Swindle  
Katelin Wheeler  
Mandy Rodriguez

### Senior High

Gabriella Ciametti  
Brittany Maranto  
Sarah Swearingen  
Kyle Wheeler  
Andrew Witek  
Matthew Witek  
Megan Zimmerman

## Sacrament of Holy Communion- Mar. 7, 2010

| SUNDAY         | USHERS                                 | LAY READER                    | FELLOWSHIP HOSTS |
|----------------|--|-------------------------------|------------------|
| March 7, 2010  | K. Dritz, C. Pilgrim,<br>R. Raschke    | Dave Delaney                  | Maranto, Rys     |
| March 14, 2010 | T. Brock, T. Lane,<br>H. Zimmerman     | Rick Vogl                     | Orsic            |
| March 21, 2010 | B. Ambrosat, F. Esparza,<br>M. Maranto | Scott Zimmerman               | Fogg             |
| March 28, 2010 | D. Barker, D. Ciametti,<br>T. Morrell  | Terry Brock                   | Wheeler          |
| SUNDAY         | COUNTERS                               | NURSERY                       |                  |
| March 7, 2010  | Susan Frangella                        | Sarah Adams                   |                  |
| March 14, 2010 | Susan Frangella,<br>Karen Hoffman      | Linda Rys,<br>Beth Kommenich  |                  |
| March 21, 2010 | Susan Frangella,<br>Sandy Beal         | Linda Rys,<br>Beth Kommenich  |                  |
| March 28, 2010 | Susan Frangella,<br>Shirley Brunell    | Carri McKinney,<br>Lori Haack |                  |

COMMUNION SERVERS- Terry Brock, Rick Raschke, Jeni Vogl

# MARCH 2010

| Sun   | Mon  | Tues   | Wed  | Thur  | Fri   | Sat   |
|---|--|--|--|---|---|---|
|   | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4   | 5   | 6   |
|   | 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study<br>3:30 p.m. Kid's Club<br>5:15 p.m. Youth Choir                       | 9:30 a.m. Cancer Sewing<br>1:00 p.m. Stories & More<br>6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care<br>7:30 p.m. C.E. Meeting                     | 9:00 a.m. Prayer & Care<br>10:30 a.m. Stammers<br><u>Lenten Series</u><br>12:00 p.m. Lunch<br>6:15 p.m. Dinner & Programs                    | 5:00 p.m. TOPS<br>6:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group<br>8:00 p.m. Handbells | 6:30 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study                                     | Presbytery LEAD Workshop  |
| 7   | 8  | 9  | 10   | 11  | 12  | 13  |
| 9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed.<br>10:30 a.m. Worship & Children's Education<br>11:45 a.m. Prayer Shawl Min.<br>12-2 p.m. Confirmation Class<br>3:00 p.m. Praise Team<br>5:00 p.m. REV<br>6:30 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group  | 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study<br>3:30 p.m. Kid's Club<br>5:15 p.m. Youth Choir<br>7:30 p.m. Session  | 1:00 p.m. Stories & More<br>6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care  | 9:00 a.m. Prayer & Care<br><u>Lenten Series</u><br>12:00 p.m. Lunch<br>6:15 p.m. Dinner & Programs<br>8:00 p.m. Choir                        | 5:00 p.m. TOPS<br>6:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group<br>8:00 p.m. Handbells | Confirmation Retreat-Saugatuck--<br>6:30 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study | 2:00 p.m. Building & Grounds<br>Confirmation Retreat-Saugatuck--- |
| 14  | 15   | 16   | 17   | 18  | 19  | 20  |
| <u>14 Davlight Savings Time Begins</u><br>9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed<br>10:30 a.m. Worship & Children's Education<br>11:45 a.m. Prayer Shawl Min.<br>3:00 p.m. Praise Team<br>5:00 p.m. REV<br>6:30 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group<br>Confirmation Retreat Returns<br><u>April Newsletter Deadline</u> | 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study<br>3:30 p.m. Kid's Club<br>5:15 p.m. Youth Choir<br>7:30 p.m. Outreach | 1:00 p.m. Stories & More<br>6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care<br>7:30 p.m. REV<br>Committee Meeting                                    | 9:00 a.m. Prayer & Care<br>10:30 a.m. Stammers<br><u>Lenten Series</u><br>12:00 p.m. Lunch<br>6:15 p.m. Dinner & Programs<br>8:00 p.m. Choir | 5:00 p.m. TOPS<br>6:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group<br>8:00 p.m. Handbells | 6:30 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study<br>Honduras Reunion                 |   |
| 21  | 22   | 23   | 24   | 25  | 26  | 27  |
| 9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed.<br>10:30 a.m. Worship & Children's Education<br>11:45 a.m. Prayer Shawl Min.<br>12-2 p.m. Confirmation Meeting<br>3:00 p.m. Praise Team<br>5:00 p.m. REV<br>6:30 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group  | 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study<br>3:30 p.m. Kid's Club<br>5:15 p.m. Youth Choir<br>7:30 p.m. Deacons  | 12:00 p.m. Friendship Group<br>1:00 p.m. Stories & More<br>6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care<br>7:30 p.m. Mission<br>Committee Meeting | 9:00 a.m. Prayer & Care<br><u>Lenten Series</u><br>12:00 p.m. Lunch<br>6:15 p.m. Dinner & Programs<br>8:00 p.m. Choir                        | 5:00 p.m. TOPS<br>6:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group<br>8:00 p.m. Handbells | 6:30 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study<br>Honduras Reunion                 |   |
| 28  | 29   | 30   | 31   | <u>APRIL 1</u>  |   |   |
| <u>Palm Sunday</u><br>9:00 a.m. Worship & Adult Ed.<br>10:30 a.m. Worship & Children's Education-<br>Confirmation Sunday<br>11:45 a.m. Prayer Shawl Min.<br>3:00 p.m. Praise Team<br>5:00 p.m. REV<br>6:30 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group  | 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study<br>3:30 p.m. Kid's Club<br>5:15 p.m. Youth Choir                       | 1:00 p.m. Stories & More<br>6:30 p.m. Prayer & Care  | 9:00 a.m. Prayer & Care<br>7:30 p.m. Choir   | Maundy Thursday<br>6:15 p.m. Catered Dinner<br>7:00 p.m. Worship        |   |   |

## 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  
11 – Michael E. Dragas  
12 – Dorothy Scholefield  
15- Amanda Gulotta  
15- Kim Ambrosat  
16 – Pat Lorenz  
16 – Roy Hoffman  
17- Luke Janchenko  
18 – Darlene Krueger  
20 – Marie Hoffman  
22- Frank Esparza  
22 – Harold Kahn  
28 - Jeanette Grisko  
28 – Jennifer Petkus  
29 – Dawn Matke  
29 – Betty Kitching

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

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

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